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Salling: 30 Nov 2017 Inside Stateroom from **\$2,410***pp twin share The Haven from **\$9,292***pp twin share



9-DAY SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA FROM SYDNEY

Sailing: 14 Dec 2017 Inside Stateroom from \$1,749*pp twin share The Haven from \$6,851*pp twin share



16-DAY AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND FROM SYDNEY Sailing: 5 Jan 2018

Inside Stateroom from **\$2,867***pp twin share The Haven from **\$12,445***pp twin share



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CRUISE WEEKLY



Thursday 06 Oct 2016

Bumper RCL season

CELEBRITY Solstice's arrival in Sydney this weekend marks the start of the 2016/17 cruise season for Australia and New Zealand, with capacity rising about 15% on the year prior across RCL Cruise Ltd operated ships.

The season sees Royal Caribbean, Celebrity Cruises and Azamara offer seven ships in Australasian waters, offering 101 itineraries and carrying over 300,000 guests this season - injecting \$208 million in passenger spend into Australian ports alone.

RCL Australia/NZ managing director Adam Armstrong said the period includes "undoubtedly our biggest and most exciting season to date", with the debut of Royal Caribbean's brand new *Ovation of the Seas*, arriving in Fremantle on 06 Dec before homeporting in Sydney on 15 Dec and heralding the start of 'supercruising' here.

"This is truly going to blow Australia away," Armstrong said.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front full page wrap from NCL.

Butts out on HAL

FROM Jan, Holland America Line will ban smoking of any kind on stateroom verandas, to "better align with guest wishes and health concerns," the line says.

Smoking is already prohibited inside all staterooms.

Norfolk vessel tender

NORFOLK Island may be strengthening its cruise offering, with the island tendering for up to three passenger transfer vessels to transport cruise ship pax between the sea and shore, as well as possible ancillary uses.

The call out specified the vessels would be required to be delivered to Norfolk Island by 01 Nov 2017.

Scenic Irrawaddy luxury



SCENIC'S newest investment in river cruising in Southeast Asia took to the waters on its inaugural cruise late last month, boosting the Australian companies fleet of vessels to 16 globally.

Scenic Aura (pictured) entered service on the Irrawady River in Myanmar with a full shipload of passengers on 19 Sep, cruising between Pyay and Mandalay.

The 44-guest (22 all-balcony suite) *Aura* offers a "boutique & intimate environment", Scenic said today, with each featuring a separate bedroom, living room and balcony, ranging from 24m² to the top of the line 70m² Royal Panorama Suite - the largest available on the Irrawady. Scenic Aura has a selection of dining options, a vitality pool and bar area, Sun Deck with open air cinema, complimentary beverages, butler service throughout and an almost 1:1 guest-to-staff ratio.

Today, Scenic chairman Glen Moroney said the company was excited by its new addition into Southeast Asia, with *Scenic Aura* joining *Scenic Spirit* which began operation on the Mekong in Jan.

"Guest feedback from both Spirit and Aura has been hugely positive, particularly on the quality of the ship which is very different to anything else in the region, and the fantastic crew," Moroney said.











RCI's Flow with a Pro

ROYAL Caribbean International's first Flow with a Pro cruise will take place on *Ovation of the Seas* maiden voyage to Australia, chartered by Cruiseco.

The pro, Royal Caribbean International's FlowRider Ambassador Adam Wildman, will spend nine nights on board offering guests group tuition, advice and demos as the vessel sails from Fremantle to Sydney.

Wildman has been crowned European flowboarding champion in 2013, 2014 and 2016.

One Ocean loyalty

ONE Ocean Expeditions has launched a new loyalty program, OneClub and doubled the existing auto rebooking incentive to 10%.

In addition, repeat customers may choose one benefit from the three categories of Booking, Travel and Personal.

'Booking' offers an upgrade or 50% off sole-use of a cabin or 50% off charter flights.

The 'travel' category includes a private transfer to the value of US\$150, a complimentary hotel before or after the voyage, or a travel credit of \$150, while 'personal' is a choice of bar credit, a welcome basket or a jacket.



AN EDGECLIFF travel agent in NSW has bagged a \$15,000 seven-day Mediterranean cruise for two on *Seabourn Encore*. Maria Theodosatos from Spencer Travel Eastside won the cruise line's recent incentive for Aussie agents, where all consultants who booked a Seabourn 2016 European departure in May and Jun went in the draw for prizes. State winners received a luxurious Seabourn hamper. Seabourn Encore will visit Australia during her first season between 22 Jan-17 Mar 2017, making nine maiden calls. Get the low down on the best suites sailing from Sydney in the October issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read

Hurricane Matthew

ALL vessels have been banned by the US Coast Guard to transit within a zone north of the Seven Mile Bridge in Key West, Florida due to Hurricane Matthew.

Port Miami, Port Everglades, Port Canaveral have all closed until further notice while the South Carolina Ports Authority has indicated it will reopen at 6am Thu local time.

Both Carnival Corporation and Royal Caribbean are rerouting vessels in the affected area.

Royal Caribbean's *Empress of the Seas* and *Majesty of the Seas* return to port have been delayed due to the closures, with *Empress* to spend a day in Costa Maya and *Majesty* staying an additional day at sea.

Princess Cruises' *Island Princess* has cancelled its call to Aruba on 05 Oct, and replaced it with a stop to Grand Cayman on 04 Oct.

For the list of affected Carnival Cruise Line ships and itineraries, **CLICK HERE**.



Over the next month, Norwegian Cruise Line and *Cruise Weekly* are giving agents the chance to win a balcony stateroom for two on board *Norwegian Jewel's* 5-day Tasmania Sampler Cruise. All you have to do is answer each question correctly and have the most creative final answer. Send answers to **ncl@cruiseweekly.com.au**

Norwegian Cruise Line's unique Feel Free[™] style of cruising offers freedom and flexibility never before seen in Australia. From November 2017 *Norwegian Jewel* will be calling Australia home, so now you can experience premium-contemporary freestyle cruising right from your doorstep.

3. How is Norwegian Cruise Line's dining different to other cruise lines?

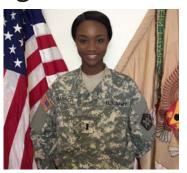
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Miss USA Vista godmother

CARNIVAL Vista's godmother has been named as Miss USA Deshauna Barber (**pictured**). Barber became the first woman serving in the US military to win

the title earlier this year. She will officially name the 133,500-tonne vessel during a ceremony that is part of an gala event honouring Operation Homefront and featuring a concert by Carrie Underwood.

"Deshauna is the ideal candidate to serve as *Carnival Vista*'s godmother, embodying the spirit of commitment and sacrifice to those who protect our freedom each and every day," said Christine Duffy, president of



Carnival Cruise Line.

"Carnival is a longtime supporter of the military carrying more active and retired Armed Forces personnel than any other cruise line so it's our honor and privilege to have Deshauna serve as godmother."

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Uniworld wellness

UNIWORLD has released a video highlighting their 'wellbeing on the water' experiences.

From hot stone treatments and shiatsu massage, to reflexology and yoga, the short clip features the array of offerings.

CLICK HERE to see the video. MEANWHILE, Uniworld is launching a new themed river cruise highlighting the Jewish history and culture of Germany.

The 10-day Rhine-Main **Discovery & Munich cruise offers** opportunities to "remember the past and rejoice in the rebirth of Jewish communities".

Prices for the sailing lead in at \$3,649pp twin share, for more see www.uniworld.com.



TWO Anantara hotels in Thailand are popping the bubbly at sea and offering free flowing Krug Champagne on a private yacht.

Anantara Mai Khao Phuket Villas and Anantara Layan Phuket Resort's Krug Cruise accommodates up to 12 people on a fully crewed 90-foot Sunseeker yacht, Major Affair, return transfers, breakfast and a lunch prepared on board.

The 4-hour cruise will drop anchor according to each group's whims and pleasures, potentially calling into the likes of Koh Phi Phi, Bamboo Island or Hin Klang.

This little adventure comes at the cost of THB 520,000 per day, that's about AU\$19,600.

P&O open gangway to foodies



SYDNEY foodies have the chance to jump aboard P&O Cruises' Pacific Pearl during one of its days in port.

The cruise line has partnered with Fairfax Good Food Month to include the opportunity to dine at Luke Mangan's Salt Grill on the festival's program of events.

Last week P&O hosted more than 140 people on Pacific Pearl for the media launch of Good Food Month in Sydney, serving Luke Mangan canapés along with Champagne and Pimms cocktails.

P&O Cruises will also provide entertainment segments at the Good Food Month Night popular Noodle Markets.

Pictured at the launch party on

Crystal's astronaut

NASA Astronaut Captain Scott Kelly will jump on board a different sort of vessel on 13 Dec, when he joins Crystal Esprit to mingle with Crystal Cruises' guests and host presentations.

Kelly took part in NASA's twin study, in which his twin brother served on the ground in an experiment to understand how space affects the human body.

P&O Cruises' Pacific Pearl are: captain Salvatore Lupo; Luke Mangan, P&O Cruises president Sture Myrmell; Pacific Pearl hotel director Martina Damonte and managing director Life Media and Events at Fairfax Media (and former TA boss) Andrew McEvoy.

Cunard Space voyage

CUNARD'S Queen Mary 2 will operate a Transatlantic crossing to coincide with International World Space Week in Oct 2017.

Spaced-themed guests on board include Jeffrey Hoffman, NASA Astronaut; Charles Barclay from the Royal Astronomical Society and Stephen Attenborough, Virgin Galactic and Ken MacTaggart, NASA Historian - CLICK HERE.

Scenic's Getaway

THREE upcoming episodes of Channel Nine's Getaway travel show will follow host Catriona Rowntree aboard Scenic Tsar as it cruises along the Volga and Svir rivers from Moscow to St. Petersburg in Russia.

The half hour episodes will air on Sat 08, 15 & 22 Oct at 5:30pm.

Editor: Bruce Piper info@cruiseweekly.com.au



Maximise your Cruise Month THERE are two things that I am personally looking forward to the most as our inaugural "Plan a Cruise Month" (PACM) is now in full swing.

Firstly – the most important aspect of this month of constant cruise promotional activity is seeing our Travel Agent Members getting involved and seeing some results.

For travel agency owners and managers, you have probably been told a thousand times that for any local marketing activity to be effective the right time to get active is when there is a wider campaign going on around you. With PACM this is not just a national campaign - it is global! With somewhere in the vicinity of 50,000 agents around the world participating.

This means there is going to be a serious amount of PACM coverage across all forms of mainstream and social media. In today's digitally focused world, your clients are going to come across PACM somewhere and if you are not talking to them about cruising during October, there is every chance one of your competitors are!

For front line consultants – don't wait for your boss to tell you what to do! Make sure you are including the words "it's Cruise Month" in all client conversations .

The second aspect of PACM that I am eager to see will be the official data from our media monitoring. We have high expectations of a record month of cruise coverage which is great for every aspect of the industry and very satisfying given the efforts of the CLIA team.



Pharmacy

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