

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 21 Mar 2017

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

NCL ups gratuities

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line will increase its daily service charges, effective from 01 Apr.

The new rates for all ships, except *Norwegian Sky* are US\$13.99pppd for any category up to a mini-suite stateroom and US\$16.99pppd for suites.

Sky's daily service charge will be adjusted to a higher rate "to better address the demands of the enormously successful all-inclusive product", NCL said.

The upgraded rate for *Norwegian Sky* is US\$18.99pppd for inside, ocean view & balcony staterooms, and US\$21.99pppd for suites.

Guests who book before 31 Mar can prepay their service charges at the current rate.

P&O's Master Class live

THE first P&O Cruises Flagship College Master Class has been released, offering deeper knowledge of the line's product & 10 Cruise Lines Int'l Australasia (CLIA) Accreditation Points.

The one-hour course is available on mobile devices and agents have the option to stop and start at any time.

It is the second course to be made available through Flagship College, which launched last Jun (*CW* 30 Jun) as part of the new P&O Cruises agent website, flagship.pocruises.com.au.

"We've had such incredible interest in Flagship College so far, and we think the first Master Class will really cement its place as the industry leading consultant training tool," said P&O Cruises director of sales, Ryan Taibel.

Close to 1,500 agents have completed the first Extra Credit course released in Nov.

Agents enrolled in the Flagship Achievers program must complete the Master Class by 30 Nov to be eligible for a Flagship Bonus of up to \$500 a year.

MEANWHILE, *Pacific Aria* will appear on tonight's episode of *Travel Guides* on Channel Nine.

The six holidaymakers boarded the vessel for a nine-night sailing and spent their time swimming with turtles, experiencing island cultures and taking part in theme night parties.

Ponant winter 2018/19

BOOKINGS are open for Ponant's Winter 2018/19 cruises to Antarctica.

A total of 25 cruises ranging from 11 to 22 days in length are available on board *L'Austral*, *Le Boreal*, *Le Lyrical* and *Le Soleal*.

To see the full list of itineraries, head to au.ponant.com.

Queen Victoria refit

QUEEN Victoria will spend a month in dry dock in Palermo, Italy for a \$54 million bow-to-stern makeover in May.

A total of 43 new Britannia Club category staterooms and the Britannia Club Restaurant will be fitted to the vessel, while the Grand Suites will be reconfigured to maximise space.

Five new Penthouse Suites on Deck 8 aft will feature floor-to-ceiling windows and bathrooms with natural light.

A new concept, the Chart Room, will debut on *Queen Victoria* in the place of Cafe Carinthia, serving illy coffee, Godiva chocolate treats and light bites by day and cocktails by night.

"For the first time on *Queen Victoria*, guests can enjoy an elevated experience with large, well-appointed balcony staterooms in prime locations," Cunard senior vice president Simon Palethorpe said.

LAST CHANCE OFFERS END 31 MARCH

OCEANIA CRUISES®

THE FINEST CUISINE AT SEA™

BEST OF Europe 2017

CRUISERS' CHOICE CRUISE CRITIC 2016 Best for Dining Mid Size Ship

Life CHOICE*

Includes:
FREE Unlimited Internet
Plus choose one:
FREE Shore Excursions
FREE Beverage Package
FREE Shipboard Credit

50% REDUCED DEPOSITS*
ON 36 SELECT SAILINGS

BONUS US\$250 SHIPBOARD CREDIT*
ON 36 SELECT SAILINGS

OFFERS END 31 MARCH

CLICK HERE FOR ITINERARIES OR CALL OUR SYDNEY CONTACT CENTRE ON 1300 355 200

*Visit www.oceaniacruises.com for full terms and conditions.

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 21 Mar 2017

New CLIA MD Joel Katz spills the beans on his top selling tips. Don't get left behind, check out the March issue of *travelBulletin*.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read **travelBulletin**



Oceania wellness

OCEANIA Cruises will expand its tie up with Canyon Ranch to offer "Wellness Tours Inspired by Canyon Ranch".

The series will debut on *Riviera's* and *Marina's* 09 Apr and 10 Apr sailings and initially be offered in France, Spain, Italy and Greece.

Highlights include a private vinyasa yoga class at the Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel & Resort and an afternoon at the Viterbo Terme dei Papi, or the Thermal Baths of the Papes in Civitavecchia.

SunStone expedition order



SUNSTONE Ships and China Merchants Industry Holdings have inked an agreement to build four expedition vessels, with options for another six ships.

The order positions SunStone as the largest tonnage provider of expedition vessels to the cruise and travel industry, with an existing fleet of ten ships on charter to companies including Quark Expeditions.

To be built in China, the vessels will be Polar Class six, 104m in length and feature 80-95 passenger cabins.

Ulstein Design & Solutions will supply the vessel's design and equipment package, as well as the supervision for the building of the vessels, while Makinen, Finland, will establish a cabin assembly plant and interior

workshop at the shipyard's facilities, and will look after all interior spaces on the newbuilds.

Hotel design will be managed by Tomas Tillberg Design International.

The vessels will be part of the SunStone Fleet and chartered to new and existing clients.

A render of one of the new ships is **pictured** above.

Uniworld sales mgr

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection has named Hannah Wooden as sales manager for Vic and Tas.

Wooden brings ten years' experience to the role and has previously worked as a senior travel consultant.

Fiona Dalton, Uniworld's md of Australia, said Wooden's solid experience "will no doubt assist Uniworld in our continued growth and success in the Victoria and Tasmanian markets of Australia".



TOO GOOD TO MISS

FROM **\$5,995** PP
STRICTLY LIMITED

FLY FREE TO EUROPE

GRAND EUROPEAN TOUR

Amsterdam – Budapest or v.v.
2018 river cruise | 15 days
12 guided tours | 4 countries

**MUST BOOK BY
30 JUNE 2017**



[CONTACT US](#)

AUCKLAND HOP ON, HOP OFF EXPLORER



The Auckland Hop On Hop Off Explorer bus departs from outside Princes Wharf.

(Next to I site information centre)

[Click here for more details](#)



2 FOR 1 RUSSIA RIVER CRUISING

SEE THE BEST OF RUSSIA!

8 DAYS NOW FROM **\$1600** pp
MOSCOW – ST. PETERSBURG

[BOOK NOW](#)



bentours.com

*Terms and conditions apply.

YOU DESERVE THE BEST.

So let us upgrade you onboard & in the air



UNIWORLD
BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISE COLLECTION®

[LEARN MORE >](#)

CRUISE

WEEKLY

AGENT
UPDATE

Tuesday 21 Mar 2017

Princess refurb ship

CARIBBEAN Princess will undergo a two-week drydock in Freeport, Bahamas from 26 Mar-06 Apr for a multi-million dollar renovation.

The renovation will fit a new Camp Discovery Youth & Teen Centre, upgrade Movies Under the Stars, add Princess Luxury Bed and interconnecting staterooms in time for the European summer.

The ship will be wired for the Ocean Medallion, a digital wristband which can be used to unlock stateroom doors & more.

Penang upgrade

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises has entered into a joint venture with Penang Port to upgrade Swettenham Pier Cruise Terminal in Georgetown, Penang.

The US\$35m project will extend the existing berths from 400m to 688m, allowing the terminal to dock two cruise ships carrying over 4,900 pax at any one time.

Plans include spaces for tour buses to ease the flow of traffic in the areas around the cruise terminal and improved accessibility for the aged and physically challenged throughout the terminal.

Chimu earlybird deals

CHIMU Adventures is offering earlybird discounts up to 30% on select Antarctica departures for the 2018/19 season.

Book by 15 Apr for rates which lead in at \$10,970ppts for the 11-day Emblematic Antarctica.

Travellers can also enjoy \$1,000 land credit on the 16-day Antarctica Cruise & Buenos Aires trip for \$12,705ppts, on *Le Boreal*. For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

RCI new sales mgr

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises has announced the appointment of Wendy Anderson to the position of district sales manager for Victoria and Tasmania.

She was previously the district sales manager for NSW with RCL Cruises, and will take up the position from 01 Apr.

Anderson has previously held roles at Virgin Australia and One&Only Hayman.

HAL sales promotion

HOLLAND America Line has launched its Ready Set Sail promo featuring pre-paid gratuities and up to \$500 on board spending money per stateroom for bookings made by 01 Jun.

Guests booking a suite will receive \$100 internet credit.

Travel dates are 01 Jun 2017 to 30 Mar, 2018.

Noble damages reef

AFTER the grounding of *MS Caledonian Sky* earlier this month, small cruise ship operator Noble Caledonia has launched an investigation into the incident where the ship hit a reef off Kri Island in Indonesia.

MS Caledonian Sky was refloated on the next high tide and was inspected by divers.

Authorities were immediately notified and the event has drawn media attention for the impact the ship caused to tropical corals.

In a statement Noble Caledonia said it regretted any damage caused to the reef.

APT Travel Group, which has a close relationship with Noble, welcomed the investigation and said the ship was not being operated by it at the time.

Aussies test out Encore



AUSTRALIA'S top luxury cruise consultants were sure to sample *Seabourn Encore* while she was down under for her inaugural summer season.

A dozen agents are on board during *Seabourn Encore's* final local leg from Sydney to Bali, indulging in some of the ship's new offerings including Dr. Andrew Weil's wellness program, The Grill restaurant by three-star Michelin chef Thomas Keller, lyricist Tim Rice's exclusive show, and The Retreat on the top deck.

The vessel will be back in Australian waters in Nov.

Pictured are: Ken Higgins, Cruiseabout Mosman; Helen Eves, Seabourn bdm NSW; Natalie Hadikin, Mosman Travel; *Seabourn Encore* Captain Geir-Arne Thue-Nilsen; LJ Lyons, Seabourn business development representative; Rachel Kirkwood,

American Express Centurion and Peter Sherwood of Travel Associates Turrumurra.

Peter Sommer Amalfi

ARCHAEOLOGICAL tour specialist Peter Sommer Travels has added two new departures of the eight-day Cruising the Amalfi Coast tour.

Sailing aboard a traditional Turkish gulet boat which has been refitted, the tour is escorted by an archaeologist and art historian - [CLICK HERE](#) for more.

Bentours 2-for-1

UNTIL 30 Apr, Bentours is offering its Symphony River Cruise from \$4,560 per couple, down from \$9,120 per couple.

Valid for dep during May, Jun and Jul, call 1800 221 712.

HELP US KICK A

VOTE FOR AVALON AS BEST RIVER CRUISE OPERATOR (CATEGORY 23)

VOTE NOW

AVALON WATERWAYS

afta NATIONAL TRAVEL INDUSTRY AWARDS

A BIG THANKS

for nominating us in the 2017 AFTA National Travel Industry Awards.

Please vote **P&O Cruises** for *Best Cruise Operator - Domestic Deployment!*

VOTE NOW



P&O CRUISES
LIKE NO PLACE ON EARTH

afta
NATIONAL TRAVEL INDUSTRY AWARDS

Do you have the *Cruise Weekly* app?



ANDROID APP ON
Google play

Download on the
App Store

Regent new brochure

AUSSIE agents can now order Regent Seven Seas Cruises' Atlas brochure, covering sailings through to Apr 2017.

Lisa Pile, Regent's vp sales Australia and New Zealand said the brochure "has been created especially for agents and their clients as an easy reference tool".

The cruise Atlas details destinations and itineraries across the entire fleet, along with the on board experience.

To view an online copy of the new guide, [CLICK HERE](#).



This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY
Carnival Spirit 21 Mar
Azamara Journey 21 Mar
Celebrity Solstice 25 Mar
Voyager of the Seas 26 Mar
Carnival Legend 27 Mar

BRISBANE
Celebrity Solstie 15 Mar
Azamara Journey 16 Mar
Pacific Dawn 17 Mar

DARWIN
Sun Princess 25 Mar

FREMANTLE
Costa Luminosa 21 Mar
MS Sirena 27 Mar

ADELAIDE
Pacific Eden 24 Mar
Pacific Eden 27 Mar

AUCKLAND
Golden Princess 22 Mar
Pacific Pearl 23 Mar
Noordam 26 Mar
Pacific Pearl 27 Mar
Emerald Princess 27 Mar

Aussies explore *Silhouette*



THIS team of Aussie agents jumped aboard *Celebrity Silhouette* in Fort Lauderdale for a tour while they were in town for the launch of *Celebrity Edge*.

Hosted by Kathryn Valk, director of sales and marketing, agents explored *Silhouette's* features, including Canyon Ranch spa, a lawn with a chic cabana style setting and dining experiences including the Qsine restaurant that offers guests an iPad menu.

Pictured in the front row are: Kelly Harrison, Flight Centre

Brisbane; Anne Calder, OzCruising and Jean Summers, Globenet - Clean Cruising.

In the back row: Mike Clark, Phil Hoffmann Travel; Natasha Osman, Globenet - Clean Cruising; Nicholas Dann, Cruise Travel Centre - Hunter Travel Group and Karolos Svirik, Cruise 1st.

New HAL ship begins

CONSTRUCTION of Holland America Line's *Nieuw Statendam* is underway, marked by a keel laying ceremony held at Fincantieri's Marghera shipyard.

The first building block of the ship is 11.3m long, 34.8m wide and weighs 260 tonnes.

Nieuw Statendam is due for delivery at the end of 2018 and is the sister ship of *Koningsdam*.

It will be 99,800 gross tons, almost 300m long and will accommodate 2,650 pax in more than 1,300 cabins.

L'Austral rerouted

PONANT'S *L'Austral* checked into drydock in Manila on 16 Mar for a "refurbishment" following two incidents earlier this year.

In Jan *L'Austral* struck a floating object in the Sub-Arctic Islands and in Feb the ship came into contact with "an underwater object" while entering Milford Sound (**CW** 14 Feb).

The vessel was originally planned to call in at Kota Kinabalu, but made the swap for Manila to comply with the instructions of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to avoid the Sea of Sulu, and in particular the area of Sandakan.

This change was communicated in writing to all pax approx one month before embarkation.

Eden back in Adelaide

P&O Cruises' *Pacific Eden* returned to Adelaide on Fri for her second season.

Based in South Australia through to early Apr, the vessel will carry close to 9,000 passengers on six different cruises and is expected to generate close to \$5 million for the state.

P&O Cruises president Sture Myrmell said the return follows a successful debut season.

"We received great support from South Australians during *Pacific Eden's* inaugural season, with holidaymakers really enjoying the opportunity to cruise from their doorstep on the latest addition to our fleet," he said.



AFTER a bumper cruise season, Sydney is preparing to welcome another historic ship, of a sunken nature.

That's right folks, the *RMS Titanic* will sail into port at Bryon Kennedy Hall, Moore Park, on 08 Apr at 10am for "Titanic The Exhibition" and will remain until the end of Jun.

The display features over 375 artefacts taken directly from *Titanic* and her nearly identical sister ship *Olympic*.

Every visitor will receive a Boarding Pass that contains the personal information of an actual First, Second or Third Class passengers.

The event rolls into town ahead of the 105th anniversary of *Titanic* hitting an iceberg.

Rest assured this exhibition won't sink!

Cruise Weekly is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication. An industry-focused PDF edition of *Cruise Weekly* is published every Tue and Thu, and there's also a consumer-facing email newsletter published each Wed - sign up free at www.cruiseweekly.com.au.

Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
 P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications

Cruise Weekly is a publication of Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

Publisher/Editor in chief: Bruce Piper

Editorial: info@cruiseweekly.com.au

Managing Editor: Jon Murrie

Contributors: Guy Dundas, Jenny Piper, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Matt Bell, Rebecca Le Bas

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan, Melanie Tchakmadjian advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au

Travel Daily CRUISE WEEKLY **travelBulletin** business events news **Pharmacy DAILY**