

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 28 Mar 2017

Cruise Weekly today

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

Debbie diverts ship

CRUISE Lines are closely monitoring sea conditions off Queensland as tropical Cyclone Debbie makes landfall today near the Whitsundays.

Azamara Journey has already diverted from its scheduled route and will miss today's call at Hamilton Island and tomorrow's at Townsville, a spokesperson for Azamara Club Cruises confirmed.

Instead, the ship made a surprise visit to the Sunshine Coast port of Mooloolaba where volunteers helped with activities.

P&O Cruises said it was closely monitoring conditions but did not have any ships in the immediate area, nor did other brands from among the World's Leading Cruise Lines group.

Joie de Vivre launched

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection's new ship, S.S. *Joie de Vivre* is the "foundation" for a "fantastic 12-18 months ahead for Uniworld" globally, md Australia Fiona Dalton says.

The vessel made her big debut in Paris overnight, christened by godmother Dame Joan Collins with over 20 Aussies present.

Stanley Tollman, chairman and founder of TTC, told attendees when the attack on the Bataclan Theatre happened in Paris in Nov 2015, he initially decided to hold off on the ship build, but a week later reversed the decision.

"It could have gone one of two ways," Dalton told *Cruise Weekly* at the ship's christening.

"The courageous thing to do was to continue to deliver this extraordinary initiative and that's what they did and here we are today with this incredible

testimony to this destination," Dalton said.

"All credit to them for having the courage of their conviction to do what they knew was right, not what they knew was easy."

The 128-passenger vessel is now 90% booked out for the rest of the year and embarked on her inaugural eight-night Paris and Normandy cruise down the River Seine last night.

"There has been a lot of build up but the ship is every inch as beautiful as we thought she would be, and to see it first hand for the first time, it's very special, a very special moment," Dalton told *Cruise Weekly*.

Bookings across the board out of Australia for the past six months "have been really strong," she said, noting "we're already selling very well into 2018, much stronger than last year".

CRUISE
WEEKLY

On location in
France

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection which formally christened S.S. *Joie de Vivre* in a ceremony in Paris.

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection's newest ship, S.S. *Joie de Vivre* was christened overnight by godmother Dame Joan Collins, before embarking on an inaugural voyage on the River Seine.

The ceremony was followed by a sail away party on the sun deck and lunch in the restaurant before guests enjoyed a cocktail reception and inaugural dinner.

See **page two** for more.

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Viking Europe offers

VIKING Cruises is running three deals enticing travellers to explore Europe.

For 2018, travellers can fly return to Europe from \$495pp if booking Romantic Danube cruises in Hungary and Austria.

Travellers interested in exploring Northern Europe, Scandinavia and Scotland can save up to \$1,000 per couple on select Midnight Sun voyages.

For a river cruise lover, Viking is running a 2-for-1 European river cruise sale, including trips to Paris, Berlin, Prague and Avignon priced from \$2,395pp.

Uniworld celebrates in Paris



THE launch of Uniworld's *Joie de Vivre* in Paris yesterday attracted guests from around the world, including a healthy contingent of about 20 from Australia.

Among them was Atout France director for Australia Patrick Benhamou, **pictured** rubbing shoulders with the ship's godmother, actress and author Dame Joan Collins.

With a length of 125m, rather than the typical 135m, the *Joie de Vivre* can dock in the heart of Paris, which allowed the christening ceremony to take

place within a stone's throw of the Eiffel Tower.

"We are delighted to welcome the *Joie de Vivre* to our impeccable fleet of floating boutique luxury hotels, as the first of Uniworld's Super Ships to sail the renowned Seine River," said the river cruise line's president and ceo Ellen Bettridge.

"Our company has brought travellers to France for more than 70 years and we are thrilled to introduce a new, enticing way to experience the country," she said.

"Godmother Dame Joan epitomises the same 'joy of living' philosophy embodied by the *Joie de Vivre*, and we are honoured to have had her christen the ship."

Lindblad in the Arctic

LINDBLAD Expeditions has launched its 2018 Arctic brochure featuring the 102-guest ship *National Geographic Orion* and 148-guest ship *Explorer*.

The program features eight itineraries spanning the Nordic passages, Iceland, Greenland and the Canadian High Arctic.


As well as having a National Geographic photographer on every departure, Lindblad Expeditions also provides an undersea specialist onboard.

Indigenous art cruise

CORAL Expeditions will launch a 12-night curated art cruise around Cape York and the Arnhem Land coast on 23 Nov.

Indigenous artist Brian Robison and Arnhem Land expert Ian Morris will head the cruise onboard *Coral Discoverer* and pax will journey through the Great Barrier Reef to Cape York and the Northern Territory before wrapping up in Darwin.

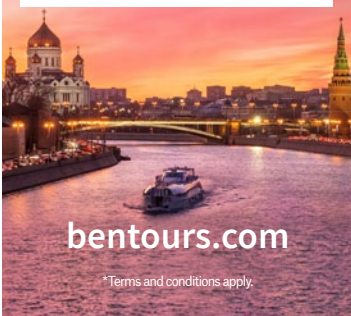
Prices start at \$9,980pp and guests that book before 15 May will receive a 10% discount.



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Regent savings

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises is offering guests savings of up to 25% on 2017 cruises when they book before 31 Mar.

Some of the featured itineraries include the seven-night Seward to Vancouver voyage and the 10-night Rome to Lisbon voyage.

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AIDAvita refurb

AIDA Cruises' *AIDAvita* is undergoing a redesign and renovation of numerous areas around the ship before returning to service on 05 Apr.

As part of the refurb, the Waikiki Teens Lounge on deck 10 will be transformed into a chilled-out Beach Lounge.

The pool area will be upgraded to include more food options and a redesigned seating area.

The former Rossini restaurant will become the new Selection Restaurant, offering a global flare to your taste bud.

Joy on the river Ems

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's latest ship, *Norwegian Joy* has been conveyed on the river Ems to Eemshaven.

From there the *Joy* will complete an adjustment run on the Outer Ems, before sea trials.

The ship is Norwegian's first built for the Chinese market.

Spaces for Beyond

BEYOND Travel has announced there are still spaces available for Amsterdam to Budapest "Across Europe" cruise itineraries.

The summer trips sail on the Rhine and Danube Rivers for 15 days for \$4,500pp twin share.

Guests will visit cities including Cologne, Bamberg and Vienna.

Spaces are also available on German Christmas cruises.

Disney port options

DISNEY Cruise Line will provide one-of-a-kind port adventures with its 2017 European Sailings from Jul this year.

Disney Magic will call into Rome where families can experience traditional Italian puppetry in the scenic Borghese Gardens.

Other highlights will include a gastronomic tour in Tuscany from the port of Livorno, winemaking at the Alessandro di Camporeale winery in Sicily and pizza making in Sorrento.

Cruise360's new format

ORGANISERS of the upcoming Cruise360 conference have announced a new format for this year's event, extending the show over two days for the first time.

Announcing its line-up for the Aug conference, Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia said a refreshed format would involve enhanced networking opportunities, professional development breakout sessions and a series of seminars and analysis into current cruise industry trends.

Keynote speakers will include the group president of Princess Cruises and Carnival Australia Jan Swartz, as well as the president and ceo of Azamara Club Cruises Larry Pimentel.

CLIA Australasia managing director Joel Katz said the organisation was excited to have secured Swartz and Pimentel as keynote speakers.

Paul Gauguin 2018

PAUL Gauguin Cruises has released its 2018 brochure featuring cruises in Tahiti and the South Pacific.

New for 2018 is the port city of Vairao in Tahiti Iti, the smaller of the two landmasses that make up the island of Tahiti.

"It's an honour to have two of our industry's top leaders take the stage at this important CLIA event," Katz said.

"Their addresses will be a highlight of Cruise360 so we're thrilled they've agreed to lend their knowledge to our travel agent members."

The two-day format has been introduced to allow delegates to take part in an inspection of the newest addition to P&O Cruises' Australian fleet, *Pacific Explorer*, which debuts in Jun.

Cruise360 will take place at the Hyatt Regency Sydney on Aug 25, followed by the ship inspection on Aug 26.

For tickets and info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Greek Cruise Package

ECRUISEING.TRAVEL is offering a package featuring an 11-night roundtrip cruise from Piraeus (Athens) on *Royal Princess*.

The itinerary, Highlights of the Greek Islands, includes the isles of Mykonos and Rhodes, plus Kotor in Montenegro.

Prices are from \$3,999ppts including airfares from Australia and two nights at the Grande Bretagne in Athens.

The cruise departs 26 Aug - for details, visit [ecruising.travel](#).



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Avalon single waiver

AVALON Waterways is waiving single supplements for all 2017 cruises, as well as the cruise line's 2018 preview cruises.

Available on Avalon's Europe and Asia departures, the offer applies to all cabin classes except Royal Suites (Europe) and Category A (Asia), for bookings made before 04 Apr, 2017.

Avalon is promising savings up to \$3,500 with the removal.

Monarto Zoo tour

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises is offering a tour of the Monarto Zoo in the Adelaide Hills with its *Murray Princess* three-night Discovery Cruise and seven-night Murraylands and Wildlife Cruises.

Guests will visit the largest open-range zoo in the world and be led by a guide to some of the zoo's 500 inhabitants.

The new option is available every Sat morning and costs \$60 per person.

UnCruise Adventures

UNCRUISE will combine jungle activities and cultural encounters on the Pure Panama adventure cruise for sailings between Apr and Nov.

The eight-night cruise aboard *Safari Voyager* will sail between Colon and Panama City.

Highlights include bird watching along the Chagres River, hiking in the Darien Jungle, snorkelling among the Las Perlas and Guna Yala Islands, as well as visiting Guna and Embera native peoples inhabiting Panama.

There is a full transit of the Panama Canal and a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Fort San Lorenzo.

Star Clipper's Yoga

YOGA is returning to Star Clippers cruises to destinations including the Western Med, Grenadine Islands, Winward Islands, Thailand and Indonesia.

CLICK HERE for more details.

Cruise guests break \$1m barrier



THE P&O Pacific Partnership is expanding its reach in the South Pacific with two new community programs, having surpassed a milestone of \$1 million in voluntary contributions from passengers and special donations in the past four years.

Building on previous funding of health posts and kindergartens in Vanuatu, the two new projects are aimed at assisting women and young children in the Solomon Islands, **pictured**, and Papua New Guinea, working in conjunction with Save the Children Australia.

P&O Cruises president Sture Myrmell said it was thanks to its pax that the line was able to

assist even more communities.

"The voluntary one dollar contributions made via pax on board accounts are relatively modest but when contributions are combined they become a powerful force to make a big difference where it matters most."

Europa 2 2018 launch

EUROPA 2 will sail 17 maiden ports of call and offer free internet to guests as part of its 2018/19 cruise season.

The ship will visit South Africa, Iceland, Norway, with maiden calls to Alghero/Sardinia and Sao Vicente/Cape Verde and more.

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	28 Mar
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	29 Mar
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	30 Mar
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	31 Mar
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	31 Mar
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	01 Apr
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	03 Apr
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	03 Apr

MELBOURNE	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	29 Mar
<i>Golden Princess</i>	31 Mar
<i>MS Sirena</i>	02 Apr

BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	28 Mar
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	29 Mar
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	01 Apr
<i>Sun Princess</i>	03 Apr

CAIRNS	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	29 Mar
<i>Azamara Journey</i>	30 Mar

DARWIN	
<i>Coral Expeditions I</i>	25 Mar
<i>Azamara Journey</i>	

ADELAIDE	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	31 Mar
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	03 Apr

HOBART	
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	30 Mar
<i>Golden Princess</i>	02 Apr

New Carnival UK ceo

CARNIVAL Corporation has announced the appointment of Josh Weinstein, currently the company's corporate treasurer, as president of Carnival UK.

Weinstein will succeed David Noyes, who is leaving the role in Jul after six years in the business to spend more time with his family, according to Carnival Corporation ceo Arnold Donald.

Weinstein will oversee P&O Cruises UK and Cunard, reporting to HAL president Stein Kruse who is also being promoted to become group ceo of Holland America Group and Carnival UK.

Carnival UK chairman David Dingle will continue in his role.

Noyes said "I will be leaving Carnival UK as a thriving, profitable and market-leading business.

"I know that with Josh at the helm the company will continue to go from strength to strength as the UK cruise sector maintains its exceptional levels of growth".

Sunsail's new flotillas

TWO new flotillas have been announced by Sunsail, involving yachting excursions in the British Virgin Islands and Mallorca.

The flotilla options provide the freedom of coastal sailing but with a pre-planned route and lead crew.

Prices start at \$4,963 for six pax sailing a week from Mallorca.

CCC Opal deal

SEALINK Limited's Captain Cook Cruises today announced an agreement with the NSW government which will see the Opal public transport card accepted on the company's Sydney Harbour operations.

Captain Cook is the first private "integration partner" for the system, with the company to still continue to administer its own fares and pricing structures.

Transport for NSW and Captain Cook Cruises plan to launch the joint system for operation in 2018.

RCI launches GoBe

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises has launched a new activities-focused offshoot, GoBe, allowing travellers to book day tours and activities across the globe.

The online initiative looks to target the increasing numbers of cruise passengers who book independent tours rather than shore excursions, allowing them to search itineraries for a range of cruise lines and match the port calls with suggested activities.

Activities are "cruise friendly" meaning meeting points are close to where vessels dock, with the site currently featuring voyages from Azamara, Carnival Cruise Line, Celebrity, Costa, Cunard, Disney, Fred. Olsen, Holland America, MSC, Norwegian, Oceania, Princess, Royal Caribbean International, Seabourn, Silversea, Star Cruises and Viking Cruises.

Bookings can be made online or via a call centre and must be confirmed at least three days prior to the activity.

Categories include group tours, private excursions and exclusive tailor-made 'Travel Creations'.

See www.gobe.com.

CMV vegan cruise

CRUISE & Maritime Voyages has announced a special "all vegan cruise" out of the UK.

CMV's *Columbus* will sail from the London Cruise Terminal to the Norwegian fjords on 25 Sep this year, featuring a 100% vegan menu plus guest speakers on a range of vegan subjects, lifestyle classes and an on-board wellness program.



TO HOFFINITY and Beyond!

Baywatch fans will be in for a treat when David Hasselhoff hosts a five-night cruise in the Mediterranean on the Costa Cruises' *Costa Favolosa* in Nov.

The Hoff will be on board the entire voyage and will entertain fans with performances, meet-and-greet sessions and of course autograph signings.



There's even a "David in Person" evening in the theatre, though it's unclear whether his infamous red swimming trunks will make an appearance.

The cruise sails to Italy, France and Spain and people have spent anywhere between \$852 and \$1,278 on this "once in a lifetime opportunity."

CLICK HERE to check out David's video telling his fans to "party your Hasselhoff".

A BIG THANKS

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