

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

P&O GoCatch Bris

QUEENSLANDERS cruising out of Brisbane this year will be able to start their holiday the moment they step out the door, after P&O Cruises signed a partnership with GoCatch, a ride-sharing platform.

Guests who book a suite or mini-suite on any of P&O's cruises from Brisbane will receive a \$100 GoCatch credit to get to the port from home.

P&O vp sales & marketing Ryan Taibel said the move would give passengers a smooth start to their holiday.

GoCatch offers a range of vehicles from small cars to people movers, as well as chauffeur-driven rides.

Cunard set for record Aussie season

CUNARD has announced that it will base *Queen Elizabeth* in Australia for an unprecedented 101 days over the 2019-20 Australian cruise season.

Queen Elizabeth will sail on six roundtrip cruises from Melbourne and two from Sydney between Dec 2019 and Mar 2020.

On her sailings, *Elizabeth* will call into South Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

Cunard svp Simon Palethorp said the record season reflected the importance of Australia.

"Over the past few years we've seen unprecedented growth in demand for the Cunard experience in Australia so it made sense for us to invest further in the market," he said.

Cunard vp UK and international development David Rousham said it would be the first time one of the Queens had sailed in



Australian waters over Christmas and New Year.

Cruise seekers will be able to spend Christmas on the Tasman and NYE watching the fireworks display in Auckland Harbour.

Rousham added that the Victorian market had really impressed the line with a strong level of demand and appeal.

"Some of the 2019 demand has come directly from that market so we think there's good growth

potential there."

Rousham told **Cruise Weekly** the decision to offer fewer sailings out of Sydney came down to availability of cruise berths.

"Without doubt there is constraints within Sydney harbour that has led us to look at alternatives.

"Melbourne is an alternative but certainly we're seeing Victoria at this stage as a strong demand market," Rousham said.

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CRUISE



Tuesday 20th February 2018

Crystal looks out to sea

CRYSTAL Cruises has heralded a renewed focus on its ocean fleet under new president and ceo Tom Wolber, as the line showed off its newly reconfigured *Crystal Symphony* in Sydney on Sat.

The 848-passenger ship now features an entire deck of Seabreeze Penthouses after a reduction in the overall room count, along with several new dining concepts offered without set seating times.

Revamped at a cost of \$15 million during a dry dock in Oct, the new-look *Symphony* was viewed by around 150 Australian travel agents on the weekend.

It was joined in Sydney Harbour by its sister *Crystal Serenity*, which will undergo a similar revamp later this year.

In Sydney for the ships' visits, Wolber told **Cruise Weekly** he would place a new focus on Crystal's ocean-going operations

after a period of rapid expansion into new areas such as luxury yachts and river cruises.

"We've done a lot of things that kind of took away a little bit of the focus from the blue water cruising," Wolber said.

"So now we're refocussing back on what really was the bread and butter of the business."

This would include a renewed focus on the travel trade, he said, including a commitment to improve systems and support.

"The travel trade is very important to us, so that will be a very big focus for us over the next year," he said.

Crystal had doubled bookings from the Australian market since establishing a dedicated regional office just over a year ago.

Double-digit growth was expected again in 2018, Wolber said, in line with Crystal's increasing market share.

Bliss floats out ahead of maiden voyage

THE third ship in Norwegian Cruise Line's Breakaway Plus class, *Norwegian Bliss* emerged from Meyer Werft building dock in Papenburg, Germany, over the weekend.



The float out represents a major milestone in the 4,000 passenger ship's construction ahead of her scheduled delivery to Norwegian Cruise Line in Apr.

Bliss will spend her maiden summer sailing itineraries in Alaska, before making her way to the Caribbean for the winter season.



Ever wanted to know what a Crystal river cruise is like? Find out from an agent in the February issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read
travelBulletin

Gauguin line-up

PAUL Gauguin Cruises has announced its 2018 line-up of Wildlife Discovery Series Lecturers aboard its cruises.

In conjunction with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), speakers include Ken Kassem, the WCS Indonesia marine director who will speak about sea conservation during the 05 May sailing.

Merry Camhi from the New York Seascope Program will discuss a number of topics on *M/S Paul Gauguin* on the 15 Dec Tahiti voyage.

Carnival apologies

CARNIVAL Cruise Line is in damage control over the removal of an allegedly violent family from *Carnival Legend* in the port of Eden last week.

CCL vp & gm Australia Jennifer Vandekreeke apologised for inconvenience, adding that its care team was supporting guests who had been affected.

"We want to reassure all embarking guests today, and in the future, that the safety and security of our guests and crew is our number one priority," she said.

In a gesture of goodwill, all pax on the sailing have been offered a 25% cruise credit.

Carnival Corp's horror week included another brawl on *Pacific Explorer* (**CW** 13 Feb).

Fascination resumes

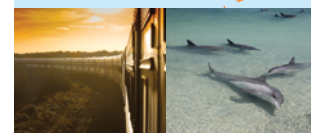
FOLLOWING a multi-million dollar dry dock, *Carnival Fascination* has resumed year-round services from San Juan.

Fascination now features a number of new F&B outlets including Guy's Burgers.



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Tempo Med deal

TEMPO Holidays is offering savings of up to \$800 per couple on a range of Greece and Croatia cruise and island hopping tours until 11 Mar.

Tours include an eight-day Idyllic Aegean Cruise - **HERE**.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY

<i>Norwegian Jewel</i>	20 Feb
<i>Seven Seas Voyager</i>	20 Feb
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	21 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	22 Feb
<i>Seabourn Encore</i>	22 Feb
<i>Arcadia</i>	23 Feb
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	24 Feb
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	25 Feb
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	25 Feb
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	26 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	26 Feb

MELBOURNE

<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	20 Feb
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	21 Feb
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	22 Feb
<i>Seven Seas Voyager</i>	22 Feb
<i>Golden Princess</i>	24 Feb
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	25 Feb
<i>Noordam</i>	26 Feb

BRISBANE

<i>Silver Whisper</i>	22 Feb
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	23 Feb
<i>Norwegian Jewel</i>	25 Feb
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	24 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	24 Feb
<i>Sea Princess</i>	25 Feb
<i>Seabourn Encore</i>	25 Feb
<i>Arcadia</i>	26 Feb
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	26 Feb

CAIRNS

<i>Regatta</i>	20 Feb
<i>Crystal Serenity</i>	22 Feb
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	26 Feb

DARWIN

<i>L'Austral</i>	20 Feb
<i>Viking Sun</i>	21 Feb
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	21 Feb
<i>Regatta</i>	24 Feb

FREMANTLE

<i>Amsterdam</i>	21 Feb
<i>Pacific Princess</i>	23 Feb
<i>Seven Seas Navigator</i>	25 Feb
<i>Europa</i>	25 Feb

ADELAIDE

<i>Pacific Princess</i>	20 Feb
<i>Astor</i>	25 Feb

HOBART

<i>Astor</i>	21 Feb
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	22 Feb
<i>Noordam</i>	25 Feb
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	26 Feb

Holland new tour

THIS Sep Holland America Line will debut a new range of shore excursions for passengers aboard *Maasdam*.

The 1,258-guest ship will add Zodiac inflatables, new tours and onboard enrichment such as guest lecturers on cruises.

Available on cruises from 12-34 days, the range will be called EXC In-Depth Voyages.

Maasdam shore tours include watching platypus play in billabongs in Australia.

Each journey will include a variety of different themes including photography, wine and nature.

Amundsen floats out



HURTIGRUTEN has launched its new Explorer ship *MS Roald Amundsen* in Ulsteinvik, Norway over the weekend.

When completed later this year, the new vessel - boasting environmentally sustainable hybrid technology - will begin servicing itineraries along the Norwegian coast, the poles, and the Norwegian archipelago of Spitsbergen.

Facilities on board the ship

include a two-level observation deck, high tech gadgets such as touch screens and science equipment, and speciality areas for workshops in biology.

The *MS Roald Amundsen* will also have three restaurants inspired by Nordic cuisine.

Specifications of the ship boast a passenger capacity of 530, a speed of 15 knots and gross tonnage of 20,889.

Amundsen is **pic** in Ulsteinvik.

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business events news



WEEKLY



Travel Daily



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Pharmacy Daily



THEY came, they conquered - some of Australia's best hide and seekers battled it out on *Ovation of the Seas* on Sun to be crowned champion.

Competitors came from as far as WA for the battle, but local boy Ben Harrison (**pic** centre), won the \$10,000 prize and a cruise for four, thanks to his stealth techniques.

Two games were held, one for adults aged 15 and over, and one for kids aged 8-14.



CRUISE

WEEKLY

www.cruiseweekly.com.au

Cruise Weekly is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Cruise Weekly is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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