

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **AA Appointments**.

CLIA chooses cruise

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia has rebranded its "Plan a Cruise Month" in Oct to "Choose Cruise" in a bid to drive more bookings.

"Choose Cruise is an opportunity for travel lovers to learn more about the different cruise options available, and to take advantage of promotions and value-adds from cruise experts," said CLIA Australasia and Asia md Joel Katz.

The Choose Cruise push will involve trade, consumer and media activities, as well as a dedicated microsite.

NCL reveals plans for two new ships

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has confirmed orders for a fifth and sixth ship in its new Project Leonardo Class fleet, each carrying 3,300 guests and designed for energy efficiency.

The 140,000 gross tonne ships will be built by Fincantieri in Italy and are due for delivery in 2026 and 2027.

"Following the Breakaway Plus Class...the highly anticipated Leonardo Class will fuel future growth with exciting and innovative offerings that will meaningfully drive demand from new and loyal returning guests alike," said NCL president and ceo Andy Stuart.

The new ships have been designed to have a lower environmental impact, a point that NCL believes would lead to a broader range of deployment opportunities.

Parent company Norwegian



Cruise Line Holdings now has seven ships on order for NCL and one for Regent Seven Seas Cruises, giving it eight vessels for delivery through to 2027.

It will take delivery of its next ship, *Norwegian Encore*, in the northern Autumn of 2019.

The latest vessels (rendering

pictured) have yet to be named, and details of their features will be announced at a later date.

The news follows NCL ramping up its efforts in the Australian market, last year kicking off its inaugural homeport season in Australia and New Zealand (**TD** 13 Nov 17).

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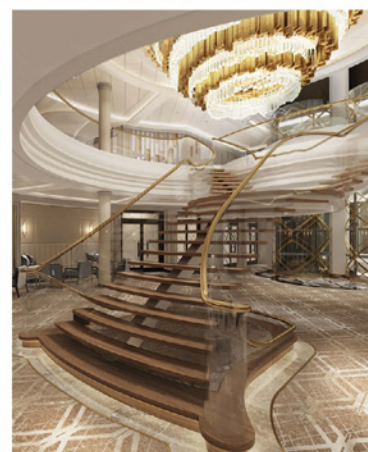
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CRUISE



Tuesday 17th July 2018



Hop onboard
Norwegian Bliss with
us in the July issue
of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

RSSC webinars

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) is offering a "luxury connoisseur webinar series" for Australian and New Zealand travel agents, running throughout Jul and Aug.

"The series is packed with information and handy tips that will see participants become luxury connoisseurs," said Lisa Pile, RSSC vp of sales for Australia and New Zealand.

Presenters include local business development managers Linda Seiersen, Elsa McLean and Paige Kirk.

Topics include "Marketing Central" and the "2020/2021 Season Launch".

To register for the next webinar on 24 Jul, **CLICK HERE**.

Pandaw ramps up India



PANDAW has announced plans to expand its cruise offering in India, deploying two more ships to the region and adding two new itineraries.

The decision follows a strong customer reaction to the company's Lower Ganges river cruise due to sail in Dec.

"The response to our announcement in May that we will place our own ship, *RV Orient Pandaw*, on the Lower Ganges River from Dec 2018, has been truly phenomenal," said Pandaw founder Paul Strachan.

As a result Pandaw will sail two new routes, an Upper Ganges

cruise to the city of Varanasi on the *RV Katha Pandaw*, and sailings of the Brahmaputra River aboard *RV Indochina Pandaw*.

Bolstering its expanded range of cruise options is the accompanying announcement of new pre- and post- cruise tours that include a two-night exploration of Kolkata and a six-night Golden Triangle trip through Delhi, Agra and Rajasthan.

The news follows the announcement earlier this month that the *Andaman Explorer* will be deployed to explore the Andaman Islands (*CW* 06 Jul).

Pictured: *RV Orient Pandaw*.

Ponant Latin brox

PONANT has released a 72-page brochure showcasing its new 2019-20 itineraries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

The brochure features cruises to 26 different countries including ports of call that enable access to 18 UNESCO World Heritage sites.

It offers 31 itineraries, including many aboard Ponant's new Explorer ships *Le Champlain* and *Le Dumont-d'Urville*, exploring coastlines and islands between Miami and Ushuaia.

Eight luxury expeditions visit destinations including the Chilean Fjords and the Orinoco river - **CLICK HERE** to view.



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 **CRYSTAL**

Tuesday 17th July 2018

Crystal Alaska brox

CRYSTAL Cruises has released its 2019 Alaska & Canada brochure featuring 11 sailings from Jun to Dec on board *Crystal Symphony*.

Trips include the 10-day Majestic Midnight Sun package from Vancouver to Seward exploring Glacier Bay and Hubbard Glacier.

Also on offer is the 11-day Majestic Midnight Sun sailing from Vancouver to Los Angeles voyaging through Alaska's fjords with a stop to visit Santa Barbara's vineyards.



Caribbean recovery

POPULAR cruising destinations in the Eastern Caribbean are showing signs of recovery after the impact of hurricanes Irma and Maria last year, with the British Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, St Maarten and the US Virgin Islands (USVI) all recording gains in tourism numbers.

Puerto Rico, St Maarten and the USVI welcomed more than 10,000 cruise passengers per day by Jan, with San Juan experiencing cruise passenger satisfaction levels higher than those preceding the storms by mid-Feb.

"We consider our destination partners more like family, and we could not be prouder to see the Eastern Caribbean ...come back stronger than ever," said Michele Paige, president of the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association.

Peregrine Africa debut



PEREGRINE Adventures has announced it has added Africa to its Adventure Cruising program for 2019, expanding to its third continent in as many years.

The Africa program involves an eight-day Cruising Safari: West Africa river cruise from Senegal to The Gambia which visit UNESCO-listed deltas and provides the opportunity to view chimpanzees in the wild and dolphin estuaries.

Packages for the new African expedition voyage starts from \$3,140 per person twin share.

The decision to make a move on the African market follows

a period of solid growth for the company, having posted a 35% improvement in the Aussie market over the last 12 months.

"Our travellers have responded to a style on the water that is akin to our style on the land - authentic and low-impact travel," said Peregrine Adventure Cruising general manager Filippou Venetopoulos.

"These are cruises for travellers who would never normally choose a cruise," he added.

For further information on the Cruising Safari: West Africa package, [CLICK HERE](#).



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BOOKINGS: Ocean Sailings By **31 Aug 18** | River Sailings By **30 Sep 18**

To receive a copy of the 2018/2019 brochures, visit **TIFS**. For more information contact Crystal on **T+61 2 8074 6500** E res.anz@crystalcruises.com or visit crystalcruises.com

T&Cs: All itineraries, fares, programs, promotions and policies are capacity controlled, subject to availability and to change at the discretion of Crystal Cruises. Crystal Cruises reserves the right to correct errors or omissions. Bonus Commission offer is per booking and ends August 31, 2018 for Ocean featured sailings and September 30, 2018 for River featured sailings. ©Crystal Cruises, LLC. June 6, 2018 Ship's Registry: The Bahamas and Malta.

Azamara indulgence

AZAMARA Club Cruises is offering free "indulgence packages" with local and international sailings booked by 31 Aug.

An "Enjoyment Package" for Interior and Oceanview guests includes US\$500 credit for shore excursions, unlimited wi-fi, a beverage package, laundry services, US\$250 spa credit and a chef's table experience.

SeaDream discount

SAVINGS of US\$500pp are available on SeaDream Yacht Club Caribbean cruises between 27 Oct and 15 Dec.

Six seven-day options are available on *SeaDream I* and *SeaDream II*, with prices from US\$3,091pp.

The vessels take 100 passengers and visit ports such as San Juan, St Thomas, Marigot and Bridgetown.

Scenic incentive celebrates Bastille Day

SCENIC is offering travel agents from Australia and New Zealand a chance to win one of five places on a 13-day river cruise through the South of France, departing 19 Oct.

Three agents from Australia and two from New Zealand will join the fam - announced to celebrate Bastille Day last weekend - which travels from Chalon-sur-Saone to destinations including Lyon and the Camargue.

To secure a place, agents must deposit the highest number of clients on any 2019 Scenic European River Cruise between now and 31 Aug - **CLICK HERE** for more details.

Splendor's Europe debut



REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has announced details of 15 cruises in the maiden season of its new *Seven Seas Splendor*, which will debut in Feb 2020.

The 750-guest ship will operate a series of European itineraries beginning 12 May 2020 with a journey from Venice to Rome via the French Riviera for the Cannes Film Festival.

It will offer itineraries calling at hidden gems like Zadar in Croatia and Koper in Slovenia, culinary capitals including Bordeaux and Barcelona, and island destinations in Britain and Greece.

Several itineraries offer overnight port stays, including Venice, Haifa (for Jerusalem), Lisbon, Bordeaux, Monte Carlo, Istanbul, Livorno (for Florence, Pisa & Tuscany) and Barcelona.

Seven Seas Splendor will offer 375 suites ranging from the 28.5m² Veranda Suite to the lavish 413m² Regent Suite which will host up to six guests and include a private in-suite spa with sauna, a private solarium, a spacious living area and bedrooms, and a private dining room, **pictured**.

Itineraries are on sale now and are detailed at www.RSSC.com.

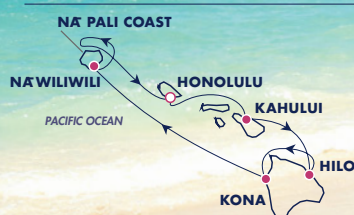
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*Offers correct as of 16 July 2018 and are subject to change or withdrawal and valid on sailing from September 2018 onwards. Offer ends 23 July 2018 unless extended. For full terms and conditions visit ncl.com



Webinar reminder

A **REMINDER** the first ep of a webinar series featuring Crystal Cruises launches tomorrow at 2pm (AEST). Register **HERE** to view & earn the chance to win a cruise trip.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY
Pacific Explorer 19 Jul
Pacific Explorer 23 Jul
Pacific Eden 23 Jul

BRISBANE
Pacific Aria 20 Jul
Pacific Dawn 21 Jul
Pacific Eden 21 Jul

DARWIN
Caledonian Sky 17 Jul
L'Austral 18 Jul
Coral Discoverer 20 Jul

AUCKLAND
Pacific Jewel 21 Jul

Crystal revels in *Ravel*



CRYSTAL Cruises has held a christening ceremony to officially welcome its fifth river ship, *Crystal Ravel*.

The event took place in the Hungarian capital of Budapest last week, and involved the cruise line's president and chief executive officer Tom Wolber, as well as the ship's godmother, philanthropist and musician Mariann Peller.

Festivities on the day included a performance from tenor Steffan Mullan, as well as the Young Virtuosos artists who all played following the traditional blessing.

With *Ravel* now added to the fleet, she joins her identical sister

ships *Crystal Bach*, *Crystal Mahler* and *Crystal Debussy*; as well as the larger *Crystal Mozart*.

"In just over two years, we introduced five ships, which is a tremendous accomplishment of growth for this expansion of the Crystal brand," said Wolber.

Ravel is currently sailing itineraries of six to 14 days between Vienna and Basel, and next year she will be the only river ship to sail seven-night Danube cruises round-trip from Vienna to ports in Austria, Hungary and Slovakia.

Pictured: *Crystal Ravel* and her crew enjoying the celebrations during her christening ceremony.

Small group brox

APT has announced the release of its Small Group Journeys brochure for cruises of 20 passengers or less.

The program includes new destinations such as Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and China.



AN AUSSIE family was recently rescued from their half-submerged campervan after accidentally driving it into Henley Lake in New Zealand.

The family floated around the lake for hours taking in the tranquil sights in a less than comfortable vessel.

Probably should've forked out the extra cash for a proper river cruise, we feel.



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