

Cruise Weekly today

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

Eclipse to set sail on maiden cruise

THE long-awaited day has finally arrived, with *Scenic Eclipse* set to depart from Reykjavik, Iceland on her maiden voyage to Quebec.

Last night Scenic Luxury Cruises and Tours released the first ever images of the ship's interiors (*CW* breaking news), with the company's Chairman, Glen Moroney, saying "we are extremely proud of this ship and what it brings to the world of cruising".

It's almost exactly 12 months since the first planned debut of *Eclipse*, which has been delayed several times due to issues at the Uljanik shipyard in Croatia, which declared bankruptcy during the ship's construction.

Moroney pulled out all stops to ensure the ship met its delayed deadline, including working on a rescue deal with the shipyard, directly employing hundreds of workers to complete the fitout and even threatening legal action against Croatian unionists who were blocking access to the dock.

From the first look at the interiors, all the efforts have been



well worth it.

"Today is the fruition of many years of planning and work from a large and dedicated team to create a vessel and an experience which has set a brand new benchmark in ultra-luxury discovery cruising," Moroney said.

The initial interior photos reveal some of the 10 on-board dining options, as well as luxury spa suites (pictured) and the huge gym and yoga area.

Project Director - Design, Karen

Moroney, has led a team to build partnerships with a host of leading brands and artists "to create a look and feel that is the ultimate in guest luxury".

She said *Eclipse* was "more than just a cruise ship, this is a total sensory experience, from the entry foyer to the guest suites and the dining areas, the feel is one of calm, luxury and serenity to allow our guests to truly relax and take in the total voyage" - see facebook.com/cruiseweekly.

ETG home-based cruise advisors

THE Express Travel Group has unveiled a new home-based business option for its italktravel & cruise brand.

Dubbed "italktravel & cruise at home", the initiative was launched to existing group members at a dedicated conference day ahead of the overall ETG annual owner manager's conference which kicked off this morning in Bangkok, Thailand.

Consultants who join italktravel & cruise at home as a Mobile Travel Advisor will have the flexibility of working from home or in store, with a direct relationship with a current franchisee.

The model offers uncapped earning capabilities and the choice of two models - more info at italk.travel/joinus.

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CLIA backs in gin

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia has chosen Tasmania's Shene Estate & Distillery to front its #WeAreCruise social media campaign, promoting the state's growing allure as a cruise destination.

The digital marketing push is being run in conjunction with Seatrade Cruise Global, with the distillery chosen to highlight the positive economic impact that cruise has on local communities.

"The aim is to celebrate people and businesses that help support the cruise industry while also creating benefits for their local communities," said CLIA Australasia MD Joel Katz.

The video featuring Shene Estate & Distillery is being promoted in Australia and overseas - watch [HERE](#).

Princess new Euro cruises



Photo credit: Moyan Brenn.

PRINCESS Cruises has revealed that its 2021 European season will see a fleet of five OceanMedallion-enabled ships undertake a total of 180 departures on 63 itineraries.

The collection will see *Enchanted Princess*, *Sky Princess*, *Crown Princess*, *Island Princess* and *Grand Princess* visit popular cruise destinations in the Mediterranean, British Isles, Scandinavia & Russia, Norway,

and Iceland.

"Europe is our top long-haul fly-cruise destination for Australians and in 2021 we're pleased to announce that guests will enjoy an elevated experience onboard with our highly-rated Princess MedallionClass holidays offered on every ship for the season," said Princess Cruises Sales and Marketing Director Australia and NZ Nick Ferguson.

Pictured: Iceland.

Goes like a Dream

GENTING Hong Kong (GHK) has entered into an agreement to sell a 35% equity interest in its Dream Cruises brand.

The deal will see a consortium comprised of TPG Capital Asia, TPG Growth and Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan acquire the minority stake in the cruise company for US\$489 million, valuing Dream Cruises' total equity at US\$1.397 billion.

The purchase will be made in two tranches, with the first guaranteed tranche of at least 24.5% for US\$342 million and is expected to be finalised in Sep, while a second of up to 35% will be undertaken in Dec.

"The investment...will help Dream Cruises to have the youngest and technologically most advanced fleet of quality German built cruise ships," said GHK CEO Tan Sri KT Lim.

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*Offer correct as of 14 August 2019 and are subject to change or withdrawal. Offer ends 31 August 2019 unless extended. For full terms and conditions click here.



Ethical appointment

CARNIVAL Corporation has announced the appointment of Peter Anderson to the newly created position of Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer.

Anderson will be based at the company's HQ in Miami, where he will report directly to Carnival Corporation CEO Arnold Donald.

Major duties will include overseeing the line's Operation Oceans Alive program, an initiative launched by Carnival in 2018 to protect the world's waterways from pollution.

"Our commitment is to excellence in safety, environmental protection...Pete understands what it takes to help build a corporate compliance effort that is effective," Carnival CEO Arnold Donald said.

The appointment follows a spate of controversies for Carnival, with its Princess brand handed a massive fine by the US Govt for illegal oil dumping.

Aranui adds more

ARANUI Cruises has revealed the addition of 11 new island destinations including a maiden voyage to the Cook Islands, an expanded Pitcairn itinerary and the first dedicated voyage to the Society Islands archipelago in the South Pacific in 2021.

The company's inaugural 13-day Cook Islands cruise will depart 04 Sep, 2021, with the roundtrip cruise from Papeete sailing to destinations such as Aitutaki, Rarotonga, Rurutu, Rapa, Raivave along the way.

Details of Aranui's first 12-day Society and Tuamotu sailing will feature calls to Rangiroa, Fakarava and Makatea in the Tuamotus and the Society Islands' Raiatea, Tahaa, Maupiti, Huahine, Moorea and Bora Bora.

Cruise departs 08 May 2021 - more info call 03 9449 3778.

VIKING has announced the launch of four new "Viking Seine Ships" which will be dedicated to the line's eight-day Paris & The Heart of Normandy itinerary.

The four 135m-long Seine ships will feature the same interior design, staterooms and common areas as the company's Viking Longships, but will be equipped with customised hulls and engines specifically built to navigate the Seine River.

The smaller 168-guest vessels will take passengers into the heart of Paris, docking at Port de Grenelle (**pictured**) near the iconic Eiffel Tower.

"At Viking we pride ourselves on offering a cruise experience that

lets the destinations we visit be the star of the show," said Viking MD Australia/NZ, Michelle Black.

"Every detail of Viking's Seine Ships are designed to enhance and enrich the travel experience, so that guests can explore all that makes France so compelling".

Black said the new fleet would offer full verandahs along with the largest suites and the "most al-fresco dining" on France's rivers, with the Paris-Paris voyages leading in at \$3,495ppts for a range of 2021 travel dates - along with return Economy flights from Australia to Europe from \$995 per person.

More information on the French itineraries, call 138 747.

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Reaching for the *Moon*



THERE is now less than 100 days until the launch of Silversea's ultra-luxury 596-passenger *Silver Moon*.

She will complete her inaugural voyage between 06-17 Aug, 2020, sailing Italian waters from Trieste to Rome, before making her way to Fort Lauderdale where she will undertake a range of tropical Caribbean cruises.

"Inspired by the success of our beloved *Silver Muse*, *Silver*

Moon will raise the bar in ultra-luxury travel, unlocking immersive experiences for our guests in whispered luxury," said Silversea Cruises Chief Marketing Officer Barbara Muckermann.

Onboard features will include the line's new culinary program S.A.L.T. (Sea and Land Taste), enhanced pool deck (**pictured**), redesigned spa and Fitness Centre, spacious suites, Observation Library & a casino.

Agents in hot *Pursuit*



AZAMARA'S District Sales Manager Jessica Jones recently hosted eight Flight Centre agents on an *Azamara Pursuit* cruise from Barcelona to Rome.

The voyage took the impressed group along the French coastline, calling in at Sete and Marseille before arriving in Monaco where guests danced the night away at *Azamara Pursuit's* White Night party in the picturesque Monte Carlo Harbour.

Further highlights of the famil included taking in opera at the Goldoni Theatre in Livorno Italy, part of the cruise line's

AzAmazing Evenings program.

Pictured basking in the joy of the White Night Party in Monte Carlo were: Racquel Ferraro, Flight Centre; Kusan Furrer, Travel Associates Concord; Tarren McGregor, Infinity Cruise; Isabelle Riad, Flight Centre Cruise Watergardens; Kim Mortimer, Infinity Cruise; Tricia Stephenson, Travel Partners; Jessica Jones, District Sales Manager for Azamara; Joshua Watts, Flight Centre First and Business Claremont; and Renee Hopping, Houston & Turner Travel Associates.



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We were on hand at *AmaMagna's* christening – check it out in the August issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

Sailing on in Dubai

A SPOKESPERSON for Cunard Line has said the company has “no plans to change its itineraries” in Dubai, despite fellow British brand P&O Cruises recently pulling out of the region citing the risk of being attacked by Iranian forces (**CW** 09 Aug).

MSC Cruises, Costa Cruises, AIDA Cruises, TUI Cruises and Royal Caribbean have all reportedly stated they have no intentions of adjusting cruises in the gulf at this stage.

A spokesperson for Royal Caribbean recently told *Arabian Business* that it “does not assess the recent maritime-related incidents in the Gulf are indicative of threats to the cruise industry”.

Silversea celebrates 25



THIS year Silversea Cruises passes a momentous milestone, celebrating 25 years since first setting sail in 1994.

The ultra-luxury cruise line has taken the opportunity to travel around the country and celebrate with loyal guests, otherwise known as its Venetian Society members.

“It’s a nice way to thank our Venetians for their support since the brand was born, with some of our guests accumulating more than 1,000 cruise nights over 25 years,” said Silversea MD Australia and NZ, Adam Armstrong.

Founded by the Lefebvre family, purpose-built *Silver Cloud* was the cruise line’s first ship, christened in Monaco back on 30 May, 1990.

The company today owns a fleet of nine vessels, with five additional ships on order.

“The future is really bright,

with a lot of money going into investing in new and existing product,” Armstrong said.

Three vessels will relaunch into the market next year, including *Silver Origin*, *Silver Muse* and *Silver Wind*.

Silversea employs more than 2,500 onboard crew and land based employees around the world, of which a team of 51 staff are based in Australia and NZ.

Pictured: Adam Armstrong at the celebratory event.

Savings on Croatia

BEYOND Travel is offering savings of up to \$1,850 per couple for Magical Croatia cruises departing in 2020.

The sailings are priced from \$4,900 per person twin share on select Jul and Aug voyages, with the offer available until 31 Dec - more info **HERE**.

UnCruise on theme

SMALL ship cruise line UnCruise Adventures has launched 26 new themed cruises including birding, photography, & wine in 2020.

Voyages will be offered in Alaska, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Colombia.

More information **HERE**.



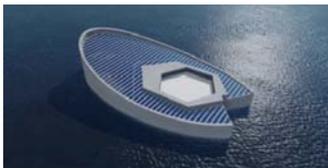
CLIMATE change is the biggest threat facing cruise lines operating polar voyages, and while we wait for the governments of the world to make proper strides to solve the issue - here is one very “cool” idea in the meantime.

Designers in Indonesia are proposing to build ice-making submarines capable of creating icebergs for polar waters.

The team of architects have released a video showing the a submarine dipping under the ocean’s surface before freezing trapped water into a giant hexagonal ice block.

Project leader Faris Rajak Kotahatuhaha was quick to point out that the novel approach would not be a total fix to melting ice, proposing a “two-pronged approach” to curbing climate change.

Watch the demo **HERE**.



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