

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Friday 6th December 2019

## Uniworld expands to South America

On location aboard Silver Muse

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Silversea Cruises whose flagship Silver Muse is cruising between Sydney and Melbourne this weekend.

**TONIGHT** Silver Muse departs Sydney with guests and select travel agents experiencing the cruise line's ultra-luxury ship.

The ship accommodates 596 guests and a crew capacity of 411 members, with dining options spanning from authentically Japanese, classic Italian and bespoke French cuisine.

The ship also features a plethora of wellness treatments on board. **UNIWORLD** Boutique River Cruise Collection has announced plans to expand to the South American market for the first time, offering two brand new itineraries throughout the Peruvian Amazon from Sep 2020.

The new cruises include the 15day Peruvian Amazon & Machu Picchu Exploration package featuring a seven-night voyage through the Amazon rainforest, which also offers pre-cruise accommodation at a five-star in Lima and land excursions to the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu.

Also new is the 11-day Peruvian Rivers & Rainforest Discovery adventure which takes guests to the Peruvian capital of Lima, before embarking on sailing through the Amazon River roundtrip from the picturesque port city Iquitos.

"We're beyond thrilled to launch these extraordinary trips



in South America, a completely new destination for us," said Uniworld President and Chief Executive Officer Ellen Bettridge.

"Between the four new 'Super Ships' we're introducing and now a brand new destination, we're anticipating that 2020 will be one of our most exciting years yet and that these next-level experiences will continue to elevate the overall Uniworld experience for our guests," she added. Prices for sailings aboard the eco-friendly, all-suite Aria Amazon start from \$18,799ppts, with a maiden voyage scheduled to depart 23 Sep, 2020.

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Trave Daily

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### Ganges incident

PASSENGERS on board a Pandaw river cruise on the River Ganges in India were forced to flee to a nearby sandbank after it struck several pontoons, causing a hole and deep cracks on its port side. Reports from passengers

aboard *Kindat Pandaw* suggest the cruise had been cancelled.



**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line will host its second songwriters' cruise in collaboration with country music star Kellie Pickler and Warner Chappell Music.

But just in case you started warming up your vocal chords, it should be noted that this voyage is especially for "renowned songwriters" - ad-libbing to your favourite tunes in the car on the way to work doesn't count.

The songwriters, which include the likes of Liz Rose who has written major hits for Taylor Swift and Carrie Underwood, will board *Pride of America* in Honolulu, Oahu to embark on a seven-day cruise to the islands of Hawaii, during which they will write songs for the cruise line's global music library.

"I am always inspired by the places I visit, and, on this trip, the other songwriters and I will have the beautiful Hawaiian Islands as our backdrop to inspire us on new songs...it's going to be a really unique experience," enthused Pickler.

# Coral widens the Reef



**CORAL** Expeditions will operate a "completely re-imagined" Great Barrier Reef expedition program from Jun, 2021, with itineraries to focus on marine wildlife encounters and Indigenous connections in the Reef's remote northern regions.

Highlights of the new sevennight Outerknown Adventures on the Great Barrier Reef voyage include explorations of lesser known outer reefs and islands, visits to a turtle rehabilitation centre, and swim/snorkel/dive activities in less traversed spots.

In line with the cruise line's plan to shift across to an all-new bluewater expedition fleet by 2021, Coral Expeditions Commercial Director Jeff Gillies said there was an opportunity for the company to create a program that boasts longer and more immersive experiences.

"Coral Expeditions pioneered expedition cruising on the Great Barrier Reef in 1985, we have gone back to the drawing board to redesign our program reflecting on how our guest expectations, and the geography of the Reef itself, have evolved over three decades," he said. The new sailings will take place aboard the 72-pax *Coral Discoverer* which features two outdoor bars and a sundeck with 300° views.

#### Scenic prizes Today THE Nine Network's

TODAY Show will soon begin broadcasting live on board Scenic Eclipse as she cruises the waters of Antarctica, with agents able to score a range of prizes by tuning in.

Scenic's Director Trade Sales and Commercial Partnerships Emma Davie said for agents to win they "simply need to tune into the *TODAY Show* every day next week, join or log onto our agent Facebook page, answer a daily question and complete the new *Scenic Eclipse* modules as part of Agent Academy".

The program's Steven Jacobs will be broadcasting live from Mon 09 Dec to Fri 13 Dec from the new expedition vessel.

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