





cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 16th December 2019

Cruise Weekly today

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

Cunard 2021/22

CUNARD has unveiled more sailings from its 2021/22 collection, including a range of new Alaska voyages in 2021.

The latest suite of cruises offer calls at 93 ports in 42 countries and boasts 14 overnight stays.

Queen Elizabeth returns to Australia for a season between Nov 2021 to Mar 2022, where she will offer a new South Pacific itinerary, calling at Fiji, Vanuatu and New Caledonia.

Meanwhile Queen Victoria will undertake a full circumnavigation of the globe in 2022, offering 25 itineraries taking in destinations such as such as Samoa, Hawaii and NZ. Bookings open 18 Dec.

Asia and value the keys for Norwegian

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has revealed it will continue to focus its efforts on the Asian market, while also educating the trade on the value and freedom offered by its product.

Speaking with Cruise Weekly while on board Pride of America during NCL's 2019 Legends famil last week, the line's New South Wales Business Development Manager Aaron Christian said he remained confident the company would see a return on its investment in the region.

"We'd love more [sales] in the Asia market, and we will see that with the investment we've put in." he said.

Christian also noted its Asian product had been curated to the tastes of Australian guests.

"This isn't a Chinese cruise, it isn't a cruise sold to the Asian market, it's sold to the Australian and New Zealand market.



"You can unpack once, do the coastline, do three countries in nine days, and you get to see all those major highlights...in Singapore, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Beijing," he added.

With 2020's Legends famil travelling from Singapore to Hong Kong aboard soon-to-berefurbished Norwegian Spirit (CW 21 Nov), NCL hopes to educate agents on the uniqueness of its product in the region.

"People are travelling there and doing things by land, but I don't think they're quite aware of the opportunities that exist via cruising," Christian said.

"It's great for people who have only small time frames to get away, and they can take advantage of that, and it's about us educating people about that and educating the agents, who can then educate their clients."

Pictured: Norwegian Spirit.







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One year of rewards



VIKING Cruises has marked the one-year anniversary of its Rewards by Viking program, with staff collectively doffing their very distinctive caps to the scheme in the Australian office last week.

The loyalty initiative offers agents the chance to earn Viking points for bookings which can be redeemed for a range of prizes such as Apple Airpods

and magazine subscriptions.

Pictured: Leon Hill, QLD Commercial Manager; Ethan Larkin (hiding), Trade Marketing Executive; Alister Burn, NSW & WA Commercial Manager; Erin Kramer, Trade Marketing Manager; Kim Vaughan, Victoria Commercial Manager; Steve Parker, NZ Commercial Manager and Keira Smith, National Sales Manager.

Wendy Wu jumps aboard



WENDY Wu Tours has officially launched its new deluxe river cruise ship Victoria Mekong (CW 10 Jul), with the vessel setting sail on its maiden voyage from Can Tho, Vietnam to the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh last week.

The company's founder Wendy Wu (pictured centre) was at the helm to mark the joyous moment, ensuring celebrations were operating at full throttle.

The 35-cabin ship is billed by the line as taking "river cruising to a new level", boasting a contemporary design fused with an Asian twist, private balconies for all accommodation, an Asia-themed bar and lounge, pool deck, as well as a signature restaurant featuring a locally inspired menu.

Mekong offers six varied itineraries including the 13-day Mekong Experience, which features a sunset cruise on the moat of Angkor Thom and a cyclo tour of Phnom Penh.

Prices for the voyage start from \$5,370 per person, twin share.

Also on offer is the 17-day Classic Mekong cruise leading in \$6,340ppts, which includes Tai Chi lessons on Ha Long Bay, as well as an opportunity to learn ancient farming in Hoi An.

The ship is also equipped with several important environmental features such as a freshwater generator for processing river water into drinkable water, solar energy to help power operating systems, and a power plant to enable a top speed of 11 knots.





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

SYDNEY

Ovation of the Seas	16 Dec
Radiance of the Seas	17 Dec
Pacific Explorer	17 Dec
Carnival Spirit	18 Dec
Carnival Splendor	19 Dec
Voyager of the Seas	20 Dec
Seabourn Encore	20 Dec
Norwegian Jewel	21 Dec

BRISBANE Pacific Aria Pacific Dawn

17 Dec Sea Princess 19 Dec MELBOURNE 17 Dec

16 Dec

21 Dec

Majestic Princess Golden Princess

20 Dec Queen Elizabeth 22 Dec TOWNSVILLE

Viking Orion

CAIRNS Le Laperouse 16 Dec Viking Orion 20 Dec

DARWIN

Regatta 17 Dec Coral Adventurer 20 Dec

ADFI AIDF

Vasco Da Gama 17 Dec Queen Elizabeth 20 Dec Vasco Da Gama 21 Dec

HOBART

Queen Elizabeth 17 Dec **Ruby Princess** 17 Dec **Majestic Princess** 19 Dec

AUCKLAND

Golden Princess 16 Dec Silver Muse 20 Dec Noordam 21 Dec Explorer Dream 22 Dec

Musical out of this world



SILVERSEA Cruises has released the details of a collection of new entertainment experiences it is rolling out from this month, including the debut of the show To the Moon and Beyond on Silver Moon that the line promises will be "out of this world".

The curtain will go up on the retro tribute to space exploration and classic sci-fi movies when

Silver Moon debuts in Aug 2020.

The revamped program includes a range of new stage productions on board all of its ships, including the Cirque du Soleil-inspired The Greatest Showman, the Parisianstyle Cafe Tango, and the retro extravaganza '80s Gold.

Pictured: One of Silversea Cruises' glitzy new productions in full swing.

Azamara ups WWF

AZAMARA has expanded its partnership with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) by launching six conservationthemed voyages in South Africa in early 2021, and three land tours next year.

The line will donate \$100,000 from the cruises to the WWF.



THE undisputed king of creating a PR stir is up to his old tricks again, but this time the readers can smell his spin a mile off.

The perennial human headline Richard Branson has launched an exclusive new bottled scent designed to be the signature smell of Virgin Voyages' flagship vessel Scarlet Lady, and if you believe the man himself, it apparently smells like ship!

Ship No. 1 is described as embracing the "marine and aromatic freshness of sea lavender, contrasted with the warmth of sun-kissed wood from a fig tree", which can be pre-ordered online now at www. itsmellslikeship.com for \$US50.

All net proceeds will be donated to ocean conservation non-profit foundation Ocean Unite - watch Branson's arthouse-inspired ad HERE.



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CRUISE

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