

*Cruise Weekly* today

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

## Celebrity fine wine

**CELEBRITY** Cruises has released details of two new Australia and New Zealand wine cruises departing in Feb.

The sailings will take place aboard *Celebrity Solstice* and visit wine regions in Adelaide, Napier and Picton.

Prices lead in at \$2,429ppts for an Oceanview Stateroom.

## HAL Why Not Now?

**HOLLAND** America Line has launched its Why Not Now sale on select cruises, including free stateroom upgrades, shore excursion discounts and air credit - for more info, **CLICK HERE.**

# Virgin invites 'First Mate' agent regos

**VIRGIN** Voyages has launched a new trade portal for travel agents looking to sell tickets on its upcoming cruises.

Trade are being encouraged to register their interest on the company's new portal, called First Mates, which will offer access to the tools and information required to secure bookings for their clients when it goes live for registration on 05 Feb.

In addition to the booking capability, the new site will also offer agents a range of marketing and learning materials about the line's cabins and suites, including the online education course Cabin Fever which kicks off on 06 Feb.

Bookings for the inaugural cruise on board the *Scarlet Lady* will open on the site from 14 Feb, however agents with customers who have secured presale deposits will be able to begin the ticketing process via Virgin reps



from 05 Feb.

In addition, agents who register their details before 14 Feb will have the chance to win a "date" with Sir Richard Branson.

Virgin Voyages' first "lady-ship" *Scarlet Lady* is currently under construction at Fincantieri's Sestri Ponente shipyard in Genoa, Italy, and is scheduled for delivery in 2020, with her maiden Caribbean season including weekly cruises featuring overnights in Havana.

The cruise ship will have capacity for 2,750 passengers, offering “elevated luxury and a dash of rock’n’roll” coupled with “a whole lot of rebel” and is only available to guests who are over the age of 18.

Two sister ships are scheduled to join the fleet in 2021 and 2022.

For more information on Virgin Voyages' First Mates program and to register your interest, head to the new portal **HERE**.

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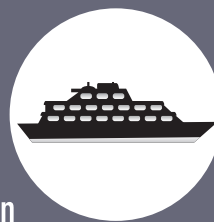
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## Cunard fashion

**PASSENGERS** travelling on board Cunard's *Queen Mary 2* between 28 Jul and 04 Aug will have the chance to attend the brand's fourth annual Transatlantic Fashion Week.

Headlining the popular event is royal milliner Stephen Jones, along with "fashion greats" Stuart Weitzman, Colin McDowell, Pat Cleveland, Lindy Woodhead and Rosemarie Bravo.

Fares for the seven-night voyage from New York to Southampton start from \$2,299 per person twin share, for more info call 132 494.



**AS THE** weather continues to heat up in Australia and holidaymakers head to the beach to cool off, spare a thought for those in the northern hemisphere who are taking a similar dip in the ocean - but in far cooler temps. More than 1,000 people dove into the chilly waters of Malo-les-Bains in Northern France on New Year's Eve while onlookers wearing beanies and scarves cheered them on.

The annual rite encourages costumes and champagne, and was described by one brave participant as being "glacial" - not to mention the shrinkage!

It's one way to get stone cold sober after NYE festivities.

## Superb Silver Muse



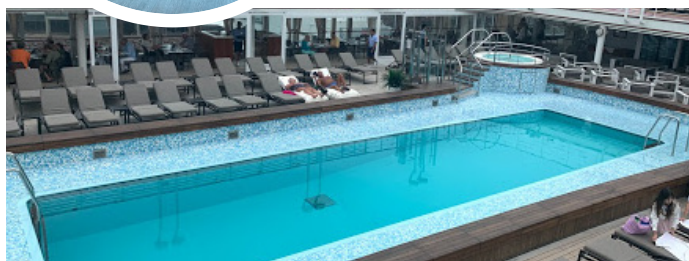
**THE** spacious staterooms aboard Silversea's *Silver Muse* provide the perfect shipboard haven, with the all-butler, all-suite offering including a walk-in wardrobe and lavish bathroom complete with a full shower and separate bath.

That's just the start of the Silversea experience, with the stunning ship offering a host of comfortable lounges, bars and eight dining venues to allow for plenty of variety.

A show lounge features new entertainment each night, while the walls of the ship are adorned with intriguing artworks adding to the upmarket ambience.

The onboard Zagara Spa offers plenty of pampering alongside a well-equipped gym, and the pool area is the perfect place to relax after all that food, glorious food!

See all our pics from this gorgeous ship making her local debut at [facebook.com/cruiseweekly](https://www.facebook.com/cruiseweekly).



## Halong Bay port

**VIETNAMESE** tourism, leisure and entertainment developer Sun Group has unveiled plans to develop a new cruise port in the Halong Bay region, which is set to become the area's first ever port dedicated exclusively to receiving international ships.

Located in Bai Chay ward in Halong City, the port will accommodate two cruise ships at the same time, with capacity for 8,460 passengers and crew.

The terminal will be a new landmark and will "create new opportunities for international trade," the company said.

## Ponant lays keel

**THE** keel has been laid on Ponant's newest ship *Le Commandant Charcot*, the hybrid electric polar exploration vessel that is set to be powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

The milestone took place in the Vard shipyard in Tulcea, Romania last month, with the company boasting that the ship is "perfectly on schedule" for its 2021 delivery.

Ponant says *Le Commandant Charcot* is being designed as a "new type of exploration cruise ship" and is set to accommodate a raft of innovations in environmental protection.

Passengers will have the chance to visit the geographic North Pole plus remote sites of the Antarctic, such as the Ross Sea, Charcot Is & Peter I Island.