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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover wrap from **RCL** and a full page from **Windstar**.

Bonus points offer

ROYAL Caribbean is today reminding agents that all bookings made with Royal Caribbean, Celebrity Cruises and Azamara Club Cruises can earn agents bonus points - see the **cover page** for more info.

Windstar Alaska

PASSENGERS heading to Alaska with Windstar Cruises can save up to \$447 per person when booking its 13-night Fly, Cruise and Stay package deal.

More info on the **back page**.

Lucky three for Regent Seven Seas

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has today announced an order for a third Explorer-class ship, which will join the brand's sister vessels *Seven Seas Explorer* and the upcoming *Seven Seas Splendor* in late 2023 (**CW** breaking news).

The new ship, which will have capacity for up to 750 guests on board, will be the cruise line's sixth all-suite vessel and will offer pax a range of new itineraries, amenities and experiences.

"When *Seven Seas Splendor's* inaugural season went on sale in Apr 2018 we set a new single-day booking record for our 26-year-old company, demonstrating the anticipation for her 2020 arrival," said Jason Montague, President and Chief Executive Officer of Regent Seven Seas Cruises.

"Each new ship is progressively more successful...our growth is a reflection of the amazing people who work across our fleet, our



valued shoreside employees, our loyal guests and their trusted travel advisors," he added.

Regent Seven Seas Cruises has spent the last 12 months undertaking a US\$125m remodelling of its fleet, in addition to the construction of *Seven Seas Splendor*.

The cruise line's newest ship

has been contracted to be built by Fincantieri, with President of Norwegian Cruise Line, Frank Del Rio stating it will "set an even higher benchmark for elegance, luxury and style" for the company.

Tickets on her inaugural voyage are slated to go on sale in 2021.

Pictured: *Seven Seas Explorer*.



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ENDS THIS SUNDAY**

CRUISE



Wednesday 16th January 2019

AQSC closes acquisition



Lonely Planet Cruise

POPULAR

global travel guide company Lonely Planet has published a new book offering



“inspiring ideas and essential advice for the new generation of cruises - and cruisers”.

The Cruise Handbook covers destination insight and “expert guidance” on how to land a good deal along with a range of advice about family travel.

“There’s no travel category as polarising as the cruise, but actually, this is one form of travel that can accommodate all comers,” the introduction to the book states.

“The traditional image of a cruise vacation remains outdated and this book aims to refresh those stale perceptions,” it adds.

MSC loves kids

MSC Cruises has launched the third season of its popular web series, *Kelly & Kloe*, which has seen more than 150,000 kids taking part in activities on board MSC ships and attracted more than five million views since it was launched in 2016.

The cruise line, which welcomes almost 300,000 children each year on its ships, developed the series using ideas submitted by its smallest passengers, and follows the story of Kelly, Kloe and their ship captain father.

The series is the latest enhancement to MSC Cruises’ kids and family entertainment program that already includes the LEGO Experience, the Dorebro sports program, plus a range of services for babies and toddlers including the Mini-Club for kids under three.

Watch the web series [HERE](#).

US OVERNIGHT river cruising specialist, American Queen Steamboat Company (AQSC) has closed on the purchase of *Victory I* and sister ship *Victory II* from Sunstone Ships, Inc along with the Victory brand.

The ships will spend the US winter and spring season at Gulf Island shipyard in Houma, LA undergoing a multimillion-dollar refurbishment and upgrade before re-entering service in May.

“American Queen Steamboat Company celebrated a record year in 2018, and the recent addition of the *Victory I* and *Victory II* to our fleet is a wonderful way to start 2019,” said AQSC Chairman and Chief Executive Officer John Waggoner.

“Our repeat guests have long shared their desire to sail the Great Lakes and these vessels, currently undergoing a shipyard refresh alongside the under construction *American Countess*, will deliver unforgettable travel memories in a new and growing region,” he said.

Victory I and *Victory II* join the AQSC fleet under the Victory Cruise Lines name.

From May to Oct, Victory Cruise Lines will offer 10-day all-inclusive sailings on the Great Lakes.

American Countess, currently under construction in Louisiana, will debut in 2020.

For info call 02 9959 1355.

Pictured is the 202-passenger *Victory I*.



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Evergreen locks in

EVERGREEN Cruises & Tours has revealed that 100% of all 2019 Canada, Alaska and USA departures are guaranteed to go ahead due to high demand.

"Canada continues to be safe and desirable destination for Australians", said Evergreen's Director of Sales, Marketing and Product Angus Crichton.

Crichton attributes the strong local demand for North American cruises to the continual development of its product range and diversity of trip durations.

"Our departure schedules allow guest to combine tours, and Evergreen has more than 30 different combinations of tours and tour lengths which suit all budgets and holiday lengths," he said.

Uniworld extends

UNIWORLD and U by Uniworld has extended its Our Best Offer sale through to 31 Mar, offering guests up to 30% off on 360 departure dates across 40 different itineraries.

Packages applicable to the promotion include the 10-day Magnificent Moselle & Rhine adventure, sailing from Cologne to Frankfurt and priced from \$4,829 per person.

Also available is the eight-day Enchanting Danube journey cruising Eastern and Western Europe on board the luxurious *S.S. Maria Theresa*.

Sailings are inclusive of meals, drinks and excursions.

Call 1300 780 231 for more information.

One Jewel of a cruise



LAST month, the freshly refurbished *Norwegian Jewel*, pictured **below**, sailed into Sydney ready to whisk away its first Australian passengers on a jam-packed itinerary across to Tasmania and Melbourne.

Cruise Weekly enjoyed exploring a range of the ship's updated features, including a visit



to Sake Bar (pictured **above**), as well as taking in the ship's new Cirque at Sea show, Le Cirque Bijou, pictured bottom **left**.

Pictured: The Norwegian Cruise Line "dream team" William Kaafi; Jemma Lee; Lillian Moussa; Nicole Costantin; Aaron Christian; James McCullagh and Chris D'Anvers.



HAL cooks up storm

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has added five new cooking shows to its line up in 2019, offering guests the chance to cook alongside experts at its America's Test Kitchen venues.

The new presentations cover a range of cooking styles from Mexican, Mediterranean, and desserts, joining HAL's 14 existing shows that use a mix of video, instruction and live recipe demonstrations.

All Holland America Line ships (excluding *Maasdam*) feature America's Test Kitchen venues, designed to replicate the set where the *America's Test Kitchen* TV show is filmed.

"HAL guests are knowledge seekers, foodies and learners," said HAL Pres Orlando Ashford.

A Royal headache

ROYAL Caribbean's *Oasis of the Seas* was forced to cut a scheduled seven-day cruise in the Caribbean a day short last week after more than 400 guests and crew became ill with norovirus.

As the ship approached Jamaica, many passengers reportedly started to feel sick, exhibiting symptoms such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Consequently the 5,400-passenger ship returned to Port Canaveral in Florida a day earlier than planned, with Royal Caribbean announcing that guests who were on board the ill-fated cruise would receive a full refund.

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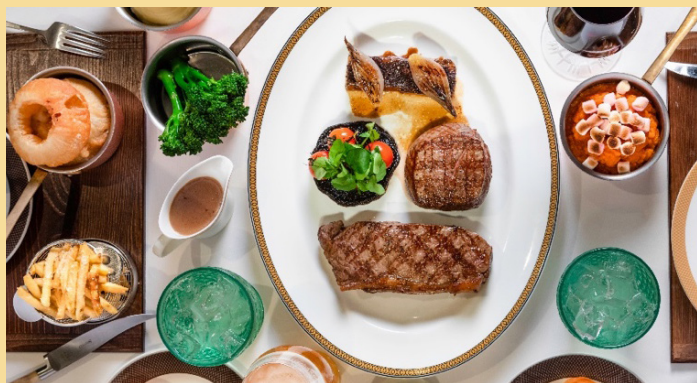
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CRUISE



Wednesday 16th January 2019

Cunard ups the steaks



CUNARD has introduced a new dining concept called Steakhouse at The Verandah on board its *Queen Mary 2*, *Queen Victoria* and *Queen Elizabeth* vessels.

The restaurants' curated menus includes prime grain finished New York strip steak, Maine lobster, Alaskan king crab and grass-fed Australian

Wagyu beef.

A selection of craft cocktails are also available at The Verandah bar, along with a wine list chosen to complement the steak menu such as a range of peppery Shiraz.

Reservations for Steakhouse at The Verandah is available for lunch (US\$25 per person) and dinner (US\$39 per person).

Win with NCL

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has launched a new online competition for travel agents, offering the chance to win \$5,000 worth of prizes.

The competition will run weekly over six weeks and is based on the cruise line's Europe itinerary, with agents invited to visit the Discover-&-Win website to enter.

By brushing up on their Europe knowledge and answering a handful of simple questions, agents have the chance to win a raft of prizes, including Bose noise cancelling headphones, a \$100 Visa gift voucher, a FitBit Charge 2 and a wine pack.

To find out more and to enter the competition, [CLICK HERE](#).

Viking incentive

VIKING Cruises are enticing agents to join its new rewards program, Rewards by Viking, by offering 250 bonus points when booking clients on the brand's ocean or river cruises.

The incentive coincides with the cruise line's Explorer Sale, which runs until 31 Mar, and adds to the regular points agents would normally earn for selling a Viking cruise.

Points can be redeemed in the online Rewards by Viking store on a range of brand-name items, from electronics and sporting goods to beauty products and gift vouchers.

For information on the Explorer Sale, or the trade rewards program call Viking 138 747, or [CLICK HERE](#).

Carnival appoints new Board Director



CARNIVAL Corporation has announced the appointment of Katie Lahey to its Board of Directors, effective immediately.

Lahey brings more than 25 years' experience to the role, and is the current Executive Chair Australasia for Korn Ferry.

Lahey will serve in a non-executive capacity on Carnival Corporation's 12-member boards of directors, as well as serving on the Audit Committees.



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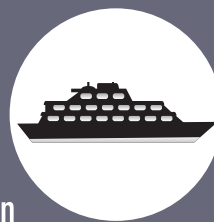
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Need help wading through the huge variety of cruise options out there?

Check out the 2019 Cruise Guide for a comprehensive tool.

CRUISE WEEKLY Travel Daily travelBulletin



Chimu 40% off

CHIMU Adventures has launched its Great Chimu Sale, offering up to 40% off a selection of trips to Latin America and the Polar regions.

Travellers can save up to 30% on adventures to the Arctic, with discounts of up to 35% on South America destinations and up to 40% off Antarctica cruises - more info [HERE](#).

FACE-2-FACE: Brenton Reidy

BDM SA/VIC/ACT/WA/NT,
Carnival Australia.



1. What is the favourite part of your job?

I love cruising, so being able to work with travel agents to teach them about our offerings and show them our ships is definitely one of my favourite parts of this job.

2. Why did you choose a career in the cruise industry?

I've always been passionate about travelling – and more importantly, cruising – so this was a perfect match for me.

3. What is the key to your success?

I would have to credit my success to the important relationships I've developed over the years, as well as being proactive when it comes to thinking outside the box and looking for new opportunities – there is a lot of potential for this industry.

4. Biggest challenge facing the industry?

To stay innovative! It's so

important to have exciting and innovative offerings, whether that's new itineraries, destinations or sales campaigns to highlight new features.

5. Advice for up-and-comers?

Book a cruise! The best way to learn is to immerse yourself in the product.

6. How do you wind down after a busy week?

I love to spend as much time as I can with my family. I'm also a big sports fan, whether it's watching sport on TV or going to a game.

7. The celebrity you would most like to cruise with?

Shane Warne, he's a legend!

8. What should the cruise ship of the future look like?

There should be a big focus on families, with larger rooms on offer and more fun-filled activities at their destinations. And of course, lots of advanced technology!

Spin a good yarn with Cruise Express

CRUISE Express is offering an exclusive Crochet Cruise experience on board *Celebrity Solstice*, departing Sydney on 27 Oct.

The 12-night journey will take passengers to Tasmania and New Zealand, taking in destinations such as Hobart, Milford Sound, Dunedin, Akaroa and ending in Auckland.

On board, guests can attend a series of crochet workshops, with all bookings receiving free yarn, books, accessories, & kits - more [HERE](#).

CLIA UPDATE



with Joel Katz
MD, CLIA Australasia

Sustainability news

AS the world's cruise fleet embarks on its first itineraries of 2019, we can be confident the year ahead will bring further prosperity for our industry. Solid growth has become a trademark of cruising, but the year ahead is also likely to highlight one of our other key traits – the cruise sector's impressive record on sustainability.

Last month CLIA announced a commitment to a 40% reduction in carbon emissions across the global cruise fleet by 2030, the result of a historic industry collaboration.

This will be driven by new technologies in ship design and propulsion, building on major advances that are already underway among major lines. For example, the first cruise ship powered by liquid natural gas (LNG) was launched last month and 25 such ships could be operating by 2025, resulting in significantly fewer emissions.

The industry is also making major advances in areas like air quality systems that significantly reduce exhaust.

With a succession of new ships set for launch in 2019, there's no doubt each will bring exciting new developments in the passenger experience, but perhaps the most important new features will be those that help meet our commitment to the long-term health of our oceans and atmosphere.



THE naming of a cruise ship is a very serious business, every cruise line eager to ensure the chosen name brings their vessel as much good luck as possible on future endeavours.

Unfortunately for the crew of the *MV Forever Lucky* this superstitious belief hasn't carried too much weight, especially after it ran aground in the Sulu Sea last week.

The vessel is reportedly still stranded off the coast of the Philippines because the local Coast Guard fears the ship may also be susceptible to an oil leak.

According to the *Maritime Bulletin*, the type of ship is only designed for travel on inland waters and is not considered seaworthy, although irresponsible operators sometimes use such ships for short ocean journeys.

With any "luck", the *MV Forever Lucky* will have the good fortune to land a more reputable crew for its next voyage.



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