



Cruise Weekly today

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

CruiseAppy APAC

CRUISE industry video-streaming platform CruiseAppy is targeting Asia-Pacific, bringing aboard travel tech stalwart Paul Millan.

The former Traveltek APAC Senior Vice President will serve as Business Development head for the region.

“Our goal is simple, to transform customer engagement for all cruise travel agents through our mobile app & video streaming service and website platform for travel, cruise and cruise packages,” Millan said.

The application said it had onboarded a number of new customers in recent months.

Ponfoort to lead Aurora

MONIQUE Ponfoort (pictured) has this morning been announced as the new Chief Executive Officer of Aurora Expeditions.

Ponfoort will replace Robert Halfpenny at the head of Aurora after his resignation (**CW** 30 Jun), and will join the company in Oct after leaving her current role as Asia Pacific Vice President and General Manager of Ponant & Paul Gauguin Cruises.

Aurora Chairman Neville Buch, who has been acting in an executive role since Halfpenny's resignation in May, said “Monique is an impressive executive and her extensive experience in the cruise and travel industry will be of enormous value to Aurora Expeditions.

“We have a very exciting future ahead of us with our second vessel, the *Sylvia Earle* arriving in 2021 and further vessel plans in the pipeline,” Buch added, with



Ponfoort's skills to assist in the future expansion of the business.

She said she was drawn to the growth and forward thinking of the business “together with their true passion in delivering outstanding expeditions and guest experiences to some of the most remote and unique places and cultures in the world”.

RCL takes 100% of Silversea

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises (RCL) has purchased the remaining 33% of Silversea Cruises, two years after taking its initial billion-dollar stake in the luxury cruise operator (**CW** 15 Jun 2018).

The transaction was paid for in the form of 5.2 million Royal Caribbean Cruises common stock, worth about US\$245m.

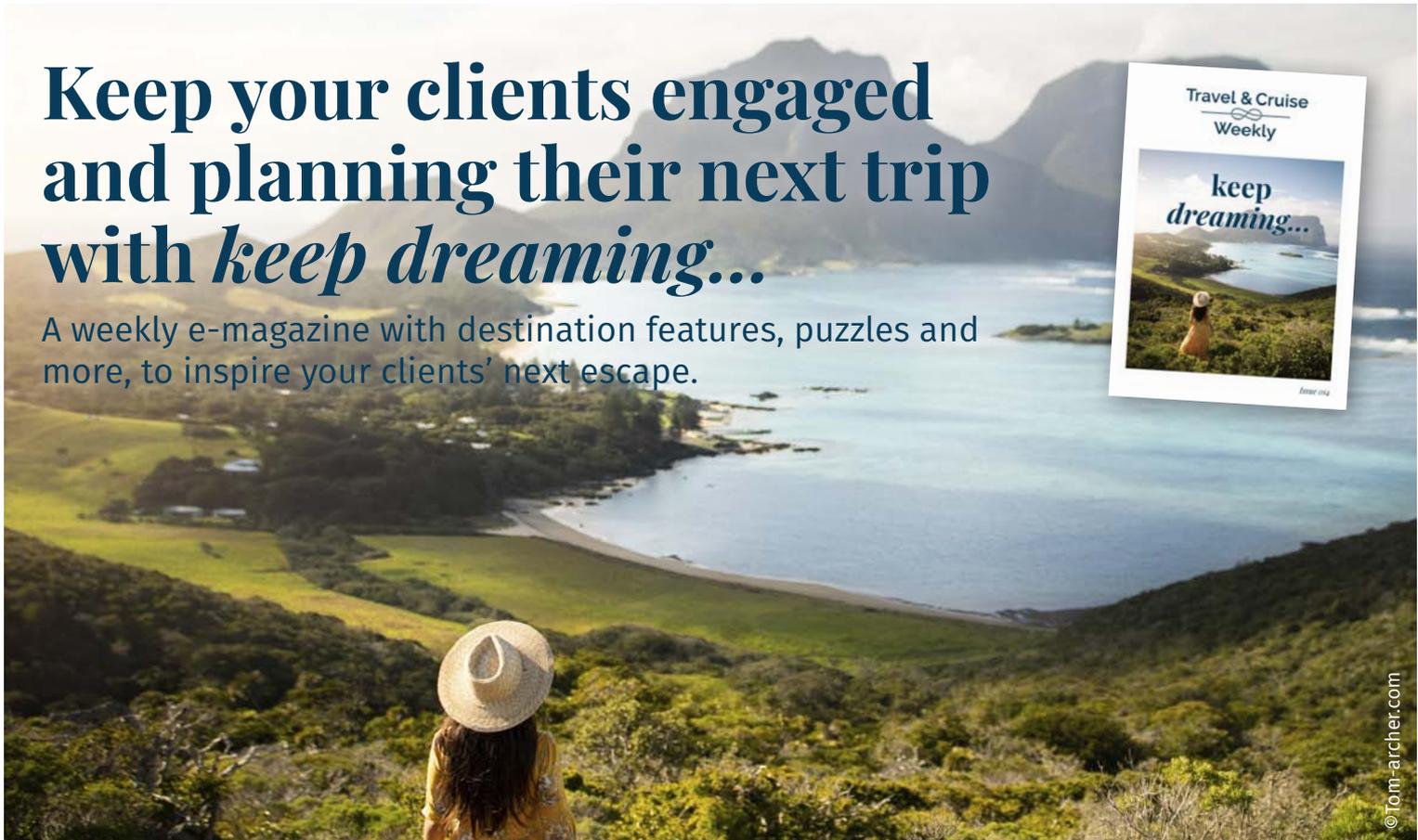
Roberto Martinoli will remain Silversea CEO, and Manfredi Lefebvre d'Ovidio will serve as Chairman.

RCL CEO Richard Fain said the pair had brought a fresh point of view, as well as a deep knowledge of Silversea's unique audience.

“Their skills - and Manfredi's inimitable style - will continue to play an important role in growing Silversea into the future,” he said.

Keep your clients engaged and planning their next trip with *keep dreaming...*

A weekly e-magazine with destination features, puzzles and more, to inspire your clients' next escape.





Missed the July issue of *travelBulletin*? Check it out now to catch up on the operators who are pivoting in the face of COVID, plus all our usual news and analysis.

CLICK to read 



THE largest ocean clean-up in history recently took place on the Great Pacific garbage patch.

The expedition lasted 48 days, with a crew specialising in deep-sea clean-up collecting more than 100 tonnes of plastic waste, a world record.

Sometimes described as "the seventh continent", the Pacific garbage patch is a gyre of marine debris particles in the north-central Pacific Ocean, with the clean-up taking place between California and Hawaii.

The garbage patch is three times the size of France, with the cleaners clearly having so much fun they've already planned another visit for 2021.

More Carnival ships going



13 SHIPS from Carnival Corporation's cruise lines will be scrapped or sold, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carnival Chief Executive Officer Arnold Donald revealed the news on Fri, as the company looks to cut costs and reorganise.

The cruise giant came into the pandemic with 104 ships across nine brands, and announced the sale of six ships last month (**CW** 19 Jun).

The 13 vessels amount to a nearly 9% reduction of capacity for Carnival.

At present, just Costa Cruises' *Costa Victoria* and P&O Cruises' *Oceana* are known to be departing, as well as ships which had confirmed to be leaving before the pandemic, such as *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Dawn* (**pictured**).

Donald also said Carnival's 16 vessels on order would roll out at a slower pace over the next couple of years, although no ship orders will be cancelled.

The Carnival boss said the capacity of the company's

ships would not return to pre-pandemic levels until 2022 at the earliest.

Meanwhile, Chief Financial Officer David Bernstein added the company needs 25 ships sailing at full occupancy to break even.

Depending on size, Bernstein said 30%-50% occupancy is required to break even per ship, and based on 2019 numbers, Carnival would need to operate about 15 ships to be cash-flow positive, and 25 to cover costs for the rest of the ships in lay-up, as well as all shoreside sales and general and administrative costs.

Carnival's top 15 ships generate between 30% and 31% of the company's cash flow.

The company said it is "very encouraged" by current bookings, with 60% of sales during the first three weeks of Jun new cash bookings, and some even new to cruising altogether.

Nearly two-thirds of Carnival's customers - almost eight million - are returnees.

"We expect demand to be more than adequate to fill ships".

AIDA to resume

AIDA Cruises will restart sailing in Aug, with *AIDAperla*, *AIDamar* and *AIDAbly* to be the first three ships to depart.

AIDAperla will be the first to set sail, on 05 Aug from Hamburg, followed by *AIDamar* from Warnemunde on 12 Aug and *AIDAbly* from Kiel on 16 Aug.

AIDA said it has worked with several global and national health authorities to develop a comprehensive set of health and hygiene protocols to help facilitate a safe, healthy and phased-in return to cruising.

Measures encompass the booking process through individual travel preparation, embarking and disembarking in port, and medical care on board - for more, **CLICK HERE**.

Kimberley deal

KIMBERLEY Cruise Specialists is offering savings of \$4,400 per couple on 2022 Kimberley expedition cruises aboard the newly-refurbished *Reef Prince*.

The earlybird savings are applicable on the ex-Darwin cruise, which departs between Mar and Sep, travelling the Kimberley for 11 days en route to Broome, taking in Horizontal Falls in Talbot Bay, King Cascades, King George Falls, Montgomery Reef and ancient indigenous art.

Reef Prince accommodates just 36 travellers across five grades of accommodation - call on 1800 90 20 80.

Celebrity deal

TODAY is the last day to book a Celebrity Cruises stateroom and save up to \$600 per person, under the cruise line's double summer savings promotion.

Savings can total up to \$1,500 for those booking a Suite, with the first two guests also able to enjoy premium beverage packages, wi-fi and \$300 each to spend on board.

Applicable on sailings of four nights or longer departing Oct 2020 to May 2022, savings can be accessed on Outside, Veranda, Concierge, AquaClass and Suites.

For more, visit Royal Caribbean International HomePort **HERE**.