WEEKLY WEEKLY

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Friday 31st July 2020

Cruise Weekly today

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

Super music cruise

CHOOSE Your Cruise has announced Australia's first ever super cruise for 2021, which will see rock and country music unite on the same ship.

The cruise is being run in collaboration with Artist Network Australia and Cruiseco, with Royal Caribbean International's *Ovation of the Seas* to play host to both the Cruisin' Country and the Rock the Boat itineraries in Nov.

The seven-night super cruise will travel from 23-30 Nov 2021, after Choose Your Cruise postponed its 2020 cruises. **CLICK HERE** for more

information and a full line-up.

Zito: Aus integral to Swan Hellenic

EXCLUSIVE

SWAN Hellenic CEO Andrea Zito (**pictured**) has emphasised the importance of Australia and the region to the reborn cruise line, revealing expedition options from the Pacific to Antarctica are being looked into.

Speaking to *Cruise Weekly* yesterday, Zito discussed Swan Hellenic's recently announced 2021-22 return season (*CW* 24 Jul), including the line's current offerings in the region, and what may be in store in the future.

"Our ship which will be based in the Bering Strait, will have to commute to Antarctica through the Pacific Ocean, so we are designing some itineraries through Papua New Guinea and Japan, so hopefully there is an option to, instead of going back to Ushuaia, take a deep dive in Antarctica from the Australian continent...it is possible, we are



studying it."

Having previously been represented in Australia by general sales agent Discover the World, Zito also revealed a multitude of options were being considered for an assertive sales strategy in Asia-Pacific.

"We are developing quite an aggressive strategy," he said.

"We're not in the position to open an office in Australia, but we are in contact with various partners and we will announce our strategy in the next months." Zito also expanded on how Swan Hellenic would attempt to restore the formerly positive relationship the cruise line had in its previous existence.

"We want to revive the aspects of which Swan Hellenic was renowned, which is having a number of partners around the world and revive the sense of the Swan Hellenic family.

"Rather than being a supplier, they felt more like a family, with the same aspirations, same plans, and same goals.

"We want to be very friendly with the travel agent community because we can offer good options for our guests, but we can also offer a profitable environment for our partners in the agent community."

Swan Hellenic's first two ships are currently under construction, with Zito saying they would offer unrivalled-in-the-market polar class 5 specification.

Travel & Cruise

Weekly

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Friday 31st July 2020

New Norwegian digs



A WA boat skipper has been left heartbroken, after being instructed to respond to a distress call saw both vessels sink.

The man was in waters off Kalbarri, WA earlier this week when he helped an in-trouble vessel, with all passengers safe, but neither boat making it in the end.

To make matters worse, the good samaritan will not be compensated for his trouble leaving him to the mercy of his insurance company.

Heritage changes

HERITAGE Line has announced new cruise schedules for its Myanmar and upper Mekong cruises.

The updates will see the postponement of the new luxury ship *Anouvong* until mid-2021, with the maiden sailing to now take place on 05 Aug 2021 from Huay Xai to Vientiane.

Heritage has also paused Myanmar cruises through to mid-Aug 2021, with all existing bookings to be converted into credit towards a future booking.

New bookers can currently benefit from full booking protection under Heritage's COVID-19 booking policy, and can also qualify for special reduced rates - **CLICK HERE** for more.



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has shared the progress of its new terminal at PortMiami, which is nearing completion.

Inspired by the pelagic mollusc the nautilus, the terminal offers views of the sea and Miami's skyline, and has been designed by local architect Bermello Ajamil & Partners.

The terminal spans 15,470m², and is highly technologically integrated in order to facilitate quick and efficient embarkation and disembarkation processes.

There is also a dedicated lounge and service area for corporate groups and charters.

The terminal was constructed to LEED silver standards, meaning it has been optimised for energy use, indoor air quality, water efficiency and more.





Pictured top: Norwegian's new terminal.

Inset above: Reverse angle of the new structure.

Inset below: A nautilus.

Carnival sale?

CARNIVAL Corporation has kiboshed rumours both Cunard and Seabourn could be sold.

The company told *Cruise Weekly* the rumour initially reported by *Tradewinds* is untrue.

"There is no truth to this rumour...Cunard and Seabourn are iconic brands within Carnival Corporation and both lines have a strong track record of success over the years," a Carnival spokesperson said.

Celeb's free perks

CELEBRITY Cruises is holding a three free perks deal, ending on Mon.

The flash sale sees guests receive beverages, US\$150 onboard credit and wi-fi.

Applicable for sailings of four nights or longer departing 03 Oct 2020 to 04 May 2022, the deal also sees guests save up to A\$750 per stateroom details on RGC HomePort.

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