



## Princess introduces Dine My Way

**PRINCESS** Cruises has introduced Dine My Way, a new MedallionClass enhancement that offers a contactless approach to dining.

Guests will now be able to make a reservation for onboard dining rooms and specialty restaurants with their OceanMedallion at times they prefer and with whom they wish to dine.

Patrons will be able to pre-plan and tailor their dining experiences to offer more flexibility and convenience.

Dine My Way will also help to optimise capacities in dining rooms & restaurants, manage wait times, and gives guests the ability to indicate their desired seating location, share dietary preferences & allergen information, and even pick the same venue & dining time each night if they wish.

Princess' OceanNow on-demand



menu has also been expanded to include personalisation options so guests can perfect their coffee, select their sauce or condiments and more.

The expanded menu will also include entrees and beverage options from restaurants throughout the ship, with guest requests delivered directly to their location.

OceanNow orders can be made using the MedallionClass application on a smart device, via the stateroom television, or by having a crew member place the order on the guest's behalf.

President Jan Swartz said Dine

My Way was the most significant change Princess has ever made to its cruise ship dining.

"Instead of restricting dining choices during the pandemic, we've been able to expand the options for our guests and thanks to the unique, innovative capabilities of the OceanMedallion, reduce wait times and eliminate the need to stand in line," she said.

Senior Vice President of Guest Experience Mario Siebaldi added he thought the take-up in Australia would be great.

"Our guests who have cruised on Princess ships in the northern hemisphere have always appreciated the convenience of OceanNow, and we think even more guests will embrace the 'on-demand' ability to order what they desire and have it delivered to them wherever they are on board," he said.

### Cruise Weekly today

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

### P&O pause to Sep

P&O Cruises Australia has extended its cruising pause until 17 Sep.

The six-week extension applies to cruises scheduled to depart from 31 Jul, with guests whose bookings have been affected to be notified of the pause, and options available, either directly or via their appointed travel advisor.

P&O Australia President Sture Myrmell said the decision reflected the cruise line's respect for its guests, so they could plan their holidays with as much certainty as possible.

For more information, call 1800 177 655.

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## Scenic return

**SCENIC** Group's luxury river cruises are set to return in Portugal from 30 Jul.

Both Emerald Cruises and Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours will resume on the Douro River, with originally published itineraries and included excursions preserved to the extent possible.

"This is an exciting first step towards getting our ships back sailing across Europe's rivers," said GM Sales & Marketing Australasia Anthony Laver.

"Portugal has long been a popular destination for our UK guests and river cruise enthusiasts from other markets.

"We are pleased to announce our return to the spectacular Douro Valley."

For more on Scenic's offerings in Portugal, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Ponant Smithsonian

**PONANT** has announced the first 19 voyages as part of its recent alliance with Smithsonian Journeys (**CW** 15 Apr).

Planned for next year, the new sailings will feature notable experts and experiences that embrace local cultures and delve into a destination's history, cuisine, language, environment, and wildlife.

The voyages will explore Antarctica, the British Isles, the Great Lakes, Iceland, Japan, the Mediterranean, the Norwegian fjords and more.

They will provide opportunities to engage with a variety of experts, from archaeologists and scientists to anthropologists and historians.

Highlights include Panama and Costa Rica by Sea: The Natural Wonders of Central America, aboard *Le Champlain*, which over eight days voyages from Colon to

Puerto Caldera, passing through the Panama Canal.

Ports of call include Darien National Park for treks through the wilderness; an exclusive hosted visit at the Punta Culebra Nature Centre at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama City; and Carara National Park, home to over 10,000 species of plants, 300 species of birds and 200 species of butterflies.

Another high point is the Treasures of Japan by Sea aboard *Le Soleal*, which sails from Kobe, to Osaka, to explore how its rich heritage blends with the country's industrialisation.

Highlights include an Udon noodle masterclass at a Takamatsu cooking school, and a visit to Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park.

The full list of voyages can be viewed [HERE](#).

## Victory 2022 season

**VICTORY** Cruise Lines has launched its 2023 season, it's biggest ever, featuring its new 200-guest exploration ship *Ocean Discoverer*.

The new vessel will offer a series of 11- and 12-day adventures to less-visited destinations in Alaska, as well two exotic Costa Rica and Mexico sailings.

*Discoverer* will boast an x-bow, an aft-facing infinity pool, a jacuzzi, two restaurants and more.

Her sister *Ocean Victory*, which will debut next year, will join the new ship in Alaska in 2023, while fleetmates *Victory I* and *Victory II* will encore their popular explorations of the Great Lakes, and sail along the coast of New England, Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and the East Coast of the United States to the Bahamas.



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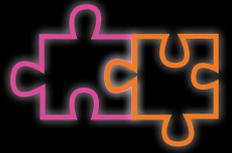
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**EARTH** 300 founder and entrepreneur Aaron Olivera has found his next project: he wants to build a nuclear-powered ship dedicated to science, ocean exploration and climate change.

Featuring liquid metal walls, robotics, deep sea water creatures in tanks, and floors opening under your feet, Olivera told *The Sydney Morning Herald* the vessel will "capture the spirit of Silicon Valley, SpaceX, Davos, the Olympics and Disney" - that's quite a claim to live up to! Oh, and the ship will be emissions-free - **HERE**.

## A big day for Celebrity



**CELEBRITY** Cruises has announced its return to the Galapagos Islands from Jul. The first ship to resume sailing the archipelago will be

*Celebrity Flora*, beginning 04 Jul followed by *Celebrity Xpedition* and the 16-passenger *Celebrity Xploration* on 24 Jul, and 18 Sep, respectively.

All ships will sail with vaccinated crews, and will be available to vaccinated adult guests and children under the age of 18 with a negative PCR test result.

*Xpedition* and *Xploration* will both explore the Galapagos with Northern and Southern Loop itineraries, while *Flora* will sail Inner Loop cruises.

**MEANWHILE**, Ben Piper (pictured) has been named Celebrity's Digital Marketing Specialist Australia & New Zealand.

Arriving at a pivotal time for the luxury brand following the recent launch of its newest ship, *Celebrity Beyond* (CW 29 Apr) Piper will drive the digital marketing strategy through skills gained from previous tourism and cruise roles, including most recently with Viking, and before that, CW parent company Business Publishing Group.

## Grand Pac voyage

**SEABOURN** Cruise Line has debuted its 65-day Grand Pacific Voyage 2022: A World of Islands.

Now open for sale, guests can book the voyage by the end of the month and receive a 6% early bonus savings.

Set to depart Vancouver aboard *Seabourn Odyssey* on 30 Sep 2022, and arrive in Sydney on 05 Dec 2022, the cruise will visit 41 ports, 30 islands, 12 countries, and make five overnight stays.

Guests will also have the option to embark the voyage in Seattle on 01 Oct.

The 65-day itinerary of the Grand Pacific Voyage includes stops at notable destinations visited in over five years, including Lahaina, Avatoru, Mataiva, Maupiti Island; Maroe Bay, Cook's Bay, French Polynesia; Alofi, Dravuni Island, and Ghizo Island.

There will also be 25 optional, guided Ventures by Seabourn excursions where guests are invited to explore settings of natural beauty via hike, kayak, and Zodiac across the South Pacific.

Destinations with the excursions include Cairns, Maupiti Island, Ureparapara; Ghizo Island, and Savusavu, and the Conflict Islands.

Guests who book the entire 65-day Grand Pacific Voyage from Vancouver or the 64-day voyage from Seattle will also receive a Gala Bon Voyage dinner in Seattle, special grand cuisine pillow gifts, and an exclusive President's Event - call 13 24 02.

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