



Cruise Weekly today

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

Vote 1 Big Cruise

THE Big Cruise Podcast, hosted by cruise industry cognoscenti Barry Downs, who has been nominated in the Listeners Choice category of the Australian Podcast Awards.

Despite being big by name, Downs' podcast is up against some even bigger-name celebrities, high-profile organisations and dedicated radio/podcast studios.

After the rough year cruise has had, your vote could make the difference, and could potentially see The Big Cruise Podcast as a finalist.

To vote, click the link **HERE**, and search for The Big Cruise Podcast.

Carnival announces 23-24 program

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has announced a new program of Australian itineraries for 2023-24, which hopes to provide a \$300+ million domestic tourism boost.

Featuring 115 sailings for cruise fans leaving from Sydney and Brisbane, guests voyaging on board both *Carnival Splendor* and *Carnival Spirit* will have the opportunity to experience 66 domestic cruises.

Providing even more opportunities for guests to take a quick and easy getaway, 20 short cruises have also been featured as part of the program, including relaxing weekend escapes, and trips to destinations such as Airlie Beach (pictured), the Great Barrier Reef and Moreton Island.

Another highlight of the itinerary program are two cruises to Papua New Guinea, allowing guests to visit a number of ports, including Alotau, Kitava Island



and the Conflict Islands.

"After an incredibly challenging two years for the Australian travel industry, it was extremely important for us at Carnival to invest in the local economy with our 2023-2024 program," said Vice President Aus Kara Glamore. "Carnival ships have called

Australia home for nearly a decade and during that time, we have welcomed over one million guests onboard.

"We know Aussies are hungry to keep exploring their backyard and with over 100 sailings between Jun 2023 and Jun 2024, we'll be sure to have a cruise for you."

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HAL's fifth return

HOLLAND America Line's *Nieuw Statendam* returned to sailing in South Florida yesterday, marking the cruise line's fifth ship to re-enter service.

Nieuw Statendam set sail on a seven-day western Caribbean itinerary that will visit Nassau, Ocho Rios, Port Royal, and Half Moon Cay, Holland America's private island in the Bahamas.

The ship will spend Nov through Apr in the Caribbean on cruises ranging from seven to 11 days, all roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale.

Guests looking for a longer getaway can embark on a Collectors' Voyage — combined back-to-back itineraries that offer an in-depth exploration covering more than one part of the region.

RCI returns to California



ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) has made its Hollywood comeback, with the amplified *Navigator of the Seas* (pictured) setting sail from Los Angeles for the first time.

The cruise line is back in California after more than a decade, with *Navigator* yesterday beginning her highly anticipated year-round season of three-night weekend to four- and five-night

weekday cruises to Santa Catalina Island and the Mexican Riviera.

Navigator's ultimate getaway features adventures ashore, in destinations like Ensenada and Cabo San Lucas.

Guests who cruise on *Navigator* can also enjoy a \$115 million series of enhancements introduced on board the ship in 2019, including the longest waterslide at sea.

RSSC holiday cruises

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has revealed seven seasonal sailings departing in Dec 2022 and 2023.

Voyages include Australia, and range between 14 and 67 nights, with a series of carefully curated holiday menus to be on offer for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Hanukkah.

Christmas Eve will feature European-style dishes, with an American-themed menu served up on Christmas Day.

Seasonal plates include decadent baked ham with traditional trimmings, roast turkey with chestnut-stuffing, pumpkin pie with cranberries and cinnamon-vanilla sauce & classic English Christmas pudding with vanilla and whiskey sauce.

For more information, please call 1300 455 200.



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WITH the absence of large-scale cruising from Australia's shores for almost two years now, one's mind heads to the many chance encounters which never ended up happening - some far more virtuous than others.

In particular, a cruise aboard P&O Cruises Australia's *Fairstar* in the 1980s was a "Sliding Doors" moment for one couple's happy life together.

When Paul boarded *Fairstar* for a nine-night cruise to the Pacific Islands in 1989, his wife-to-be Michelle was literally a face in the crowd at Sydney's OPT.

During the cruise, the two engaged in a number of cruise-normal incidental encounters, but it wasn't until the final hours of the cruise that they really met.

The two made each other's acquaintance on the top deck for the sail back into the Harbour.

It was there they exchanged addresses, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Wish for Little Mermaid



AN ORIGINAL stage adaptation of *The Little Mermaid* will headline the all-new entertainment exclusively aboard Disney Cruise Line's *Disney Wish*.

The new show will offer a unique theatrical take on *The Little Mermaid* when *Wish* sets sail in next year's northern summer.

The Broadway-style take on *The Little Mermaid* is one of two original stage spectaculars which will debut in *Wish's* state-

of-the-art Walt Disney Theatre, as well as an embarkation day celebration, *Disney Seas the Adventure*.

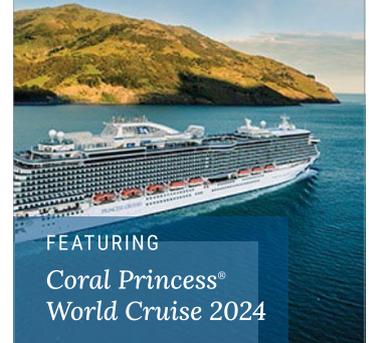
The 1,274-seat show palace will evoke an enchanted forest inspired by scenes from Walt Disney Animation Studios' *Fantasia*, with orchestra and balcony seating spanning three decks.

The Walt Disney Theatre will also be equipped with a range of state-of-the-art tech.

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EDITORIAL
Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
Associate Editors – Myles Stedman, Adam Bishop
Contributors – Nicholas O'Donoghue
info@cruiseweekly.com.au
info@cruiseweekly.co.nz

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING
Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au
advertising@cruiseweekly.co.nz

BUSINESS MANAGER
Jenny Piper
accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
Tel: (AU) +61 2 8007 6760 or (NZ) 0800 799 220
Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220

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