

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Wednesday 14th Jun 2023

### Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise news, plus full pages from:

- Norwegian Cruise Line • Disney Cruise Line

#### Costa Nat Geo tours

**COSTA** Cruises has introduced new National Geographic Day Tours for its guests.

The 10 new excursions in the Mediterranean, the Canary Islands, and Madeira, will be available from this month.

Guests will be accompanied by expert local guides trained by National Geographic.

Some of the tours will see guests get insight on the daily life of sea turtles in Naples, while in Ibiza, a herbalist guide will showcase the island's authentic countryside.

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# Disney details second Aussie season

**DISNEY** Cruise Line (DCL) has officially announced its second season of "magical" sailings in Australia (CW 15 Mar).

Returning in Oct 2024, 'Disney Magic at Sea' will cruise in Australia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific through to Feb 2025.

The season will sail from Sydney. Melbourne, and Brisbane on board Disney Wonder (pictured).

It will include a new seven-night cruise, with sailings as short as two nights, and select calls at Hobart, Eden, Auckland, and Noumea.

The new season of Disney Magic at Sea cruises will open for booking from 27 Jun.

Senior Vice President & General Manager Sharon Siskie said the cruise line was thrilled by the response to its inaugural sailings in Australia (CW 28 Sep 2022). "We look forward to bringing



the magic of Disney to this beautiful part of the world as we welcome both returning guests and those who are new to our special brand of family cruising," she said.

The season will see cruisers meet friends from Disney, Pixar, Marvel, and Star Wars.

They will also watch as their favourite stories come to life in Broadway-style shows at the Walt Disney Theatre, including Frozen: A Musical Spectacular.

Exclusive to Wonder is Tiana's Place restaurant, which treats guests to New Orleansinspired cuisine and live music entertainment, and offers passengers the opportunity to meet Princess Tiana from The Princess and the Froq.

The announcement follows the incredible response to Disney's inaugural Australia season, which will commence in Oct - more information on page 4 of today's Cruise Weekly.





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A TEAM of international researchers and explorers is planning to voyage the length of the Amazon River, in an attempt to once and for all end the debate over the world's longest river.

Although the Nile is widely considered longer, a number of studies have concluded the Amazon to be more lengthy, with factors such as identification of the river's source, the definition of its mouth, and the scale of measurement used all contributing factors to differing results.

Backed by organisations including the Explorers Club, which has supported some of history's most daring expeditions, the team will set out in the next northern spring, and over seven months, map the river's entire course until it reaches the Atlantic Ocean.

#### Epic cancellations

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line's *Norwegian Epic* will undergo a revitalisation in 2025, which will see three European cruises cancelled.

The 15 Apr 2025, the 26 Apr 2025, and the 05 May 2025 cruises have all been axed.

A full monetary refund of the fare paid will automatically be returned, and all guests will also receive a 10% FCC.



RSSC's Qld showcase

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) recently gave a select group of South East Queensland travel advisors an exclusive advance preview of the line's new 2025-2026 Voyage Collection (*CW* 06 Jun).

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Trade partners received brochures which were "hot off the press", and got a first look at the stunning array of new and unique itineraries available with RSSC.

The program features 164 itineraries, including nine new sailings in Africa and Arabia more than any previous Voyage Collection.

Each advisor was gifted a \$200 David Jones gift card as a thank you for taking the time out of their busy schedule to attend. Main Beach Travel's Brigid Avery was extremely thankful for her "delicious and exciting" start to the day.

"Your new ports and destinations are going to astound

even the most seasoned of luxury cruisers," she said.

"It's what I love so much about your product - the 'well-travelled' will always find something new, intriguing and unique in the itineraries."

Savenio's Patricia Gordon said: "the new season launch reinforces Regent's position as truly the most all-inclusive luxury product in the cruise industry.

"Regent consistently offers outstanding value, imaginative new itineraries and more in-port experiences than its competitors.

"[We are] so appreciative of all the work [Senior Business Development Manager Elsa McLean] does to collaborate and help grow our cruise business she is a fountain of information at these product launches," she said.

**Pictured**: McLean with the Nicole Beasley Luxury Travel team: Nicole Beasley, Selena Black, and Bridget Webb.

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#### Building cruise potential

AUSTRALIA is one of the world's most passionate cruise markets, and we can see this in the strength of our cruising recovery in this region.

Australia is also a country with huge potential as a cruise destination, not just for the Aussies who have turned to domestic cruising but also for the hundreds of thousands of inbound cruise visitors who come from other parts of the world.

This week I'm in Canberra for events hosted by Tourism Australia and the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, making sure that cruising is on the agenda as we work to grow Australia's tourism economy.

Tourism Australia has been a valuable supporter of cruising and the MOU CLIA signed last year with TA and the Australian Cruise Association is bringing real benefits.

We've seen a greater Australian presence at events like Seatrade in Florida, a fantastic video initiative telling the story of Australia's cruise economy and the spectacular destinations we offer, and training initiatives to help overseas travel agents sell cruising Down Under.

As cruising continues to rebound, it's partnerships like these that will help our industry to thrive.



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*Cruise Weekly* is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

*Cruise Weekly* is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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# A SPECIAL **NEW** SEASON IS COMING

When we announced our inaugural sailings in Australia and New Zealand, we were so excited by your heartfelt reaction. And now, due to popular demand, Disney Cruise Line is announcing a whole new season of voyages.

Sailing from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane in Australia and Auckland in New Zealand, Disney Magic at Sea will bring enchantment and cherished Disney friends to our shores onboard Disney Wonder for a special new season of 2-7 night cruises from October 2024 to February 2025.

General on-sale begins Monday 26 June!

For more information, visit **DisneyTravelAgents.com.au** 

