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# CRUISE

## WEEKLY

*delivered daily!*



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Wednesday 8th Mar 2023

### Cruise Weekly today

**CRUISE Weekly** today features two pages of all the latest cruise news plus a cover page from **Oceania Cruises**.

### Explore the world

**EXPLORE** the world with Oceania Cruises in 2023-2024. The cruise line's itineraries for next season are available to view and book now. For more information, head to the **cover page of CW**.

### Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	8 Mar
MELBOURNE	<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	8 Mar
	<i>Grand Princess</i>	8 Mar
	<i>ms Noordam</i>	9 Mar
PHILLIP ISLAND	<i>Seabourn Sojourn</i>	9 Mar
BRISBANE	<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	8 Mar
	<i>Majestic Princess</i>	9 Mar
AIRLIE BEACH	<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	9 Mar
CAIRNS	<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	8 Mar
	<i>Viking Orion</i>	9 Mar
TOWNSVILLE	<i>Viking Orion</i>	8 Mar
HOBART	<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	8 Mar
PORT ARTHUR	<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	9 Mar
DARWIN	<i>Queen Victoria</i>	9 Mar
AUCKLAND	<i>MSC Magnifica</i>	8 Mar
FIORDLAND	<i>Europa</i>	8 Mar
TAURANGA	<i>MSC Magnifica</i>	9 Mar
	<i>Viking Mars</i>	9 Mar

## Spirit back for third season



**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line's (NCL) *Norwegian Spirit* will return to Australia for her third season, with a brand-new local itinerary between Sydney and Bali launched.

NCL has expanded its exotic itineraries collection for its 2024/2025 season, which will see *Spirit* cruise on a 14-day open-jaw voyage from Sydney to Bali via the Queensland coast in Dec 2024, which will reposition her to Asia ahead of her first continental voyage on 21 Dec.

The sailing includes calls to Cairns and Darwin, as well as an overnight visit to Bali.

A highlight of the season will see *Spirit* make NCL's first call to Rarotonga in Nov 2025.

Elsewhere in the APAC region, *Norwegian Sun* and *Norwegian Sky* will debut in Asia, offering an extensive eight-month season from Oct 2024 through May 2025, sailing country-intensive voyages in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Japan.

Highlights include a collection of Japanese spring cherry blossom and fall foliage itineraries.

For the very first time, NCL will call into Akita during *Sun's* 12-day round trip sailing from Tokyo, embarking on 23 Oct 2024.

Highlights in other parts of the world for the season will see NCL make its inaugural calls in

Bahrain, Egypt, and Jordan on its first dedicated Middle East sailing.

NCL will offer a seven-day cruise in the region on *Sun* from Doha to Dubai, departing 12 Apr 2025.

An overnight stay in Abu Dhabi will provide travellers with more time to explore the destination, while the open-jaw voyage also includes visits to Dammam, Manama, and Sir Bani Yas.

NCL will also cruise its first voyage from Ushuaia, with *Norwegian Star* (**pictured**) to sail a 14-day South America voyage to Brazil and Antarctica, departing 01 Mar 2025.

This once-in-a-lifetime journey reduces the number of sea days needed for an Antarctica cruise, providing more port time for travellers.

During the voyage, guests will cruise through Paradise Harbour and witness the surrounding glacial mountains and local wildlife while also having the opportunity to experience the culture in Puerto Madryn, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Punta Del Este, and Sao Paulo.

"Our expanded presence in the Asia Pacific is testament to our long-term commitment to this region and its importance to our company as both a source market and a destination," Managing Director & Vice President APAC Ben Angell said.

### Walker to Silversea

**AFTER** a year with Royal Caribbean International as its Partnerships Manager, Philippa Walker is starting a new position as Marketing Director APAC at Silversea Cruises.

Walker has a long history in the travel industry, having previously worked with The Travel Corporation and its Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection brand.

"I have always been in admiration of this incredible brand, lots of exciting news to come this year and looking forward to collaborating with... travel, media and partners with our talented team in Australia," she announced online.

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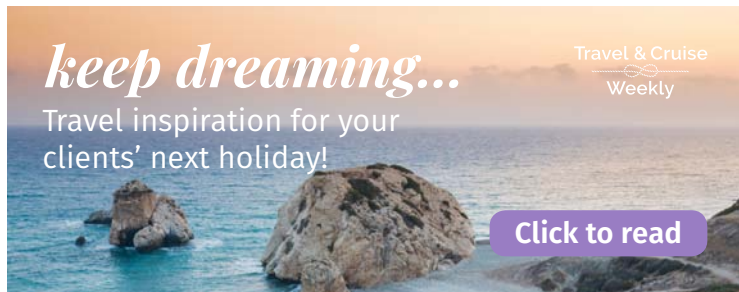
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**AN INFLUENCER** is under fire for jumping into a croc-infested Queensland river, sparking outrage among wildlife advocates and confusion among most others.

With the famous last words of "we'll see what happens aye", the influencer, who **Cruise Weekly** is choosing not to name for reasons of disdain, plunged more than 10 metres off an embankment into the Tully River in Queensland.

The latest incident comes two weeks after another amateur wannabe Steve Irwin was killed filming himself wading into another crocodile-infested river in FNQ.

## Hurtigruten gets halved

**HURTIGRUTEN** is inviting cruisers to see the aurora borealis on one of its four new 'Half Voyages', as part of its Norwegian Coastal Express.

The cruise line has expanded its signature Classic Coastal Voyage portfolio to include the new itineraries on board the upgraded *Trollfjord*.

The cruises are shorter than the original 16-day North Cape Express.

Sailing from Sep-Mar, and with departures ranging from seven to nine days, each journey takes in a selection of carefully curated ports along Norway's coastline.

## Welcome to your Home at Sea

**EXPLORA** Journeys has unveiled the designs of its Ocean Penthouses and Ocean Residences onboard *Explora I*, which will be among the largest in the cruise industry.

The new 'Homes at Sea' suite categories have been "thoughtfully designed to reflect the Explora Journeys philosophy of creating an Ocean State of Mind", the cruise line said.

The categories feature carefully considered elements such as natural light, colour, space, privacy, and connection with the sea.

Residences range from 70m<sup>2</sup> to 149m<sup>2</sup>, and offer separate living, dining, and sleeping areas.

They offer a panoramic oceanfront terrace with a private outdoor whirlpool, a dining table and sun loungers.

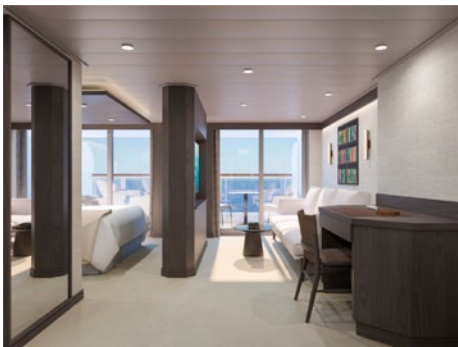
There are four unique types of Residences to choose from within the category, including Cocoon, Serenity, Cove, and Retreat.

The former two feature unique wrap-around terraces, while Cocoon, Serenity and Retreat offer a separate bathtub and walk-in-shower.

All Residences will be served by a dedicated team of Residence Hosts providing bespoke butler services 24 hours a day.

Meanwhile, Penthouses range from 43m<sup>2</sup> to 68m<sup>2</sup>, and feature oceanfront floor-to-ceiling windows and expansive terraces to unwind and relax.

Each of the four penthouse types offers a distinctive private



dining area for four, and a large seating area which provides an inviting space for guests to entertain in their suite.

There are calm, comfortable places to spend time and relax, as well as a walk-in wardrobe with a seated vanity area, a Dyson Supersonic hair dryer, heated bathroom floors, personal binoculars, wireless bed-side charging, a personal mini-bar replenished according to the guests' preferences, an espresso machine with bio-degradable pods, a kettle and teapot, a complimentary personal refillable water bottle for each guest, and 24-hour guest services.

"Environmental respect and sustainability have been key in design choices, ensuring a balance between the tactile and visual experience of every material used," Head of Product Jason Gelineau said.

"Eco-friendly details such as refillable bathroom amenities have also been weaved into the suite offering and where feasible, we are sourcing sustainable products including B Corp-certified items...we will also have a no single-use plastic policy on board."



## CLIA UPDATE

with Joel Katz  
MD, CLIA Australasia

### Time to celebrate

**AFTER** a fantastic summer revival for cruising in Australia and New Zealand, this weekend's CLIA Awards will provide a well-deserved opportunity to get together and celebrate.

Our cruise community's hard work over recent years has been rewarded with a strong summer peak in which more than 40 international ships returned to local waters, setting the scene for an even stronger season ahead.

Globally, cruise passenger volumes are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels by the end of this year, and we're seeing strong forecasts beyond. At the same time, dozens of spectacular new ships are due for launch over coming years, each one more innovative and energy-efficient than the generations that came before.

With much to look forward to, Sat's awards night in Sydney will be a welcome celebration for a strong and united industry, and our first opportunity to honour our top achieving members in more than three years.

Almost 500 people will gather for what promises to be a fantastic night – one in which we salute not only the passion and commitment of our travel agent community, but also the energy and innovation that has put our industry on course for an excellent future.

