



Cruise Weekly today

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

Mayfair Nile cruises

MAYFAIR Cruises is today showcasing its Nile itineraries, offering three- and four-night departures from Luxor and Aswan aboard *Mayfair*, *Mayflower* and *Esplanade*.

Highlights include Karnak, Luxor, the Valley of the Kings, the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, the Temple of Edfu, and the Temple of Kom Ombo - see **page 3**.

O'Leary to Ponant

FORMER Creative Holidays executive Michael O'Leary has this week joined Ponant as the line's new Product Development Manager APAC.

Disney here again in 24/25

DISNEY Cruise Line's *Disney Wonder* is set to operate a second season in Australia, with the Port Authority of NSW schedule now indicating a series of Sydney calls in late 2024 and early 2025.

Updated just this week, Disney's new season looks set to kick off on 18 Oct 2024, with calls also scheduled for 06 Nov and 12, 24, & 28 Dec 2024, continuing through into the new year, with Sydney visits on 03, 06, 10, 14, 16, & 22 Jan, and 07 & 10 2025.

A total of 10 *Disney Wonder* calls are also scheduled for 2024/25 in Melbourne starting on 01 Nov 2024 and running through until 03 Feb 2025.

Although this year's Disney season includes calls in Brisbane, the Queensland capital's new International Cruise Terminal schedule doesn't yet reflect any *Disney Wonder* calls in 2024/25, and similarly schedules are not yet available for Auckland

in 2024/25 - but it's expected, like the upcoming season, the program will consist of a series of three-six night voyages focusing on the ship as a destination in itself.

Disney's 2024/25 Australian deployment has not yet been formally announced by the cruise line, but with its fleet continuing to expand - including the recent acquisition of the partially completed *Global Dream (CW 17 Nov 2022)*, the affinity of the local market for all things Disney is expected to see an ongoing confidence in local operations.

The highly anticipated *Disney Wonder* inaugural out of Australia later this year - still open for sale - is scheduled for 27 Oct, with Thomas Mazloum, President of Disney Signature Experiences, telling **Cruise Weekly** "when we looked at where we could send the ships, Australia and NZ were the first places we thought of".

AU Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia.

SYDNEY	
<i>Celebrity Eclipse</i>	15 Mar
<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	16 Mar
PORT ADELAIDE	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	15 Mar
PENNESHAW	
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	16 Mar
FREMANTLE	
<i>Coral Princess</i>	16 Mar
GERALDTON	
<i>Coral Princess</i>	15 Mar
HOBART	
<i>MSC Magnifica</i>	15 Mar
<i>Viking Mars</i>	16 Mar
DARWIN	
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	16 Mar

Regent
SEVEN SEAS CRUISES
AN UNRIVALLED EXPERIENCE™

2026 WORLD CRUISE
THE SENSE OF ADVENTURE
on *Seven Seas Mariner*®
ROUNDTrip MIAMI | 154 NIGHTS | 10 JANUARY 2026

PRE-REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN | REQUEST YOUR CLIENTS' PREFERRED SUITE
WORLD CRUISE OPENS FOR RESERVATIONS ON 23 MARCH 2023

DOWNLOAD TOOLKIT

VISIT [RSSC.COM/2026-WORLD-CRUISE](https://rssc.com/2026-world-cruise) | CALL OUR CONTACT CENTRE ON 1300 455 200 (AU) OR 0800 625 692 (NZ)

*Terms and Conditions apply, visit [RSSC.com/2026-World-Cruise](https://rssc.com/2026-World-Cruise). ©2023 Regent Seven Seas Cruises® NCL Australia Pty Ltd ABN 8060 7578 781



keep dreaming...

Travel & Cruise
Weekly

Travel inspiration for your clients' next holiday!

[Click to read](#)



PANDAW is launching a blog competition for its members and guests, inviting submissions for a short story about a trip they have taken with the cruise line.

"We are looking for any short form piece that encapsulates a typical Pandaw adventure, preferably focusing on one particular destination or sailing," Pandaw said.

Each blog should be no more than 1,000 words, and can be submitted to marketing@pandaw.com with the subject 'Pandaw Blog Competition'.

One year since liberation!

ONE year to the day since Australia's cruise renaissance, and more than 40 international ships have returned to local waters.

As Australia's cruise resurgence gathers pace, the country is on track to return to pre-pandemic prosperity by the end of the year, thanks to the revival of the summer peak season, which was once worth billions of dollars each year to communities across the nation.

CLIA's local Managing Director Joel Katz (**pictured**) said the industry has now returned to a full mix of domestic, international, and expedition cruise operations, spanning all states and the NT.

"We have welcomed more than 40 international cruise ships to Australian waters over the 2022-23 season and by next summer we expect to see around 60 ships - the same level of activity we saw prior to the pandemic," he said.

"Globally, cruise passenger volumes are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2023, and the Australian market is showing every sign that it too has embraced the worldwide cruising revival.

"Cruise tourism brings economic opportunities to ports and destinations right around the country, including many regional areas and remote communities."

Katz said cruise also benefits a huge range of businesses, such as travel agencies, tour operators, hotels, restaurants, and retailers, in addition to the entire supply



chain spectrum, such as transport workers, farmers, food & beverage providers, entertainers, stevedores, and more.

"Importantly, public enthusiasm around cruising has returned to pre-pandemic levels," he noted.

"Eighty per cent of Australians who have cruised before say they will cruise again, a level similar to the 82% recorded in 2019."

Business Sydney Executive Director Paul Nicolaou said the New South Wales capital has been among the first beneficiaries of the cruise revival.

"The combined boost from big events such as WorldPride 2023 and the return of cruise ships to Sydney has been a major factor in restoring the city's mojo as it continues to roar back from the pandemic," he said.

"Business Sydney was one of the first organisations to advocate for the ending of the cruise ban because we were aware that the industry had the necessary protocols in place to resume operations safely.

"The return of cruise ships has helped restore a sense of excitement, attracted local people back to the city and added to the tourism economy with visits from thousands of international cruise passengers."



Cruise champions

AS WE get ready to attend Seatrade Cruise Global in Florida, I am excited to be travelling with a strong contingent of ACA members representing all facets of our industry from destination management through to port authorities, ground handlers to marine pilots.

This indicates to me the energy and enthusiasm continuing to gather around cruise's restart.

It will also be great to be joined by our partners Tourism Australia and NZCA to demonstrate a unified regional offering for the cruise lines.

That enthusiasm for the industry continues on the home front as we welcome two new members to ACA.

The Art Gallery of NSW has joined us following the recent opening of their spectacular new art museum campus.

This expansion has doubled the space available for displays and importantly creates a prominent destination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.

Queensland regional marketing authority, Capricorn Enterprise, has also joined ACA with a focus on promoting their destination.

Wop-pa (Great Keppel Island) is a jewel in the region with untouched beaches, impressive coral gardens and marine life.

Yeppoon on the Capricorn Coast is another sought-after destination and is a good base for visiting nearby tourist attractions.

These cruise champions were joined by another on Sat night at the CLIA awards when *Cruise Weekly's* very own Bruce Piper was bestowed that title at the CLIA Awards.

Well deserved Bruce!

NZ Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in New Zealand.

AUCKLAND	
<i>Norwegian Spirit</i>	16 Mar
CHRISTCHURCH	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	16 Mar
DUNEDIN	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	15 Mar
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	16 Mar
FIORDLAND	
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	15 Mar
NAPIER	
<i>Grand Princess</i>	15 Mar
TAURANGA	
<i>Norwegian Spirit</i>	15 Mar
<i>Grand Princess</i>	16 Mar

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
Associate Publisher – Anna Piper
Senior Associate Editor – Adam Bishop
Associate Editor – Myles Stedman
Contributors – Janie Medbury, Matthew Wai
info@cruiseweekly.com.au
info@cruiseweekly.com.au

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi & Nicki Harford
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au

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

Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter - *Travel & Cruise Weekly* - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.

Cruise Weekly is a publication of Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

EMBARK ON A UNIQUE JOURNEY

LARGEST RELIGIOUS COMPLEX WORLDWIDE

RIVER FLOWING THROUGH 11 COUNTRIES

HOMELAND OF PHARAOHS

MUMMIFIED CROCODILES

ANCIENT TOMBS

GIGANTIC MONUMENTS

ROYAL TREASURES



MAYFAIR CRUISES



CHASE HISTORY ABOARD

Drift along the majestic Nile onboard any of the Mayfair Cruises. Relax and watch the sun set on the very same farms that once fed the Roman Empire. Witness virgin landscape that has remained as if untouched since biblical times.

HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR FAIRYTALE TRIP

Karnak Temple
Luxor Temple
Valley of the Kings &
Valley of the Queens
Hatshepsut Temple
Edfu Temple
Kom Ombo Temple
Philae Temple
Unfinished Obelisk



CONTEMPORARY INTERIOR DESIGN
CABINS WITH VERANDA | JACUZZI ONBOARD
MONDAY- 04 NIGHTS -EX LUXOR
FRIDAY- 03 NIGHTS- ES ASWAN



MODERN EUROPEAN-LIKE INTERIORS
FRENCH WINDOWS | CABANAS ONBOARD
SATURDAY- 04 NIGHTS- EX LUXOR
WEDNESDAY- 03 NIGHTS- EX ASWAN



KHEDIVE /OTTOMAN DESIGN
ROYAL SUITES & CABINS WITH VERANDA
MONDAY-04 NIGHTS- EX LUXOR
FRIDAY-03 NIGHTS- EX ASWAN