

NCL'S CLASS OF  
**2023**

**SEMESTER 1  
DESTINATION ASIA**  
 *Class is in session*

## FIRST CLASSES & ASSIGNMENTS



**LEARN**

Complete 2 learn assignments to score 200 points



**PROMOTE**

Complete 2 promote assignments to score 300 points

## SUBMIT & WIN



**WIN**

Complete the above assignments and **score 500 Partners First Rewards points** PLUS go in the draw to **WIN A FREE ASIA CRUISE\***

*\*Conditions apply*

*Assignments due 31 May 2023*

**JOIN THE CLASS**



  
**NORWEGIAN**  
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**YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT! ANY QUESTIONS? EMAIL [AUSCOMP@NCL.COM](mailto:AUSCOMP@NCL.COM)**



### Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a cover wrap from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

### Class is in session!

**CLASS** is in session for Norwegian Cruise Line's (NCL) Class of 2023, with Semester 1 to focus on "Destination Asia".

The first lessons will see students complete two 'learn' and two 'promote' assignments to score 200 points each.

Complete the assignments and score 500 Partners First Rewards points, and go into the draw to win an Asia cruise.

Class starts as NCL counts down to the return of Asian cruising after three years.

Head to the **cover page** of today's **Cruise Weekly** for more information.

## Sky's the limit for CCC

**CAPTAIN** Cook Cruises Fiji (CCC) has announced it will be operating *Caledonian Sky* year-round in Fiji, commencing 11 Nov this year (**CW** breaking news).

CCC has secured a long-term charter of *Caledonian Sky*, replacing current vessel *Reef Endeavour* on its luxury small ship expeditions of Fiji.

"We offer a very unique, authentic Fijian experience of unique, otherwise unreachable destinations," shared Executive Chair Allison Haworth West.

"In bringing *Caledonian Sky* in, replacing *Reef Endeavour*, what we will be doing is elevating that experience on many levels.

"That's why it's so thrilling, because we're able to provide a higher quality in onboard facilities and experiences on the ship, as well as the services on the ship."

Additionally, the larger tonnage and stabilisers of *Caledonian Sky*

will enable CCC to expand its itineraries and travel a greater distance, taking tourists further into the South Pacific region.

"We'll be able to link in with our friends and family in the Pacific, with some limited number of itineraries each year to Tonga and Samoa," Haworth West said.

"We'll have three different seven-night itineraries to the Lau, opening up even more Islands, which is of great benefit to those communities as well as an amazing experience for people from all sorts of places in the world that they're going to be going to places that no tourist has ever visited, and we feel honoured to have that opportunity," she added.

Travel advisors can register an expression of interest in bookings on the new ship **HERE**, with further details to be released in the coming weeks.



on location aboard  
**Oceania Vista**

Today's issue of **CW** is coming to you courtesy of Oceania Cruises in Italy, aboard the brand new **Vista**.

**OCEANIA** Cruises is this week hosting 1,200 key industry partners and VIPs for a glittering christening ceremony of its new 1,200-guest *Vista*.

Crooner Harry Connick Jr is set to wow the crowd on the dock at Valetta during the event, which takes place tomorrow evening local time.

The first newbuild for Oceania in a decade, *Vista* definitely has that delightful "new ship smell".

We will be onboard all week so follow our daily issues for all the insight information on the ship - starting on **page 2**.



## VIKING

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**VIEW OFFERS**





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## Vista ushers in a new Oceania era

**THE** arrival of Oceania Cruises' new *Vista* (CW 02 May) is the first wave of a host of changes for the brand, with senior Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) executives hinting at new value offers, pricing, and commission policies likely to roll out in the coming months.

*Vista* will be formally named tomorrow in Valetta by Italian-American celebrity chef Giada de Laurentiis, and is the first new vessel for Oceania in a decade,

She retains the 1,200 passenger "sweet spot" of Oceania's existing O-class vessels.

Speaking on board *Vista* overnight, newly appointed Oceania Cruises Chief Executive Officer Frank Del Rio Jr (pictured) said over the last 12 months "we've been looking at opportunities to really streamline things, to come up with a more simple message and one that shows clearly what our value is".

Del Rio Jr confirmed this will result in the phase-out of Oceania's longstanding OLife offer, which allows guests to



choose between a range of amenities at no additional cost, such as a drinks package, internet access, shore excursions, and shipboard credit.

Details have not been finalised at this stage, but Del Rio Jr confirmed "O-Life, which has been around for quite a while now, will go away.

"We're making it very easy, because instead of making choices, you're just going to get it

all," the Oceania CEO said.

It's expected the revised offer will launch in mid-Jul, aligned with the rollout of Oceania's 2024/25 season, and passengers with existing bookings will be able to either retain their existing OLife options or switch to the new arrangements.

NCLH Chief Executive Officer-designate, Harry Sommer, also confirmed like its sister contemporary brand Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania is now looking at working with partners to pay commission on non-commissionable fares.

"We're now experimenting with this on the Oceania brand as well on some of our top accounts.

"Assuming it will work out, and I'm confident it will, we'll find ways to expand that further to all of our trade partners around the world," Sommer said.

"Your success is our success, we jointly can reach out to customers in unique ways to generate consumer demand to get guests to come on board," he added.

*Vista's* christening cruise is an eight-day Mediterranean itinerary taking her from Rome to Malta and then onward with port calls in Naples, Sardinia, and Corsica before returning to Rome.

She's the first in a two-ship order by the line, with sister vessel *Allura* expected to be delivered in 2025.

More from Oceania on **p3 & p4**.

### Strong *Vista* Aussie support

**THE** entire inaugural season of Oceania's new *Vista* has been heavily booked out of the Australian market, according to Oceania's local Vice President Jason Worth, who confirmed that Australia continues to be one of the cruise line's top markets after North America.

Speaking on board the newbuild, Worth said Aussies are clearly keen to experience something new and exciting, with Oceania expecting a "halo effect" of bookings across its fleet.

"It's just the next level from our old class...the decor, the look and feel," he said.

Worth cited the ship's size, the combination of familiar and new restaurants and the 2:3 crew to passenger ratio as key booking motivators.

"It's definitely going to open up a new demographic," he said, with the newbuild featuring significant forward-looking enhancements such as a larger gym and spa, the Lync digital centre, an expanded culinary classroom and new dining concepts including the wellness-focused Aquamar.

Also new is American-style dining in the Ember restaurant alongside familiar Oceania favourites like Toscana, the Polo Grill, and Red Ginger.

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### CRUISE WEEKLY

#### On Board: Oceania Vista Aquamar Kitchen

Featuring innovative dining with a focus on wellness-inspired dishes, the new Aquamar Kitchen is open for breakfast and lunch. Breakfast options include avocado toast four ways, smoothies and energy bowls. For lunch there are globally inspired salads and wraps plus a variety of plant-based and traditional burgers. Beverage options include a selection of premium non-alcoholic wines.

# Vista wows Aussie and Kiwi agents



**AUSSIE** agents line up with Oceania Cruises CEO Frank A. Del Rio and Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings' new chief Harry Sommer.

**THERE'S** a significant contingent of Australian and New Zealand travel industry players aboard Oceania's new *Vista* this week as she cruises the Mediterranean.

The voyage kicked off from Rome yesterday with a cocktail party for trade partners on the ship's expansive pool deck, followed by specialty dining experiences for all guests at the ship's multiple eateries.

Tomorrow evening, after a day in port at Valetta, passengers will break out the glad rags for a gala christening event, wearing a "touch of gold" to commemorate the first new Oceania ship to launch in a decade.

Guests will also enjoy visits to Naples, Corsica, and Sardinia during the inaugural voyage.

More pics from the ship at [facebook.com/cruiseweekly](https://facebook.com/cruiseweekly).



**CAROLE** Smethurst, Bicton Travel; Elizabeth Clarke, The Cruise Centre by Travelcall; and Robyn and Murray Sinfield, Home Travel Company.



**DANI** Galloway, Flight Centre Travel Group Global MD Premium and Independent; Oceania Cruises CEO Frank A. Del Rio; and Alison Lord, Travel Associates Turrumurra.



**SOME** of the Kiwi contingent including Ruth and Jeff Leckey from House of Travel.



**KATHY** Pavlidis, Travel Associates Kew with industry legend Anne Rogers.



**NICOLA** Veltman and Ben Ross from 1000 Mile Travel Group.



**NIKKI** Upshaw, Oceania SVP of Sales with Frank A. Del Rio, Oceania BDM Ryan McPherson; and Oceania UK MD Bernard Carter.



**FORMER** Regent Seven Seas Cruises chief Jason Montague with Oceania's Jodie Hart.



**THE** crack Aussie team of Ryan McPherson, VP Jason Worth, Martine Nunes and James Sitters.





**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) CEO-designate Harry Sommer is one of several senior leaders aboard the new *Oceania Vista* in the Mediterranean this week, and has been eager to showcase the undeniable features and benefits of cruise holidays.

Addressing a "town hall" gathering of industry partners yesterday during a day at sea between Rome and Valetta, Sommer spoke about a recent stay at the upmarket Connaught hotel in London with outgoing NCLH head Frank Del Rio Sr and the company's new Chair Russell Galbut.

"It's probably one of the highest-end hotels in the city of London...and you know, we aren't like three slackers.

"We went for breakfast one day and it took 45 minutes to get a cup of coffee, which cost £7," Sommer said.

"There are two things bad in that statement - the 45 minutes and the fact that a cup of coffee costs £7".

He noted at the Baristas coffee bar aboard *Vista*, "the coffee is free, it's better and it's served quicker".

"And the views you get are far superior to the one at the Connaught...I can't resist the urge to make the pitch that this is so far superior to everything your clients can get on a land vacation," Sommer added.

## Diana named in Amsterdam



**SWAN** Hellenic's third and largest ship *Diana* has set sail for the Arctic following her Amsterdam naming ceremony celebrations.

The cruise line's third purpose-designed expedition cruise ship is en route to Tromso for an 11-day fjord exploration cruise which opens her Arctic season, before she voyages worldwide.

The purpose-designed new vessel was named by founder, Chief Executive Officer, and

namesake of American travel agency Valerie Wilson Travel, Valerie Wilson, in the presence of Swan Hellenic Senior Management (**pictured**), as well as local dignitaries, VIP guests, and members of the cruise and travel industries.

The onboard gala dinner which followed also marked the official launch of Maris, a new onboard culinary partnership between Swan Hellenic and global young chef organisation JRE-Jeunes.

## Zurvas to lead Coral Expeditions sales

**JARROD** Zurvas has been appointed Sales & Distribution Manager for Coral Expeditions.

Zurvas recently returned home to Brisbane after a senior role abroad with Variety Cruises (**CW** 06 Sep 2021) and before that Quark Expeditions.

He will bring his passion and expertise in small ship expeditions to lead the sales team at Coral at a key time for the cruise line.

His role will see him oversee Coral's Australian sales team, managing travel trade relations, new business development, and partnerships.

"Jarrod's enthusiasm and experience will be highly valued as he leads our partnership and sales efforts in Australia, New Zealand and into new Asia Pacific markets," Coral Expeditions Commercial Director Jeff Gillies said.

## Cruise greatly benefitting Fiji

**INTERNATIONAL** cruising is forming an ever more important part of the tourism mix for Fiji, according to Cruise Lines International Association Managing Director Joel Katz.

Cruise has generated almost FJD\$100 million of annual pre-pandemic economic impact, Katz told delegates at the Fiji Tourism Expo on the weekend.

The sector also supports more than 4,500 jobs across the country, he added.

"Based on current Fiji Port data, there are 120 port calls booked in to visit Fiji in the coming season, surpassing 2019 and delivering considerable visitor days and economic contribution," he said.

## MSC revs up F1

**MSC** Cruises has extended its new global partnership deal with Formula 1, with the expanded agreement seeing the line become the racing class' Official Cruise Partner through until the 2026 season.

The pact includes MSC offering a unique hospitality experience aboard its ships on selected Grand Prix weekends, kicking off in Abu Dhabi, where *MSC Virtuosa* will offer accommodation and transport packages for fans and VIPs.

More ships will join the program during the 2024 season and beyond, while the partnership will also involve title sponsorships for several races across the season.