



### Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

### Garden Isl back?

**BUSINESS** Sydney Executive Director Paul Nicolaou believes Garden Island in Sydney's inner-city is the "obvious way forward" for a third cruise ship terminal in the capital of NSW.

Supporting the state government's decision to rule out Yarra Bay as a site for a future cruise terminal, Nicolaou said the proposal was "never likely to be embraced by the community".

"We know from the cruise industry that a berth is needed east of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Garden Island remains the obvious way forward," he said.

"Cruising is a vital contributor to the city's tourism economy and the solution to provide for its future growth has come back full circle to the shared use of Garden Island with the Navy.

"We also know that international cruise visitors come to Australia for the Sydney Harbour experience, not to pull into what is essentially an industrial port."

Business Sydney also noted the precedent for cruise ships berthing at Garden Island.

## Govt: no way to Yarra Bay

**THE** Government of New South Wales is ruling out the construction of a cruise ship terminal in Yarra Bay, two prominent Labor members of parliament have announced (**CW** breaking news Fri).

The proposal met with fierce opposition from the local community (**CW** 18 Nov 2019), fearing Yarra Bay's unique history and natural environment would be destroyed by the construction of a terminal.

MP for Maroubra Michael Daley, who represents the seat in which Yarra Bay is located, has led the opposition, running a prolonged 'Save Yarra Bay' campaign, alongside the local group 'Save the Bay Coalition', Randwick and Bayside councils (**CW** 23 Sep 2019), and the La Perouse Aboriginal Land Council.

A business case for the terminal proposal was undertaken pre-pandemic (**CW** 23 Sep 2019), with cruise capacity in Sydney Harbour becoming constrained.

Many sections of the cruise industry were pressing for a new terminal to be built at the Yarra Bay site (**CW** 26 Aug 2022), but Minister for Transport Jo Haylen declared a cruise terminal at the location is "not going to happen" under the Minns administration.

She described Yarra Bay as a "precious place" and a "priceless historical site".

"It has been occupied and cared for by the First Nations traditional

owners for many thousands of years.

"It is the site of the first landing in Australia of Arthur Phillip and the First Fleet."

"Despite two and a half centuries of development all around it, Yarra Bay remains essentially in its pristine and original natural state."

Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) said the lack of a viable additional cruise berth in Sydney jeopardises the city's standing as a world-class cruise gateway, adding it is "disappointed" the announcement was made without an alternative solution.

"Establishing additional cruise ship facilities in or around Sydney is essential to the future prosperity of the sector," CLIA told **CW** in a statement.

"Capacity constraints in Sydney prevent the industry operating to its full potential and have flow-on effects for other destinations around Australia.

"Cruise industry success across the region cannot be realised without investment in appropriate port infrastructure."

The Port Authority of NSW is now examining alternative ways to increase terminal capacity for cruise ships, and will report back to the government on other viable options.

"We are committed to keeping the community and industry updated."

### Twice is nice in Asia

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line is inviting travel advisors to double their money on all Asia sailings.

Cruisers can choose from four ships sailing Asia from 2023-2025 - more on **page 3**.

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**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line has surprised military families in the United States with a free cruise at the Coca-Cola 600, a NASCAR race in Charlotte.

During the public holiday Memorial Day weekend, Norwegian President David Herrera, himself a veteran, honoured Gold Star families, a designation given to the loved ones of those who died in the line of service.

More than 40 families were honoured with various activities, including a special brunch, and a free seven-day cruise.

"It is a pleasure to demonstrate this support with our Military Appreciation Program and offer them an opportunity to reconnect on board our ships and create memories".

## Cruise ship fire

A **SMALL** fire broke out on a cruise ship balcony off the coast of New South Wales on the weekend.

Passengers were called from their rooms in the early hours of yesterday morning, with no injuries reported.

The blaze was reportedly detected on at about 3:30am, and was quickly extinguished, however, the cause of the fire is yet to be determined, P&O Australia said.

## Lux Escapes launches Cruises



**LUXURY** Escapes has launched a new and dedicated Cruise platform, as the sector surges in popularity (**CW** breaking news).

Bringing deals on local and international cruises to its members all over the world, the platform launches with up to 60% off retail prices, and thousands of itineraries on offer.

The platform offers access to exclusive cruise offers with brands like Royal Caribbean International, Holland America Line, Norwegian Cruise Line, Celebrity Cruises, and Azamara, with more to come.

Exclusive cruise deals on Luxury Escapes include an Uluru to Broome 10-night all-inclusive Silversea Cruises sailing, with round trip flights, a three-night stay at Sails in the Desert, and a Field of Light tour, for \$15,499 per person.

There is also a Far North Queensland seven-night Great Barrier Reef P&O Cruises Australia sailing, with all-inclusive meals and entertainment for \$629 per person - **CLICK HERE** to access the new platform.

"Lots of our members love to go on tours where everything is done for you, so we've made

it even easier for our members to find them," Luxury Escapes co-founder and Chief Executive Officer Adam Schwab said.

"We have more choice and flexibility than ever with over 500 curated tours and cruises products on Luxury Escapes.

"An increased demand for luxury small ship cruising will meet the needs of those seeking out more personalised and intimate cruise experiences in the 12 months ahead."

Unfortunately Luxury Escapes customers will no longer have access to a 48-hour change of mind "No Questions Asked" refund guarantee, as reported by **CW** earlier this morning.

## Shop 'til you drop!

**MSC Cruises'** new flagship *MSC Euribia* will feature the "largest shopping area at sea".

Totalling 1,278m<sup>2</sup>, the ship will feature an MSC first, the Luxury Plaza, with a TimeValee concept store displaying a wide range of luxury watch manufacturers.

There will be a dedicated liquors and cigars boutique, offering Scottish single malt whiskies and Davidoff cigars.

*Euribia* will also have an exclusive range of Samsung products, and the widest selection of tech in the fleet.

"We're particularly excited to share what we have instore aboard *MSC Euribia* with our future guests," Head of Retail Adrian Pittaway shared.

"She's really taken what we started on her sister ships and brought it to a whole new level, with open, fluid retail spaces, new meeting areas and dedicated, immersive spaces for luxury, it ensures that we offer something new for every type of guest," he added.

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**JAPAN**

**10-DAY ASIA:**

KOBE, NAGOYA, BUSAN & MT. FUJI  
FROM TOKYO (YOKOHAMA)

**NORWEGIAN JEWEL**

MAR 2024



**SOUTH KOREA**

**10-DAY ASIA:**

OSAKA, KOCHI, JEJU & MT. FUJI  
FROM SEOUL

**NORWEGIAN SKY**

MAR 2025



**THAILAND**

**11-DAY ASIA:**

THAILAND, VIETNAM & MALAYSIA  
FROM SINGAPORE

**NORWEGIAN SUN**

JAN 2025



**VIETNAM**

**14-DAY ASIA:**

THAILAND, VIETNAM &  
INDONESIA FROM BALI (BENOA)

**NORWEGIAN SPIRIT**

DEC 2024

