



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry.

Full of *Pride* again

CARNIVAL Cruise Line's *Carnival Pride* has begun her European season from Barcelona, as guests get their first look at the extensive enhancements made to the ship.

Additions have been made to *Pride* both inside and out, including bow-to-stern upgrades to enhance accessibility on the ship for guests with a disability.

The 2,680-guest *Pride* has been undergoing enhancements since 28 Apr, with other improvements including: a new Heroes Tribute Bar, Chef's Table, Dreams Studio, and Carnival Adventures Shop.

Govt continues terminal site search

EXCLUSIVE

THE New South Wales Ministry of Transport is working closely with the Port Authority, as it inspects different options for a third cruise terminal in Sydney, **Cruise Weekly** has learned.

With Botany Bay (pictured) now ruled out "once and for all" (**CW** yesterday), a spokesperson for the Minister for Transport did not exclude a third cruise terminal being built in Sydney - just not in Yarra Bay, nor nearby Molineux Point, which was also mooted in the original business case.

"We are working closely with the Port Authority, which is examining alternative options for a third terminal now that a terminal in Botany Bay has been ruled out once and for all," the spokesperson told **CW**.

"Cruise ship patronage, while recovering, is still below pre-pandemic levels."



Cruise Weekly was also told the possibility of Sydney being overtaken by Melbourne or Brisbane as Australia's pre-eminent cruise gateway would never happen.

"Sydney is far and away Australia's leading cruise destination and always will be.

"Neither the Brisbane River nor Port Phillip Bay really cuts it by comparison."

The Government of NSW yesterday ruled out the construction of a third cruise ship

terminal at Yarra Bay - a proposal which had been met with fierce opposition from the local community.

Many sections of the cruise industry had been pressing for a new terminal to be built at the Phillip Bay site in South Sydney, but Transport Minister Jo Haylen declared the proposal is "not going to happen".

Cruise Weekly is running a survey to gauge the industry's opinions on the third Sydney cruise terminal - **CLICK HERE**.

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PORThOLE

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has revealed the 'Plain Jane' at its Guy's Burger Joint is the most popular burger it serves, in celebration of Sun's International Burger Day.

There are roughly 3.7 million orders for the Plain Jane each year.

The popular "80/20" burger is seasoned, smashed on the grill, and served up to be finished however the guest likes it at the toppings station.

The Plain Jane makes up more than a third of all orders.

Carnival's second most popular burger, making up slightly less than a third of all orders, is the 'Straight Up', which is topped off with "super melty cheese", lettuce, tomato, onion, a pickle, and a very liberal slathering of 'Donkey Sauce'.

Guy's Burger Joint serves roughly 10.5 million burgers each year.

New CCL kids offer

KIDS can sail from \$28 per day with a limited-time Carnival Cruise Line (CCL) deal.

The sale is available until 11.59pm tomorrow for select sailings departing from Sydney on board *Carnival Splendor*.

Cruises can be secured with just a \$50 per person deposit.

To book, call 13 31 94 and quote rate code "K3P".

RCI's Icon-ic dining scene



ROYAL Caribbean International has revealed details about *Icon of the Seas'* 20-plus dining experiences, which will include restaurants, walk-up windows, and more.

Highlights of the all-new experiences include new elevated dining experiences such as Empire Supper Club (render **pictured**), a lavish restaurant in *Icon's* Central Park neighbourhood, which serves as an extravagant night out with a taste of old New York City.

The eight-course experience of premium American cuisine is accompanied by a swanky three-piece band which plays "unexpected renditions of modern favourites".

There is also Celebration Table, at which special occasions and milestones get the VIP treatment.

This private, 12-seat experience pairs AquaDome's sweeping ocean views with the guest's choice of American, Italian, Asian, and seafood menus.

There are also plus-ups and menu upgrades to choose from.

Convenience will be key aboard *Icon*, with a range of new, quick

options throughout the ship.

The AquaDome Market will be Royal Caribbean's first-ever food hall, and will introduce five different stalls with a range of flavours, from sweet and savoury crepes to Asian and Mediterranean, alongside a selection of wines and beer for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Meanwhile, Izumi in the Park will serve as an all-day window, next to the first Izumi in Central Park.

It will dish up fresh sushi and Japanese street food to go, such as taiyaki ice cream with "Insta-worthy" toppings.

HAL bookings open

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has opened bookings for its 2025 Grand World Voyage to the public, alongside its first-ever Grand Voyage: Pole to Pole.

After a successful pre-sale period, the general public is now able to book the two cruises, which will both depart in Jan 2025 - the first time HAL has offered two Grand Voyages of more than 120 days simultaneously.

Sailing aboard *Volendam*, the Grand Voyage: Pole-to-Pole cruise enables pax to visit five continents on a journey that travels south-to-north.

Meanwhile, the Grand World Voyage aboard *Zuiderdam* covers six continents on an east-to-west route.

Both cruises sail round trip from Fort Lauderdale.

"We craft one-of-a-kind itineraries that resonate with our world voyage guests, as indicated by pre-bookings on these cruises," Chief Commercial Officer Beth Bodensteiner said.

AI in travel: threat or superpower?



travelBulletin