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Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news including photo pages from **Royal Caribbean International**, plus a cover wrap from **Norwegian Cruise Line**, and a full page from **CLIA**.

NCL flash sale on

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's (NCL) flash sale is on now, with up to 50% off voyages, plus a free beverage package, and a bonus \$500 off all sailings.

Travel advisors can also triple their money on Norwegian trips, and reap triple the rewards by registering the bookings with the cruise line via Partners First Rewards between 01 and 14 Mar.

Call 1300 255 200 to book, register at partnersfirstrewards.com, and see today's cover page.

Cruise stars shine bright at the CLIAs

THE brightest stars of the cruise industry were celebrated at the 21st annual Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Cruise Industry Awards in Sydney on the weekend, including Hall of Fame winner Craig Harris from ISS-McKay in New Zealand.

Harris is known as a cruise industry legend in his native country, and has held his current role since 2008.

He also founded Cruise New Zealand in 1994 and has fostered collaborations between ports, cruise operators and the local tourism sector.

"Craig has not only shaped but significantly advanced the cruise sector in our region," CLIA Chair Ben Angell said.

"He is synonymous with innovation, dedication, and leadership, and his efforts have been pivotal in transforming New Zealand into a premier cruise destination," he said.



"He exemplifies the very essence of this award, encouraging us all to strive for excellence and to make a lasting difference in the world of cruising," Angell added.

Some of the awards for cruise agencies of the year were handed to YOU Travel Bethlehem, Cruise Express and Phil Hoffmann Travel.

Meanwhile Ecrusing and Clean Cruising tied for the gong for Online Cruise Agency of the Year.

"Cruise fans are more excited than ever about the cruise opportunities available to them across our region and around the world, and our travel agent community has played a huge part in fuelling that passion," said



CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz.

"Cruising is enjoying undeniable success right now in Australia and New Zealand, and these awards are our way of thanking those who drive so much of that success," he added.

Check out today's special CLIA Awards issue of **Cruise Weekly** for all the winners, and more from the CLIAs on **pages 2 and 3**. *JHM*

Pictured: Harris and Angell; **inset:** Brent Street performing arts group wowed attendees.

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Monday 11th March 2024

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) hosted 22 travel industry rising stars across the weekend, with top travel organisations' nominated leaders across the fields of finance, technology, marketing, commercial, sales, support and product.

The group was hosted at the Star Grand and treated to a private dinner and brunch with RCI before the CLIA Awards on Sat night.

Royal Caribbean's Director of Sales Dave Humphreys said the combined efforts of these leaders and their colleagues across all disciplines is what makes the brand's partnerships so strong.

"The rising stars nominated by our partners are exceptional.

"Our success in Australia and New Zealand is built off deep relationships with talented people such as these," RCI's Humphreys said.

"We are very grateful to this group and their organisations, and we're honoured to continue to support their success beyond this weekend," he added.

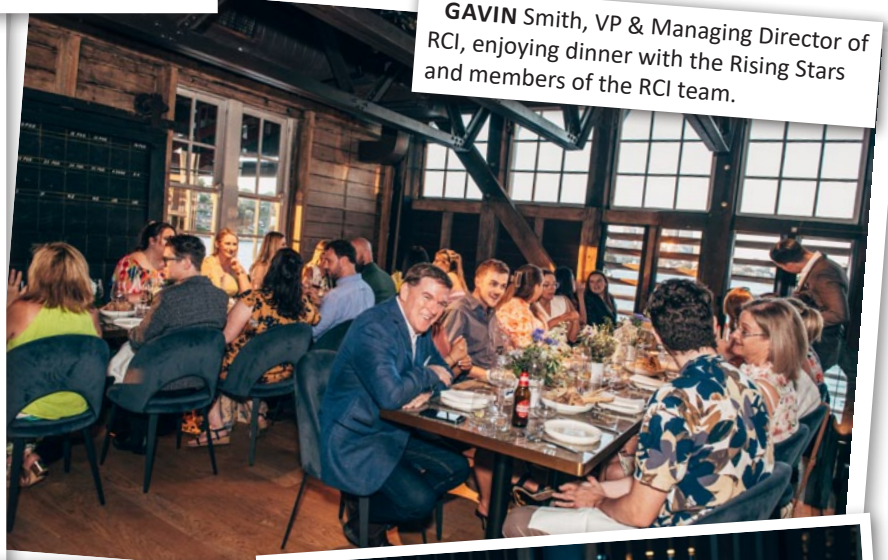
Each rising star will be sponsored by Royal Caribbean to complete their CLIA Masters Program in Sep and invited on a Royal Caribbean cruise.

Humphreys confirmed that Royal Caribbean will continue hosting industry rising stars at next year's CLIA Awards.

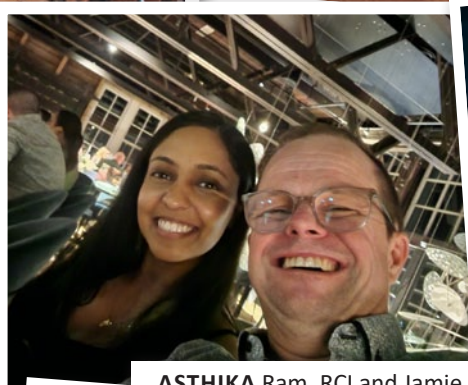


DAVE Humphreys speaking to the Rising Stars.

GAVIN Smith, VP & Managing Director of RCI, enjoying dinner with the Rising Stars and members of the RCI team.



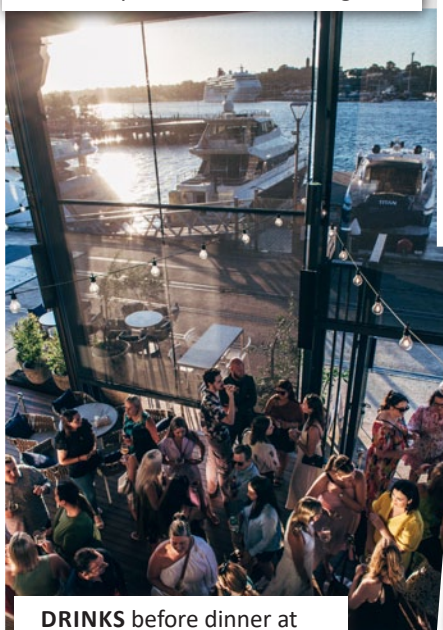
ALEX Doyle, RCI with the Rising Stars.



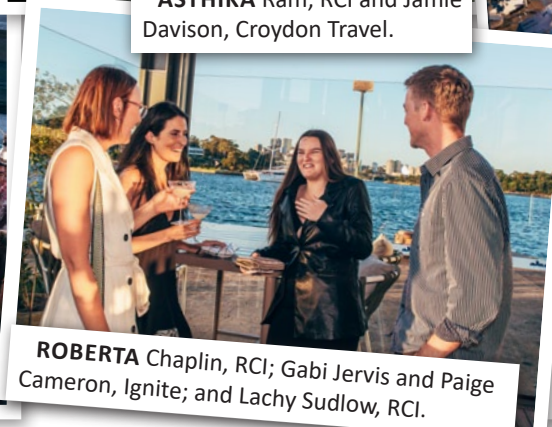
ASTHIKA Ram, RCI and Jamie Davison, Croydon Travel.



RISING Stars at dinner.



DRINKS before dinner at SALA, Jones Bay Wharf.



ROBERTA Chaplin, RCI; Gabi Jervis and Paige Cameron, Ignite; and Lachy Sudlow, RCI.

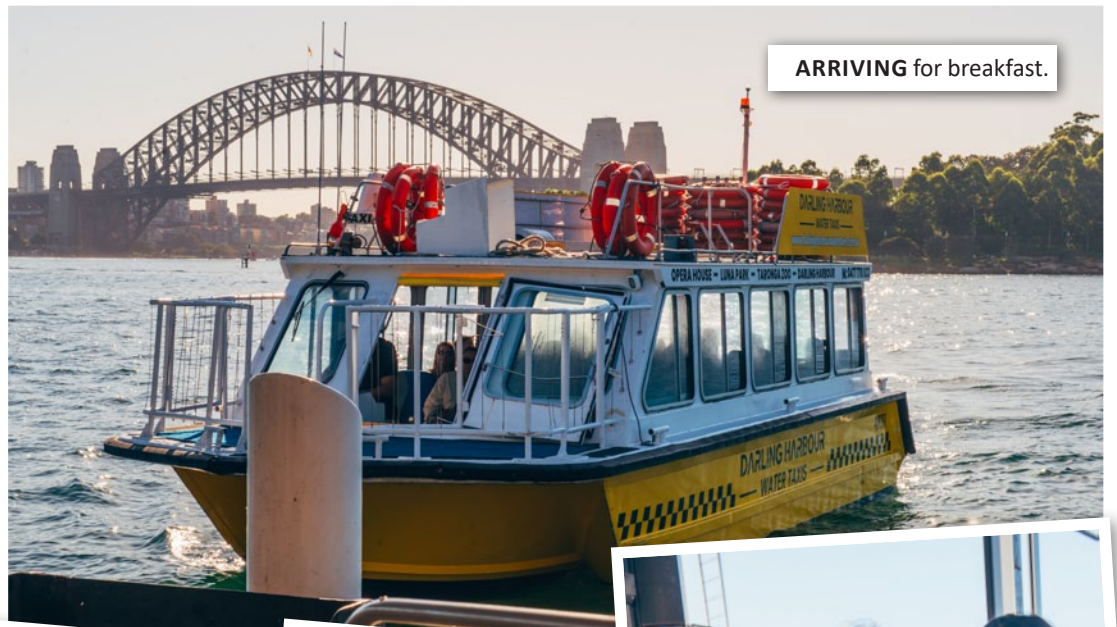


BRIAN Luckins from Flight Centre.

CRUISE

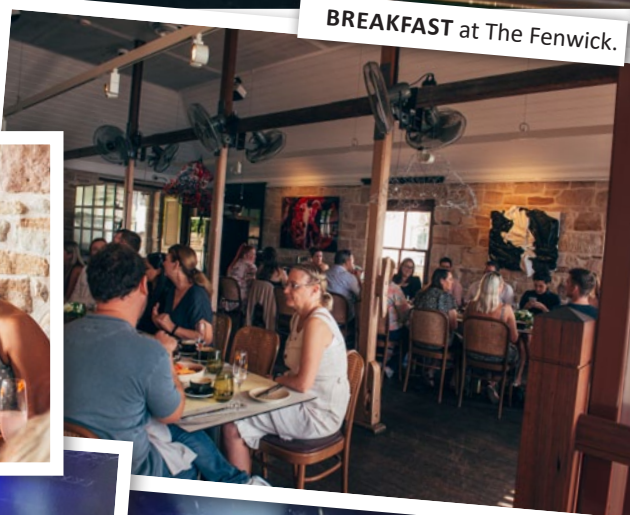
WEEKLY

Monday 11th March 2024



ARRIVING for breakfast.

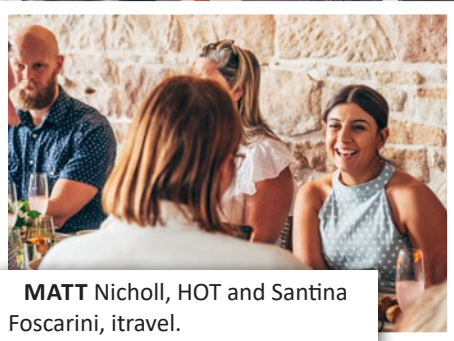
CHARMAINE & Louise from Cruise Guru.



BREAKFAST at The Fenwick.



PAIGE Cameron, Ignite; Roberta Chaplin, RCI; and Gabi Jervis, Ignite.



MATT Nicholl, HOT and Santina Foscarini, itravel.



LOUISE Austin, Cruise Guru and Dave Humphreys, RCI.



THE Rising Stars at The Star Sydney.



SANTINA Foscarini, itravel and Asthika Ram, RCI.



KIRIN Greenland and Stephen Hurt from Clean Cruising with Lachy Sudlow at RCI.

EMMA-JANE Brown, TripaDeal and Louise Austin, Cruise Guru.



Work like a Virgin

VIRGIN Voyages is offering a work-from-sea deal on a month-long voyage in the Mediterranean on board *Scarlet Lady*.

The deal starts at US\$9,990 per stateroom, representing a 30% saving, available for four weeks in a Central Sea Terrace.

The package is available from Jun to Sep, and offers premium wi-fi, a US\$10 daily coffee credit per cabin, wash and fold laundry service.

It also includes early access to book dining reservations and Shore Things, onboard support, access to Richard's rooftop, and a complimentary bottle of 'welcome aboard' bubbly - [CLICK HERE](#) for more.

Heritage charter

HERITAGE Line is offering exclusive private sailings for up to 12 people for US\$266 per person per night.

The fare includes full board, meals, guided shore excursions and onboard entertainment.

Private charterers can tailor each trip exclusively to their occasion, including onboard activities, drinks packages, and guided shore excursions.

Director of Sales & Marketing Andreas Schroetter said "private charters sailings are the perfect way to experience the small ship difference, including personalised service with dedicated staff who quickly know everybody's name - and favourite drink".

The reduced rate is available for cruises booked by 17 Mar.

Cruise and government unite



TOURISM and government united last week, with Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) hosting an industry forum on board Celebrity Cruises' *Celebrity Edge*.

Industry leaders and key government officials had a first-hand taste of this year's vibrant summer cruise season at Austrade's quarterly national Visitor Economy Stakeholder Forum on Thu, held aboard *Edge* as she docked in Sydney.

More than 30 representatives from national industry bodies and government agencies gained insights into Australia's \$5.6 billion-a-year cruise industry and its role within the broader tourism sector.

CLIA was joined by the Australian Cruise Association, as well as representatives from the office of the Minister for Tourism, the Australian Airports Association, Australian Business Events Association, Australian Chamber of Commerce, Australian Regional Tourism,

Australian Tourism Export Council, Australian Tourism Industry Council, Ecotourism Australia, Tour Guides Australia, Tourism and Transport Forum, the Zoo and Aquarium Association, and more.

The Association's Managing Director Joel Katz gave an update on the success of Australia's cruise revival and the global industry's path to decarbonisation, while Celebrity Vice President & MD Tim Jones hosted a post-meeting lunch and inspection of *Edge*.

"Cruising has been the star performer in Australia's tourism recovery and the current summer season is among the most successful we've ever had in this part of the world," Katz said.

"Bringing tourism industry leaders and government agencies on board meant we were able to provide first-hand insight into this thriving industry, while at the same time discussing issues that affect Australia's wider tourism economy into the future." *MS*



EXPLORA Journeys has unveiled its own exclusive scent, Mandala Blue, crafted by renowned master perfumer Alberto Morillas.

Mandala Blue by Explora Journeys captures the quintessential 'Ocean State Of Mind' philosophy, offering a fragrance which "relaxes, connects, awakens the senses, and ultimately transforms wearer", the cruise line said.

The scent reflects the exploration and cosmopolitan flair of Explora's cruises.

Two new Vikings

VIKING'S new ocean voyages sail the best of the Mediterranean, with the cruise line introducing two new journeys along the Dalmatian coast, French Riviera, and maritime Iberia.

The 'Mediterranean Discoveries' will commence sailing on 01 Oct 2025 and the 'Iberian & Mediterranean Odyssey' will commence on 03 Jan 2026.

Both itineraries explore Portsmouth's maritime history in England, visit Spanish coastal towns including the magnificent ancient city of Cartagena and call on the French Riviera, while the Iberian & Mediterranean Odyssey extends to the coast of Croatia.

Congratulations

TO ALL THE WINNERS

Large Cruise Agency of the Year

Australia

Phil Hoffmann Travel

Small Cruise Agency of the Year

Australia

Cruise Express

Small Cruise Agency of the Year

New Zealand

YOU Travel Bethlehem

Online Cruise Agency of the Year

Australasia

Ecruising and Clean Cruising

Home-Based/Mobile Agent of the Year

Australia

Rose Febo
TravelManagers Australia

Broker of the Year

New Zealand

Zaheda Davies
NZ Travel Brokers

Cruise Consultant of the Year

Australia

Byron Horne
Bicton Travel

Cruise Consultant of the Year

New Zealand

Gail Littin
Pukekohe Travel

Rising Star

Australia

Vanessa Sokolji
Flight Centre Epping Plaza

Rising Star

New Zealand

Jaimee Phelps
House of Travel Kapiti Coast

Cruise Champion

Australasia

Rhona Rodgers
MTA - Mobile Travel Agents

Cruise Line Champion

Australasia

Christine Oliver
AmaWaterways

Cruise Month Promotion of the Year

Australasia

House of Travel

"Omnichannel 2023 Cruise Month Promotion"

Network Cruise Promotion of the Year

Australasia

World Travellers, New Zealand

"It's a Suite Life"

Agency Cruise Promotion of the Year

Australia

My Cruises
"Unmissable Sale"

Agency Cruise Promotion of the Year

New Zealand

cruisedeals.co.nz

"Kiwi Explorer - Best of the South Island"

Media Award

Australasia

Imogen Eveson, International Traveller
"The New Wave"

Hall of Fame

Australasia

Craig Harris
ISS-McKay Ltd