



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### NCLH revenue up

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has reported strong Q1 financial results, with revenue up 20% year-over-year on strong demand.

The company generated total revenue of US\$2.2 billion, based on an 8% growth in overall capacity, compared to the prior corresponding year.

Record bookings during the first quarter drove NCLH's highest-ever position for the 12 months, with the company increasing its full-year guidance based on strong revenue.

Occupancy was 104.6% for the quarter, in line with guidance, and total revenue per passenger cruise day increased approximately 8% year-on-year.

### A Brilliant debut

**VIRGIN** Voyages has confirmed its fourth ship, *Brilliant Lady*, will enter service in Sep 2025, nine months past its originally scheduled launch (**CW** 08 Sep 2023).

The sister ship to *Resilient Lady* will head into unchartered territory for the line, offering longer voyages of up to 14 nights in its maiden season.

Unlike her three preceding sisters however, *Brilliant Lady* has been designed to transit the Panama Canal, allowing it to easily sail from both US coasts without first venturing around South America.

*Brilliant Lady* will complete the initial fleet of Lady Ships for Virgin Voyages and will feature all of the dining venues as her fleet-mates, including Gumbae Korean BBQ, Razzle Dazzle and Pink Agave Mexican.

## RCI's new leading lady

**VETERAN** Royal Caribbean International executive, Angie Stephen, has been named as the new Senior Vice President for international business, taking control of all foreign markets for the line, including Australia.

Stephen (**pictured**) brings more than 25 years with Royal Caribbean to her new role, having steadily climbed the ranks through a variety of sales roles in North America and Asia.

She moves into the role vacated by Bert Hernandez, who was recently appointed as President of the company's luxury brand, Silversea (**CW** 15 Apr).

After a strong career in the US, Stephen relocated to Asia in 2017 to lead the market development in China, driving major success as the brand gained traction.

She was also instrumental in leading the restart of cruising in Asia during the pandemic, helping to make Singapore the first global market for RCI ships to head back to sea (**CW** 09 Oct 2020).

Her new duties will include overseeing the continued growth of Royal Caribbean in its overseas markets of Australia, China, Mexico, Singapore and Europe.

Commenting on her new role, Stephen said she was excited to build on such a wide-reaching



international business that plays such a role in the line's success.

"The opportunities to deliver even more memorable vacations around the world are exponential, and Royal Caribbean and our world-class international organisation are perfectly positioned to make it all a reality."

### Save up to \$14,200

**VIKING** is offering massive savings on its 15-day 'Grand European' Tour between Amsterdam and Budapest on Oct 2024 sailings - find out more on **page three**.

### New APT cruises

**APT** has launched its 2025 Australia itinerary range, featuring chartered voyages on two new luxury cruise ships, *Seabourn Pursuit* and the *PS Australian Star* paddlewheeler.

The company's eight-day 'Retreat to the Murray' takes guests onboard the wood-fired Murray River paddle steamer, departing from Echuca.

Featuring three decks, guests can enjoy the Randall Dining Room and Hopwood Lounge, plus onboard wine tastings, lantern tours and riverside BBQs, priced from \$7,995ppts.

On the opposite side of Australia, *Seabourn Pursuit* stars in the 11-day 'Kimberley Coastal Expedition' including 40% off selected upgrades plus services of an APT Cruise Director, priced at \$13,895ppts.

### OneOcean rollout

**CARNIVAL** Corporation has completed the global fleetwide rollout of the LR OneOcean EnviroManager+ software, enabling more efficient voyage planning.

The system provides shipboard crew with intuitive and up-to-date environmental regulations and compliance information during voyages.

LR OneOcean EnviroManager+ does this by visualising the precise boundaries of over 500 regulated zones worldwide and overlays it with more specific Carnival sustainability policies.



On location in Ecuador

Today's issue of **CW** is coming to you courtesy of **HX**, which is hosting us aboard *Santa Cruz II* this week on a cruise around the Galapagos Islands.

**WE HAVE** enjoyed our time in Ecuador, ahead of our **HX** Galapagos Islands cruise, and it is finally time to board *Santa Cruz II* for our sailing.

The itinerary starts in Quito with a flight to Baltra Island, before we are treated to iguana encounters, meeting the famous giant tortoises, and Blue-Footed Booby-spotting.

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**THEY** say it's not how old you are, it's how old you feel, and this 92-year-old is certainly proving to be a case in point!

Dorothy (**pictured**), who is a client of Wayfinder Travel & Cruise in Brisbane, did not let her age stop her from joining a recent HX voyage to Antarctica.

She is thought to be one of the oldest passengers to ever join a HX Antarctica expedition, and is just less than 40 years younger than the line itself.

Dorothy was born only 10 years after the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration ended.

"We are proud to have had the opportunity to showcase this life-changing destination for her and are honoured that she chose to travel with us," HX commented.

"Dorothy truly represents the spirit of adventure that HX has embodied since 1896."

**Cruise Weekly** is confident Dorothy will be leading the expeditions before we know it!



## Hands up for Splendor



**CHILDREN** will always tell you what they think, and even with that brutal honesty, *Carnival Splendor* earned a resounding thumbs up as a group of TravelManagers agents recently enjoyed an afternoon onboard.

Hosted by Carnival Cruise Line BDM, Sarah Miller, the Carnival Fun Day was an initiative by the home-based group to experience the ship through the eyes (and

squeals) of their children.

Carnival turned on the fun too, hosting a scavenger hunt among a range of activities in the Kids Club including table tennis and access to the water slides, plus all the ice-cream they could eat.

At the same time, parents took advantage of a visit to the adults-only Serenity Retreat before the group reconvened for a lunch menu at Guy's Burger Joint, Pizza Del Capitano or Mongolian Wok.

"It was a totally different way of experiencing the ship, and it turned out to be even more fun than we expected," said Personal Travel Manager, Bridget Frost.

The group is **pictured** above with Carnival's iconic funnel. *ML*

## Lindblad on safari

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions has moved to boost its land-based offerings, acquiring safari operator Wineland-Thomson Adventures in a deal designed to support growing demand.

Wineland-Thomson consists of Thomson Safaris in Tanzania, a nature-based operator specialising in impactful but 'light-treading' adventures.

The acquisition also includes the historic Gibb's Farm Lodge in East Africa, with all newly acquired assets continuing to operate independently.

## Viking NYSE debut

**SHARES** in Viking Holdings climbed 9% following their debut this week on the New York Stock Exchange, valuing the company at US\$11 billion.

More than 64 million shares were made available in the IPO at a price of US\$24 per share.

## Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

### SYDNEY

<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	03 May
<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	06 May
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	06 May
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	10 May

### BRISBANE

<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	03 May
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	10 May

### CAIRNS

<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	10 May
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### AIRLIE BEACH

<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	09 May
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### FREMANTLE

<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	05 May
<i>Coral Princess</i>	05 May

### BROOME

<i>True North</i>	03 May
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	04 May

### DARWIN

<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	06 May
<i>Coral Geographer</i>	07 May
<i>Scenic Eclipse II</i>	10 May

## 'Ice' to see you

**HOLLAND** America Line is now guaranteeing a glacier viewing on every Alaska sailing.

The cruise line has worked in its new 'Glacier Guarantee', as HAL reports that seeing one of the bodies of ice is among the top reasons travellers choose an Alaska cruise.

The guarantee is offered on Alaska departures from now through Sep 2025, with guests eligible to receive a credit equal to 15% of their cruise fare if they don't see a glacier.

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