



CRUISE

WEEKLY

delivered daily!



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Cruise Weekly today

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

Disney Magic Ahoy

WHAT can you do aboard a Disney Cruise Line's Magic Ahoy virtual cruise?

Quite a lot, it turns out. Virtual cruisers can enjoy fun new activities every day, explore and learn about each of Disney's ships, and win prizes by completing training.

Head to **page 3** for more info.

MEANWHILE, Disney Cruise Line is extending exclusive travel advisor rates for a variety of sailings this year.

Disney's four-night cruise from Brisbane on 28 Oct is now available for US\$800 for two; the seven-night sailing from Melbourne on 03 Nov is on sale for US\$560 for two.

Signature eyeing expedition

SIGNATURE Travel Network has identified the expedition cruise sector as key to the expansion of SIG Cruise Pro (**CW** 09 Aug), which was recently launched in ANZ, MD Lisa Harrison told **CW**.

The travel advisor consortia recently launched its new cruise program with 12 lines, with Australian agents able to access perks such as bonus onboard credit, pre-paid gratuities, hotel stays prior to and following a cruise, and much more.

However, the burgeoning expedition sector will be where it targets its growth.

SIG Cruise Pro already includes Silversea and Seabourn Cruise Line in its program, and Harrison said Signature is working to add additional partners.

Speaking on the sidelines of last week's TravelManagers conference in Cairns, Harrison said Signature's in-market

presence in Australia will allow it to directly service its association with agency partners such as TravelManagers and others.

"My focus is member engagement at the moment... ensuring that, in the case of TravelManagers, all of their PTMS, or as many as possible, are trained and understand the full offering and what they have at their fingertips, the technology and the marketing collateral to be able to promote, benefit and leverage the value that we provide them so they can deliver it to their clients," Harrison said.

TravelManagers Chief Operating Officer Grant Campbell added: "what attracted us to the Signature program is they're really about promoting the member, rather than their own brand...it's not just about increasing that commission, it's about creating value." *MS*



On location in South China Sea

Today's issue of *Cruise Weekly* is coming to you from China, courtesy of Viking Cruises.

THE penultimate day of our China Discovery voyage aboard *Viking Yi Dun* is being spent on the ship as we cruise south to our final destination, the coastal city of Shenzhen.

We'll spend a full day in this bustling metropolis adjacent to Hong Kong, and today gives an opportunity to enjoy the onboard facilities after a busy weekend seeing the highlights of Pingtan and Xiamen.

We're going to make the most of the spa, restaurants, board games and afternoon tea as well as simply luxuriate in the comfortable surroundings.

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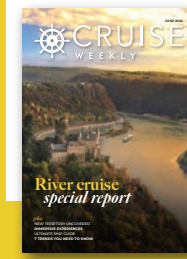


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SUN Princess recently went the extra nautical mile for a young passenger from Donegal in Ireland, who left her teddy bear, Rabbie, onboard after leaving the ship with her family.

Cue Staff Captain and fellow Celt Brian Whelan, who mobilised the team to search high and low for the bear, from the laundry to the funnel.

"Unfortunately, he did not have a Medallion," Whelan said, which made it slightly more difficult to locate him.

When Rabbie was eventually found "helping the crew" on the bridge, Whelan took it upon himself to reunite the treasured bear with

its young companion, whose face naturally lit up once Rabbie came home again.



Take me to the Star



STAR Clippers set sail in the Mediterranean last month with a group of Australian travel advisors and their partners.

The agents embarked on the captivating seven-night 'Riviera & Corsica In-Depth' tour aboard the majestic *Star Flyer*, with the group cruising from Cannes to Rome and exploring Monaco, Corsica and Elba in between.

"Travelling with Star Clippers was one of the best trips I have ever taken," said Lauren Ashworth of The Departure

Lounge in Vic.

"The friendly, almost family-like crew, the fabulous food, and the unique and beautiful ports completely took me by surprise." "Will we be back? Absolutely!"

Pictured are Jo, The Departure Lounge; Michelle, Jayes Travel; Sami, Helloworld Wangaratta; Liesel, Figtree Travel; Roger, Star Clippers; Jasmine, Travel Associates Toronto; Lauren, The Departure Lounge; Bianca, Where2travel and Julie, The Travel Studio. *MS*

New HX Foundation

HX HAS launched the new HX Foundation, a dedicated charity inviting coastal communities around the world to apply for grants.

The cruise line is issuing a call-to-action for communities in the regions where it operates to apply for grants ahead of the 01 Nov deadline.

The new HX-focused charity will build on the success of the Hurtigruten Foundation, which has supported more than 200 projects in 25 countries awarding more than NOK15 million (approx AU\$2.1m) since its inception in 2015.

Barcelona sees sun

CARNIVAL Corp is installing more than 1,350 solar panels on the roof of Barcelona Cruise Terminal D and Terminal E in an effort to reduce overall energy consumption.

Installation will be complete by the end of 2024 and will see supply more than 100% of the port's power needs.

Excess power will then be rerouted back to the local grid.

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EDITORIAL

Editor - Myles Stedman

Deputy Editor - Matt Lennon

Journalists - Adam Bishop, Janie Medbury,

Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper

Publisher - Damian Francis

Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller

info@cruiseweekly.com.au

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ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Head of Sales & Marketing - Sean Harrigan

Advertising - Laura Aghajanian &

Dante Muranty

advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au

HEAD OF OPERATIONS & CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Anna Piper

ACCOUNTS

accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd

Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia

PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia

Tel: (AU) +61 2 8007 6760 or (NZ) 0800 799 220

Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220



MAGIC AHÖY!

What can you do on a *Disney Cruise Line* virtual voyage?

Turns out quite a lot...

Enjoy fun new activities every day

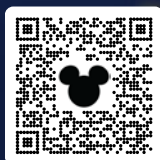
Whether you have **10 minutes or an hour a day to spare**, just log in and take advantage of the snackable stories, visual guides and amazing entertainment that will help you learn everything you need to know about a Disney cruise.

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