

CLIN CRUISE MONTH

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IT'S OCEAN WEEK!

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OCTOBER
IS
CRUISE
MONTH



OCEAN

29 Sep - 5 Oct

RIVER

6 - 12 Oct

EXPEDITION

13 - 19 Oct

LUXURY

20 - 26 Oct



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.

Cruise Month is on

OCEAN Week signals the start of CLIA Australasia's annual Cruise Month showcase to travellers, both experienced and brand new. CLIA agents around Australia can get involved in many ways, starting by sharing a plethora of amazing deals with the #LoveCruise tag. They can also use the month to host their own client event and go into the draw to win a travel package to Sydney for next year's CLIA Awards Gala. There's plenty of training too, with new webinars to view - find out all about Cruise Month on today's **cover page**.

Shore power delayed by two years

NEW South Wales is finally set to power up for cleaner cruise ship visits, with a \$20 million contract finally awarded to begin the landmark shore power project at White Bay Cruise Terminal (**CW** 22 Mar 2022).

Shore power leader Powercon will begin work on the on a charger at berth 5 by the end of the year - a time frame the project was initially scheduled to be completed by, when it was first announced by the prior state government (**CW** 10 Nov 2022).

The project is now targeted for completion by late 2026, and is estimated to reduce emissions associated with the White Bay precinct (**pictured**) by more than 4,000 tonnes every year.

Any shore power-enabled ship that docks at White Bay once the project is completed will be required to "plug in".

The vast majority of ships



that call at White Bay are shore power-enabled, with Carnival Corporation having already signed a letter of intent to do so.

"This will be the first project of its kind in Australia, and it will be run on renewables," Deputy Leader of the Labor Party Tanya Plibersek said.

"Awarding the contract for the shore power equipment design, fabrication, supply, and installation marks a major milestone," she added.

NSW Minister for Transport Jo Haylen blamed the project's delay

on the prior state government, which she claimed failed to allocate funding for it.

Chief Executive Officer of the Port Authority of New South Wales, Philip Holliday, added his support for the project.

"Port Authority is focused on progressing the shore power project to our revised delivery date and creating a world-class, integrated, sustainable port of the future that supports our economy, the community and the NSW Government's vision for the area," he added. *MS*



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ACA firm in power

AUSTRALIAN Cruise Association (ACA) CEO Jill Abel is celebrating the Government of NSW's move to begin construction of a shore power facility at White Bay (see p1).

Abel said White Bay will be the first port in Australia and the first in the Southern Hemisphere to embrace shore power and take a significant step to lowering emissions.

"This decision marks a significant step forward in progressing this important project that reinforces the commitment by NSW to assist the cruise sector in reaching the target of net zero emissions by 2050.

"We applaud the work being done by ports, cruise lines and our governments as they come together on these critical sustainability initiatives, and look forward to White Bay becoming a viable model for other ports around the country," Abel added.

The ACA said giving ships the option to switch off their engines and connect to shore power will lower emissions, reduce noise and air pollution and improve the port experience for ship operators and nearby communities.

Data from CLIA Global show 46% of cruise ships are currently equipped to connect to shore power, with this number to rise to 88% over the next four years.

Seabourn is a Connoisseur



SEABOURN Cruise Line will debut its Connoisseur Collection, which will feature premium culinary and reserve wine experiences aboard its fleet.

The Collection will debut in 2025-2026 on board most of Seabourn's ships, providing guests with opportunities to indulge in epicurean delights, such as curated whisky and wine tastings, to exclusive 'Dinner Under the Stars' experiences.

Guests can embark on a journey through some of the finest whiskies from Scotland, Japan, and the United States, guided by Seabourn's expert bar manager.

Guests will be able to taste 10 distinct reserve wines from five different countries, offering a comprehensive exploration of global varietals with insights from Seabourn's sommelier team.

There will also be a five-course dining experience, paired with

rare reserve wines by Seabourn's team of chefs and sommeliers.

The Dinner Under the Stars experience will feature an open-air dining experience including exclusive reserve wines and a menu of prestige ingredients.

These experiences are available for an additional fee and early reservations are highly recommended to secure a place.

"Memorable dining is so important to a travel experience, and we are always looking to innovate our offerings to ensure we deliver luxurious and sophisticated culinary moments that exceed our guests' expectations," Senior Vice President Guest Operations Gerald Mosslinger said.

"Our new Connoisseur Collection was created to deliver unparalleled epicurean delights and experiences that will please a wide range of palates." *MS*

Aurora Arctic tour

AGENTS and their clients can learn more about Aurora Expeditions' new Small Ship Cruises (**CW** 05 Sep) at a new series of roadshow events running over four weeks.

The line will offer five events in-person, beginning in **Adelaide** (29 Oct) and moving to **Perth** (31 Oct), **Sydney** (07 Nov), **Brisbane** (12 Nov) and **Melbourne** (26 Nov).

CLICK each city above to secure your free tickets.

Three virtual events will also take place on **16 Oct** (10am), **24 Oct** (12pm) and **18 Nov** (4pm) for agents unable to get to a capital city event.

Each event will showcase a new way to see the world with Aurora Expeditions, exploring regions including Indonesia, the Mediterranean, Atlantic Coast, British Isles, Ireland and many more.

Riviera early birds

TRAVELLERS can secure a 2026 Riviera Travel river cruise at 2025 prices until 15 Dec as part of an early bird deal launched by the cruise line.

Fresh from launching two new ships next year, deals available for 2026 also include a menu of themed voyages including gardening, music and art and Medieval Germany.

Riviera has also scheduled a series of gastronomy themed cruises on numerous rivers.



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THE "world's most beautiful ship" is coming to Australia - only it is not a cruise vessel.

Italian training ship *Amerigo Vespucci* is docking in Darwin later this week - her first-ever visit to Australia - as part of her global voyage.

The 1930s-built ship will invite locals to step aboard the ship for a free tour while she is in town from 04-07 Oct.

The ship's arrival will also be supported with an Italian festival, Villagio Italia, which will transform Darwin with classical music performances, food, films, and more.

Darwin is the 24th stop on the 93-year-old ship's world tour, which began in Genoa in Jul 2023.

The ship is named after the Italian explorer from the Middle Ages.

Virgin pass back

VIRGIN Voyages' Summer Season Pass will be back by popular demand next year, and will be expanded across the cruise line's fleet.

Passengers are being invited to "wfh" (work from hammock) for a month on any of the cruise line's ships in the Caribbean and Europe.

Passes range from 24 to 40 nights, and start from US\$14,999 for two, representing a 20% saving.

Blood ahoy on Celestyal



VOLUNTEER crew members and guests on board Celestyal Cruises' *Celestyal Journey* recently rolled up their sleeves to take part in the line's 2024 blood donation campaign.

Twice each year, head office staff, onboard crew members, willing guests, and even local citizens, take part in the campaign, which began in 2016.

The blood haul goes to the Metaxa Cancer Hospital Piraeus to help medical emergencies and urgent blood needs in the local health system.

Citizens can visit one of the city's two public hospitals and ask for their donation to go under the Celstyal Blood Bank program.

Since 2016, the campaign has

seen 166 units of blood donated with 44 used for incidents involving colleagues and their families in Greece.

As part of its humanitarian efforts, Celestyal also took part this past weekend in the 16th annual 'Race for the Cure', a fundraising walk dedicated to the fight against breast cancer, and supporting the lives of women who battle the insidious disease.

Winners of the 3k and 5k walks will take home a voucher for a four-night Celestyal sailing on board *Journey. ML*

Solos on Pandaw

PANDAW has eliminated supplementary charges for solo travellers on more departures heading into 2025.

The line's 'All Ganges', 'Classic Mekong' voyages in Feb and Mar 2025 now have no single supplement for a limited time.

Kangaroo Isl ferry

SEALINK South Australia will introduce a new timetable for its Kangaroo Island ferry once its two new vessels enter service next year.

The new craft will allow the service to operate up to 22 one-way departures on weekdays in peak season and 14 trips off-peak, easier vehicle loading and more services for travellers including free wi-fi and device charging stations.

CLIA UPDATE



with Joel Katz
MD, CLIA Australasia

Ocean week kicks off Cruise Month

CRUISE Month has arrived, signalling the start of a spectacular cruise season in Australia - and there's plenty to be excited about.

With more than 60 cruise ships headed our way, the coming summer will be one of our busiest, creating huge opportunities for our cruise community.

More than 1,900 port calls are scheduled around Australia, bringing billions of dollars in visitor spending and generating more attention around cruising.

Among newcomers to Australia this season will be Silversea's *Silver Nova*, Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Sun*, Cunard's *Queen Anne* and Paspaley Pearl by Ponant, making maiden visits.

They will join dozens of other ships from 25 CLIA cruise lines operating in local waters.

With so much happening, it's a great time to join Oct's Cruise Month celebrations.

This week is Ocean Week, the first of our four weekly themes.

Ocean cruising presents huge opportunities for agents thanks to its wide-ranging appeal - including among fast-growing segments like Gen Z and multi-gen families.

CLIA has created a wealth of resources for members to use during Cruise Month.

Visit the CLIA Members hub to find out more, follow CLIA on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, and use hashtag #LoveCruise.

