

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**.

Rivers of passion

VIKING has announced two new river voyages for 2030, allowing guests to witness the 43rd Passion Play in Oberammergau which occurs every 10 years.

Performed for almost 400 years, the play is conducted by the people of Oberammergau, and depicts the Passion period of Jesus' life, before his death.

The first of the two voyages is the 13-day 'Oberammergau, Innsbruck & the Rhine', running between Amsterdam and Munich, highlighted by trips to medieval towns in the Alsace region, a trip to the Austrian alpine destination of Innsbruck, and a viewing of the Passion Play, before finishing in Munich.

Alternatively, guests can also embark on the 12-day 'Oberammergau with Salzburg' itinerary, starting in the Bavarian town where the play is hosted, and finishing in Budapest, in which guests will also be able to visit the city of Salzburg and other villages along the Danube.

Departures for these voyages will operate from May through to Sep 2030.

Teiotu Imagine's new MD

EXCLUSIVE

IMAGINE Cruising has appointed Lisa Teiotu (pictured) to the position of managing director, as exclusively revealed by **Cruise Weekly**, which will see her succeed Alex Sirman (**CW** breaking news).

Teiotu was most recently general manager of travel for Starts at 60, the media platform designed for over-60s, and will now step into Sirman's role, as he prepares to relocate to Florida next month to expand the business into the United States.

The experienced cruise leader has also previously served as MD ANZ for MSC Cruises, a role she was in for just under two years, prior to which she worked as the brand's sales director.

Teiotu also worked in a number of roles with Royal Caribbean Group, including as head of business development.

"I'm honoured to be appointed managing director of Imagine Cruising," she said.

"I'm thrilled to join such a successful, innovative, and truly unique travel business, and I look forward to working with our talented team and partners to deliver exceptional experiences for our customers."

Sirman has run Imagine since its expansion into Australia, being named MD of the Brisbane office in Oct 2015.

"I know I am leaving Imagine Cruising in great hands with Lisa



as we enter the next stage of our journey," he said.

"I leave Australia with an incredible team, a great deal of pride and huge appreciation for everything we have achieved together over the past seven years," he added.

Teiotu's appointment comes as Imagine continues to build out its Australian team, last month announcing the appointment of Pam Nielsen as its head of trade partnerships (**CW** 15 Jun).

The United Kingdom-founded business first expanded into Australia 10 years ago, establishing its initial office in Brisbane, before moving into Perth (**CW** 16 Nov 2017). **MS**

Regent gets Rocky

FIVE 'Cruise, Rail, Rockies' journeys are available with Regent Seven Seas Cruises and Rocky Mountaineer next year.

The combination journeys, now available to book, travel across Alberta and British Columbia, and include tours and hotel accommodation.

Passengers then join Regent Seven Seas' *Seven Seas Explorer* for a seven-night voyage, sailing the Inside Passage in Alaska.

In addition to the cruise, each departure includes six nights of hotel accommodation in Calgary, Banff, Kamloops, and Vancouver, plus Canadian Rockies and Vancouver tours, and two days Gold Leaf Service aboard Rocky Mountaineer.

Book Cruise360

BOOK your tickets today for Cruise Lines International Association's Cruise360 conference this Sep, themed: 'Future Ready. Client Ready. Cruise Ready'.

The conference is taking place from 17-18 Sep at ICC Sydney, and will include inspiring conference sessions, a dynamic trade exhibition, industry insights and updates, and networking and personal development opportunities.

Head to the **back page** of today's **Cruise Weekly** for more information.

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Zuiderdam to go through an Evolution

HOLLAND America Line has revealed *Zuiderdam* will be the next ship in its Evolution program, with the vessel set for a major transformation including new staterooms and signature spaces (**CW** 16 Apr).

Zuiderdam will be the second of six ships transformed as part of the Evolution program, the most extensive fleet remodelling in Holland America's history.

A new Pinnacle suite will be added to the ship, alongside two new Bridgeview suites (**pictured**), 14 Vista suites, and 32 Solo Verandah staterooms.

The Evolution program will see both the Bridgeview and Pinnacle suites make their debut on board *Zuiderdam*, as Holland America rolls out its Pinnacle-class experience to more vessels.

Accommodations across *Zuiderdam* will also be refreshed, while the Grand Dutch Cafe will



be introduced.

The refreshed *Zuiderdam* will debut in autumn 2028, while the first ship to undergo renovations will be the Vista-class *Oosterdam*, which will debut her enhancements next year.

"We've seen strong interest in our Bridgeview suites and Solo Verandahs on *Oosterdam*, and we're excited to make these new accommodations available on *Zuiderdam*," president Beth

Bodensteiner said.

"We're building on that momentum and look forward to sharing more details, including itineraries, very soon."

Voyages aboard *Zuiderdam* following her Evolution enhancements will open for booking on 30 Jul.

Holland America's Evolution program will deliver US\$500 million (A\$700 million) in upgrades across the six ships. *MS*

Fifth for Galveston?

THE port of Galveston is planning a study to understand the impact of a potential fifth cruise terminal.

The facility would be located between Royal Caribbean's cruise terminal 10 and cruise terminal 16, which is used by MSC Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Line.

A consultant will now be hired to complete the first phase of a mobility study, which will analyse existing conditions, evaluate increased demand from future port growth, and present mitigation solutions for increased traffic.

Galveston Wharves CEO and port director Rodger Rees said the study will be key to ensuring sustainable economic growth for the cruise port, which is set to reach a record of almost two million cruise passengers this year.



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ARE you ever concerned about "too much skin" when you're on board a cruise ship?

A columnist for *SMH* this week used her platform to express her distaste in cruise-goers revealing too much on board the lido deck.

In her column, Lee Tulloch describes the bathing suits of the 50s as "a burka compared to some of the swimwear being worn today," and that all bikinis should come with sunscreen.

Tulloch went on to discuss how the new swimwear trends are affecting cruise lines' ports of call, as many island nations share "religiously conservative" views on how people dress.

She said that despite all the cruise lines' efforts to encourage humility, it "hasn't stopped its passengers from flaunting their bodies in places where such beachwear is offensive to the locals" - **CLICK HERE** to read.

Celestyal heads west



CELESTYAL Cruises will sail its first dedicated Western Mediterranean program from Nov, which will include a new 14-night voyage combining Spain, Portugal, and Morocco.

Sailing on board the 1,360-guest *Celestyal Discovery* (pictured), the deployment marks a significant milestone for the cruise line, which will make 14 maiden calls across the region.

The flagship 'Mediterranean Odyssey: Spain, Portugal & Morocco' itinerary includes overnight stays in both Barcelona and Lisbon, extended time in select ports, and visits to lesser-known destinations.

Discovery will call at Gibraltar, Cadiz, Tangier, Valencia, Palma de Mallorca, and Sete, and stay late in destinations such as Malaga and Casablanca.

There will also be overnights in Lisbon and Barcelona.

The cruise can be split into a seven-night voyage sailing either from Barcelona to Lisbon or Lisbon to Barcelona.

Celestyal's Western Mediterranean program will be complemented by two eight-night 'Mediterranean Riviera' repositioning voyages between Athens and Barcelona, allowing guests to sail between the Eastern and Western Med. *MS*

Pinelo parts ways

AMAWATERWAYS chief sales officer Alex Pinelo will depart his role at the end of the month, following a nine-year tenure with the line.

Co-owner Gary Murphy will take over as interim during the transition to a new permanent chief sales officer.

In a statement sent to travel partners, CEO Catherine Powell wished Pinelo the best for his future endeavours.

"On behalf of everyone at AmaWaterways, I want to thank Alex for his years of commitment, friendship and unwavering support of our travel advisor partners.

"While we are sad to see him go, we understand and respect his decision.

"We wish Alex and his family every happiness and success as they begin this exciting new chapter," she added.

Pinelo joined AmaWaterways in 2017 as director of Latin America, coming from the role of VP of key accounts at Norwegian Cruise Line.

He was appointed to chief sales officer in Feb 2025.



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Editor - Myles Stedman
Journalists - Adam Bishop, Janie Medbury, James Bale
Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper
Editorial Director - Damian Francis
Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller
info@cruiseweekly.com.au
Social Editor - Alexandra Lilly

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Head of Sales & Marketing - Sean Harrigan
Business Development Manager
Kara Stanley
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au

GENERAL MANAGER & PUBLISHER
Matthew Vince

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



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