

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

Silversea adds SALT

SILVERSEA has unveiled more than 100 new sailings for 2028-29, including new SALT culinary voyages and a South America circumnavigation.

Highlights include experiencing Carnival in Venice and Rio de Janeiro, New Year's Eve in Madeira and Sydney, and SALT voyages built around Europe's truffle season, in destinations such as Tuscany, as well as the markets of Southeast Asia.

The program comprises 103 voyages across 219 destinations in 56 countries, including 29 new ports of call across the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, Asia, Australia, NZ, and South America.

Laver out among big changes at Scenic

SCENIC Group general manager sales & marketing Anthony Laver (pictured) has departed the company, **Cruise Weekly** can reveal, as part of a restructure of its leadership team.

Laver's last day with Scenic was Fri, the company confirmed to **CW** this morning, thanking him for his nine years of leadership.

"Anthony has made a significant contribution to Scenic Group during his tenure, leading the development of its sales and marketing capability across Australia, New Zealand, and the wider Asia-Pacific region," the company said in a statement.

"He has also worked closely with media and trade partners throughout this time to build the profile and presence of the Scenic and Emerald Cruises brands across the region."

Scenic said it will share a further update on its organisational



realignment and new leadership appointments in the coming days.

The move follows today's earlier news that Scenic had appointed Adam Armstrong as CCO, a role he will commence in Nov (**CW** breaking news).

Based in Scenic's Zug office, Armstrong will lead the global

commercial organisation for the group's brands: Scenic, Emerald Cruises & Tours and Mayflower, bringing almost 30 years of experience to the position.

Armstrong most recently served as Contiki Holidays' chief executive officer, where he led the business through the challenges of the pandemic and subsequently repositioned it for its next phase of growth.

He has also in the past run Royal Caribbean and Silversea.

Armstrong is not the only major appointment Scenic has made in the past month, having named another major cruise executive, Sture Myrmell, as chief operating officer in Sep (**CW** 02 Sep).

Myrmell, the former Australian head of Carnival Corporation, will also be based out of the Switzerland office, leading global operations across the Scenic and Emerald brands. *MS*

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Drink up on RSSC

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has unveiled new bar and beverage experiences aboard *Seven Seas Prestige*.

The all-new Galileo's Bar, Mediterranean-inspired beverages and an exclusive *Prestige* cocktail will bring new flavours to the ship, when she arrives in Dec.

Galileo's Bar is designed as a pre-dinner destination, and will serve premium Italian spirits and distinctive cocktails.

At Azure, *Prestige*'s new mezze-style specialty restaurant, a vibrant collection of herbal cocktails, citrus-led spritzes, and regional wines will complement the venue's Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cuisine.

Meanwhile, at Solmar Terrace at Compass Rose, guests can enjoy a refreshing collection of wines, cocktails, and zero-proof creations.

Beyond these new concepts, *Prestige* will feature an array of bars and lounges suited to every occasion, from the elegant Prestige Lounge, Meridian Lounge, and panoramic Observation Lounge to the Art Deco-inspired Connoisseur Lounge, the al fresco Pool Bar, and Coffee Connection.

Guests can also enjoy expertly crafted cocktails, fine wines, and premium spirits across the ship's restaurants.

Queen Anne to transfer to P&O

CUNARD Line's newest ship, *Queen Anne*, is set to leave the fleet in 2029, Carnival Corporation announced overnight (**CW** breaking news).

The vessel, which is only two years old, will join the P&O Cruises fleet in the UK in May 2029 after wrapping up her 2028/29 world voyage.

She will be transformed and renamed before entering service with P&O.

Carnival's local president in the United Kingdom Paul Ludlow said the decision will "give Cunard a more closely unified fleet centred on *Queen Mary 2*, *Queen Victoria*, and *Queen Elizabeth*".

"This decision does not change our commitment to Cunard or its future," he emphasised.

Carnival Corp also announced that P&O's *Arcadia*, the second-smallest ship in its fleet, will transfer to Holland America Line (HAL) in Aug 2029.

This move will boost Holland America's fleet to 12 vessels and grow its capacity by more than 2,000 guests.

Arcadia shares the same Vista-class platform as HAL ships *Oosterdam*, *Noordam*, *Westerdam* and *Zuiderdam*.

"HAL continues to see strong demand from guests...adding



Arcadia allows us to welcome more guests while building on everything they already love," the brand's president Beth Bodensteiner said.

More details regarding *Arcadia*'s future deployment will be revealed in the coming months.

Ludlow added: "These decisions reflect a careful, long-term view of our portfolio and where the individual strengths of each ship can best support guest demand and the future direction of our two cruise lines." *JM*

Believe takes shape

DISNEY Cruise Line has marked a milestone for its new ship *Disney Believe* (**CW** 19 Mar), with a keel-laying ceremony taking place recently at German shipbuilder Meyer Werft.

Like her earlier sisters, the ship will boast 1,250 staterooms housing up to 5,500 guests, a gross tonnage of 144,000, and a hybrid LNG-electric propulsion system.

Around 90% of the staterooms will be outside cabins, including balcony staterooms and premium single cabins, and suites with concierge services.

Believe will also feature Disney-themed restaurants, both family and adults-only lounges, 10 pools, a water park, children's play areas, and a theatre.

The vessel is set to begin sailing late next year.



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FOR \$585 a day, you could live lavishly in Sydney - or you could spend the year waking up somewhere new.

That is the calculation behind one Australian couple's 371-day cruise around the world aboard Explorations by Norwegian, which will take them to 62 different countries.

Sailing aboard Oceania Cruises' *Regatta*, Ingrid and Mark Dudley's \$100,000 fares cover everything from meals and drinks to wi-fi and business class flights to Europe.

According to the *Australian Financial Review*, the daily cost is almost identical to the \$17,850-a-month price tag of a luxurious Sydney lifestyle.

This factors in a monthly rent of \$9,000, utilities (\$400), phone and internet (\$250), cleaning and maintenance (\$1,200), car and transport (\$1,500), groceries and drinks (\$1,800), fitness (\$500), insurance (\$1,200), and more.

The difference? You get to enjoy a year without cooking, cleaning, and typical life admin.

"For around \$100,000 each you get a home that moves around the world with you," Michael Middleton, My Cruises global head of cruise, said.

"It's a big-ticket holiday but when you actually break down what you're getting for the money, it starts to look quite different," he added.

Cruise laws tighten



THE Australian Government is making compliance with existing Maritime Labour Convention collective bargaining obligations an explicit condition of accessing the recently extended cruise exemption to the *Coastal Trading Act (CW)* yesterday.

Cruise lines will now be statutorily required to not restrict collective bargaining by crew, while they will also need to report onboard complaints to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA).

Minister for Transport Catherine King (**pictured**) said the government wants a better balance between cruising and protections for maritime workers.

"Supporting a thriving maritime industry also means ensuring strong protections for its workers," King told *CW*.

Cruise Lines International Association executive director Joel Katz said the relevant duties reinforced in the latest exemption

are already fulfilled by its cruise line members.

"By making the Maritime Labour Convention explicit within the exemption, the government is reinforcing obligations that cruise lines already meet," he said.

"Cruise lines already operate under robust local and international regulation and oversight, including that of bodies such as the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization, and [AMSA]."

The government also said operators will have to provide AMSA with information about onboard crew complaints.

AMSA has been highly active in the cruise sector this year, following complaints from the Maritime Union of Australia about the living and working conditions aboard Carnival Cruise Line vessels (*CW* 03 Jul) - standards the company has strongly defended. *MS*



Cruise Month is here

CRUISE Month is back, giving us a chance to celebrate the summer cruise season and all the excitement it brings.

It is also an opportunity to remind travellers of the value of professional travel advisors and to connect them with their local CLIA cruise consultant.

Throughout Oct, CLIA will be rolling out a busy program of social media activity, digital advertising, education opportunities, promotions and other initiatives, all under the banner #LoveCruise.

It's a great time to launch your own Cruise Month initiatives, so take a moment to explore our refreshed Cruise Month Toolkit, which offers downloadable resources including logos, videos, banners, posters, customisable flyers and social media tiles.

This year's campaign will again involve four themed weeks - this week is Ocean Week, followed by River Cruising, Expedition Cruising, and Luxury Cruising.

It will also offer an expanded webinar series to help advisors update their knowledge and learn more about the opportunities available in each area of cruising.

Find out more on our Cruise Month page here, including links to the Cruise Month Toolkit and webinar program, and be sure to follow our social media channels to share our Cruise Month posts and videos.

