



More ports and short cruises for P&O

P&O will visit two new Australian ports and double the range of short cruises in 2012-13.

KANGAROO ISLAND AND PORT LINCOLN HAVE BEEN added to P&O's new program, which opens for sale on 31 Mar.

Pacific Sun will make maiden calls to the two SA destinations on a coastal cruise from Fremantle to Sydney.

The program also features 24 "short breaks" of less than a week, including more of the popular comedy and food/wine-themed cruises.

A record total of 126 voyages are on offer, between Jun 2012 and Apr 2013, with fares starting at \$749pp (quad share) for a seven-night cruise from Brisbane and \$1199 for a

Uniworld's confidence

UNIWORLD BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISES IS CONFIDENT that its new Vietnam, Cambodia and Mekong river cruise program will be a success.

Announced this week (CW Tue) the program is the result of a partnership agreement with Pandaw Cruises which will see Uniworld exclusively charter Pandaw's new ship (*River Saigon*) currently under construction, for a period of three years.

"Both parties are working closely on all aspects of the ship and itinerary, in order to design another world-class holiday option for our expanding portfolio," said John Molinaro, general manager, Uniworld.

"Agents and their clients can rest assured that our new Vietnam, Cambodia and the Mekong River cruise and tour will offer the same level of premium experience that distinguishes Uniworld from our competitors," Molinaro added.

When she launches, the 60-passenger *River Saigon* will feature 30 deluxe view staterooms each with its own outside sitting area, with public areas set to include a sundeck, full service bar, as well as a lounge and a restaurant.

"After careful consideration and expert analysis, we are confident our forthcoming venture with Pandaw Cruises will be a success," Molinaro said.

Whilst under Uniworld's banner, next year *River Saigon* will host a seven night itinerary between Kampong Cham in Cambodia and My Tho in Vietnam, as part of the company's new 14-night 'Timeless Wonders of Vietnam, Cambodia & the Mekong' cruise/tour between Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi, Vietnam, which also includes seven nights on land.

10-night cruise from Sydney.

Other highlights include a new four-night Christmas shopping cruise from Sydney to Melbourne on *Pacific Sun*, with fares from \$649pp, and an Australia Day long weekend voyage from Sydney onboard *Pacific Pearl*.

P&O has also dropped cruises from Newcastle but has added Melbourne to its line-up of homeports, with the line returning to offer seven summer cruises from late 2012.

Fremantle will also welcome back *Pacific Sun* in 2012, offering short breaks, WA coastal cruises and longer voyages to Asia.

Meanwhile, Brisbane will see 36 cruises including 25 seven-night cruises, and *Pacific Pearl* will sail from Auckland in Apr and May 2013.

The new program also offers clients front-row seats for the total solar eclipse in Nov 2012, aboard *Jewel* and *Dawn* in the Pacific islands and northern Queensland.

Two celebratory voyages are planned in Aug 2012 to mark 175 years since the Peninsular Steam Navigation Company signed its first contract to deliver mail by sea and 80 years since P&O's first Australian cruise.

Pearl and *Jewel* will meet in Sydney Harbour on 22 Aug to set sail in tandem on these special heritage cruises, featuring a 175th anniversary gala dinner, art display and guest speakers - fares start at \$1199pp quad share.

For more info visit www.pocruiises.com.au.

MEANWHILE Jenny Lourey spoke exclusively to *Travel Daily* TV about the program, and the interview will go live later in the day at - youtube.com/traveldaily.

Oceania Japan update

OCEANIA CRUISES HAS CONFIRMED NAUTICA WILL replace her scheduled port calls of Hiroshima (18 Mar) and Kobe (19 Mar) in Japan (CW 15 Mar), with added days in Shanghai and Kaohsiung, and an overnight stay in Hong Kong at the conclusion of the voyage.

TODAY'S CRUISE WEEKLY

Welcome to today's **Cruise Weekly** Trade edition featuring four pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus two full pages from Star Cruises (see p.5 and p.6).

Star Cruises' earlybirds

STAR CRUISES HAS EXTENDED ITS EARLYBIRD promotion until 31 Mar 2011, for voyages onboard *SuperStar Virgo* (departing Singapore) and *SuperStar Libra* (departing Penang).

The earlybird specials include savings of up to 40% off all 2011/12 voyages, including special itineraries onboard *SuperStar Virgo* to Ho Chi Minh City and Pulau Redang, as well as all *SuperStar Libra* sailings to Phuket and Krabi.

In addition, Star Cruises is also offering an onboard food and beverage credit for all seven-night balcony cabin or suite bookings onboard *SuperStar Virgo* of up to \$500 (Singapore dollars) - see p.5 and p.6. for more.

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Fun ship on the way

With the recent announcement from Carnival Cruise Lines (CCL) that *Carnival Spirit* will be plying her trade in our local waters from next year, we have got to be looking forward to the battle lines being drawn by the different brands that are based here!

The branding of CCL as the "fun ships" is a bit of a giveaway as to who their target audience is!

Add to this, tag lines found throughout promotional material that suggest "totally awesome" is what you will experience, then my guess is they will be honing in on the family market!

From the CCL website – "our ships are built with one goal in mind: to make sure that every time you walk up the gangway, you get the sense that you're crossing over into a whole new world of fun...".

A cruise certainly represents fantastic value when it comes to family holidays.

With non-stop entertainment and activities for kids of all ages there is never a "boring" moment.

Kids will actually feel like they have some freedom to do what they want (in the care of well-trained crew of course) whilst at the same time parents actually get time to relax (and escape) too!

For kids, a cruise is not only entertaining but can also be very educational.

With multiple ports of call in different countries on one itinerary, cruising is able to expose kids to many different cultures which will ensure memories that will last a lifetime.

Meal time will be a blessing too.

With all cooking, cleaning and washing up under control there will be no discussion about who's turn it is to undertake particular chores each day!

There is even joy to be had on a cruise for teenagers – they can eat as much as they can, sleep as long as they like and enjoy total relaxation with the combination of the sea and their ipod!

Every family is a little different, so no matter what it is that your clients are looking for – it can be found on a cruise.



Brett Jardine

Brett Jardine
General Manager
ICCA

Costa targets 33% growth in Med

This year Costa Cruises will see 9 million passenger movements in the Mediterranean.

EUROPE'S LEADING CRUISE COMPANY CONTINUES TO dominate the Mediterranean, claiming its ships will make approximately 2,800 calls in 92 destinations in 2011, or almost 9 million passenger movements – a 33% increase compared to 2010.

Italian ports will benefit most from the cruise traffic generated by Costa, with almost

4 million passenger movements – 50% more than last year, and one-third of the country's expected total – followed by Spain and Greece (more than 1 million passenger movements) and France (about 500,000).

Costa's expansion in the Med will be supported by the new flagship, the 3780-pax *Costa Favolosa*, which departs on a preview cruise from Venice on 04 Jul.

Sister ship *Costa Fascinosa* is due for delivery in mid-2012, bringing the fleet to 16.

The line forecasts around 9.5 million passenger movements for next year.

Costa's 2012 program was presented last month, almost a year ahead of the cruise departure dates, covering more than 250 destinations and 130 different itineraries, typically with seven shoreside excursions in each port of call.

With revenues of approximately 2.85 billion euros and 2.15 million total pax in 2010, Costa Crociere is Italy's largest travel group and in its top 10 most profitable companies.

The Queen is almost ready

US SMALL SHIP CRUISE COMPANY, AMERICAN CRUISE Line has announced its *Queen of the West* is nearing the completion of her multi-million dollar makeover, and will be ready for her first spring departure in Apr 2011.

The renovations to the 230-foot paddlewheeler kicked-off in Nov 2010, and have involved updates to all areas of the vessel, including the addition of larger staterooms, more private balconies, a new library, new furniture in all guest staterooms (incl flat screen TVs), new carpeting, floor covers, ceilings and lighting ship-wide, as well as the installation of a state-of-the-art sound system and a new kitchen galley.

"American Cruise Lines is delighted with the work being performed on the *Queen of the West*," said company president Timothy Beebe.

"We are excited to welcome passengers onboard this spring for cruises on the *Columbia* and *Snake Rivers*," he added.

When she re-launches the *Queen of the West* will operate seven-night cruises from Portland taking in Pendleton, Clarkson, The Dalles, Stevenson, Rainier and Astoria,.

See www.americancruiselines.com.



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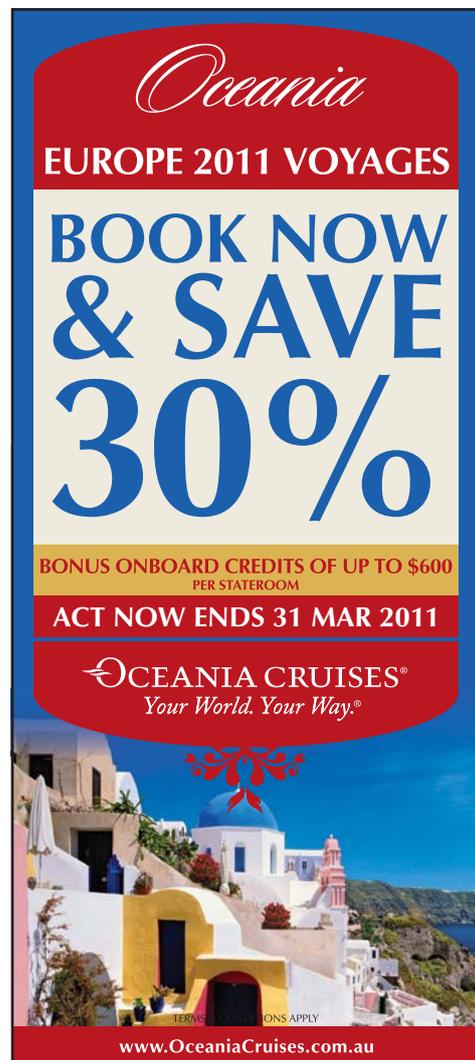
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Avalon loves its groups

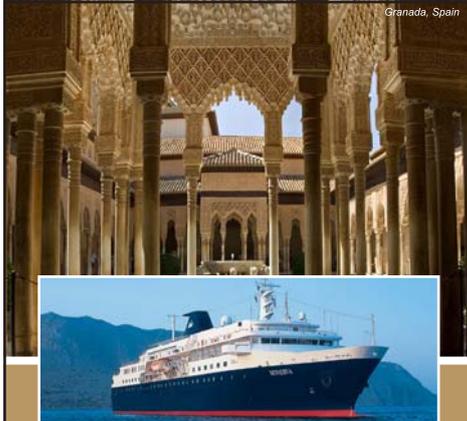
AVALON WATERWAYS IS CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH of its new Groups Preview 2012 brochure by offering four deals for all new group bookings made and deposited on, before the launch of its full 2012 river cruise program.

As part of the specials, Avalon is offering discounts of up to \$1,000pp off its 28 Mar 15-day Magnificent Europe voyage, as well as \$500pp off selected 2012 European river cruises (23 departures across nine itineraries ranging in length from eight- to 14-days), \$250pp off selected Europe departures (available on 10 itineraries from five- to 23-days) and up to \$150pp off its five-day Taste of the Danube cruise.

In addition, Avalon is also giving one person the chance to travel free in every new booking of 10 or more on any European river cruise.

MEANWHILE the company has also opened pre-registrations for individual travellers wanting to cruise in 2012.

Preregistration will allow registrants first choice at the 2012 European cruise program when it goes on sale in the coming months.



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TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

WWW.SWANHELLENIC.COM.AU

Royal Princess on her way

THIS WEEK MARKS THE FIRST CONSTRUCTION WORK to take place for Princess Cruises newest ship, *Royal Princess*.

Special teasers provided by Princess yesterday have shed some light on what the industry should expect from the first of two new-generation ships.

The 141,000 ton *Royal Princess* will feature capacity for 3,600 passengers, and new design concepts include an over-water SeaWalk, which will essentially be a top deck glass bottomed walkway which will extend 28 feet beyond the vessel on her starboard side.

In addition, passengers can expect a similarly cantilevered SeaView bar on *Royal Princesses'* port side where they can partake in cocktails and spectacular seaviews.

Princess Cruises also confirmed that *Royal Princess* will feature an adults-only pool surrounded by seven private cabanas, as well as two additional pools which will sit on either side of a tropical island that is to serve as a poolside relaxation spot by day and an outside dance club at night.

Royal Princess will also feature expanded versions of the cruise line's signature Sanctuary, Movies Under the Stars and Piazza atrium areas.

The vessel's outside staterooms will feature balconies, whilst *Royal Princess* will also feature a grand total of 260,000 square-feet of inside public space for dining, entertainment and "other special features".

Royal Princess is slated to launch in the Northern Hemisphere spring 2013.

See next Tuesday's **CW** for more details.

New Inter cruises RD

INTERCRUISES SHORESIDE & PORT SERVICES HAS appointed new regional directors for its Inter cruises Australia and Inter cruises UK & Ireland operations, following the retirement of industry stalwart Jeff Mangano, GM of Inter cruises Australia, after 30 years working within the cruise sector.

"Jeff has been instrumental in the development of the Australian cruise market over many years, pioneering his own business before joining the Inter cruises team," said Mark Robinson, managing director, Inter cruises Shoreside & Port Services.

"I would like to thank Jeff for his contribution to the cruise industry in Australia and wish him all the best in the future," he added.

Taking up the regional director position in Australia is Martin Bidgood, who previously held the same position in the UK & Ireland, whilst Simon O'Sullivan will step into Bidgood's newly vacated UK & Ireland position.

Win a cruise of the Century

ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISES IS OFFERING AGENTS THE chance to win a 12-night voyage for two onboard *Celebrity Century* departing from either Sydney or Auckland.

To enter the competition agents need to make a *Celebrity Century* Australia, New Zealand or South Pacific sailing booking for summer 2011-2012 departures, between now and 06 Apr 2011.

Every booking will receive an entry into the draw, with the cruise prize including airfares between the port and the agents' nearest state capital.

Agents who miss out on winning the cruise will have the opportunity to win the second place prize, a luxurious spa pamper package valued at \$500, or one of 10 "third place" champagne gift sets.

Bookings can be made online at cruisingpower.com or by calling reservations on 1300 754 500.

The winning entry will be drawn on 12 Apr 2011.

For more details on the competition click on the ad below.

Win a cruise on board *Celebrity Century*[®] plus more*

Invite your clients to sail on Australia's highest rated superliner[^] for the chance to enjoy your own *Celebrity* experience*

*For details **CLICK HERE**

1300 754 500 www.celebritycentury.com.au

*Based on the rating in the Berlitz Guide to Cruising & Cruise Ships 2010

RCCL's all you can drink

ROYAL CARIBBEAN HAS RELEASED A SERIES OF PRE-purchased all you can drink packages, meaning that guests who purchase them will no longer have to worry about carrying cash to purchase a beverage.

The reasonably priced packages include a US\$29pp per day Beer and Wine Package which entitles purchasers to all day beers and house wine (by the glass), plus a 25% discount on all other wines and spirits.

Up from that package, guests can enjoy a US\$39pp per day deal which entitles them to all day beer, house wine (by the glass), cocktails, and non-premium/specialty spirits.

The premium package costs US\$49pp per day, and allows guests beer, house wine plus some premium wines (by the glass), cocktails, premium spirits, and a 25% discount on wine bottles, glasses of specialty wines and liquors.

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Brazil's cruise investment

THE BRAZILIAN PORTS OF SANTOS AND RIO DE Janeiro are set to get a breath of fresh life, with a new government initiative which includes a US\$400m investment into port infrastructure upgrades in the lead up to the nation's hosting of the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Carnival Corp's earnings

CARNIVAL CORPORATION AND PLC HAS ANNOUNCED its first quarter 2011 earnings per share were diluted \$0.19 which is at the high end of its previous guidance range of between \$0.15 and \$0.19.

In addition, the company said that because of the rise in fuel costs since its initial 2011 full year guidance was released in Dec 2010, combined with currency exchange rates, its full year earnings per share would be lower by approximately \$0.40.

Carnival has also estimated that with the impact of Middle Eastern and North African itinerary changes it will experience an approximate \$0.05 reduction in earnings per share for the remainder of the year.

"The company now forecasts full year 2011 fully diluted earnings per share to be in the range of \$2.50 to \$2.60, compared to its Dec guidance range of \$2.90 to \$3.10 and fiscal 2010 of \$2.47," a Carnival statement said.

Escape the Aussie winter

AZAMARA CLUB CRUISES HAS LAUNCHED TWO NEW incentives to entice guests to cruise during the European summer.

Guests can choose between onboard credit of US\$500 per cabin for all new bookings, or they can take advantage of a new air credit offer of AU\$500pp towards flights to Europe.

Prices for Azamara voyages start at AU\$2,149pp for a seven-night Spain and Portugal Azamara Journey voyage departing 18 Jun, with port calls incl. Barcelona, Ibiza, Granada, Seville, Gibraltar and Lisbon.

For details call 1300 754 500.

Airline cruise check-in

COPENHAGEN AIRPORT WILL SOON OFFER CRUISE ship passengers the ability to check-in for their flight from onboard the stateroom of their cruise ship.

The remote check-in facility will allow pax to bypass airport check-in counters and proceed directly to the secure check point.

As yet a date has not been set for the procedures implementation.

P O R T H O L E



BEWARE OF WHAT LURKS UNDER THE SURFACE when safari cruising in Zimbabwe!

The principal of the English Cumnor House School in Haywards Heath was shocked to learn this week that one of his staff needed a few days off work - to recover from a crocodile bite.

The affected teacher, Scott Brand, had reportedly been bitten by the hungry reptile whilst he was swimming in a river on holiday in Zimbabwe.

The plot thickened however when it was discovered that the bite was incurred after Brand and his friends decided to go for a quick spot of 'croc wrestling'.

"I saw a four-foot long croc and just jumped in and grabbed it," Brand said.

"It went nuts and was really going for me and it eventually got a hold of my left arm and bit down.

"It was bloody sore, but I got back on land and just poured some vodka over it and bandaged it up," the river adventurer added.

COMING TO A CRUISE MENU NEAR YOU?

A US newspaper editor known as J. Wilson, has decided that he will cut out food entirely for Lent, and will instead only consume beer and water.

Not dissimilar to some cruisers who abstain from food sustenance in place of a poolside cocktail diet, Wilson will spend the lead-up to lent imbibing a 'liquid bread beer' which contains 6.67% alcohol and 228 calories per serve.

According to Wilson the diet is designed to emulate that of the 17th century German monks, who observed the religious period by subsisting on a diet of water and beer.

"Getting drunk is the last thing on my to-do list at this time... this is an historical study," he said.

ONE OF THE TOP TEN LARGEST AND OLDEST lobsters ever caught in the UK has been saved from becoming dinner after a compassionate fisherman donated him to the Blue Reef aquarium in Portsmouth.

The four kilo crustacean has been estimated at 50 years of age, some 15kgs and 30yrs shy of the record holder, an 80yr old lobster imaginatively named Mike who was caught in 1934.

SuperStar Libra

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Cruises include all meals[^] and entertainment onboard plus port and fuel charges.



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*CONDITIONS APPLY: All prices are cruise only, AUD, per person twin share and subject to change and availability. Prices based on Inside Cabin DB. Prices include port charges and fuel surcharge. [^]Meals included in selected restaurants. 2011 departure dates 3 NIGHT CRUISE ex Penang Feb 20 & 27, Mar 06, 13, 20, & 27, Apr 03, 10, 17 & 24, May 01, 08, 15, 22 & 29, Jun 05, 12, 19 & 26, Jul 03, 10, 17, 24 & 31, Aug 07, 14, 21 & 28, Sept 04, 11, 18 & 25, Oct 02, 09, 16, 23 & 30, Nov 06, 13, 20 & 27, Dec 04, 11, 18 & 25. Holiday surcharge imposed on peak sailings. Strict cancellation fees apply. Please note that a surcharge may be imposed on credit card transactions. A service fee will be charged. Rates are valid until 31 March 2011. SCS 24574

SuperStar Virgo's Earlybird Savings



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Klang), Pulau Redang
Selected departures from
3 April – 18 Sept 2011

Singapore, Phuket, Langkawi, Pulau
Redang & Kuala Lumpur (Port Klang)
Selected departures from
10 April – 25 Sept 2011

Inside Cabin \$1292* per person
Window Cabin \$1597* per person
Balcony Cabin \$2132* per person

5 NIGHT CRUISES
Departing Singapore
on Sundays

Singapore, Penang,
Phuket, Malacca,
Kuala Lumpur (Port Klang)
Selected departures from
3 April – 25 March 2012

Singapore, Phuket, Langkawi,
Pulau Redang
Selected departures from
10 April – 25 Sept 2011

Inside Cabin \$930* per person
Window Cabin \$1175* per person
Balcony Cabin \$1540* per person

3 NIGHT CRUISES
Departing Singapore
on Sundays

Singapore, Penang, Phuket
Selected departures from
3 April – 25 March 2012

Singapore, Phuket, Langkawi
Selected departures from
10 April – 25 Sept 2011

Inside Cabin \$588* per person
Window Cabin \$728* per person
Balcony Cabin \$958* per person

2 NIGHT CRUISES
Departing Singapore
on Wednesdays

Singapore, Malacca,
Kuala Lumpur (Port Klang)
Selected departures from
6 April – 28 March 2012

Singapore, Pulau Redang
Selected departures from
13 April – 28 Sept 2011

Inside Cabin \$387* per person
Window Cabin \$482* per person
Balcony Cabin \$632* per person

7 NIGHT SPECIAL CRUISES
Departing Singapore
on Sundays

Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City,
Pulau Redang, Kuala Lumpur
(Port Klang)
Departing 5 & 12 June, 3 July,
11 Sept 2011

Inside Cabin \$1377* per person
Window Cabin \$1707* per person
Balcony Cabin \$2292* per person

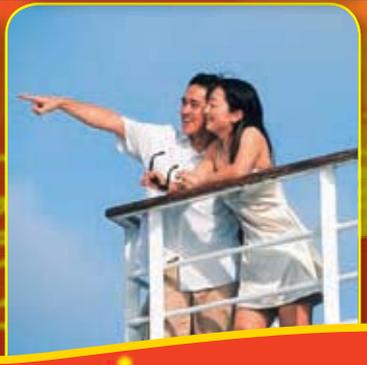
5 NIGHT SPECIAL CRUISES
Departing Singapore
on Sundays

Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City,
Pulau Redang
Departing 5 & 12 June, 3 July, 11
Sept 2011

Inside Cabin \$990* per person
Window Cabin \$1235* per person
Balcony Cabin \$1600* per person



Cruises include all meals and entertainment onboard plus port and fuel charges.



*CONDITIONS APPLY: All prices are cruise only, AUD, per person twins share and subject to change and availability. Offer is valid until 31 March 2011. Prices based on following cabin categories: Inside Cabin DC, Window Cabin CB, Balcony Cabin BB. Price includes port charges and fuel surcharge. Holiday surcharge imposed on Peak Sailings Dates: 24 April 2011; 23 Dec 2011; 01 Jan 2012. Vietnam Visa surcharge applicable to Ho Chi Minh sailings of \$30 per person. *Meals included in selected restaurants. Strict cancellation fees apply. Please note that a surcharge may be imposed on credit card transactions. A service fee will be charged. SCS 24148