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### Two days of RCI deals

**ROYAL** Caribbean has today launched its first-ever 48-hour flash sale, with “never to be repeated” fares on select 2014 departures on its Australian ships.

The sale kicked off at 9:59am today and runs to the same time on Thu morning, with fares from \$58 per day for a 12-night sailing.

Headlining the sale is the 12-night South Pacific & Fiji cruise onboard *Rhapsody of the Seas*, departing on 25 Nov 2014, priced from \$699pp twin share.

Other voyages include an 11-night New Zealand sailing on *Voyager of the Seas*, which is priced from \$999pp twin share.

### MSC Born in the Med

**EUROPEAN** cruise line MSC Cruises has released an updated 2015-16 program to the trade.

Available to order from TIFS now, the brochure features the line’s heartland of Mediterranean cruising as well as seasonal jaunts to the Norwegian Fjords, Baltic, Caribbean, South America, Africa, the Arabian Peninsula and more.

MSC Cruises managing director Australia Lynne Clark said the line “has never forgotten [its] roots and are proud to remain a family company with a history for mastering the sea.”

Departures featured in the guide run to Nov 2016, detailing inclusive programs which reward longer bookings with free shore excursions, 30% discount on laundry & prepaid drink packages.

### QH unveil Cruise Achievers

**QANTAS** Holidays has launched a revamped version of its popular Cruise Legends scheme with a new, dedicated Cruise Achievers program as a subset of its annual Global Achievers rewards.

The new program was unveiled over the weekend in Queenstown by Qantas Holidays/Viva! Holidays head of sales Fiona Dalton as part of the 2014 Global Achievers Gala Dinner at Soho Estate Winery.

Already in effect, the new Cruise Achievers program will see the Top 20 consultants selling through The Cruise Team invited to attend the 2015 Global Achievers event.

To be held in Australia late next year, a more specific location will be announced in coming weeks.

“Not only will those cruise consultants also be invited to the Global Achievers gala dinner, but they will be rewarded with a fabulous group cruise departure to be announced later this year,” Dalton told delegates at the event.

“It makes sense that Cruise Achievers will replace the current Cruise Legends program across our wholesale brands.”

The final class of Cruise Legends top-sellers will soon be travelling

### Quantum sails into NY

**ROYAL** Caribbean’s new flagship *Quantum of the Seas* overnight cruised into Cape Liberty harbour.

Christening ceremonies will take place on 14 Nov, to be hosted by godmother Kristen Chenoweth.

to New York to board *Quantum of the Seas* as their rewards trip.

Cruise revenue sold through The Cruise Team will not count toward the Global Achievers revenue, Dalton added, but will be counted separately to ensure no barriers are put in place for agents who do not specialise in cruising.

Announced to great excitement from the gathered agents, Dalton said The Cruise Team had recently doubled its operational resources, resulting in a significant reduction in average cruise call wait times.

“We hope you’ll come back and try us again for cruise because we’ve turned the corner, and improvements we are making within the cruise operation genuinely feel sustainable.”

The announcement comes just a week after Qantas Holidays rolled out its 24/7 emergency customer care phone line available via a single phone number for clients of all brands to call if required.

### New APT SuperDeals

**APT** is getting into the festive spirit early, with a new range of SuperDeals on sale for European river cruises booked by 15 Dec.

Among the range is a new ‘Fly Premium Economy’ air offer of \$1,795 or ‘Fly Business Class’ from \$4,895 per person, valid on departures from 01 Mar to 05 Apr and 01 Oct to 31 Dec.

Airfares travel with Lufthansa and are inclusive of air taxes.

### Massive CW today!

*Cruise Weekly* today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news & photos, a **front full page from JITO** and full pages of **AA Appointments** jobs and the new **CW** app.

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WEEKLY



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## Carnival returns to NZ

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Lines will return to New Zealand next year, launching two new departures in response to customer feedback.

Two sailings from Sydney on *Carnival Legend* & *Carnival Spirit* to the North Island will visit the Bay of Islands, Auckland, Napier, Tauranga and Wellington, leaving on 30 Dec 2015 and 12 Feb 2016.

Further, a new 11-day Christmas Cruise to Qld departing on 20 Dec 2015 has also been added.

## Asia Cruise Assn into CLIA

**CRUISE** Lines International Association is further expanding its global reach, announcing today the formation of two new branches in CLIA Southeast Asia and CLIA North Asia.

The move is described as a "significant transition for the Asia Cruise Association," which has spearheaded cruising growth in the region since it was created in 2009 under founding chairman,

the late Rama Rebbapragada of Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.

CLIA Southeast Asia will be chaired by Carnival Australia ceo Ann Sherry, with board members including Carnival Asia executives Paul Chong and William Harber.

Jennifer Yap, Royal Caribbean's md for Singapore and Southeast Asia, will be the body's secretary.

Royal Caribbean managing director Asia China, Dr Zinan Liu will chair CLIA North Asia, focusing on infrastructure, advocacy and "the promotion of cruise to travel industry communities in the region".

CLIA ceo Christine Duffy said the transition of the Asia Cruise Association into CLIA Southeast Asia and CLIA North Asia was perfectly timed as Asia "comes to the forefront as one of the world's most dynamic emerging regions for cruise".

"CLIA member cruise lines are already deploying more ships in Asia, opening up more destinations and customising their onboard offerings to cater to their Asian guests," she said.

## Cruise lines staying in Russia

A NUMBER of river cruise lines selling prominently in the Australia market have opted to carry on with operations in Russia next year despite APT's decision to suspend the region (**CW** Thu).

Viking River Cruises, Uniworld &

Scenic Tours have all told **Cruise Weekly** they are continuing to keep an eye on developments in the region but will proceed with their programs, although some have been reduced in scale.

While Ukraine voyages remain cancelled for the rest of the year, Viking River Cruises says demand for its 2014 Russia sailings is strong, with five of its river ships "all but sold out".

"At this point Viking is selling 2015 departures, and we are currently planning on operating three vessels," the line said.

"Should we see consumer demand beyond the currently planned three vessels we will add ships back into deployment."

Scenic Tours general manager product Aleisha Fittler said some of the line's 2015 dates have been consolidated due to a decrease in enquiries, however cruises will take place in May and Jun 2015.

Uniworld Boutique River Cruises general manager John Molinaro said the line had also scaled back its Russian schedule for 2015 but "good interest" was still coming in from agents and consumers.

The line will run four departures of its 13-day Imperial Waterways of Russia itinerary next year.

"Our Russian river cruise has previously been one of our best-selling itineraries so we will continue to observe activity in the region and hope that we can return to normal operations in 2016," Molinaro added.



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**MOVEMBER** will see multitudes of males growing mo's to raise funds for the Movember Foundation's programs and to encourage community awareness and support around men's health.

Amadeus IT Pacific men are putting out the challenge to the travel industry to raise funds for the cause. The person who raises the most money will win a **Shaving Brush Travel Kit**.

It's not too late to join - register at [au.movember.com](http://au.movember.com) (add your company name after your name and choose to join the **Amadeus IT Pacific team**).

Email your before and after pics and progress updates to [mocomp@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:mocomp@traveldaily.com.au) and we will showcase them on **Facebook** and in **Cruise Weekly**.

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# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 11 Nov 2014

## The Love Boat cast ring in Regal



**LUMINARIES** of American television history came together late last week to join Princess Cruises in officially naming its new vessel *Regal Princess*.

In the spirit of the line's long association with *The Love Boat*,

the entire original cast reunited to participate in the ceremony along with 25 other guest stars including Florence Henderson, Frank Sinatra Jr, Jamie Farr, Rich Little, Joan Van Ark & many more.

Led by Captain Stubing himself, the cast pulled a lever which sent 50 bottles of champagne smashing against the ship's hull - the occasion also serving to launch Princess Cruises' 50th anniversary - along with a giant bottle to mark ongoing success.

*The Love Boat* cast, pictured above, comprised Gavin MacLeod, Fred Grandy, Ted Lange, Bernie Kopell, Lauren Tewes and Jill Whelan.

### Costa Cruises cares

**COSTA** Crociere has founded its own independently run humanitarian organisation to carry out social & environmental projects in the areas it operates.

The Costa Crociere Foundation formalises the work the line has been involved in for some time to engage with local communities and encouraging philanthropic initiatives and volunteering.

Assisting homeless populations in Genoa, Italy has been identified as one of the organisation's pilot projects, Costa said.

### Back where it began

**SEABOURN** *Spirit* and *Seabourn Legend* will return to the setting of their maiden seasons more than 20 years ago as both ships operate their final months as part of the fleet in the Caribbean.

The ships' final voyages will incorporate a number of special Seabourn events including the popular 'Caviar in the Surf' and 'Marina Day' over the season.

Windstar Cruises will take possession of the ships next Apr.

### Dwain Wall to depart

**CLIA** North America has begun the recruitment process for a new agent & trade relations manager after announcing the departure of Dwain Wall barely a year after beginning with the organisation.

President and ceo Christine Duffy thanked Wall for his efforts in redesigning the travel agent & agency membership programs.

Former Regent Cruise Lines ceo Mark Conroy will take over Wall's duties during the hiring process.

### 8 Seasons now sailing

**SYDNEY** Harbour operator Fantasea Adventure Cruising has added a new 24-metre catamaran to its fleet, with the vessel dubbed '*Fantasea 8 Seasons*'.

The new addition offers capacity for up to 195 people and will also be available for conference hire.

### Mein Schiff 4 casino

**CENTURY** Casinos has been selected to operate a new gaming facility onboard German line TUI Cruises' new vessel *Mein Schiff 4*, currently in construction and due to begin operations in Jun 2015.

### Marketing recruitee

**NORWEGIAN** cruise and polar operator Hurtigruten has hired Monika Hauge Nordgård as its new global marketing manager.

Based in the company's global headquarters in Oslo, Nordgård will work closely with the line's other offices in Hamburg, Paris, London and Seattle and oversee global promotional activities.

## Cruise Calendar

This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Celebrity Century</i>	11 Nov
<i>Sun Princess</i>	12 Nov
<i>Amsterdam</i>	14 Nov
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	14 Nov
<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	15 Nov
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	16 Nov
MELBOURNE	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	12 Nov
<i>Celebrity Century</i>	13 Nov
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	15 Nov
<i>Volendam</i>	16 Nov
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	15 Nov
PORT DOUGLAS	
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	12 Nov
ADELAIDE	
<i>Volendam</i>	13 Nov
<i>Volendam</i>	14 Nov
<i>Celebrity Century</i>	15 Nov
<i>Celebrity Century</i>	16 Nov
HOBART	
<i>Oosterdam</i>	17 Nov
PICTON	
<i>Oosterdam</i>	11 Nov
AKAROA	
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	11 Nov
<i>Oosterdam</i>	12 Nov
<i>Sun Princess</i>	17 Nov
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	17 Nov
FIORDLAND	
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	12 Nov
<i>Oosterdam</i>	14 Nov
<i>Sun Princess</i>	15 Nov
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	15 Nov
WELLINGTON	
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	12 Nov
<i>Sea Princess</i>	17 Nov
TAURANGA	
<i>Crystal Symphony</i>	14 Nov
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	14 Nov
<i>Sea Princess</i>	15 Nov
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	17 Nov
AUCKLAND	
<i>Crystal Symphony</i>	13 Nov
<i>Sea Princess</i>	14 Nov
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	15 Nov
NAPIER	
<i>Crystal Symphony</i>	16 Nov
<i>Sea Princess</i>	16 Nov



**INVENTORS** and dreamers are always coming up with new ways for the uber-wealthy to part with their cash, the latest being an underwater sports car.

The Submarine Sports Car is inspired by - who else - James Bond's Submarine Lotus in *The Spy Who Loved Me*, and can travel underwater at up to 75mph, powered by an electric engine, propellers, two water jets and rotating steering arms.

Priced from £1.2 million, the amphibious vehicle also comes with scuba tanks and diving regulators allowing two people to stay underwater for up to an hour at a time.

**MEANWHILE**, P&O Cruises has debuted its 'Earthlings' TV advertising campaign across Australia - [CLICK HERE](#) to view.

**Cruise Weekly** is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication. An industry-focused PDF edition of Cruise Weekly is published every Tue and Thu, and there's also a consumer-facing email newsletter published each Wed - sign up free at [www.cruiseweekly.com.au](http://www.cruiseweekly.com.au).

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