

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 28 October 2014

All about the Arctic

TRAVEL agents keen to learn more about Arctic voyages, the region and wildlife in the area can view a recorded webinar from Lindblad Expeditions, hosted by Lindblad naturalist and photo instructor Michael Nolan.

CLICK HERE to receive a link.

Green light at Wave Break

FEASIBILITY studies have been carried out on the Gold Coast's Wave Break Island, successfully determining the island and the surrounding Seaway could handle navigation by cruise ships.

Carried out at the Smartship Australia facility in Brisbane, the simulation studies found dredging of the Gold Coast Seaway to reach an average depth of 12-13 metres would be required.

The Navigational Study saw 35 simulations generated using ships ranging in length from 245 metres up to 361 metres, at different times of day and in a wide range of tidal, wind & weather patterns.

Ships used in the simulation included Cunard's *Queen Victoria*, Princess Cruises' *Regal Princess*, Royal Caribbean's *Voyager of the Seas* and even the behemoth *Oasis of the Seas* mega-liner.

Developers say a cruise ship terminal could be open by 2018,

with the facility targeting 75 ships per year (150 ship movements), or three per fortnight on average.

According to the simulation studies, ships would need approx 30-45 minutes to enter the seaway and berth at the terminal.

Tugs would not be required, however a pilot boat would be deployed for a local marine pilot to assist in guiding ships to port, with an exclusion zone around the port set up during ship visits.

"The Seaway can be safely navigated by modern ships in all tidal situations and in almost all weather conditions meaning the cruise ship terminal is feasible to build and operate," local project director Tim Poole commented.

He added the facility would not be a homeport and ships would not be refuelled while berthing.

Further investigations into the frequency of wind events on the Gold Coast over 30 knots that could impact or restrict usage of the terminal were ongoing.

The full findings will form part of the Request for Detailed Proposal which will soon be submitted to the Queensland Government.

For a more detailed summary of the simulations, **CLICK HERE**.

Shop until you sink

EUROPEAN line MSC Cruises has launched a range of seven-night Shopping Cruises taking travellers onshore to some of the world's best boutiques & outlets.

Seven-night round-trip voyages depart from Genoa, Italy aboard *MSC Splendida* on 11, 18 and 25 Jan next year, calling at Rome, Palermo, La Goulette, Barcelona and Marseille, with embarkation also available at the Spanish port. Prices start from \$549ppts.

Today's issue of CW

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news & photos including a special **Celebrity Interview** with Richie Callander.

"Colossal" P&O sale

SAVINGS of up to \$2,000 per room are now available in a new week-long sale from P&O Cruises.

Offers include a three-night P&OSeaBreaks cruise priced from \$229pp quad share ex Sydney to a 10-night South Pac sailing from \$1,099ppqs - sale ends 02 Nov.

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Panhwar bookings open

RESERVATIONS are now taking bookings for Travelmarvel's brand new boutique Burma river cruise vessel *RV Princess Panhwar* ahead of its debut in a little over a year.

Custom built for the region, the vessel offers 36 staterooms with either a French balcony or outside balcony on all cabins.

RV Princess Panhwar features in the newly launched 2016/17

brochure, which is now available & covers 24 departures from Jan 2016 until Apr the following year.

The core itinerary for the new vessel will be the 15-day Majestic Burma which travels along the Irrawaddy River from Yangon to Mandalay and return, which is priced from \$5,795pp twin share.

Guests will visit Shwedagon Pagoda, a number of monasteries along the route, Buddha statues and archaeological sites in Bagan.

Travellers who can't get enough river cruising can extend their holiday with a second river cruise aboard *La Marguerite*, while a three-day extension to Inle Lake is also available.

Phone 1300 196 420 for details.

Indian Ocean guiding

NINE destinations from the Andaman Islands to Zanzibar as part of the latest season in South Africa & the Indian Ocean from Lindblad Expeditions, with the line's newest brochure out now.

Members of Lindblad's new Friends for Life program can save 20% on bookings from the guide, while new members save 10%.



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**.

If you are game, register at au.movember.com (add your company name after your name and choose to join the **Amadeus IT Pacific team**) by the end of October.

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

Get involved as an Amadeus Mo Bro! Click **HERE** to learn more about the program.

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Robots making drinks

ROYAL Caribbean Int'l has released a new video detailing the mechanics and design behind its revolutionary robot bartenders which will feature on the line's SmartShip *Quantum of the Seas*.

CLICK HERE to check it out.

Sea Cloud 2015 season

SMALL ship operator Sea Cloud has released details of its 2015 season, featuring voyages from 4-17 nights across Europe.

Operated by the line's luxury windjammers *Sea Cloud* and *Sea Cloud II*, highlights include a series of four-night 'Taster' cruises in the Mediterranean designed to tempt new customers.

More details on 1300 583 572.

Tobacco Road at sea

ICONIC Miami bar Tobacco Road, recently closed after 102 years in business, will find a new home aboard Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Escape* vessel upon its launch late next year.

Upon its debut, *Escape* will carry on the bar's legacy, incorporating many original artefacts onboard.

The new Tobacco Road will be located at 678 Ocean Place & will also offer original classic drinks.

Celebrity Interview with Richie Callander



HORSE racing flows through the blood of Richie Callander, who has followed his famous father Ken into the business of race calling.

Ahead of the 2014 Emirates Melbourne Cup, which jumps next week, Callander set sail on Carnival Cruise Lines as a guest on its special sailing full of race punters heading to Flemington for the action.

Callander is well known by all race fans as a regular presenter on television

coverage of racing events Australia-wide as well as being a host and form expert on race Channel TVN.

Prior to hopping onboard *Carnival Spirit* to provide fellow cruisers with expert guides to the most famous field of the year, Callander took time to speak to *Cruise Weekly* for our latest Celebrity Interview.

How did you come to be involved with Carnival Cruise Lines?

As a father of two daughters, I've been getting pestered for a few years now about going on a cruise. My wife and I have thought about it on many occasions so when Carnival Cruise Lines approached me about a Melbourne Cup cruise it's like you have finally met the girl of your dreams. Catching a plane to Melbourne seems uneventful but a cruise - well, it gives you the feel of adventure.

The Melbourne Cup is one of the true sporting events on the world calendar so to travel to it in style aboard a cruise and make a holiday of it just seemed right.

What has been the highlight of your career so far?

I've had many highlights, including being there last year with Gai winning her first Melbourne Cup and owning a winner at Randwick and Flemington. But my career highlight is founding the charity 4tracks4kids five years ago with my wife. With the help of so many generous people, we have raised almost \$3 million for many wonderful charities.

What is your favourite holiday spot?

I'd say my favourite place would be Edinburgh, I just loved the city. I can also be a homebody, so I love heading down the Mornington Peninsula with the family.

Who is one person you wish you could sit next to on a plane?

Bill Gates by a million yards. A huge success in business but he also understands the struggles people are enduring around the globe, and with his foundation is doing a wonderful job in highlighting the issues and backing it up with dollars.

How would you spend a day at sea aboard a cruise ship?

The first thing I think of is relaxing. I just want to relax and take in the scenery and forget the troubles back

on shore. Everything in life nowadays seems to be hustle and bustle but a cruise ship seems a great way to forget about life for a while and enjoy yourself.

What is one of the most exotic destinations you have travelled to?

I really found Paris an exotic destination. Its food, culture and history fascinated me, making my visit a thrill from the moment I arrived.

Do you have a travel tip for our readers?

Pack what you think and bring money and a credit card to buy what you forgot. Another thing I always do is be confident when you are trying to do or go somewhere you aren't allowed.

What is one thing you cannot leave home without?

My iPad - it's like my lifeline. All of my commitments and emails are loaded on the iPad plus I have access via the iPad to place a bet and check my bank balance!

What features do you look for when choosing a hotel?

First thing I want is comfort, then location. I love big rooms with plenty of walking around space so I feel I'm on holidays.

Do you have an embarrassing travel story that you can share with us?

A few years ago I headed to Darwin to speak at a black tie event and the company who had asked me to attend made it very clear that black tie was the only acceptable attire. I had met up with my friend Grant in the Qantas lounge and in what turned out to be a nightmare, we had the same bag. I flew into Darwin late afternoon and went to get dressed for the big night. Upon opening the bag I knew I was in trouble. Grant is an electrician and I had his bag. 300 people gathered at the Minister's house for a reception and I turned up in tracksuit pants and a t-shirt. I spent four hours explaining why but it wasn't ideal.

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Darwin season begins

THE arrival of *Sun Princess* on Thu last week officially kicked off Darwin's 2014/15 cruise season, with 2,700 passengers and crew heading into Darwin for the day. The NT capital is scheduled to welcome 24 ships by Mar 2015.



Cruise Calendar

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

City	Ship	Date
SYDNEY	<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	28 Oct
	<i>Sun Princess</i>	30 Oct
	<i>Celebrity Century</i>	30 Oct
	<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	01 Nov
	<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	01 Nov
	<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	02 Nov
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	03 Nov	
MELBOURNE	<i>Dawn Princess</i>	02 Nov
	<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	03 Nov
	<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	03 Nov
BRISBANE	<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	01 Nov
CAIRNS	<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	01 Nov
	<i>Silver Discoverer</i>	03 Nov
DARWIN	<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	28 Oct
	<i>Volendam</i>	29 Oct
NEWCASTLE	<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	29 Oct
AUCKLAND	<i>Sea Princess</i>	31 Oct
PORT CHALMERS	<i>Dawn Princess</i>	29 Oct
	<i>Oosterdam</i>	01 Nov
	<i>Sun Princess</i>	03 Nov
FIORDLAND	<i>Dawn Princess</i>	30 Oct
	<i>Oosterdam</i>	31 Oct
	<i>Sun Princess</i>	02 Nov
NAPIER	<i>Sea Princess</i>	02 Nov
TAURANGA	<i>Sea Princess</i>	01 Nov
PICTON	<i>Oosterdam</i>	03 Nov
WELLINGTON	<i>Sea Princess</i>	03 Nov

Pair of gongs for ecrusing.travel



ONLINE cruising retailer ecrusing.travel continues to rack up the accolades, most recently awarded with double gold from Royal Caribbean International.

The gongs were in recognition for the company's contribution to the sales of Azamara Club Cruises and Royal Caribbean itself during the record-breaking 2013 season.

Founder and chairman Brett

Dudley said the level of growth for these two lines was above organic compared to a year prior. Dudley is pictured above left with Royal Caribbean commercial director Asia-Pacific Sean Treacy.

Voyages shifts Crimea

REVISIONS have been made to the 2015 schedule for Voyages to Antiquity due to the ongoing situation in Ukraine and Crimea.

Two new Grand Voyage sailings have been released in the Med including a 26-night Istanbul to Venice journey and a 24-night cruise from Villefranche to Rome.

Both voyages include a two-night stay in the debarkation port, with the former also offering a two night stay prior to departure.

Fly free offers are also in place for both - phone (02) 9959 1333.

Extra Pandaw sailings

TWO extra sailings of Pandaw River Expeditions' ten-night Mekong Unexplored itinerary have been added to the schedule for 2015, departing 08 and 18 Jul.

The voyages aboard the Mekong Pandaw will visit a World Wildlife Fund protected region and spotting rare wildlife, with cabins priced from US\$2,495ppts.



PLANET Earth continues to fall to the mapping might of Google, with seemingly no territory beyond the online giant's reach.

In partnership with Google Street View and environmental partner National Geographic, Lindblad Expeditions has taken exploration to the next level with the launch of Trekker Imagery of South Georgia & the Falklands.

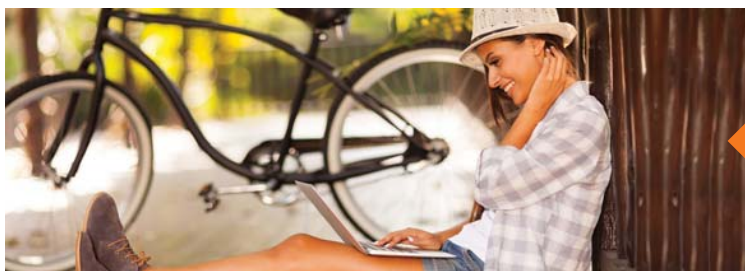
Using physical methods and technology, some of the world's most inhospitable territory has been photographed for the project, allowing users to peek into crevices and other places mankind is unable to access.

The live imagery launch is in honour of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his famous exploration of the region 100 years ago.

Users can trace the footsteps of Shackleton and his crew, view wildlife and even visit the famed explorer's grave site.

One of Lindblad Expeditions' videographers captured more than 10,000 images at nine sites across the Antarctic Peninsula and helped to plant 'Trekker' in place, a 43-pound camera with 15 lenses which captures a new photo every 2.5 seconds.

To view the live imagery of South Georgia Island, [CLICK HERE](#) or to view the Falkland Islands, [CLICK HERE](#).



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