



Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	18 Jun
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	20 Jun
<i>Sun Princess</i>	20 Jun
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	16 Jun
<i>Sun Princess</i>	18 Jun
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	21 Jun
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	21 Jun
CAIRNS	
<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	16 Jun
PORT DOUGLAS	
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	18 Jun

RCI call centre change

PHONE enquiries for Royal Caribbean will not be answered on Sundays for the next three months during the quiet season, the line has advised.

Online bookings will remain open, however phone enquiries on Sundays will resume in Sep when ships return to Aus shores.

Repairs to Expedition

TWO coming polar departures of G Adventures' wholly owned expedition vessel *MS Expedition* have been cancelled in order for the ship to undergo maintenance.

Scheduled for spring, the ship will be taken out of service to be fitted with new engines.

A departure of 'Arctic Highlights' on 02 Sep and the 'Falklands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Islands' on 29 Oct have been axed, with 54 pax in total affected.

The firm's Australia managing director Belinda Ward told **Cruise Weekly** fitting the new engines was "a significant undertaking".

"The investment in new engines, we believe, will allow the *G Expedition* to continue to provide an on-going first-class expedition service," Ward said.

Affected pax have been offered a refund or rebooking assistance.

Green power for Carnival

FOUR new ships to be built by Germany's Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg for Carnival Corp will adopt a new "green cruising" power base, becoming the first in the industry to be powered by Liquefied Natural Gas.

The details cover part of a ship order placed back in Mar by Carnival Corporation for nine new vessels (**CW 31 Mar**) to be delivered between 2019 & 2022.

Two ships will be sent to AIDA Cruises, Carnival Corporation's German-based line, with Costa Cruises tipped as a frontrunner to receive the other two.

Details of which brands will take possession of the remaining seven ships are forthcoming.

Carnival has claimed a "major environmental breakthrough", with the new LNG-powered ships

to be run across dual hybrid engines for use both in port and while at sea, with LNG to also power all onboard functions.

Carnival said the usage of LNG will eliminate the emission of soot particles and sulfur oxides.

CEO Arnold Donald said the move to green power is consistent with a capacity growth strategy to replace older ships with more fuel efficient vessels over time.

"These are exceptionally efficient ships with incredible cabins and public spaces featuring a design inspired by (Carnival chairman) Micky Arison and (Costa Group ceo) Michael Thamm and developed by our new build teams."

The ships will also set new records in passenger carriage, each offering capacity for an eye-watering 6,600 passengers each across 5,000+ lower berths.

MERS diverts cruises

THREE Royal Caribbean ships are among those to have made changes to cruise itineraries due to Middle East Respiratory Syndrome worries in South Korea.

Quantum of the Seas, *Voyager of the Seas*, *Mariner of the Seas* and SkySea Cruises' vessel *SkySea Golden Era* all replaced calls at Incheon, Jeju and Busan or added a day at sea, with officials saying they were watching the situation.

Carnival Corporation said its itineraries were largely intact but it was surveying passengers via its pre-boarding health declaration.

Summer Palace cruise

A PRIVATE cruise around the shores of the Summer Palace in Beijing features as a brand new Signature Invitations experience in APT's new 2016 China season.

The product is an exclusive component available to travellers in all APT itineraries to China.

APT's new brochure, coming to agencies soon, offers seven tours with highlights including giant panda viewing, acrobats & more.

Ovation on sale Thu

ROYAL Caribbean has informed subscribers of its email database that cabins for *Ovation of the Seas*' voyages in Australia will go on sale from Thu this week.

Exact details of itineraries are expected to be released prior - don't miss **Cruise Weekly** on Thu for all the details.

Voyages will take place during the 2016/17 wave season, with the vessel's repositioning from Singapore to Sydney an exclusive charter for Cruiseco agencies.

Lindblad Euro training

LIMITED places are available for agents across Sydney to attend a breakfast training seminar run by Lindblad Expeditions on its 11 week-long European itineraries on *National Geographic Orion*.

Sessions will run 7:30am - 9am in Dee Why, Edgecliff and Beecroft on 17, 23 and 25 Jun - phone 1300 361 012 for more details.



Abercrombie & Kent

Cruise Administration Assistant

Here is an exciting opportunity to join the Inbound Cruise Division of the Australasian Head Office of international travel company, Abercrombie & Kent. With unprecedented growth in the Cruise sector we now have an opportunity based in Melbourne.

Cruise Administration Assistant

The successful candidate for this role will display a mature attitude, be hands-on and able to work in a high pressure environment. You will have the ability to manage behind the scenes operational requirements of Turnaround Calls from transport and staffing operations. Building relationships and attention to detail are essential, together with a passion for exceeding client expectation. Knowledge of the cruise industry is preferred.

This opportunity is well suited to self-motivated high achievers who enjoys working in a small team environment and is looking for a full-time working week of Thursday - Monday.

Email your CV to Karen Lee Davies at cruisejobs@akorndmc.com or send to Level 3, 290 Coventry Street, South Melbourne VIC 3205, by no later than Friday 26th June.

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 16 Jun 2015

your cruise & rail specialists



Holidays of Australia

and the world

www.holidaysofaustralia.com.au

Scenic Rewards bonus

NEW bookings of 2016 Scenic river cruise itineraries in Europe or France will earn up to \$250 in Scenic Rewards points instantly as part of a new Scenic incentive.

Points will appear in accounts instantly if agents' Scenic Rewards account number is added to their profile at the time of booking.

Redemptions can be made on an expanded catalogue of over 4,000 products and experiences.

Tere Moana purchase

AMERICAN small-ship cruise line Grand Circle Cruise Line will drive its expansion into Australia using the 88-pax *Tere Moana* ship, which it has signed to acquire from Paul Gauguin Cruises.

The ship will operate all sailings through to 14 May next year before moving to its new owners.

As revealed last month by Cruise Weekly (**CW** 05 May), Grand Circle Corporation will base a ship in SE Asia, operating in SE Asia as well as northern Australia.

P&O maiden call to Timor

TIMOR-LESTE capital city Dili welcomed nearly 2,000 cruise ship passengers onshore over the weekend as P&O Cruises made its first ever port visit in the country.

The visit by *Pacific Jewel* was part of a return sailing from a scheduled drydock in Singapore which P&O said was also "a good opportunity to test Dili's capacity to host a superliner visit".

Locals in the Timor-Leste capital were eagerly awaiting the first visit by cruise tourists, P&O said.

Former Vic Premier Steve Bracks, currently a special advisor to the Timor-Leste Prime Minister, said the visit was a positive stepping stone in the nation's ongoing development.

"The arrival of the first cruise ship is an affirmation of Timor-Leste's potential as an attractive cruise destination and the part tourism can play to build its economy," Bracks said.

"*Pacific Jewel's* visit to Dili has been keenly anticipated by

the government and the local community who are keen to make tourism a much valued feature of the local economy in a country that has so much to offer visitors in cultural experiences," he added.

The push for independence by Timor-Leste in the late 1990's was a bloody period, with an int'l peacekeeping task force led by then Commander and now Australian Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove.

The port call was also hailed by Carnival Australia chief executive Ann Sherry, who labelled the move as a significant step forward for the country.

Noordam rescue ship

FORTY tourists and an Alaskan park ranger have been rescued by Holland America Line vessel *MS Noordam* from their craft, which was stricken with engine troubles.

The tourists were embarked and returned to their port of origin.

Doors off on Pantry

ONE traditional buffet onboard P&O Cruises' *Pacific Jewel* has been replaced with eight outlets laid out as an international food court as the ship became the first in the P&O fleet to adopt the line's new "food revolution".

Pantry will also be fitted to the line's two newest ships *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden* before Nov.

P&O Cruises senior vice president Sture Myrmell labelled Pantry as a "dining experience like no other at sea."

"We've been working on this part of our onboard food revolution for some time and to see the concept become reality is very exciting," he added.

Pantry will replace the buffet area on all ships, with options including Hook's Fish & Chips, Mexicana, The Grill burger bar, Fat Cow Carvery, Curry House, Stix Asian, Coffee Bar and the Sugar Bar dessert station.

CLICK HERE for a photo album or for a video detailing the design of Pantry, **CLICK HERE**.

BONUS

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SuperStar
Virgo
November - December 2015
Summer Down Under
— Asia to Australia



7 Nights
from Singapore to Fremantle

Departing from 22 Nov 2015

Visiting: Singapore, Jakarta (Indonesia), Cruising Krakatoa, Geraldton, Fremantle

INSIDE: \$1089pp

WINDOW: \$1327pp

BALCONY: \$1516pp

10 Nights
from Fremantle to Sydney

Departing from 29 Nov 2015

Visiting: Fremantle, Albany, Adelaide, Melbourne, Tasmania, Sydney

INSIDE: \$1424pp

WINDOW: \$1764pp

BALCONY: \$2034pp

14 Nights
from Sydney to Singapore

Departing from 09 Dec 2015

Visiting: Sydney, Brisbane, Cairns, Darwin, Bali (Indonesia), Johor (Malaysia), Singapore

INSIDE: \$2082pp

WINDOW: \$2558pp

BALCONY: \$2936pp

* Terms & conditions apply

For bookings & further information contact your preferred Travel Professional or visit www.starcruiises.com



CARNIVAL Cruise Line has taken another step in its 'Aussification' program by keeping the New South Wales Vs Queensland rivalry going - only problem is, it can't pick which side to support. On its return from drydock in Singapore later this year, *Carnival Spirit* will boast the Blue Iguana Tequila Bar (clearly a NSW fan) on one side of the Lido Deck and the Red Frog Rum Bar (Queensland) on the other side. Much like State of Origin, the blue versus red battle rages on. Guests will be able to get involved on a daily basis during their cruise, as each bar will put forth a new product each day as a candidate for the daily special. Activities such as team chants and mixology contests will pit one against the other for the prestigious daily title, which will be voted each day by guests. CCL Australia vice president Jennifer Vandekreeke said the competition often sees guests take sides by the end of a cruise. "It's all a bit of fun and ensures everyone has a team they can belong to," she added.

MSC agent incentive

TRAVEL agents in Australia have the chance to win a cabin for two on any MSC Cruises departure in a new industry promotion launched this week by the line. In line with the incentive, MSC has today relaunched its popular 96-hour sale, running until Friday. Discounts of up to 60% are on sale for itineraries departing in 2015 and 2016 of between 6-12 nights in the Mediterranean, Canary Islands, Morocco, South America, Caribbean and Arabia. To be in the running, agents need to make as many bookings as possible during the sale period - contact your BDM for more info.

NCL dining changes

GUESTS on Norwegian Cruise Line will receive new levels of freedom regarding tailoring an Ultimate Dining Package under changes to take effect from Aug. Whereas previously a guest could opt for a speciality dining experience each night of their cruise purchased in advance, now a sliding scale will be introduced. From 01 Aug, pax can purchase a speciality dining package of any length on all cruises, securing their table at a reduced rate compared to onboard purchases.

Agents aboard MS Europa 2



ABOVE: These Aussie agents basked in the lap of small-ship luxury recently on an educational famil adventure sailing onboard Hapag-Lloyd Cruises. The agents were among the 500 guest capacity on *MS Europa 2*, immersing themselves in the opulence of a private yacht consistently recognised by the prestigious Berlitz Cruise Guide. Travelling from Stockholm to Kiel in Germany, gourmet food was served up at each gathering with plenty of entertainment both onboard and onshore to keep all tastes satisfied. Pictured above on the boarding gangway are the Aussies, from bottom left is Mark Allan, Travel Specialists; Vesna Pandza,

Finnair; Claudia Reinhardt, Hapag-Lloyd Cruises; Cathy Schroeder, Southlands Travel; Lisa Calabria, Capital Travel; Melinda Gregor, Gregor & Lewis; Gerd Wilmer, Landmark Travel/Hapag-Lloyd Cruises; Andrew Cross, Wingsaway Travel, Essendon; Sally Seward, Northline Travel; Jenny Shanahan, Albury Travel & Cruise; Melissa Ferguson, Mary Rossi Travel and Tanja Mähle from Hapag-Lloyd Cruises.

Zumba heads to sea

ROYAL Caribbean will be moving and shaking to the rhythmic sounds of Zumba early next year with a themed voyage focused on the fitness dance craze sets sail. *Independence of the Seas* will depart from Fort Lauderdale on 25 Jan on what it is billing as the "World's First Zumba Cruise", a five-day voyage to the Caribbean featuring creator Beto Perez. Fares start from US\$644pp quad share in an interior stateroom. Guests will be able to participate in as many Zumba sessions as they wish onboard as well as join a private concert scheduled to take place in Labadee, Haiti

Century for Sea Cloud

WINDJAMMER line Sea Cloud Cruises has launched its 2016 season, with its two vessels now a combined 100 years old. A series of jubilee voyages will take place next year to mark the milestone, with *Sea Cloud* to see its 85th birthday off the coast of Spain, while *Sea Cloud II* will have its 15th birthday in Scandinavia.

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