



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### P&O WhatsOn app

GUESTS on P&O Cruises can now plan their activities, make bookings and share experiences in real time using the new WhatsOn app.

Available for free on devices connected to the line's wi-fi, the app displays the daily schedule and allows travellers to plan a daily 'wish list'.

Cruisers can also view their on board account, see special promotions and stay up to date on news, while groups are able to send messages to one another and check in and 'like' locations.

The app launched across most of the fleet last week and will be on *Pacific Aria* later this week.

P&O Cruises is also introducing new self-serve cash kiosks for loading money onto cruise cards. "Australians are getting more and more used to self-service so we thought it was time to bring more of it on board," said P&O Cruises president Sture Myrmell.

### Pandaw Borneo ship

PANDAW has dropped plans to deploy *Tonle Pandaw* to Borneo due to concerns over the vessel's air draft under two key bridges, opting for a newly-acquired ship.

The 12-cabin *L'Amant* was built in Saigon in 2006 and has since sailed the Mekong Delta.

It will be renamed the *Kapuas Pandaw* and delivered to Borneo this month.

### Scenic East Asia prog

A NUMBER of new Freechoice activities and Freechoice Dining options have made their way into Scenic's new 2017/18 The Exotic Wonders of South East Asia River Cruising brochure

To view the whopping 140 pager online, **CLICK HERE**.

## Cuba itineraries open

AZAMARA Club Cruises and Royal Caribbean International have released details of their Cuba itineraries, after last week receiving permission to cruise to the country (CW 08 Dec).

Royal Caribbean International's *Empress of the Seas* will make her way to Cuba during a five-night sailing from Miami on 19 Apr and then reposition to Tampa, offering two itineraries with calls to Havana on 30 Apr and 20 May.

*Empress* will then homeport in Tampa for the 2017 summer season offering a series of four- and five-night sailings, including calls to destinations in Cuba.

The season will mark the cruise line's first summer program from Tampa and *Empress* will be the

largest ship to sail to Cuba from the United States.

Azamara Club Cruises will offer a 13-night Azaleas, Bourbon Street and Havana roundtrip from Miami on 21 Mar, including an overnight stay in Havana.

The cruise line is also adding Havana into an existing 2017 itinerary and plans to add more ports of call in Cuba into several of its itineraries.

Both Azamara Club Cruises and Royal Caribbean International have opened their Cuba voyages to bookings.

MEANWHILE, Oceania Cruises has unveiled full itinerary details for its two 10-day and one 14-day voyage to Cuba in Mar, for more see [www.oceaniacruises.com](http://www.oceaniacruises.com).

## Bicton Travel charters Astor



BICTON Travel chartered Cruise and Maritime Voyage's *Astor* for a two-night festive cruise over the weekend, kicking off the vessel's fourth summer based in Australia.

The WA agency tweaked and co-hosted events for almost 600 pax, with a highlight the seven-course festive dinner on Sat evening.

Pictured are: Ann Hope, national bdm, CMV; Emmanouil Psarrakis, Captain of *Astor* and Carole Smethurst, founder & owner of Bicton Travel.

### Rashid expansion

WORK will start next year to connect Rashid Port's terminal 2 and 3 with a 465-metre bridge, DP World said.

The number of quays will be increased, existing quays expanded and an additional terminal will be built, *Arabian Business* is reporting.

It is expected Rashid Port will receive 650,000 cruise tourists this season, a 30% rise over the same period last year.

### Scenic Eclipse begins

SCENIC officially started construction of *Scenic Eclipse*, "the world's first discovery yacht" last month, marking the occasion with a steel cutting ceremony at the Croatian Uljanik Shipyard JSC.

"This is a momentous day for Scenic," said Glen Moroney, Scenic chairman at the steel cutting ceremony.

"To see our vision start to come to life is very exciting and we look forward to watching the build progress over the next couple of years," he added.

The six-star mega yacht is designed for polar cruising and is set for delivery in 2018.

"We are extremely proud of the ship's design and its advanced technological features," he said.

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## Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	13 Dec
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	13 Dec
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	14 Dec
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	15 Dec
<i>Maasdam</i>	16 Dec
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	17 Dec
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	17 Dec
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	18 Dec
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	18 Dec
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	19 Dec

MELBOURNE	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	13 Dec
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	14 Dec
<i>Maasdam</i>	14 Dec
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	16 Dec
<i>Golden Princess</i>	17 Dec
<i>Maasdam</i>	19 Dec

BRISBANE	
<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	13 Dec
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	15 Dec
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	16 Dec
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	16 Dec
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	17 Dec
<i>Sea Princess</i>	18 Dec
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	19 Dec

CAIRNS	
<i>Sea Princess</i>	14 Dec
<i>L'Austral</i>	16 Dec

FREMANTLE	
<i>Astor</i>	16 Dec
<i>Sun Princess</i>	18 Dec

HOBART	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	13 Dec
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	16 Dec
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	18 Dec
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	19 Dec

AUCKLAND	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	16 Dec
<i>Noordam</i>	17 Dec
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	18 Dec

## FantaSea sizzles some snags



**VISITORS** to Sydney looking for a BBQ burger and a beer on the harbour can now jump aboard FantaSea's new Classic Aussie Cruise, sailing four times daily.

The new addition departs from Darling Harbour and Circular Quay and includes stops at Taronga Zoo and Watson's Bay, with an on board BBQ complete with 'Strayan condiments, bevies & a Vegemite tasting station.

**Pictured** at the launch of

FantaSea Cruising's Classic Aussie Cruise in Sydney are: Richard Dawes, Gray Line; Ian Frankel, Rydges; Adam Collingridge, Grace Hotel and Anthony Hayes, ceo FantaSea Cruising.

## Encore first pics

**THE** first images of *Seabourn Encore's* interior have been released, showing off the retreat (**pictured**), pool deck, Seabourn Square and The Colonnade.

See **Cruise Weekly's Facebook** for the pictures.



## Aurora Exp guide

**AURORA** Expeditions has launched its 2017/18 Expedition Guide, featuring 15 adventures to Antarctica, the Arctic, Scotland, Ecuador, Patagonia and the Kimberley Coast, as well as new itineraries.

New to the program is the 11-day Antarctic Explorer and 24-day Arctic Complete.

To view the guide online or order a copy, **CLICK HERE**.

## NCLH Stella appt

**FROM** 01 Jan, Stella David will join the Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings' Board of Directors as a new independent member.

David was the former chief executive officer of William Grant & Sons Limited and previously held a number of key positions at Bacardi Limited.

## Croisieres office close

**PULLMANTUR** will close its CDF Croisieres de France office in Paris by the end of Feb to concentrate on the Spanish and Latin American markets.

Local media are reporting the line's two ships, *L'Horizon* and *Zenith* have merged with the Pullmantur fleet.

## Coral Exp special

**BOOK** any Great Barrier Reef Cruise with Coral Expeditions before 31 Mar 2017 and receive two free nights at the Reef House in Palm Cove.

Applies to new bookings for travel through to 30 Jun 2017 and blackout dates apply.

See [coralexpeditions.com](http://coralexpeditions.com).



**A VIDEO** has emerged on Facebook of six penguins going for a stroll dressed in their finest Christmas getup.

Posted by a visitor to the Matsue Vogel Park, in Shimane, Japan, the clip shows the penguins waddling through the park, ushered by a handler.

The rookery (**pictured**) stretch their legs and go for a wander around the park twice a day.

**CLICK HERE** for the video.



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