

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 23 Feb 2016

P&O inaugural calls

P&O Cruises yesterday made its first of 17 maiden calls into new ports scheduled for the year.

Pacific Aria guests stepped ashore in Wewak in Papua New Guinea and on 06 Mar the cruise line will make its first call to Stewart Island with *Pacific Pearl*.

Days later, *Pacific Dawn* will become the first cruise ship to dock in the port of Gladstone and on 03 Apr, *Pacific Aria* will stop by Fraser Island.

CLIA award winners named

BICTON Travel, House of Travel Orewa and Phil Hoffman Travel were just some of the big winners at the 15th Annual CLIA Cruise Industry Awards on Sat.

Over 500 guests from across the cruise industry enjoyed a lavish setting at Sydney's Star Event Centre, celebrating 19 awards across nine categories.

WA-based Bicton Travel won Gold Agency of the Year, followed by King William Travel in SA with silver and Travelwrite International in VIC claiming the bronze.

For New Zealand entrants, House of Travel Orewa took home Gold Agency of the Year with United Travel Bethlehem and Bon Voyage Cruises taking silver and bronze respectively.

The Network Promotion of the Year Australasia went to Phil Hoffman Travel, who created and delivered upon an ambitious Cruise Expo in South Australia which exceeded projected attendance figures, customer bookings and sales targets.

It was a big night also for the Mobile Travel Agent group with Tracey Flower winning Home Based/Mobile Agent of the Year - an award for which three MTA

consultants were nominated.

CLIA Australasia Chairman Gavin Smith said the 2015 awards dinner had been the best yet, recognising finalists and winners from right around Australia and New Zealand.

"Every year cruising in the Australasian region continues to evolve and it's due to the tireless efforts of many in the industry.

"These awards are all about celebrating and applauding the hard work, passion and dedication of some of the most important players in the cruise industry - the travel agents who sell our cruises," Smith said.

The evening was also marked by the traditional induction into the Hall of Fame, with Glen Moroney, founder and chairman of Scenic honoured for his pioneering work in river cruising.

Guests were entertained by award winning artist Tina Arena and Channel 7's "AFL Game Day" host Hamish McLachlan, who returned as master of ceremonies.

For more, see **page two**.

Uniworld's new ship

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection has announced it will build a 125m "Super Ship", *S.S. Joie de Vivre* in Mar 2017.

The vessel will sail along France's Seine River and feature two Royal Suites, eight Junior Suites, and 54 staterooms for a capacity of no more than 128 pax.

Le Club l'Esprit will offer a cinema and a surrounding pool with a hydraulic floor, which transforms into a dance floor or outdoor cinema at night.

Diners will have a choice of two venues, Le Restaurant Pigalle and La Cave de Vins for private dining and wine-pairing dinners.

She will sail Uniworld's Paris & Normandy itinerary and has been kept at 125m to allow her to dock in the heart of Paris.

The French-inspired vessel will feature a collection of fine art.

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Travel Daily **CRUISE**
WEEKLY

Ovation floats out

ROYAL Caribbean International's first newbuild, *Ovation of the Seas* has floated out of the construction hall and into water at the Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg, Germany.

The vessel has less than two months until completion and will arrive in Australia in 10 months.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news and photos plus a full page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

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Cruise industry lets loose!

HERE'S some snaps from the 15th Annual CLIA Cruise Industry Awards on Sat.

Right: NZ award winners Catherine Membery, United Travel Bethlehem; Gerard Murphy, Bon Voyage Cruises; Linda Halliday, House of Travel; Denise Payne, House of Travel Orewaa and Ryan Poser, Cruise Republic.

Bottom-right: Aussie award winners Jean Summers, Clean Cruising; Julie Preston, My Travel Expert Nowra; Phil Hoffmann, Phil Hoffmann Travel, Leonie Cay, My Travel Expert Nowra; Carole Smethurst, Bicton Travel; Kara Lane, Ecrusing; Han Shin Gho, King William Travel; Michelle Mickan, Phil Hoffmann Travel; Dan Russell, Clean Cruising; Aleisha Fittler, Scenic; Sue Wallace, Media Award

Front row: Tracey Flower, MTA; Emma Dunn, Ozcruising; Amy Li, King William Travel and Kirsty Jensen, Cruise Republic.



Right: Australasia Carnival Cruise Line director of sales Anton Loeb (centre) with Michelle Mickan and Phil Hoffmann from Phil Hoffmann Travel.



Seabourn gets tastier

SEABOURN *Odyssey*, *Seabourn Sojourn*, and *Seabourn Quest* just got a little tastier, with the introduction of new menus developed by American Chef Thomas Keller.

There will be theme nights held in the Colonnade featuring comfort dishes such as BBQ Ribs served family-style on platters and at the poolside Patio Grill, there's the Napa Burger and "Yountwurst".

Keller's cuisine will also be available on select nights in The Restaurant.

HAL new video series

HOLLAND America Line has launched a new video series which takes a look at hospitality designer Adam D. Tihany's inspiration behind the *ms Koningsdam's* interiors.

"Conversations with Adam D. Tihany" will be a three-part series, view the first video [HERE](#).

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ACL discounts

AMERICAN Cruise Line is offering lower pricing on select Columbia and Snake River cruise aboard *Queen of the West*.

Prices start at \$1,975pp and are valid for new bookings made from 17 Feb-01 Apr.

Biggest Cruise Survey

CRUISE Weekly together with sister publication *Travel Daily* have just launched the Cruise industry's biggest ever survey on agent satisfaction, sales, support and consumer behaviour.

Conducted by respected independent research group Stollznow Market Research, travel agents from across the cruise industry are invited to confidentially share their current circumstances in a five to 10-minute survey.

The poll will run all of this week, with opportunities to win GoPro cameras and HOYTS movie vouchers.

The results will be published in future editions of *Travel Daily*, *Cruise Weekly* and *travelBulletin* magazine to give an overarching view of the state of the cruise industry.

CLICK HERE to access the survey.

Queen Elizabeth's grand entrance



CUNARD'S *Queen Elizabeth* sailed into Newcastle for the first time yesterday and was greeted by a booming three-gun salute from the city's historic Fort Scratchley.

The 90,900-tonne vessel is the first Cunard ship to visit Newcastle for more than a century and upon arrival, *Queen Elizabeth's* Hotel gm Naomi McFerran was presented with the 'Key to the City' of Newcastle by Cr Nelmes.

The 2,000 pax on board had the option to explore Newcastle on historical walks, tour the Hunter Valley vineyards and enjoy dolphin-watching tours in Port Stephens.

The visit injected around half a million dollars into the local economy.

Florida Cruising up

AUSTRALIAN travellers heading to Florida in 2014 hit a record of 320,000, with arrival anticipated to have grown substantially in 2015, according to Shari Bailey, director int'l sales & market development for Visit Florida.

Official traveller figures for 2015 are due to be released imminently with Bailey confirming the state is benefiting from the surge in popularity for cruising the Caribbean with Australian travellers taking more cruises to the region than ever.

With five ports in Florida all serving the Caribbean, Bailey said port upgrades are continuously necessary to cope with demand.

Fort Lauderdale is currently undertaking an expansion, with a hotel set to open in 2017.

Cruise Calendar

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

| SYDNEY | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| <i>Carnival Spirit</i> | 23 Feb |
| <i>Explorer of the Seas</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Dawn Princess</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Celebrity Solstice</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Radiance of the Seas</i> | 25 Feb |
| <i>Carnival Legend</i> | 26 Feb |
| <i>Pacific Jewel</i> | 26 Feb |
| <i>Voyager of the Seas</i> | 27 Feb |
| <i>Noordam</i> | 27 Feb |
| <i>Sea Princess</i> | 28 Feb |
| <i>Pacific Jewel</i> | 29 Feb |
| <i>Queen Victoria</i> | 29 Feb |

| MELBOURNE | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| <i>Radiance of the Seas</i> | 23 Feb |
| <i>Noordam</i> | 23 Feb |
| <i>Golden Princess</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Marina</i> | 25 Feb |
| <i>Celebrity Solstice</i> | 26 Feb |
| <i>Noordam</i> | 29 Feb |

| BRISBANE | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| <i>Aurora</i> | 23 Feb |
| <i>Le Soleal</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Legend of the Seas</i> | 26 Feb |
| <i>Sea Princess</i> | 26 Feb |
| <i>Pacific Dawn</i> | 27 Feb |
| <i>Pacific Aria</i> | 29 Feb |

| HOBART | |
|---------------|--------|
| <i>Marina</i> | 28 Feb |

| DARWIN | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <i>Silver Whisper</i> | 24 Feb |
| <i>Azamara Quest</i> | 25 Feb |
| <i>Crystal Serenity</i> | 25 Feb |
| <i>Aurora</i> | 29 Feb |



WHY gaze into crystal clear, freezing water when you can jump in?

Aurora Expeditions are now offering Polar Snorkelling to their small-ship cruises to Spitsbergen and Greenland as an optional activity.

The Polar Snorkelling option is available to anyone with some basic snorkelling experience who wants to get up close with sea anemones, sea urchins, nudibranchs, crabs and the occasional polar cod.

Those who dare will be kitted up by Waterproof Expeditions, who provide all polar snorkel equipment on board.



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GROUND-BREAKING EUROPEAN SUMMER

Five Norwegian Cruise Line ships will be sailing European waters in summer 2017

NORWEGIAN GETAWAY - launched in 2013, now departing from Copenhagen

NORWEGIAN JADE - first ever complete season from Southampton, Amsterdam and Hamburg

NORWEGIAN EPIC - Western Mediterranean on the multi award-winning Norwegian Epic

NORWEGIAN SPIRIT - sailing the Grand Mediterranean between Barcelona and Venice

NORWEGIAN STAR - cruising Venice to the Greek Isles and the Adriatic, Greece & Turkey



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