

CRUISE

WEEKLY

PLAN A CRUISE
MONTH

Cruise Month

Tuesday 18 October 2016

Cruise Weekly today

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

Cruise Critic AU wins

CRUISE Critic has named its Editors' Pick Awards for Australia following its int'l awards in the US and UK last week (CW Thu).

Among the key winners were Royal Caribbean International's *Ovation of the Seas*, named best new cruise ship, and P&O Cruises' *Pacific Aria* and *Eden*, awarded for best refurbishment.

Regent Seven Seas Cruises took out best for luxury, Carnival Cruise Line, best for value and North Star for adventure.

Scenic won top river cruise line, while Celebrity Cruises was awarded best dining, Holland America Line as best cabins and Princess Cruises took out the award for romance.

For a full list, [CLICK HERE](#).

Norwegian Bliss for Alaska

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has announced a 4,000-guest ship, *Norwegian Bliss*, to be custom-built for Alaskan cruises and to debut in Jun 2018.

With a seasonal home port of Seattle, *Bliss* will sail weekly seven-day itineraries calling at Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway in Alaska & Victoria, BC along with scenic glacier cruising.

Norwegian Cruise Line ceo Andy Stuart said the line had been the first to cruise to Alaska from Seattle in 2000, making the ship a fitting addition to the port.

"Alaska is one of the top destinations for our guests to explore and we are thrilled to be the first cruise line to offer our guests the opportunity to experience this coveted destination aboard a brand



new, state-of-the-art cruise ship custom designed for Alaska, the first of its kind to debut in Seattle," he said.

At 167,800 gross tons, the ship will be the third in Norwegian's Breakaway-Plus class and is being built at the Meyer Werft shipyards in Papenburg, Germany.

Marine artist Wyland has been commissioned to create a design for the ship's hull.

Further details will be revealed in coming months.

On The Go Antarctica

ON THE Go Tours is now selling four expedition cruises in Antarctica on board *The Ushuaia* Polar Vessel.

Ranging from nine- to 20-days in length, the itineraries depart between Nov and Feb 2017, and again in Jan-Mar 2018.

Prices lead in at \$11,983ppts for the 11-day Classic Antarctica tour, which ventures to the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula, with a number of shore landings.

RCI family special

ROYAL Caribbean International is offering family deals on its South Pacific and Fiji sailings, allowing kids to cruise from \$35 per day and parents to receive up to 30% off.

The 'Live for the Family' offer applies to triple/quad-share reservations from 13 Jan-09 Apr 2017, when booked by 29 Oct.

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NT cruise season

THE Northern Territory's cruise season kicked off over the weekend with *Celebrity Solstice* sailing into Darwin.

In 2016/17, 45 cruise ship visits to Darwin are scheduled.

NT Minister for Tourism and Culture Lauren Moss said the start of the season would bring a welcome boost to the economy during the off-peak season.

"Cruise ship passengers spent an estimated record of \$16m in 2015/16, with the major beneficiaries being our Darwin CBD and Waterfront precincts as well as local tour operators," Moss said.

Genting handover

SHIPBUILDER Meyer Werft has officially handed over *Genting Dream* to Dream Cruises' parent company, Genting Hong Kong.

The vessel has embarked on her positioning voyage to her homeport in Guangzhou.

For an event video, [CLICK HERE](#).

Carnival Long beach

CARNIVAL is tripling the Long Beach Cruise Terminal facility from approx 6,132m² to 13,192m² to accommodate larger ships.

Under an agreement with landlord Urban Commons and the City of Long Beach, California, Carnival will take over all of the Geodesic Dome that used to house Howard Hughes' "Spruce Goose" attraction.

To be completed late 2017, the extra space will allow for two-way operations, so guests embarking can access the terminal before disembarkation is completed.

"For years we have been working toward reaching an agreement to expand the Long Beach Cruise Terminal to accommodate larger ships on the West Coast, and we're thrilled to finally be able to move forward with our plans to assume full usage of the Dome, making Long Beach one of our largest homeport facilities," said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line.

Curtis shares with Australia



CELEBRITY Chef Curtis Stone was down under yesterday to officially open SHARE by Curtis Stone on *Sun Princess* in Sydney.

"I wanted SHARE to be one of those special experiences where you would just hang out and share delicious food and maybe try something that you wouldn't normally try because the person opposite you is trying it," Curtis told attendees yesterday.

The restaurant is on three Princess ships, two of which will be in Australian waters this season when *Emerald Princess* arrives on 15 Nov for her first local stint, joining *Sun Princess*.

Sun Princess' SHARE menu took two months to finalise & has been

created for Aussie tastes.

Ruby Princess, which is sailing in the Northern hemisphere, is also fitted with SHARE.

Princess Cruises vp Australia & NZ Stuart Allison said the restaurant has been a hit with local guests since its introduction on *Sun Princess* earlier this year, noting its warm bread pudding & toffee sauce has proved popular.

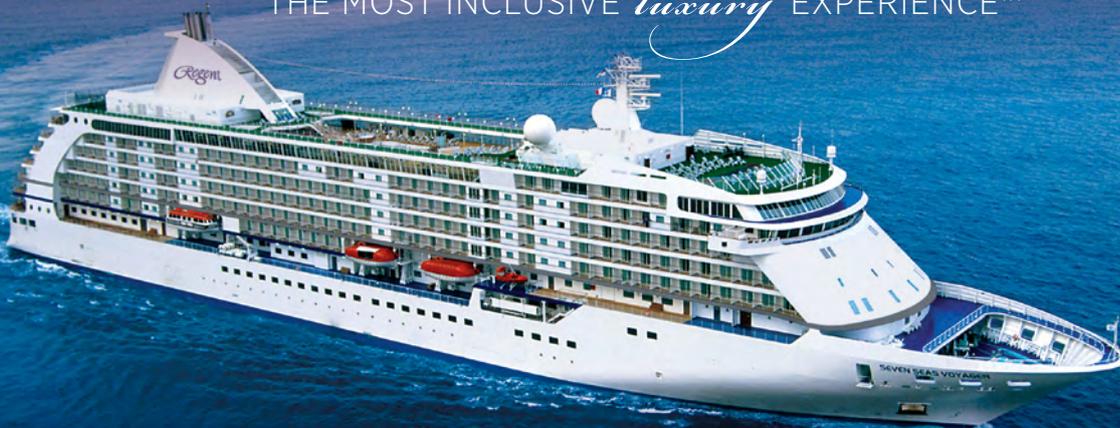
See [Facebook](#) for pictures.

Pictured at the launch from left are: Manu Feildel, celebrity chef; Christian Dortch, SHARE corporate chef; Curtis Stone; John Caldwell, Entertainment Reporter, KIISFM; Melissa Hoyer, emcee and Amanda Keller, Network Ten's *The Living Room*.

Regent

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PONANT

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Aussie agents dive into GBR



CORAL Expeditions showed a group of Australian domestic travel agents, managers and business owners around the Great Barrier Reef on a three-night educational sailing from Cairns recently.

Highlights of the trip included sunset drinks at Sudbury Sand Cay, exploring the marine playground of Nathan and Thetford Reef, visiting Pelorus Island, an alfresco breakfast on the sundeck whilst cruising the Hinchinbrook Channel, a rainforest walk on Dunk Island followed by sunset sippers and Kilpatrick Oysters.

The group are pictured (from left in the back row): Michele, Coral Expeditions; Donna, Fusion Holidays; Natasha, Sorrento Travel & Cruise; Suraj, helloworld Ipswich/Capalaba; John, Coral Expeditions; Lisa, World Wide Cruise Centre; Jenny, Flower Travel & Kim, Northshore Travel.

In the front row are: Tiffany, Coral Expeditions; Cassidy and Enid, helloworld Atherton; Prue, South Coast Cruise & Travel; Elizabeth, Coral Expeditions and Roslyn, Travel Redcliffe Peninsula.

Scenic b'day incentive

SCENIC has embarked upon a massive trade incentive to mark their 30th birthday celebrations with one agent in with a chance to win a 30-day holiday throughout Europe and Asia.

The prize combines a 21-day Gems of the Seine and Beautiful Bordeaux river cruise, an eight-day Luxury Mekong river cruise, plus one night pre- or post-cruise in Asia.

In addition, all agents can earn 30,000 bonus Scenic Rewards points on every 2017/2018 cruise or tour booking made before Fri 16 Dec.

See scenic.com.au/hub.

Chilean naval ship

CRUISE fanatics can register with the Chilean Consulate in Sydney to step aboard the Chilean naval training ship *Esmeralda* when she arrives for a five-day visit on 03 Nov as part of the vessel's world tour.

Wild Earth brochure

THE 2017 Wild Earth Travel small ship cruise brochure has been released, to view it online, [CLICK HERE](#).



A DIVER in Mexico has found himself briefly sharing a cage with a great white shark on a cage diving trip off Mexico's Guadalupe Island.

A video posted on YouTube shows the shark grabbing some bait and crashing into the side of the diving cage.

The crew rush to open the top and a few seconds later the predator emerges from the top of the cage and swims away.

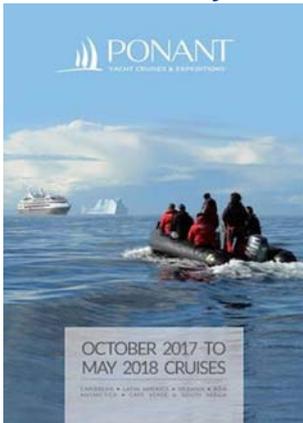
Shortly after a shaken diver is helped from the water, seemingly unharmed.

The poster of the video commends the work of the crew and explains the diver is a very experienced instructor, who ended up outside the bottom of the cage.

To see the video, [CLICK HERE](#).

Brochure Spotlight

Ponant
Oct 2017 - May 2018



PONANT has unleashed its Oct 2017 to May 2018 brochure, featuring 45 polar and tropical expeditions to Latin America, Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Antarctic on board *L'Austral* and *Le Boreal*. The 130-page program includes itineraries ranging from six to 85 nights in length stopping by Costa Rica, the Bissagos Islands, Polynesia, Myanmar, the Seychelles and more.

Details on the four Ponant Explorers series ships on order are inside, along with information on yacht cruises. Highlights include the 16-day In the Heart of Oceania, departing on 08 Dec 2017 and nine-day Along the South-African coastline sailing 24 Mar 2018.



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Get the low down on the best suites sailing from Sydney in the October issue of *travelBulletin*. **CLICK HERE** to read

Carnival drinks push

A SYDNEY cruise fan has launched an online petition calling for drinks packages on Carnival Cruise Lines' AU cruises. The change.org petition has so far garnered 300 supporters.

Azamara COO

BERT Hernandez will take on the newly created position of chief operating officer at Azamara Club Cruises. He was previously Royal Caribbean Cruises' vp planning, strategy and deployment.

Tauck ambassador

WINSTON Churchill's biographer and grand-daughter Celia Sandys will take on the role of Tauck ambassador for trade events in the UK and US. The author of five books on the UK's wartime PM, her role has been expanded from an existing involvement as a speaker for Tauck groups visiting London.

Regent's new dining

REGENT Seven Seas is redoing its signature restaurant, Compass Rose, to create what has been dubbed "the largest specialty restaurant at sea". RSS ceo Jason Montague said the fleet-wide initiative allowed menus to be customised in ways ordinarily seen in smaller specialty restaurants.



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

SYDNEY	
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	19 Oct
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	20 Oct
<i>Maasdam</i>	20 Oct
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	22 Oct
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	24 Oct
BRISBANE	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	19 Oct
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	21 Oct
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	22 Oct
<i>Maasdam</i>	23 Oct
CAIRNS	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	22 Oct
<i>Sun Princess</i>	23 Oct
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	23 Oct
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	23 Oct
HOBART	
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	22 Oct
AUCKLAND	
<i>Costa Luminosa</i>	20 Oct

Viking Star US debut

VIKING Ocean Cruises' *Viking Star* today cruised into NYC for the first time. Making its inaugural North American voyage, the 930-guest ship sailed into Manhattan with a salute from fireboats. The ship had earlier made its US debut with its arrival in Boston.



Hurtigruten savings

BENTOURS is marking the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation with savings of 30% on Hurtigruten Canada sailings, until 31 Oct. Cruises are aboard *MS Spitsbergen* departing Jul 2017 with prices from \$11,250pp for the Exploring the Arctic Land of the Caribou itinerary. Bentours is also offering 10% off Greenland departures.

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FEEL FREE TO EXPERIENCE A NEW STYLE OF CRUISING.

NCL NORWEGIAN *Feel Free* CRUISE LINE

Over the next month, Norwegian Cruise Line and *Cruise Weekly* are giving agents the chance to win a balcony stateroom for two on board *Norwegian Jewel's* 5-day Tasmania Sampler Cruise. All you have to do is answer each question correctly and have the most creative final answer. Send answers to ncl@cruiseweekly.com.au

Norwegian Cruise Line's unique Feel Free™ style of cruising offers freedom and flexibility never before seen in Australia. From November 2017 *Norwegian Jewel* will be calling Australia home, so now you can experience premium-contemporary freestyle cruising right from your doorstep.

6. Of *Norwegian Jewel's* 15 cruise itineraries, how many roundtrip cruises from Sydney are there?

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