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\*Prices cover the cruise only for the least expensive inside stateroom, and are per person in AUS based on twin share, inclusive of all fees and taxes, on-board gratuities and fuel costs (subject to change). Prices and itineraries are correct as at 25 August 2016 and are subject to change or withdrawal. Prices do not cover all product and service offerings that relate to the cruise. \*\*13-day Australia and New Zealand cruise fare is based 17 Nov 2017 departure. Contact our call centre for 23 Dec 2017 departure fare. ~Free at Sea: Valid on 5+ day sailings. Offer valid until 31 October 2016 unless extended. Offer is non-refundable, non-transferable, and has no monetary value. Applicable dates subject to change at any time without notice. Haven & Suites bookings receive all 5 offers; Oceanviews & above choose 2 offers and Studios or Insides get 1 free offer. ~\$100 OBC: Offer is not applicable to Inside and Oceanview cabins. Cannot be combined with any other OBC/F100 offer. Onboard credit amount is per stateroom, in U.S. dollars, and will be applied to the 1st and 2nd guest in the stateroom. Offer and combinability with other promotional offers is subject to change at any time per Norwegian Cruise Line's discretion. Onboard credit offer expires 31 Oct 2016. Other restrictions may apply. For full terms & conditions, visit [www.ncl.com.au](http://www.ncl.com.au). All rights reserved. Norwegian Cruise Line is not responsible for typographical errors or omissions. Ships' registry: BAHAMAS & UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. ©2016 NCL Corporation Ltd. NCL Australia Pty Ltd. ABN 80 607 578 781.

# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 29 Sep 2016

## Cruise Weekly today

*Cruise Weekly* today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front full page wrap from NCL.

## Bestjet into cruise

**ONLINE** travel agency Bestjet has revealed plans to launch a discounted cruise travel offering before the end of the year.

To be part of the Bestjet.com domain, the addition will be “similar to the company’s discount flights model,” Bestjet md Rachel James told *Cruise Weekly* yesterday.

The move is in response “to the demands of a very loyal cruising market,” James said, with discounted cruise travel tipped to be on offer “with most major lines as well as smaller elite lines”.

## P&O Australian Open

**THE** events lineup for P&O’s Australian Open cruise has been unveiled, featuring Australian Grand Slam champion Ken Rosewall and Wimbledon & Olympic Doubles champion Todd Woodbridge.

Rosewall will share his tips and offer photo opportunities during the cruise and Woodbridge will host a breakfast in Melbourne.

The five-night roundtrip departing Sydney 19 Jan includes two days admission to the competition at Melbourne Park along with on board trivia, table tennis championships and Wii tennis tournaments.

## PD to double capacity

**PORT** Douglas is set to double its capacity for cruise ships as part of an \$85m plan to transform the waterfront.

Under the proposal, a dedicated cruise ship tender dock will be constructed in conjunction with the development.

“The proposed cruise ship transfer facility will comprise a new berth on Dickson Inlet dedicated to visiting cruise ships,” The Reef Marina co-owner Andrew Hooper-Nguyen told *Cruise Weekly*.

“The berth will provide docking for two tenders (currently we can only provide for one at a time) and therefore double our capacity to manage the comfortable transfer of cruise visitors to Port Douglas.”

If the proposal goes ahead, once passengers step ashore they would be greeted by a landscaped walkway linking the Marina with the town centre and a timber boardwalk spanning the

waterfront, featuring public art, seating, shading, viewing stages, restaurants, cafes & retail outlets.

A venue for live music and events at the southern end of the redevelopment would be introduced and buildings would be a maximum of three storeys.

## HOT cruise sub brand

**HOUSE** of Travel outlets with a specialty knowledge of cruise will be recognised by HOT Cruise, a sub brand launched this week.

GM Cruise, Linda Halliday said many HOT outlets specialise in cruise and the move will help highlight the agencies as experts to consumers.

“In order to access the HOT Cruise brand, outlets must meet a set of criteria including a commitment to ongoing cruise training, certified cruise qualifications and local cruise promo activity,” Halliday said.

## TourRadar adds river

**ONLINE** travel marketplace TourRadar has expanded into river cruising across Europe, Asia and Africa.

Travis Pittman, ceo & co-Founder TourRadar said “river cruising is the perfect addition” for the company, which over the past year has been “working closely with high-end brands to further personalise and improve the booking experience”.

River cruising brands on the site include Avalon Waterways, CroisiEurope River Cruises, Lueftner Cruises and Uniworld.

## NCL cruise giveaway

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line are this month giving away a five-day cruise on *Norwegian Jewel* for the *Cruise Weekly* Oct competition.

Agents have the chance to win by answering a series of questions to feature in the editions this month and next.

For more, see **page three**.

## Princess to the rescue

**PRINCESS** Cruises’ *Sun Princess* has rescued five people, including family members of a senior Vanuatu Government minister from a vessel which had been adrift at sea for 48 hours.

The search and rescue operation was completed west of Espiritu Santo in Vanuatu waters after midnight on Tue & those rescued were seen by *Sun’s* medical staff.

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### CW air survey

**FOLLOWING** on from the inaugural cruise industry survey in Apr, **CW** and sister publications **Travel Daily** and **Business Events News** have launched a study focussing on readers' interactions with airlines.

Utilising the services of independent market research organisation Stollznow Research, the study takes approximately five to 10 minutes to complete with eligible participants in the running to win one of two Fitbit Charge 2 devices or one of 25 Event Cinemas vouchers.

"This survey asks respondents to rate their experiences of booking domestic and international carriers as well as asking for feedback on a range of support services", said **CW's** gm Christian Schweitzer.

The results are to be collated and reported in upcoming editions of the various publications as well as available as a comprehensive report.

To take the survey, **CLICK HERE**.

### North Star Barossa

**BAROSSA** Valley is back on the itinerary for North Star Cruises Australia's Southern Safari.

Departing Adelaide on 16 Jan 2017, the trip starts with a visit to Seppeltsfield for a private tasting followed by lunch at Finos.

Next passengers will explore the 'JamFactory' - a contemporary craft gallery in Seppeltsfield's historic stables before heading to Magill Estate for a tasting prior to their first night on board the line's *True North*.

### Emerald on her way

**EMERALD Princess** sailed out of Southampton today and is on the way for her inaugural season in Australian waters.

The vessel will spend the next 48 nights cruising across four continents en route to Australia.

She will make the first of her maiden Australian calls on 08 Nov at Fremantle and will spend her five-month season sailing from Sydney on 13 roundtrip cruises.



**CELEBRITY** Cruises hosted trade partners, travel agents and media, including **Cruise Weekly**, last night for a VIP screening of *Roman Holiday* at Palace Norton Street Cinema in Leichhardt.

Managing director of Celebrity Cruises for Australia and New Zealand Adam Armstrong spoke of the line's delight to act as a gold sponsor of the Lavazza Italian Film Festival this year.

With Europe a key focus for

Celebrity Cruises, Armstrong said the new partnership with the largest Italian film festival outside of Italy was a "perfect fit".

"We're helping to bring a little bit of Italy to Australia," he said.

The film festival draws to a close in Brisbane on Wed, 19 Oct.

**Pictured** at Palace Norton Street Cinema last night is Adam Armstrong with Celebrity Cruises director of marketing and sales in Australia and NZ Kathryn Valk.

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Confused about which river cruise cabin? We've taken the guess work out in the September issue of *travelBulletin*. **CLICK HERE** to read

## Bris parking offer

**THE** Brisbane Riverview Hotel is offering two weeks of complimentary parking for cruisers setting sail from the nearby Portside Wharf.

Offer applies to guests who spend a night at the property pre/post cruise.

To lock in the deal, call reservations on 1300 785 453.

## Crystal newbuilds

**THE** newbuilding contract for the luxury suites and gallery areas of Crystal River Cruises' four Rhine class river yachts has been awarded to Almaco Group.

Almaco refurbished crew accom and catering areas on *Crystal Mozart* earlier this year.

## Record Aussie season

**A WHOPPING** 41 cruise ships from CLIA member cruise lines will grace Australian waters this summer, including eight vessels making their maiden visit.

Between them, the ships will make almost 900 calls to ports around Australia over that period - up 10% on last year's port calls numbers and more than half of the vessels will operate return cruises from our shores.

The first international ship call will be on 08 Oct when *Celebrity Solstice* returns to Sydney.

Highlights include *Maasdam's* arrival on 20 Oct, *Ovation of the Seas* into Fremantle on 06 Dec and the Aussie debut of *Seabourn Encore* in Darwin on 22 Jan.

## Swan winter preview

**NEXT** year Swan Hellenic's *Minerva* will swing by 26 countries as part of the cruise line's just-released winter 2017/18 preview program.

Starting on 27 Oct with a cruise from Greece to Oman, *Minerva* will sail a total of 13 cruises, visiting destinations such as Sri Lanka, Oman, Dubai, India, Vietnam, Philippines and Borneo. The ship will wind up her winter season with three Mediterranean cruises before she arrives back in Portsmouth, UK on 29 Apr 2018.

Swan Hellenic is offering savings of up to 20% for new travellers and up to 25% for repeat travellers to celebrate the release, when booked by 31 Oct.

**ACA Update**



Jill Abel - CEO



## Aussie Ports Upgrade

The recent announcement that the NSW Government has committed \$12.7 million to a permanent multi-purpose cruise terminal in Newcastle is welcome news as we approach the start of cruise season. The new facility, to be completed in 2018, is located close to the city centre and will enable the Port to attract more cruise ships to the region including some of the larger vessels.

Geoff Crowe, Port of Newcastle ceo, noted the "purpose-built facilities will provide a professional welcome to passengers and operational efficiency for our cruise customers." This newbuild will be in addition to the upgrading of the current mooring bollards, to be completed in mid-2017, enabling the Port to also host larger ships carrying up to 3,500 passengers. Newcastle is one of several ports gearing up for the future of the growing cruise industry. A \$100m "mega ship" facility is in the planning stages by the Port of Brisbane to meet the worldwide trend to "superliners".

In Tasmania, significant upgrades have been made to improve the capacity of the ports in Hobart and Burnie. Darwin has also recently completed a \$1.2 million shaded walkway from the Terminal to the Darwin Waterfront Precinct. These infrastructure upgrades are critical to both the operational and passenger experience in advance of our welcoming eight new ships this cruise season including *Norwegian Star*, *Maasdam*, *Emerald Princess*, *Seabourn Encore*, *Azamara Journey*, *Magellan*, *Sirena* and RCL's *Ovation of the Seas* - the largest ship to ever cruise Australian waters.



**THIS** competition on *Sapphire Princess* will take internet at sea to a whole new level.

Nanyang Cruise Cup - a video game competition for the Dota 2 platform will see four teams battle it out whilst floating on the Pacific Ocean in Oct.

The tournament director, Wang Zilin told *Join Dota* "a LAN on a boat can combine tourism and competition perfectly," highlighting guests' ability to play games while travelling to their holiday destination at the same time.

Organisers reportedly rented a satellite and rewired the whole ship to support the event's online streaming and gaming equipment.

## WIN A CRUISE ON BOARD NORWEGIAN JEWEL

FEEL FREE TO EXPERIENCE A NEW STYLE OF CRUISING.



NCL NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE *Feel Free™*

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](mailto: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.

1. How many restaurants are offered onboard *Norwegian Jewel*?

Terms and conditions

*Cruise Weekly* is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication. An industry-focused PDF edition of *Cruise Weekly* is published every Tue and Thu, and there's also a consumer-facing email newsletter published each Wed - sign up free at [www.cruiseweekly.com.au](http://www.cruiseweekly.com.au).

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