

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

Millennial cruising

TRENDS released by Allianz Travel Insurance indicate the number of Aussie Millennials taking cruises has increased by 118% between 2015-17.

The same data also suggests the 19 to 35-year-old demographic has different appetites regarding cruise destination, with Millennials opting for cruises around Australia over traditionally popular Pacific voyages.

"Millennials are increasingly recognising the benefits of cruising so they can spend less time planning and more time to enjoy their holiday," said Allianz Travel Insurance gm direct & retail Brendon Dyer.

ACA speakers to talk up mutual gains

THE Australian Cruise Association (ACA) has revealed an impressive lineup of industry executives to speak at the industry body's upcoming conference in Broome.

The annual event will boast a record list of presenters including president of Carnival Australia and newly appointed chairman of CLIA, Sture Myrmell, as well as the newly appointed md Australia and New Zealand for Royal Caribbean International, Susan Bonner (both **pictured**).

Myrmell is scheduled to address the conference with an outline of the global and national view of the industry and future plans for Carnival's cruise brands.

Bonner will provide a talk on the

challenges of operating big ships in the Australian region.

Other notable speakers include Ports Australia ceo Mike Gallacher, Seabourn director Timothy Little, and Princess Cruises vice-president shore

operations, Bruce Krumrine.

Organisers expect an estimated 120 attendees, with earlybird rego open until 31 July.

The ACA conference will kick off 12 Sep and is themed "Forging Stronger Relationships".



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Tuesday 5th June 2018



Find out who is still sailing in Myanmar in the June issue of *travelBulletin*.

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travelBulletin

RSSC's Turkey return



REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has announced it will be returning to Turkey in 2019 with 11 new itineraries, marking the first time the cruise line has visited the country since Jul 2016.

The decision to return to Turkey was made after conducting an internal review of the destination's safety status.

"Following a review of travel advisories and extensive research by our internal teams, we are delighted to announce we will once again be calling on Turkey," said RSSC vice president sales Australia & New Zealand Lisa Pile.

All 11 of the Turkey voyages will be serviced by *Seven Seas Voyager*, a ship that has recently undergone a multimillion dollar renovation.

Trips will call in at the Turkish ports of Istanbul, Ephesus, and Bozcaada, with the all-inclusive packages offering passengers access to shore excursions at every port, wi-fi, and unlimited beverages including fine wines and premium spirits.

"From the Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace in Istanbul's eclectic Old City...to the azure waters and authentic local culture of the island of Bozcaada, we can't wait to share the sights and sounds of Turkey with our guests next year," Pile said.

The first sailing will commence Apr 2019 with itineraries including an eight-day journey from Rome to Istanbul departing 08 Oct.

Pictured: Regent Seven Seas Cruises' *Seven Seas Voyager*.

P&O to pay damages

P&O Cruises has been ordered to pay a former passenger \$445,000 in damages by the NSW Supreme Court after she sustained a neck injury on board the *Pacific Jewel* in 2011.

Montana Smith was travelling with her family on a Christmas voyage when she was struck in the head and shoulder by a loose ceiling panel which left her with injuries to her cervical spine and ongoing medical costs to date of \$8,000.

In a statement P&O said it accepted the judgement and wished "Montana the best for the future".

UAE cruise boost

ETIHAD Airways has announced a new scheduled service linking Abu Dhabi with Barcelona from 21 Nov with view to capturing more inbound cruise visitors.

Abu Dhabi has fast become a leading cruise destination in the Arabian Gulf, recording close to 330,000 cruise tourists during the 2017 season.

The new service to Barcelona will provide a direct link from Abu Dhabi with one of the world's busiest cruise ports.

Initially operating a frequency of five times a week, the route will become daily from 31 Mar next year.

MSC welcomes ship with a giant *Seaview*

MSC Cruises has formally taken delivery of its new flagship *MSC Seaview*, the largest vessel ever constructed in Italy.

The delivery ceremony (**pictured**) took place this week at the Fincantieri shipyard in



Monfalcone, marking

a period of rapid expansion for MSC Cruises which has now added three next-generation cruise ships to its fleet in under 12 months.

Seaview will now set sail for Genoa where she will take centre stage for her christening on 09 Jun, before preparing for her inaugural season in the Mediterranean.

The ship's first voyage will be a seven-day journey commencing 10 Jun, visiting Spain, France and Malta.



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Edge incentive

CELEBRITY Cruises has launched an agent sales incentive for bookings made on any of its cruises in Jun.

Winners will receive return Economy class flights to Miami, one night's accommodation in Fort Lauderdale and a two-night cruise aboard *Celebrity Edge's* inaugural trade voyage.

Bookings must be for departures before 30 Apr.

For further information on the incentive, **CLICK HERE**.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY

Sea Princess 05 Jun
Pacific Explorer 08 Jun
Pacific Explorer 11 Jun

MELBOURNE

Pacific Explorer 06 Jun

BRISBANE

Sea Princess 07 Jun
Pacific Aria 08 Jun
Pacific Dawn 09 Jun

CAIRNS

Pacific Eden 08 Jun

DARWIN

Coral Discoverer 07 Jun

FREMANTLE

Sun Princess 08 Jun

AUCKLAND

Pacific Jewel 07 Jun

Royal debuts in Mexico



PRINCESS Cruises has released its 2019/2020 Mexico cruise program which includes the debut of *Royal Princess* in Mexico to service a select number of itineraries in the region.

The vessel is scheduled to offer 27 departures for the program including a number of seven-day Mexico itineraries on her first full season based in Los Angeles.

Star Princess is also slated to make her return to Mexico in 2019, servicing a range of trips for the period including the 10-day Baja Peninsula & Sea of Cortez with round-trip departures out of Los Angeles and an overnight in Cabo San Lucas.

Princess Cruises is also set to introduce a suite of enhanced entertainment offerings on board its ships to create a more authentic Mexican feel.

Some of these additions include live mariachi performances, Mexican buffets, margarita-

making demonstrations, tequila tastings, local crafts and activities, as well as a celebratory Mexican Fiesta event.

The Mexican experiences were developed in collaboration with Latin American cuisine expert and novelist Bill Esparza.

"I wanted to present guests with new ingredients, off-the-beaten-path experiences and personalities from around the region to provide the most authentic look into this part of the world," Esparza said.

"Developing excursions for Princess guests presented a unique opportunity to provide exposure to local chefs and flavours from Latin America that can only be found on the west coast," he added.

For more information regarding Princess Cruises' list of itineraries for its 2019/20 Mexican cruise program **CLICK HERE**.

Pictured: *Royal Princess*.

NCL cancels Kona

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line was forced to cancel *Pride of America's* planned call in the Hawaiian town of Kailua-Kona last Wed due to poor air quality amid the ongoing Kilauea volcano eruption in lower Puna.

The cancellation cost Kona an estimated US\$175,000 in lost tourism spend.



FEEL as though conventional cruise ships don't offer enough of a cosy ambience?

Well Carnival has you covered with the launch of *Little Carnival*, a miniaturised version of the company's large ships.

She has been making her way around a number of Australian cities and spreading some cruise cheer while *Carnival Spirit* undergoes a dry dock in Singapore.

The teeny tiny vessel even joined in for a bit of touch footy recently at the NSW NRL Touch Football All Schools Finals in Penrith (pictured).

