

Cruise Weekly today

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

Carnival Dubai deal

CARNIVAL Corporation has signed an agreement for the development of a new "Dubai Cruise Terminal" set to start operation in late 2020.

The proposed facility will include two terminal buildings connected by a 1km quay which is capable of docking up to three cruise ships at once.

It will be able to handle more than 13,000 passengers at one time, with developer Meraas also flagging a possible doubling of capacity as the Dubai cruise sector grows.

Officials said the Carnival deal aimed to transform Dubai into a "major regional maritime tourism hub".

Princess Cruises returns to Antarctica

PRINCESS Cruises will take its *Coral Princess* (pictured) to the icy south in 2019/20, with the vessel to sail on three itineraries to the Antarctic Peninsula during her South American season.

The program will also see *Coral Princess* and *Island Princess* circumnavigate the entire continent of South America on a 58-day journey roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale, with overnight stays in Lima, Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro.

Stuart Allison, Princess Cruises senior vp Asia Pacific, said "there are few places that conjure up the mystique and awe that is synonymous with the world's most isolated continent.

"Returning to the region strengthens our position as the destination experts," he said.

Departures on the South American season will be available from Fort Lauderdale, Buenos



Aires and Santiago, giving plenty of flight options for Australians.

The South American season is on sale now with Antarctica fares starting at \$4,219 for a 16-night Antarctica and Cape Horn voyage on *Coral Princess* ex Santiago on 05 Jan 2020.

MEANWHILE in other Princess news, the company has partnered with FremantleMedia Australia to produce a "landmark four-part digital series" titled *Grand Designs Australia, Offshore*.

The series has been developed

with social media in mind, and will run on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and at Princess.com.

The show will premiere next Mon 28 May, following Grand Designs Australia host Peter Maddison as he goes behind the scenes to unveil the intricacies involved in the design of Princess Cruises' flagship *Majestic Princess*, which will make her debut in Sydney on 15 Sep 2018.

The series will be available to view at facebook.com/PrincessCruises.

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New cruises from APT

APT has released its 2019 Canada & Alaska brochure, showcasing the Rockies, Alaska & East Coast.

The brochure sees the return of the popular 22-day Rockies Odyssey & Alaska Cruise, which includes a seven-night Passage Cruise aboard a Holland America Cruise ship.

An additional range of small ship expedition cruising tours has also been added to the 2019 offering, taking guests to wild, remote locations and providing the chance to get up close and personal with the local wildlife.

Also added to the new program is the 15-day Grand Western National Parks Small Group Discoveries Tour, along with the 25-day Eastern Canada & USA, which gives guests the



opportunity to dine overlooking Niagara Falls.

Earlybird savings are available on all bookings made by 30 Nov, including a 'Companion Fly Free' offer on select itineraries and departures.

Call 1300 196 420 for more.

Cruising to success



CRUISE wholesaler Creative Cruising is primed for growth following Express Travel Group's acquisition of the brand from The Travel Corporation in Dec last year (*CW 14 Dec*).

Speaking with *Cruise Weekly* at the Select Travel Group conference in Macao last week, Tom Manwaring, ceo Express Travel Group, indicated ambitions for the brand, stating "we're very keen to grow and expand it to double the size in as short amount of time as possible".

Key to achieving the expansion was a combination of better technology to underpin operations, as well as adding to the cruise partners Creative Cruising currently has available.

A round of discussions was underway "to add more wholesale agreements and cruise partners aboard".

Manwaring added a probable time line of two years was envisaged for the expansion, with the "current growth in Creative Cruising at strong double digits," and that "we see the future of the company very brightly".

Manwaring affirmed Creative Cruising would remain a stand-alone brand that would "run as a separate business with a separate management team".

Pictured is Tom Manwaring at the Select Travel Group conference, which was held at the newly opened MGM Cotai hotel in Macao.



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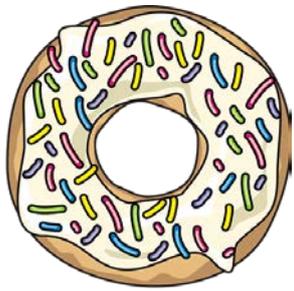
Discover the latest river ships setting sail in the May issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read **travelBulletin**

Scenic update

AGENTS who book and secure a deposit on any Scenic or Evergreen 2019 river cruise can now receive their rewards points upon deposit, instead of when guests travel.

Deposits must be received by 31 Aug, on new bookings only.



win your morning tea!

Cruise Weekly loves donuts so to celebrate International Donut Day happening on 1 Jun, we're giving readers a chance to win a dozen donuts delivered to your office, on us!

In order to get in on this tasty action, all you need to do is write a short donut ditty, with the best entry taking home the prize. It can be a song, a poem, as long as it's 6 lines or less.

Send your entries to donuts@traveldaily.com.au

Entries close 30 May.

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Celebrity's spa reveal



CELEBRITY Cruises has released renderings of The Spa on *Celebrity Edge*, which it said would be "a 2,000m² sprawling space dedicated to relaxation & rejuvenation at sea".

The Spa will feature an adaptation of the Persian Gardens on the line's current fleet called "The SEA Thermal Suite," (**bottom**) which will offer eight experiences.

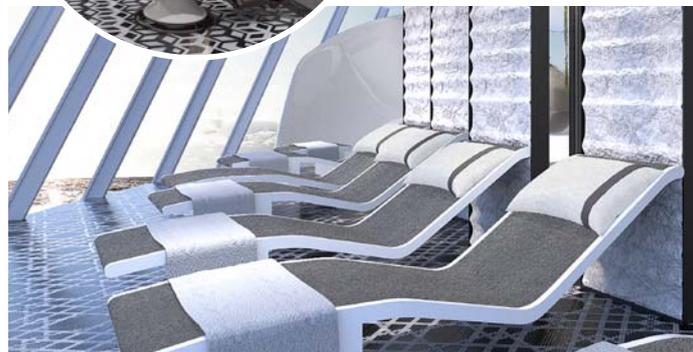
Offerings include a salt



room, steam room, rainfall water therapy room, float room (**top right**), heated tile loungers, infrared sauna and "crystalarium".

There will also be a relaxation lounge, specialty treatment tables, a medspa for aesthetic services and a barber (**right**).

Celebrity will also partner with haircare brand Kerastase & offer a line of Elemis Biotec facials.



Princess Panama

PRINCESS Cruises' 2019/20 northern autumn and spring season is now on sale, as the cruise line celebrates its largest deployment ever to the Panama Canal.

Five ships will offer six itineraries to the Panama Canal, departing from Fort Lauderdale, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Vancouver.

The new season offers 21 transits through historic locks on board *Coral*, *Island* or *Pacific Princess*, with 15 others through new locks on *Caribbean & Emerald Princess*.



FACEBOOK is certainly handy for those "message in a bottle" mystery stories.

The social media network has helped track down the authors of a 30-year-old note found bobbing in a Mississippi river by a kayaker last week.

Angi Webb, owner of Pearl River Kayaks, posted photos of the message online as part of a quest to find who wrote it in 1989 - a pair of children then aged just four and two.

Tony and Chris Taylor, now in their thirties, saw a news story about the bottle and contacted Webb to tell her they wrote the note with their mum's help.

They've been invited back to Pearl River this summer to get their long-lost epistle back.

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