

Cruise Weekly today

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

Travel Pages check

CRUISE Weekly is reminding suppliers to check their listing in the 2018 edition of Travel Pages to ensure the information is up to date.

Any listings that need to be amended or enhanced can be done so by contacting us by email on travelpages@traveldaily.com.au.

Check listings **HERE**.

Carnival more fun

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has extended its Choose Fun sale until 15 Nov, offering savings of up to \$500 on select cruises. For more info **CLICK HERE**.

Scenic hit by shipbuilder upheaval

SCENIC is weathering turmoil in the construction of its expedition vessel *Scenic Eclipse*, with striking workers and a financial crisis forcing a change of board at the vessel's Croatian shipbuilder.

After industrial action and allegations that workers had not been paid, the Pula-based Uljanik Group appointed a new Chairman and three-member management board on Fri in a bid to avoid financial collapse.

Local media report that talks are now underway with creditors and government over a restructure.

In a statement, Scenic Chairman Glen Moroney said construction of *Eclipse* was progressing and that industrial disputes at the shipyard had been resolved.

However, he said Scenic had taken full ownership of *Eclipse* "given the yard's challenges" and was contracting suppliers directly to ensure the build continued.



"The Uljanik Group is working with the Croatian Government and the European Union's Competition Authority to develop a restructuring plan and we hope this process will be completed soon," Moroney said.

"Despite the difficult environment, Scenic's supervisory team, along with Uljanik's management and production workers, are totally focused on the ship's completion.

"Due to the shipyard's financial situation and strike action we have faced some delays, but we continue to address these as they arise," he said.

Scenic did not say whether the disruption would further delay the launch of *Eclipse*, the debut of which has already been pushed back from Aug to Jan (**CW** 05 Jul).

The operator said another update was likely "in the next week or so".

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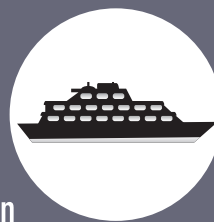


Monday 5th November 2018

Need help wading through the huge variety of cruise options out there?

Check out the 2019 Cruise Guide for a comprehensive tool.

CRUISE WEEKLY Travel Daily travelBulletin



Boning up on cruising



TRAVEL Counsellors Cruise Executive Jane Tanti last week hosted a dedicated cruise training day at its Melb office.

The one-day event saw nine cruise lines participate in the session and broadcast live across the Travel Counsellors network on an edition of TCTV.

"We wanted to provide an opportunity for our Travel

Counsellors to learn about or refresh their info on different cruise lines," Tanti said.

"It is so great to have the support of our cruise line partners for what was a very successful day," she added.

Pictured: Kate Trickett, Travel Counsellors; Tenneil Lawson, APT; and Jane Tanti, Travel Counsellors.

Royal gets standing Ovation



ROYAL Caribbean Cruises held a special "Sail-ebraction" event in Sydney last Fri to mark the official launch of its 2018/2019 Aussie cruise season.

The cruise line welcomed a group of VIP guests at the Quay restaurant with a selection of cocktails and canapes, overlooking its awe-inspiring 4,905-passenger *Ovation of the Seas* before she set off on her first sailing of the season.

Royal Caribbean Cruises Vice President and Managing Director, Australia and New Zealand Susan Bonner (**pictured**) believes the 2018/19 program down under will be more successful than previous years for a number of reasons.

"For one thing this will be *Ovation's* longest season in Australia and Azamara Club Cruises will also have a 16-night country intensive sailing which

visits four ports it has never been to previously," Bonner said.

"It seems as though every year things just get better and better, our awareness is growing across all of the brands and that is testament to the product we deliver and also to the trade that supports us," she added.

Bonner said that despite the brand's recent success in attracting strong sales, there were still many markets to tap for further growth opportunities.

"We will look at markets that are underpenetrated like Victoria which is why we put a ship in Melbourne for the whole summer season," Bonner said.

"Aussies love to cruise which is why we will continue to diversify the portfolio".

"That said, you will still see us in Sydney - Australia is a great place and there are many great cities".

Final winner for #ChooseCruise month

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia has awarded the major prize in its final week of its #ChooseCruise campaign to Bon Voyage Cruises & Travel.

The company picked up a seven-night Tasmania adventure with Coral Expeditions for creating a 16-page cruise supplement (**pictured**) for *The New Zealand Herald*.

"We try to do things a little differently and this has been a big, slow-burn marketing effort and branding exercise," said the company's Director Gerard Murphy.



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30 facts for 30 days

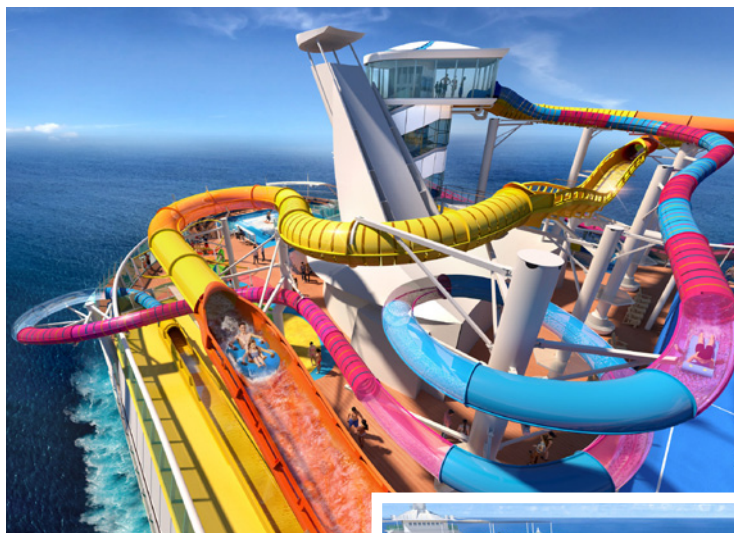
HOLLAND America Line has marked the 30-day countdown until the arrival of its Pinnacle Class *Nieuw Statendam* ship by releasing 30 fun facts about the new addition.

Among the interesting tidbits are that *Nieuw Statendam* will visit 75 ports during her first year, a special dedication ceremony will be held at Fort Lauderdale in Florida on 02 Feb, and the ship will sail more than 92,723 nautical miles in her first 12 months.

Slightly quirker facts include the vessel being longer than 12 blue whales, that 4,200 cups of coffee will be served on a seven-day cruise, and it would take 7,067 bottles of Champagne to fill *Nieuw Statendam's* Lido Pool.

The vessel joins the HAL fleet on 01 Dec where she will spend her inaugural season servicing the Caribbean.

Navigator to find new image



ROYAL Caribbean International has announced a US\$115 million renovation of its Caribbean-based vessel *Navigator of the Seas*.

From Feb next year, the 3,807-passenger ship will offer a host of new amenities such as a new "Caribbean-inspired" pool area (**inset**), two new waterslides, and a bar offering beauty services and wine called To Dry For.

Further enhancements set to be included in the revamp are the cruise line's Polynesian-themed watering hole The Bamboo Room, a glow-in-the-dark laser tag area for kids, and a range of new restaurants such as Jamie's Italian and the New England inspired seafood restaurant Hooked Seafood.

"Every detail matters, and we've mapped out an unmatched combination of innovative



features and experiences for this top-to-bottom transformation of *Navigator of the Seas*," said Royal Caribbean International President and CEO Michael Bayley.

"After launching our Royal Amplified modernisation program with *Independence of the Seas* and then redefining short getaways with *Mariner of the Seas*, we are challenging ourselves to take it to the next level."

The refreshed *Navigator* will embark on a series of five- and nine-night Caribbean itineraries departing Miami early next year.

Pitcairn Is boost

THE Pitcairn Islands has announced it will launch a new ship service in Mar next year, increasing cruise visitor capacity to the British territory by 75%.

Under charter to the Pitcairn Islands Government, *MV Bravo Supporter* will be based in the local waters to help undertake 21 sailings per year, a jump from the 12 previously offered.

"The new service brings a modern vessel with six twin berth passenger cabins complete with en-suites," said Pitcairn Travel Coordinator Heather Menzies.

"To complement the new service, we are launching a range of new initiatives and these will be announced over the coming weeks," she added.

Access to Pitcairn cruise services is provided by a four-hour flight from the French Polynesian capital of Papeete.

Fiji Cruise deal

BLUE Lagoon Cruises Fiji is offering discounted rates on its seven-night Escape to Paradise cruise when bookings are made on select departures by 15 Dec.

The deal is valid for all cabin types on sailings between 04 Jan 2018 and 30 Aug 2019.

For further information on the offer **CLICK HERE**.

Virtuoso training

LUXURY travel specialist Virtuoso was recently in Australia to run a series of Cruise Host Training programs.

This was the first time the company had undertaken the training in Australia which was designed to boost the number of qualified local advisors able to host Virtuoso voyages.

More than 80 Aussies took part in the training series.



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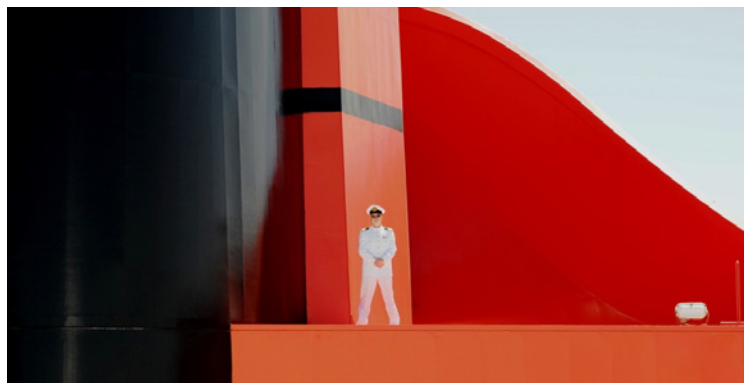
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Commodore hangs up hat



CUNARD has announced the retirement of New Zealand born Commodore Christopher Rynd after a distinguished career.

Rynd was known for being famously photographed by James Morgan in the **above** position alongside the *Queen Mary 2* red funnel when the Cunard flagship visited Sydney in 2012.

In the later years of his career, Rynd was closely associated with Cunard but his career saw

him also man the bridge of P&O Cruises and Princess Cruises ships.

Commodore Rynd joined *QE2* in 2005 and subsequently commanded *QM2*, *Queen Victoria* and *Queen Elizabeth*.

"Throughout his long career, Christopher Rynd was seen as the image of a ship's Master with his distinguished manner, respect for guests and crew and love of ships and seafaring," said Carnival Australia President Sture Myrmell.

Scarlet Lady shows more



VIRGIN Voyages has teased the industry by revealing more images of its debut ship *Scarlet Lady* which is due to embark on her first voyage in 2020.

Some of the latest renderings featured include a glimpse of the Crow's Nest (**top**), a sun deck boasting 360-degree ocean views and a track for passengers looking to do some



running or walking.

Also featured is The Manor Nightclub (**inset above**), inspired by Richard Branson's first music studio.

For those wanting to take in a meal with a post-modern scientific theme, *Scarlet Lady* will have the Test Kitchen on board (**inset left**), featuring laboratory touches such as beakers and test tubes.



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Seabourn solo deal

SEABOURN is offering discounted single supplement prices on select voyages when bookings are made by 31 Dec. Prices lead in at only 25% above double occupancy rates. Call 1300 987 323 for info.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY

<i>Majestic Princess</i>	05 Nov
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	06 Nov
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	07 Nov
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	08 Nov
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	09 Nov
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	09 Nov
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	10 Nov
<i>Sea Princess</i>	10 Nov

MELBOURNE

<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	05 Nov
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	05 Nov
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	06 Nov
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	06 Nov
<i>Golden Princess</i>	08 Nov
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	10 Nov

BRISBANE

<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	06 Nov
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	07 Nov
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	09 Nov
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	10 Nov

DARWIN

<i>Sun Princess</i>	10 Nov
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AUCKLAND

<i>Sea Princess</i>	06 Nov
<i>Noordam</i>	08 Nov
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	10 Nov

On the menu: Stardust Supper Club



SHIP: *Crystal Serenity*.
RESTAURANT: Stardust Supper Club.

DESCRIPTION: The music and vibe of this upmarket eatery exudes the tropes and sounds of Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, with the venue boasting a four-course menu of select Waterside favourites, where guests can dine while watching performances by *Crystal Serenity's* Show Band and featured vocalists.

In between performances, musicians provide a continuous flow of music throughout dinner, while the ship's Ballroom Dance Quartet take to the floor to perform a couple

of spotlight dances including one during dessert and coffee service.

The Supper Club can accommodate up to 108 guests per evening.

RESERVATIONS: Bookings are available upon embarkation with the restaurant manager aboard the ship.

DRESS: Smart casual ("Black Tie Optional" evenings are available on voyages of eight days or more).

HOURS: Seating will begin at 6.30pm, giving guests ample time to dine and dance before the night's 9.15pm production show begins in the Galaxy Lounge.

Lindblad reports third quarter results

LINDBLAD Expeditions has recorded earnings (EBITDA) of US\$17.1 million for the three months ended 30 Sep, dropping by US\$5.99 million on the corresponding period last year.

The adjusted earnings result was impacted by the timing of drydocks when compared to a year ago, however tour revenue for the luxury cruise line in the same period rose by 3% to US\$87.2 million.



VERY rarely does an amazing cruise ship holiday slide into panic but that was certainly the case for a brief moment on board *Carnival Sunshine* while sailing the Caribbean last week.

A malfunction with the ship's stabiliser fins saw *Sunshine* tilt from side to side with far more thrust than usual, causing large volumes of pool water to be displaced and plates of food to fly through the air.

"I didn't think anything of it, since it's not uncommon for ships to rock back and forth," passenger David Crews told Orlando television.

"But it didn't rock back. It kept leaning. Glasses and plates started to fall and shatter. At this point, it was pure chaos. Screams. Cries. Panic."

Carnival released a statement shortly after the incident, stating the safety of the passengers was never in question.

"*Carnival Sunshine* experienced a technical issue which caused the ship to list for approximately one minute," Carnival said in the statement.

But with meals flying off the tables at high speed and many glasses smashing, it is the rare occasion a cruise line might be accused of serving up some questionable fast food.

