

Cruise Weekly today

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

Azamara goes deep

AZAMARA Club Cruises has collaborated with luxury tour operator Cox and Kings to launch its City Stays program.

The new product offering allows passengers to take up tailored travel experiences before and after their cruise.

“The expansion of Azamara’s land offerings...enhances our guests’ connection with the destination by providing opportunities to explore a city from a local’s perspective,” said Azamara Club Cruises CEO Larry Pimentel.

City Stays is currently available in Singapore, Barcelona and Rome.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

P&O reveals homeports for 2020

P&O Cruises has released further details of its 2020 cruise program (CW Thu), revealing *Pacific Explorer* will make Brisbane her new homeport from Oct 2020.

Pacific Explorer’s first round-trip cruise from Brisbane will be the seven-night Pacific Island Hopper itinerary departing on 24 Oct 2020, followed by a seven-night Main Event themed cruise to the Melbourne Cup.

P&O Cruises Australia President Sture Myrmell said *Pacific Explorer’s* move would provide Queenslanders with access to new onboard activities.

“We are pleased to soon offer Brisbane guests our flagship *Pacific Explorer* and the chance to enjoy the features that this ship brings including two new ‘fast-casual’ dining options: Luke’s, a poolside grill by Australian chef and restaurateur Luke Mangan,



and 400 Gradi, a traditional Neapolitan pizzeria by award-winning Melbourne chef Johnny Di Francesco,” Myrmell said.

Pacific Explorer will replace *Pacific Dawn*, which has been sailing from the Queensland capital since Dec 2009.

From the end of Oct 2020, *Dawn* will be based in Melbourne,

offering a new 14-night Fiji Explorer itinerary with calls to Noumea, Suva, Port Denarau, Mystery Island & Isle of Pines.

The 2020 season will also see *Pacific Aria* reposition to Auckland on a six-night one-way cruise from Adelaide in Apr 2020.

P&O Cruises’ 2020 program will go on sale on 23 Oct.

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WEEKLY

Tuesday 23rd October 2018



Choose an expedition



One in a million Dream



DREAM Cruises has welcomed its one millionth passenger with a celebration at Hong Kong's Kai Tak Cruise Terminal last week.

Hong Kong resident Mimi Lo embarked on her *World Dream* voyage earlier this month for a six-day journey to Naha and Miyakojima in Okinawa, Japan.

On board, Lo and her family were surprised with a private

tour, an exclusive photo shoot, champagne and other treats.

Pictured are Christine Li, SVP, Head of Marketing & Communications, Genting Cruise Lines; Thatcher Brown, President, Dream Cruises; Mimi Lo; Captain Robert Bodin, *World Dream*; Ann Zhang, Hotel Director, *World Dream*; and Jeff Bent, Managing Director of Worldwide Cruise Terminals.

IN THE final week of Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia's annual month-long cruise promotion #ChooseCruise, the association is encouraging travellers to choose an expedition cruise for a true adventure on the high seas.

According to CLIA Australasia & Asia Managing Director Joel Katz, expedition cruising is one of the industry's biggest growth sectors with nearly a quarter of the new ships on order classed as small or expedition ships.

"Expedition cruising is experiencing a surge in popularity that will continue for years to come as dozens of new ships take

to the seas, offering more choice than ever before," he said.

"Packed with enriching experiences from up-close-and-personal wildlife encounters in Antarctica to thrilling journeys deep into the Kimberley wilderness, expedition cruising is a great way to make an authentic connection with a destination."

Katz also believes expedition cruises "are often the first port of call for travellers who don't consider themselves typical cruisers, as well as the last port of call for frequent cruisers ready to try something different."

For more information visit choosecruise.org.au.

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Europe rivers run dry

LOW water levels in the Danube and Rhine caused by unseasonably warm weather have led some river cruise operators to alter or cancel trips.

APT Travel Group this week announced the cancellation of five Europe river cruises in Oct.

“With vast areas of the route between Amsterdam and Budapest becoming too shallow to cruise, APT had no option but to cancel a small number of APT and Travelmarvel river cruises,” the company said in a statement.

Meanwhile Uniworld has advised guests that select itineraries may be affected over the coming weeks.

Affected cruise passengers will be offered additional coach travel where necessary.

“Uniworld is actively evaluating the situation and developing contingency plans as changes in river conditions can occur quickly,” the company said.

Virgin’s lasting look

VIRGIN Voyages has announced its *Scarlet Lady* vessel will offer a Squid Ink tattoo studio on board.

“Tattooing is a time-honoured seafaring tradition, and we’re continuing that legacy with rock and roll style by bringing some of the best ink artists to sea,” said Virgin Voyages CEO Tom McAlpin.

Two full-time tattoo artists will staff the ship when it launches in 2020, with Squid Ink also offering passengers body piercing services and permanent makeup treatments.

Pictured: A rendering of *Scarlet Lady’s* tattoo studio.



SILVERSEA has released its latest collection of voyages to Cuba for 2019/20.

Sailings are scheduled to depart from the United States for the first time in the cruise line’s history, with 17 cruises available to book over the two-year period aboard either *Silver Spirit*, *Silver Wind*, or *Silver Whisper*.

“Since opportunities have opened for Americans to enjoy travel to Cuba, we have eagerly awaited this moment,” said Silversea CEO Roberto Martinoli.

“Cuba is a remarkable island and we are delighted to offer our guests the opportunity to discover the authentic sights, sounds and flavours of its culture,” he added.

Five voyages are on offer in

2019, including a seven-night sailing from San Juan to Fort Lauderdale that visits Havana and Santiago de Cuba.

Also available is a 10-night voyage stopping at Cuba’s Cienfuegos and also incorporating a visit to George Town in the Cayman Islands.

Adam Armstrong, Silversea’s MD for Australia and NZ, said Cuba was becoming an increasingly popular destination.

“Cuba is arguably the fastest growing destination in the Caribbean, and one that many luxury travellers are eager to explore,” he said.

Prices for the Cuban cruises start from \$4,500 per person.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.



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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



Regent webinar

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises' VP Sales ANZ Lisa Pile will be hosting a trade webinar on 08 Nov exclusively for Aussie and NZ agents - register [HERE](#).

Agents enjoy Euro quest



HELLOWORLD agents and their partners were recently treated to an eight-night Azamara Club Cruises sailing in Europe.

Journeying aboard the 686-passenger *Azamara Quest*, the cruise from Barcelona to Rome explored several popular Mediterranean destinations during their itinerary, including Valencia, Ibiza, Monte Carlo, and Santa Margherita.

The stop off in Valencia saw agents entertained on a VIP visit to the City of Arts and Sciences venue, while the Monte Carlo stop off saw a special White Night party enjoyed by the agents.

The highlight on board the ship was a 10-course dining experience in the ship's Drawing Room.

Pictured: Kathryn Feist, Helloworld Travel; Sarah Day, MTA Travel; Angela Kaluzyn, Skilled Travel; Toni Bardsley, Global Travel Solutions; Tracy Trivanovic, Magic Travel; and Mark Kinchley, RCL Cruises.

P&O reef waste

P&O Cruises says it self-reported an incident to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority when its *Pacific Explorer* unintentionally discharged food waste while sailing in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

A spokesperson for P&O said it was an "isolated incident" and the company was cooperating with an investigation into the event.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	24 Oct
<i>Noordam</i>	25 Oct
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	26 Oct
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	26 Oct
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	27 Oct
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	28 Oct
<i>Sea Princess</i>	28 Oct
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	29 Oct
MELBOURNE	
<i>Golden Princess</i>	25 Oct
<i>Noordam</i>	27 Oct
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	23 Oct
<i>Sea Princess</i>	26 Oct
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	26 Oct
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	27 Oct
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	28 Oct
CAIRNS	
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	23 Oct
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	29 Oct
FREMANTLE	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	25 Oct
ADELAIDE	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	29 Oct
HOBART	
<i>Noordam</i>	29 Oct
AUCKLAND	
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	23 Oct

SeaLink appoints new marketing head

SEALINK Travel Group has announced the appointment of Donna Gauci to the newly created position of Chief Marketing Officer.

Gauci has been with SeaLink for 13 years and was previously the General Manager for SeaLink South Australia.

MEANWHILE SeaLink has purchased a new luxury super yacht called *AUSPRO* which will join the fleet from mid-Nov and be used exclusively for Sydney Harbour cruises.

"This is part of our three-year growth strategy for Sydney Harbour," said SeaLink Chief Executive Officer Jeff Ellison.



AUSTRALIAN businessman Clive Palmer's dream of building a *Titanic* replica is still alive, with his nephew Clive Mensink recently appointed European Director of the project.

Blue Star Line, a subsidiary of the mining company Mineralogy, is seeking to run an Atlantic Ocean cruise on *Titanic II* between London & New York.

The idea of creating a *Titanic* voyage was first launched by Palmer back in 2012, however, the plans were initially scuttled by ongoing financial issues related to his mining companies.

While we admire Clive's homage to history, one does wonder if he is fully aware of how the first *Titanic* trip went?

