

## Princess braces for biggest season ever

**PRINCESS** Cruises is preparing to experience the biggest Australian season in the line's history in 2019/20.

Over 51,000 people - a 27% increase on last year's figure - are expected to cruise across the five Princess ships deployed in the region - *Golden Princess* (pictured), *Majestic Princess*, *Ruby Princess*, *Sea Princess* and *Sun Princess*.

The five vessels will collectively make 14 voyages on itineraries departing Auckland, Melbourne and Sydney.

"Cruising over the Dec holidays is fast becoming one of the most popular times to sail," said Princess' Sales & Marketing Director Nick Ferguson.

A fleetwide installation of Christmas decorations will also be completed ahead of scheduled holiday departures.

Princess ships will host a



series of special festive events throughout the Aussie summer period, including gingerbread house decorating and Christmas card-making for kids, as well as turkey carving demonstrations.

Children on board on select sailings will also enjoy a surprise visit from Santa Claus.

Highlights from the season include an eight-night Tasmania cruise on *Majestic Princess*, a 12-night Australia and New

Zealand cruise on *Majestic Princess*, a 13-night New Zealand cruise on *Golden Princess*, and a 14-night Australia and New Zealand cruise on *Ruby Princess*.

Cruises start from \$259 per person for a two-day Australian Getaway - **CLICK HERE** for details.

### Cruise Weekly today

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

## CRUISE

WEEKLY

On location in Iceland

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you courtesy of Hurtigruten, aboard the brand new *Roald Amundsen*.

**OUR** cruise aboard Hurtigruten's newest ship is drawing to a close, with the *Roald Amundsen* arriving in Iceland this morning after a week of exploring Greenland's most remote fjords.

Today, passengers will enjoy shore excursions on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula before cruising overnight to Reykjavik for disembarkation early tomorrow morning.

The ship's next itinerary will see it traverse the Northwest Passage to Alaska & Canada.

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### Avalon shows pax more



**AVALON** Waterways has released several videos highlighting food and luxury attractions on board its ships.

Hosted by legendary Aussie comedian Gary Eck, the productions feature interviews with Mekong Cruise Director Mark Nicholls (**pictured** left), and Avalon's Marketing Coordinator Jessica Evans, where they discuss themes such as "relaxed luxury", as well as its Mekong itineraries.

Among the culinary updates provided is news that Avalon is gearing up to launch a new range of taster cruises in 2020, with sailings ranging from three to six nights in duration.

Speaking about the line's dining, Evans said "you'll often see our chefs go out into port and visit local markets and get fresh ingredients that will...end up on your plate".

Watch Avalon's video detailing its Mekong cruises **HERE**.



**LINDBLAD** Expeditions and National Geographic Expeditions have revealed details of a new permanent art exhibition called "Change", which is now aboard its polar newbuild *National Geographic Endurance*.

Curated by renowned climate change artist Zaria Forman, the ship-based polar art installation incorporates a range of artistic mediums including drawings, paintings, videos, photography, and sculptures from 35 artists.

"Zaria was challenged to mount the definitive polar exhibition aboard our polar ship, and her curation has, I believe, led to one of the finest collections of

art examining the power and vulnerability of these rarefied geographies anywhere in the world," said Sven Lindblad, CEO of Lindblad Expeditions.

Commenting upon the new exhibition, Forman observed that "every piece of art is proof of the profound impact this environment can have on an individual... hopefully it will guide them down the path closest to my heart – to be so moved by the landscapes that lay in front of them, they will want to protect and preserve them".

**Pictured:** Zaria Forman with an artistic piece depicting Disko Bay in Greenland.



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Monday 5th August 2019

### Patagonia webinars

**AURORA** Expeditions is gearing up to host two webinars covering important information on its sailings to Patagonia.

The online sessions, taking place 13 and 14 Aug, will be hosted by Patagonia Expedition Leader Lelia Cataldi, who is a seven-year veteran with Aurora Expeditions and has worked and lived for 10 years in southern Patagonia.

Important topics on the region will include Patagonia's fjords and glacial landscapes, wildlife encounters, voyages and treks on offer, as well as features on the soon-to-be-launched Ulstein X-BOW *Greg Mortimer*.

Webinars will also include a Q&A component for agents to participate in.

To register for the session taking place 13 Aug at 8.30am (AEST) - [CLICK HERE](#), or alternatively to take part in the 14 Aug workshop scheduled for 8.30pm (AEST) [CLICK HERE](#).

### Newie Dream doubt

**DREAM** Cruises has been forced to pause sales for its *Explorer Dream* departures ex-Newcastle (**CW** 24 May 2019) for Nov this year after being advised by port authorities that they are unable to support the disembarkation of passengers due to new biosecurity legislation.

Vice President Australia and New Zealand for Dream Cruises Brigita Devries expressed disappointment at the decision, citing contradictory information previously provided by the Federal Government.

Dream Cruises is now working with government authorities to request a special dispensation and a waiver to allow guests currently booked to proceed at Newcastle, and will update affected pax on the status as details come to hand.

## NCL conservation cruise



**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) has partnered with the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation and Nova Southeastern University's Guy Harvey Research Institute to host its third annual ocean conservation cruise in Sep.

Departing New York City on board *Norwegian Escape*, the sailing will feature ocean conservation events at each port of call hosted by marine artist and entrepreneur Guy Harvey.

Harvey was also the man behind *Norwegian Escape's* distinctive and colourful hull artwork.

"We're thrilled to once again host our friend and partner, Guy Harvey...to showcase to our guests the importance

of preserving the beauty and well-being of marine life," said Andy Stuart, President and Chief Executive Officer of NCL.

"As one of the leaders in conservation education, Guy Harvey has an incredible passion for the ocean that extends beyond his artwork and we're honoured to partner with him and the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation once again on this special cruise," Stuart added.

The cruise will sail to New England, Canada from NY with visits scheduled to Portland and Bar Harbor, Maine; Saint John, New Brunswick; and Nova Scotia.

**Pictured:** *Norwegian Escape* in New York City.

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### CRUISE 4 ISLANDS IN 7 DAYS

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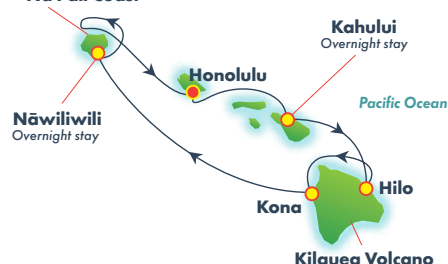
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## Blundells of country joy



P&O Cruises has confirmed a trio of country music acts to perform at its first country music festival as sea.

Heading up the list of esteemed music maestros will be Aussie stalwart James Blundell (pictured), as well as Gold Coast artist Casey Barnes, and singer-songwriter Caitlyn Shadbolt who came to prominence after placing fifth

during the sixth season of *The X Factor Australia* in 2014.

"Country music is on trend right now and many of our guests are fans of the genre and enjoy the festival vibe that goes with it," said P&O Cruises Head of Entertainment Brett Annable.

Bookings for the three-night cruise start from \$479pp, departing Brisbane on 07 Dec. For more info call 13 24 94.

## Things of sun and wood



MEDITERRANEAN cruise operator Sun Island Tours has appointed Michael Woods to the role of Marketing Manager, as the brand prepares to embark on major expansion plans.

Woods (pictured) arrives at the company with more than 15 years of experience in the tour wholesaling and destination marketing spaces.

Speaking about his new appointment, Woods said that his previous experience is in

alignment with the culture and objectives at Sun Island Tours.

"I'm excited to be working with an established and reputable team that prioritises their clients, whether it be pioneering new destinations, developing new systems, or ensuring they have access to round-the-clock service and support," Wood said.

"This partnership is a great fit for both of us and I look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead," he added.



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ON SALE 2 - 7 AUGUST

We were on hand at *AmaMagna's* christening – check it out in the August issue of *travelBulletin*.

**CLICK to read**  
**travelBulletin**



## Reef underneath

**CRUISE** Whitsundays has announced the opening of Australia's first underwater accommodation located on the Great Barrier Reef.

The cruise line's full Reefsuite experience includes a return cruise out to the reef, all meals and beverages, a selection of marine activities and overnight accommodation in the unusual suite, which features panoramic views of marine life such as turtles and manta rays.

"Cruise Whitsundays is very proud to invite travellers...to experience the Great Barrier Reef from a completely new POV," said Cruise Whitsundays GM Shaun Cawood.

Bookings will open later this month, with prices leading in at \$749 per person twin share.

## FACE-2-FACE: Jen Pagett

Sales Manager NSW & ACT  
- Uniworld Boutique River Cruises.



### 1. What is the favourite part of your job?

I'd be tempted to answer all the amazing travel and the social aspects of our job. But the reality is the feeling of satisfaction I get from adding value to a travel partners business. I love supporting agents in driving their luxury river cruise sales.

### 2. What is the key to success in the cruise industry?

If you had told me five years ago I would be working in the cruise industry, I wouldn't have believed you as I had never done a cruise before. This is a true story – previously I was a travel consultant and came across a Uniworld brochure in our back office. The uniqueness of the brand and the incredible decor of the ships really spoke to me and I knew I would work for Uniworld at that moment.

### 3. What is the biggest challenge facing the industry?

The perception that river cruising is just for old people. Why? I love the diversity of river cruising and honestly believe that it is a fantastic holiday suitable for everyone of any age. However, it is an active and busy way to travel so I always encourage people not to leave it too late in life to try it.

### 4. Advice for up-and-comers?

I still feel like an "up-and-comer" with only three years of experience under my belt, but my advice would be to take it all in. Be nice to everyone as who knows, you might become colleagues one day.

### 5. What was your best fam?

Hosting a group of agents on our U River Cruises ship *The B* in her inaugural year was definitely a highlight.

It's very special to be part of something so new and innovative and I feel like I saw a piece of history in the making – river cruising for the young at heart. It's a brilliant concept.

### 6. How do you wind down after a busy week?

Disconnecting from the world and heading out for a walk in the hills or boating around the South Island is always a great way to reset.

### 7. The celebrity you would most like to cruise with?

Emma Watson - girl power!

### 8. What should the cruise ship of the future look like?

Floating hotels that are kind to the planet and leave only a positive footprint behind.

### 9. When not at work, how do you spend your time?

I love sailing so you'll either find me out on the water or planning trips and holidays.

## Cunard savings

**CUNARD** is currently offering savings of up to 25% on select Australia and New Zealand cruises departing between Nov 2019 and Mar 2021.

The offer is available until 31 Aug and includes a Melbourne round-trip voyage to New Zealand, and a seven-night Tasmania and Southern Australia cruise.

For more information on the promotion, see **page two**.

## Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY		
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	05 Aug	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	08 Aug	
BRISBANE		
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	09 Aug	
DARWIN		
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	05 Aug	
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	08 Aug	
<i>Le Laprouse</i>	11 Aug	
AUCKLAND		
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	05 Aug	



**TAKING** out the kayak for a relaxing exploration of the local waters is a staple offering from many cruise brands, but beware if your next sailing is near the Broughton Archipelago in Canada - you just might cop a feel from an aggressive seal.

A group of kayakers were recently accosted by a seal in the area, marine creatures who are typically good natured.

One woman in the group described on social media how the seal jumped out of the water and onto a man's kayak, sending him flying into the water.

"It grabbed him under the armpit and bit into him trying to pull him out of his kayak," Jan Whitehead said.

"He fended him off but the seal was on his kayak and capsized it," she added.

Seal attacks like this occur only from "time to time", according to the organisation BC Parks.