



On location in
Kona, United
States

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you courtesy of Norwegian Cruise Line, which is this week hosting its 2019 Legends famil.

FOR her second and final day on the Island of Hawaii, *Pride of America* is visiting the west coast town of Kona.

During the visit, attendees of the 2019 Norwegian Cruise Line Legends famil will enjoy a premium snorkel, thanks to Hawaii Tourism and Seaquest Hawaii.

At night, the cruise will depart for the central pacific island of Kauai, where she will stay overnight.

TA's newest Cruise Boutique opens

AUSTRALIA'S newest Travel Associates (TA) store opened last night in Balgowlah, Sydney.

The relocated agency is headed up by Janette Wall, who is one of the Travel Associates cruise experts hand-picked to lead the new Cruise Boutique brand initiative (*CW* 12 Aug).

The new store carries full Cruise Boutique branding (pictured inset), as one of Travel Associates' 14 existing cruise specialist shops.

Flight Centre Travel Group GM of Premium Leisure Brands Danielle Galloway has flagged plans to significantly boost the Cruise Boutique portfolio across more of its 117 TA offices.

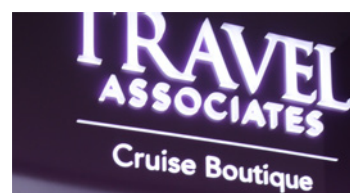
Wall told *CW* the office remains in a high street location, with the decision made to maintain links with a devoted local clientele rather than chase passing traffic by moving to a shopping centre.

The agency's opening was



combined with a client Christmas function and a presentation by Helen Eves from Holland America and Seabourn, which sponsored the evening.

Pictured above celebrating the opening are the Travel Associates Balgowlah team of Tracey Irving, Trish McManus and Janette Wall.



Cruise Weekly today

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



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Azamara 2021/22

AZAMARA has revealed 27 new sailings for the 2021/22 season, which will see the cruise line take its fleet to 41 maiden ports around the world.

One of the season's highlights will be the new 15-night Tahiti & New Zealand Voyage, which will visit Bora Bora in the French Polynesia, allowing guests to experience an Aquasafari Underwater Walk.

Guests can participate in a "Castle Crawl" in Aberdeen, Scotland on the 11-night Scotland Intensive Voyage, while those who prefer warmer climates can opt for the 22-night Western Africa Journey, which will visit Abidjan on the Ivory Coast and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Grand Bassam.

For travellers looking to set sail sooner, Azamara will also be operating a 15-night New Year's Eve in Rio Voyage departing 21 Dec from Buenos Aires.

Endurance update

LINDBLAD Expeditions celebrated the float out of its newbuild *National Geographic Endurance* (pictured below) on Sat in Norway, at Ulstein Verft.

The polar vessel, which can carry 126 guests, features the X-BOW, which the cruise line said provides "an extremely smooth ride" and helps increase fuel efficiency and lower the ship's emissions.

Endurance, which has the highest ice class (PC5 Category A) of any purpose-built passenger vessel, is scheduled for delivery in Jan 2020 (**CW** 29 Apr).



VIRGIN Voyages has marked a major milestone ahead of its first ship, *Scarlet Lady's* maiden voyage, with the vessel deemed as "seaworthy" after successfully completing its first round of sea trials from Genoa to Marseille.

Virgin Founder Richard Branson, **pictured**, boarded the ship in Marseille with his wife and children along with Virgin Voyages' CEO Tom McAlpin, CCO Nirmal Saverimuttu, SVP of Design Dee Cooper and CEO of Virgin Atlantic, Shai Weiss.

Scarlet Lady is scheduled to set sail on her maiden voyage on 01 Apr 2020 (**CW** 18 Nov).

ecruising India

ECRUISE promises a "true Indian summer" with its new 28-night Indian Ocean & the Golden Triangle cruise aboard *Crystal Serenity*, which will depart Fremantle, WA on 11 Mar 2022, visiting Mumbai, Varanasi and the famed Golden Triangle, which is formed by New Delhi, Agra and Rajasthan.

Prices are all-inclusive and start from \$14,769ppts for bookings made by 31 Jan 2020.

CLICK HERE for bookings.

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+



Reduced 3rd & 4th fares on selected cruises[<]

CCC Syd to Hobart

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises (CCC) has launched three Boxing Day lunch cruises around Sydney Harbour, giving guests the chance to view the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race in 2019 from the comfort of the Captain Cook fleet.

The Sky Deck Boxing Day Lunch includes a four-course menu with an open bar, while the Club Deck and Show Deck Boxing Day Lunches include a seafood buffet with an open bar of drinks.

Cruises depart from King Street Wharf for Parsley Bay, where the ship will anchor between 11am and 2pm in time to watch the race.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

Go chasing waterfalls



THE 2019 Norwegian Cruise Line Legends famil stopped in Hilo yesterday, on the island of Hawaii.

The first of a two-day saunter around the state's largest island saw agents visit Big Island Candies, the Hilo Farmers Markets and a number of national parks, thanks to Hawaii Tourism.

Pride of America sailed to the other side of the island overnight, and she will port in Kona today.

Pictured: Kris Phadungkiatipong, Hawaii Tourism Oceania; Debbie Hogan, Island of Hawaii Visitors Bureau; Jemma Lee, Norwegian Cruise Line; Ambar Riedmann, Cruise1st; Tayla Donovan, MyCruises; Steve Healey, Our Vacation Centre; Kim Buckley, MyCruises; Leah Giri, eCruising; Aaron Christian, Norwegian Cruise Line and Cameron Sanderson, Cruise Deal Finder.

Pandaw Myanmar

PANDAW is offering a range of deals on its 10-night The Golden Land cruise through Myanmar and Burma.

Guests who wish to travel solo will enjoy no single supplement on all departures, while children under 18 can travel free on select dates.

The cruise, which leads in at US\$3,856 sails through the "heart of middle Myanmar", with highlights including a visit to the Italian built forts of Magwe, a lacquerware workshop in Pagan, a visit to Mingun Old Peoples Home in Mingun, and the chance to explore the potteries near Kyauk-myung.

Guests can save up to 10% on select dates, more info [HERE](#).



TOURISTS on board a boat in Kamchatka, a peninsula in the far east of Russia, were treated to the rare sight of two huge grizzly bears battling it out.

One of the witnesses, Dmitriy Khasanov, was a photographer who caught snaps of the event (**below**) saying "it was all a bit funny as there was a feeling of some kind of fight club".

It wasn't all violence though, with adorable bear cubs seen playing nearby in the shallows.



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Travel Pole-to-Pole

WILDFOOT Travel has introduced a new "Pole-to-Pole" adventure that gives guests the chance to visit both the Arctic and Antarctic circles in a combined cruise package.

The 11-day Luxury Spitsbergen Expedition, departing 21 Jun until 01 Jul, takes passengers to the Arctic Circle, circumnavigating the Spitsbergen coastline between Longyearbyen and Isfjorden.

The second part of the voyage is the Christmas Antarctic Peninsula Expedition, taking place between 18-28 Dec, which takes passengers through the Drake Passage towards the South Shetland Islands and then onto the Antarctic Peninsula over a further 11 days.

For information on the tours, see wildfoottravel.com.