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CORAL GEOGRAPHER,

Coral Adventurer's new sister ship, will join our fleet in January 2021.

Her just-released Maiden Voyage Series explores Sri Lanka, Maldives, Seychelles, Reunion, and Madagascar and finally crosses the Indian Ocean back to Australia, in search of sub-Antarctic islands.

Built to explore untouched places in refined comfort and safety, *Coral Geographer* takes just 120 guests. Her advanced design is sea-proven for expedition cruising, with all outside-facing staterooms, an open bridge and expansive public areas.



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AmaMagna makes her Danube debut

THE increasing global demand for luxury travel experiences, particularly from the US market, has been a key driver in the AmaWaterways' development of the new *AmaMagna* (pictured), which will be formally named in Austria tomorrow.

The ship, which at 22m is twice the width of traditional river vessels, provides significantly more opportunity to target upmarket demand, according to Ama President Rudi Schreiner and Executive Vice President Kristin Karst, who are this week hosting dignitaries on the new vessel.

Rather than just boosting capacity, the much bigger ship carries only about 20% more passengers, with Schreiner telling **CW**, "There is a strong demand for luxury...when people travel far, they want to travel in style".

Karst noted that the new ship would help service demand from



travel advisors who in some cases wanted to book multiple suites for groups travelling together.

"A traditional river cruise ship only has four suites, so we would sometimes lose the booking because they would choose an ocean cruise instead where the staterooms are so much bigger."

AmaMagna's cabins are almost all suites, starting from 34m².

The Grand Suites are sized at 44m², while the Owner's Suite (65m²) features beds facing the river, a bathtub, separate shower

and spacious seating areas.

AmaMagna also serves the family market with connecting staterooms, while the variety of public areas are ideal to allow groups to congregate without disturbing other passengers.

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news including a native page from **Rocky Mountaineer** plus a front cover wrap from **Coral Expeditions**.

CRUISE

WEEKLY

On Location on the Danube River

Today's issue of **CW** is coming to you courtesy of **APT**, hosting the christening ceremony for the brand new double-width *AmaMagna*.

AMAMAGNA has journeyed from Budapest via Bratislava to Vienna, arriving today in time for an evening classical music concert in the stunning Hburg Palace.

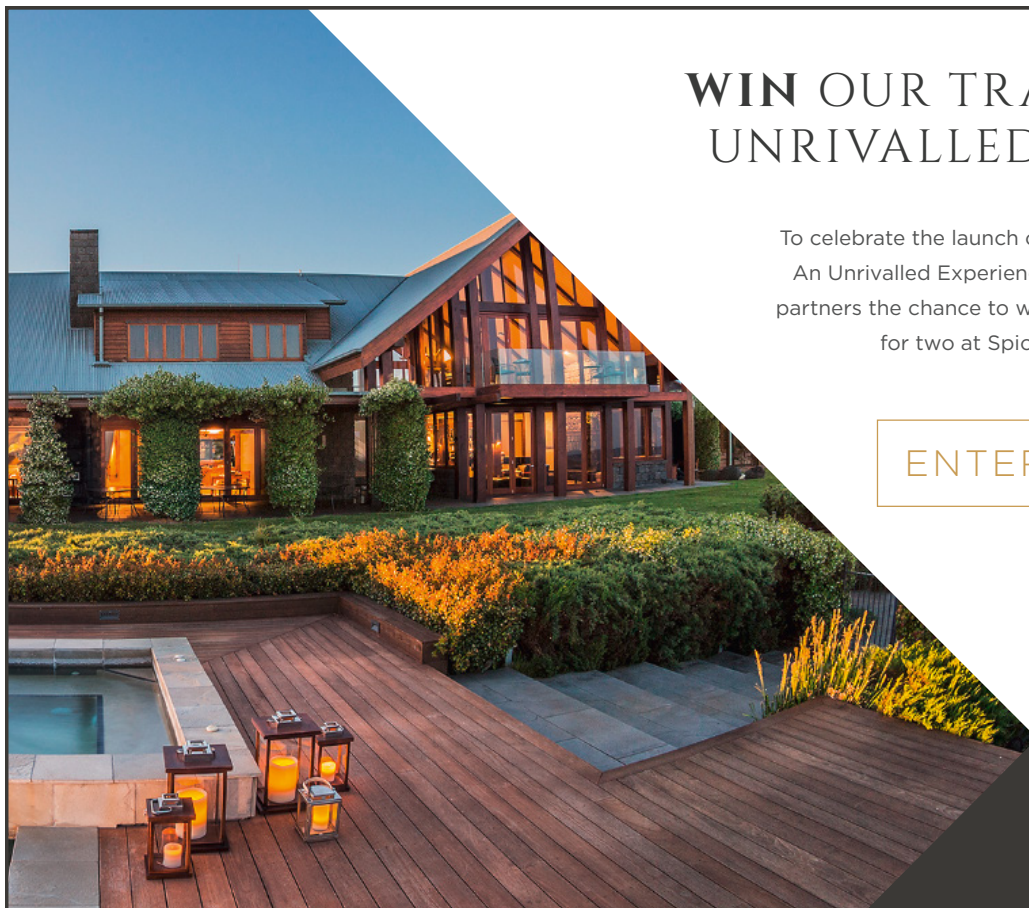
That's just one of the many activities on offer, but some guests are also quite happy to stay on board to enjoy the expansive open spaces on the ship, which features four restaurants, a cinema, spa, hair salon, guest laundry, gym and more - check it out at facebook.com/traveldaily.

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Wednesday 10th July 2019

Coral Geographer program out

ITINERARIES for Coral Expeditions' new *Coral Geographer* have been released, with the ship's Maiden Voyage Series set to explore the Indian Ocean including Sri Lanka, the Maldives, the Seychelles, Reunion and Madagascar.

Geographer will join the fleet in Jan 2021, and is a sister ship to *Coral Adventurer* which recently debuted in Darwin (**CW** 15 May).

For more details see the **cover page** of today's *Cruise Weekly*.

Alaska must-do

THE iconic Rocky Mountaineer rail journey is being showcased as a "must-do" add-on for Alaskan cruises - see **page four** of **CW** today.

Costa's close call

FOOTAGE posted online shows Costa Cruises' *Costa Deliziosa* narrowly missing a yacht as it manoeuvred in stormy conditions in Venice's Giudecca Canal.

A spokesperson for Costa said the captain "always maintained control" of the ship, despite "conditions of extreme & sudden difficulty".

The near miss follows *MSC Opera*'s collision with Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection's *River Countess* in Venice back in Jun of this year (**CW** 03 Jun).

Watch the video **HERE**.

Windstar heading here



THE planned Australian and New Zealand deployment of Windstar Cruises' *Star Breeze* (**CW** breaking news) is a "major move for the company," according to President John Delaney.

The 312-passenger ship will be fresh from a major makeover, which includes the addition of 50 new suites as well as expanded dining options and public areas including a pool and deck area.

Windstar will also offer its "Signature Expeditions" product - currently only available on its Alaskan cruises - as part of the Australasian deployment, including expedition leaders, kayaking and Zodiac excursions.

"In our concerted and ongoing effort to be the small ship leader in destination delivery, I'm

thrilled to introduce a completely different sailing region that further expands Windstar's global footprint," Delaney said.

Star Breeze (**pictured**) will sail locally from Nov 2020 until Feb 2021, with a range of itineraries taking in Australia's east coast from Cairns to Hobart, along with trans-Tasman voyages and an Auckland-to-Auckland NZ discovery cruise.

Australia and New Zealand are also on the radar for the 148-passenger *Wind Spirit* which sails year-round in Tahiti and will make a local visit in Feb 2020.

A trip from New Caledonia to Australia is on offer, along with an Australia to Indonesia cruise visiting Cairns, Port Douglas, Thursday Island and Darwin.

Visa-free Hainan

CHINA'S Hainan province has announced a new 15-day visa-free policy for groups visiting the region by cruise ship.

The measure aligns Hainan with Shanghai, and would support the province's tourism development, officials said.

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Night cruises off

RIVER cruise ships docked in Budapest, Hungary, have suspended the previously popular "illumination cruises" to view the city's spectacular lights after sunset.

Initially a voluntary moratorium was in place by the operators, which has since been formalised by a government ban while investigations continue into the May incident where *Viking Sigyn* collided with a sightseeing boat, killing 27 tourists from South Korea.

AmaWaterways President, Rudi Schreiner, confirmed the details during this week's *AmaMagna* christening cruise on the Danube River.

He said it wasn't clear at this stage how long the restrictions would be in place, with heavy congestion on the river leading to calls for a permanent ban.

Behind the Crystal lens



A HIDDEN waterside location was the film setting for the third instalment of the *Cruise Weekly*, *Travel Daily* and Crystal Cruises webinar set to screen next Wed 17 Jul.

In the forthcoming episode, Crystal's MD and Senior VP Karen Christensen speaks with *Travel Daily's* Editor Jasmine O'Donoghue about the type of experiences available to guests as part of a *Crystal Endeavor* expedition cruise.

The webinar also features a conversation with David Sinclair (pictured above), recently appointed an Expedition Leader for *Crystal Endeavor* (CW 07 Jun).

"It's a privilege to share my passion for nature and exploration with Crystal's guests," Sinclair said.

Travel agents that register before the screening next week can enter the competition to win a nine-night Caribbean cruise.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register.

Silversea appoints

SILVERSEA Cruises has complemented the appointment of former Wendy Wu Tours GM Steve Richards as Sales Director for Australia and NZ (TD 02 Jul) with a number of other new roles.

Sandra Cahill is the line's newest Business Development Manager, with responsibility for the Northern NSW territory.

She takes over from Julie Golding who has been promoted to Key Accounts Manager for the company.

Annie Weinert is Silversea's second Inside Sales Manager, while Gemma Walker has been named Commercial Manager.

Filomena Maio is Trade Reservations Team Leader replacing Tim Pierce who has been promoted to Reservations Manager, and Julian De Carlo is Silversea's Sales & Marketing Coordinator.

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Content produced in
collaboration with
Rocky Mountaineer

MOST guests on luxury tourist train Rocky Mountaineer have also travelled on a cruise before, according to the company.

“Rocky Mountaineer guests share the same demographic profile as ocean and river cruisers,” said Amber Wilson, Regional Director of Sales, Australia and New Zealand for Rocky Mountaineer.

“In fact, 80% of Rocky Mountaineer guests have been on a cruise prior to embarking on a Rocky Mountaineer journey and 40% of guests pair the experience with an Alaskan cruise,” she explained.

Wilson put the high number of travellers combining cruise and rail down to the spectacular scenery that both journeys can offer travellers.

Rocky Mountaineer is a luxury tourist train that travels across



three rail routes through Western Canada, between Vancouver, Jasper, Banff and Lake Louise in the Canadian Rockies.

The train has glass-domed carriages for panoramic views and only travels through daylight hours, ensuring guests don't miss a single minute of the scenery.

For more info [CLICK HERE](#).

Book now for four free perks



RAIL operator Rocky Mountaineer is offering its largest promotion of the year for 2020 season bookings.

With the “Unforgettable 4” offer, travellers receive four free items with up to \$1,000 AUD in value per couple.

The four perks include two hotel nights, a transfer and a dinner for package bookings of eight days or more.

Agents should book their clients soon to make the most of this offer, with it only available until 31 Aug.

Rail & sail with Rocky

ROCKY Mountaineer is reminding agents how its rail journeys and packages match up perfectly to cruise departure dates, making it easy to create one seamless and unforgettable journey for clients.

Agents can choose from one of the pre-built Alaska cruise packages departing from Vancouver, or customise a package that meets a client's every need.

The company's new self-drive packages also allow travellers the chance to explore Western Canada by sea, rail and road when combined with an Alaska cruise.

In 2019, there are three new packages which incorporate two days taking in spectacular scenery on the train between Vancouver and Banff and three days of car hire in the Canadian Rockies.



Complete TRACKS to become a Rocky Mountaineer Specialist today!

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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Wednesday 10th July 2019



Discover all RCI's new *Spectrum of the Seas* has to offer in the July issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



THE story of Santa Claus generally has him making his way around the world on a flying sleigh and not a cruise ship, but this is 2019 and perhaps some stories deserve to be updated.

Royal Princess recently played host to a mind-boggling 77 Mr and Mrs Clauses during a very festive seven-day Alaska-bound voyage, an opportunity for Santas from around the globe to get together and brush up on their Christmas skills.

Interestingly, etiquette on board means each cruising Jolly Old Saint Nicholas was required to introduce themselves with the prefix of Santa, for example "Santa Steven," or "Santa Bill".

And what was the genesis of this unusual floating Santa Claus convention you ask?

Well, the cruise traces back to Santa Tim Connaghan, a 50-year veteran of the red suit who clearly takes his ho ho ho'ing more seriously than most.

We hope the Santas can still fit down the chimney after all of those cruise buffets.



Armonia vamps Caribbean



MSC Cruises has revealed that its Caribbean itineraries for *MSC Armonia* in 2019/2020 will include maiden calls to the Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve in the Bahamas, set to open in Nov.

The new and exclusive island destination will be visited by the vessel once a week during the season, offering passengers 14 hours on each stop to explore its many attractions.

These include multiple beaches,

bars, restaurants, and a spa area.

The island will also offer fun outdoor activities such as snorkelling tours, scuba diving, and stand-up paddle boarding.

"As we continue to grow our presence in the region, we have enriched *MSC Armonia's* itineraries to offer our guests an even more immersive Caribbean experience," said MSC Cruises CEO Gianni Onorato.

Pictured: MSC's Ocean Cay.



TRADE MARKETING ASSISTANT

MSC Cruises Australia is looking for a Trade Marketing Assistant based at the Sydney CBD head office.

The ideal candidate will look after:

- Inside Sales and trade collateral to market
- Trade promotion co-ordination
- Updating of MSC Book agent portal/ new agents
- Control of trade databases
- Assistance with trade PR content
- Reporting of campaigns

The successful candidate must have completed a course degree and have attention to detail and the ability to work effectively as part of a team as well as independently in a fast paced environment.

For further information and to submit your resume
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Boosting shore experiences

AS DESTINATIONS continue to see the benefits from an increase in cruise ship visits to Australia, we are delighted to welcome two new members to the Association.

Magnetic Island Ferries is providing three shore excursions to visiting cruise ship passengers, with additional itineraries being developed to meet the growing number of visitors to Townsville.

These include a half-day tour of Townsville's street art through to full-day excursions to Magnetic Island and Charters Towers.

Led by knowledgeable guides, each tour gives passengers an insight into the colourful history of the destinations.

Magnetic Island features a wildlife tour of their large koala colony while Charters Towers showcases its vibrant goldrush past.

Both tours offer a taste of Australian from roo, prawns and barramundi to damper and billy tea.

With 12 cruise ship visits due into port next year and a possible 20, in 2021 when the newly dredged harbour will cater for larger vessels, these tours are critical in the development of regional cruise destinations such as Townsville to provide passengers with a favourable land-based experience.

Iconic Sydney landmark Taronga Zoo has also joined the Association.

Several small group tours are offered to cruise pax including Nura Diya, which tells stories of Australian wildlife through the perspective of an Aboriginal guide, with tales of shared history with the animals and land.

These two new members add to the onshore experiences offered to the growing cruise sector.

CRUISE
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