

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of news plus a full page from Tauck.

CRUISE

WEEKLY

On location at the
Cruiseco Conference

Today's issue of CW is coming to you from Auckland NZ courtesy of Cruiseco.

CRUISECO members from across Australia will gather in Auckland this week for the group's annual conference.

Tomorrow the event launches with a day of exhibitions by cruise lines alongside member-led seminars and a gala dinner, followed by keynote presentations and industry updates across the weekend.

See Fri's issue of CW for more.

Serenade of the Seas set to sing in Sydney

ROYAL Caribbean's megaliner *Serenade of the Seas* is set to call Sydney her home in 2020, after the cruise line announced it will be basing the ship out of the harbour city from Oct 2020 through to Apr 2021.

The younger sister of *Radiance of the Seas*, which the cruise line yesterday announced would be homeporting out of Brisbane for the 2020 season, *Serenade* will offer Aussie cruise lovers a range of new dining and entertainment options, including a rock climbing wall, nine-hole mini golf, three pools, plus new bars not previously seen in local waters.

Serenade and *Radiance* will join Royal Caribbean's *Voyager of the Seas* and *Ovation of the Seas* for the season, offering Australian travellers a range of itineraries to choose from.

"Our company ethos has always been to bring Australians



our world-class style of cruise holidays – direct to their doorstep," said Susan Bonner, Royal Caribbean International Managing Director, Australia & New Zealand.

"We're thrilled to be bringing a brand-new ship to Sydney, and returning to Queensland with

our newer and larger megaliner, both packed to the rafters with features for families and couples alike," she added.

More information on the ship's itineraries are expected to be released in due course.

Pictured: Royal Caribbean's *Serenade of the Seas*.

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Wednesday 20th March 2019

AW short cruises

AVALON Waterways (AW) has announced a new range of cruises that offer guests the chance to experience river cruising over a shorter period of four, five, or six days.

Highlights include the five-day Taste of the Rhine cruise, the six-day Heart of Germany trip, & four-day Taste of the Danube - more [HERE](#).

Sojourn's crew

SEABOURN has announced its line up of senior officers who will head up the brand's 2020 World Cruise: Extraordinary Destinations trip on board its *Sojourn* vessel.

The team includes Captain Timothy Roberts, Captain Hamish Elliott, Hotel Director Luca di Matteo, and Cruise Director Handre Potgieter.

Cruise info is available [HERE](#).

CCL's brew coup

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has signed an agreement with Florida-based Brew Hub to become the first cruise line to can and keg its own private label beer.

The beers will be crafted by the in-house brewery aboard *Carnival Horizon* and *Carnival Vista* and offered fleetwide in 473ml cans.

"To be the first cruise line to ever scale up its beverage operations by canning and kegging their own beer is unprecedented," said Edward Allen, VP of Beverage Operations at Carnival.

"My hope is that our guests will take a four-pack home with them to share with family and friends as a refreshing and memorable reminder of their cruise," he added.

Beers on offer include Wheat, IPA, and an Amber Ale.

Princess commits to SA



PRINCESS Cruises has revealed plans to double its cruises to and from Adelaide during the 2020-21 summer season, on the back of higher than expected demand for its inaugural 2019-20 season.

The 20-cruise program will feature an "unprecedented" six roundtrip cruises departing from the city on board its *Sea Princess*, *Sapphire Princess* and *Majestic Princess* ships.

South Australia Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, David Ridgway welcomed the announcement, stating the additional cruises would deliver

positive flow-on benefits for the state's economy.

"Princess Cruises' significant investment follows a record cruise season for South Australia, which saw 82 ships bringing up to 170,000 passengers and crew into our ports and injecting more than \$118m into the local economy," Ridgway said.

Princess Cruises Senior Vice President Asia Pacific, Stuart Allison said the program reflected the popularity of cruises along the southern Australian coastline.

Pictured: *Sea Princess* docked at Adelaide's outer harbour.

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SEABOURN



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Wednesday 20th March 2019

Splendor's suite life



Holland America Line's Canadian trio

HOLLAND America Line has released its 2020 Canada and New England itineraries, with its *Amsterdam*, *Zaandam* and *Zuiderdam* ships taking guests on more than 40 cruises around the region. Journeys will sail between Apr and Oct, with additional departures available on *Amsterdam* and *Zaandam* during the northern summer. "Canada and New England is a spectacular destination for cruising...the growing popularity of the region and attractiveness to all ages is why we're offering three ships on an extended summer and fall sailing season," said Orlando Ashford, President of Holland America Line.

For more information on the new journeys and to find out more about the ships, [CLICK HERE](#).

CroisiEurope deals

GUESTS booking one of CroisiEurope's new 2020 worldwide itineraries before 31 Aug will have the chance to save thanks to new earlybird rates that are now available.

In 2020, the cruise operator is offering journeys along the Seine, Garonne and Dordogne, as well as the Rhone and Moselle - more info [HERE](#).

Wild Earth Sicily

SMALL ship and expedition cruise specialist Wild Earth Travel has launched two new chartered voyages to Sicily, departing 21 and 28 Sep.

The itineraries include a cruise on board the recently renovated *Monet*, stopping at Stromboli, Erice, Palermo, and much more.

Call 1800 107 715 for info.

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has revealed details of the range of suites to be offered on board its newest ship, *Seven Seas Splendor*, with the company stating the collection will "perfect luxury" when she debuts in Feb 2020.

The vessel, which revealed details of its Regent Suite last month (**CW** 01 Feb) is set to offer a total of 10 suite types, each with their own level of luxurious finishes.

The Distinctive Suites include the Master, Grand, Splendor and Seven Seas suites, which feature a butler service, guaranteed dining

reservations and customised room amenities.

Spacious Suites include the Penthouse, Concierge, Superior, Deluxe Veranda and Veranda categories, all of which are "purposefully designed to maximise ocean views" that can be enjoyed by a private balcony.

The cruise line has also revealed renders of the ship's Observation Lounge, which "gives the feel of an enchanting English garden".

To view the new renders, visit our Facebook page [HERE](#).

Pictured: One of the new Concierge Suites.



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Catriona's cruise

MEDIA personality Catriona Rowntree has put pen to paper and released a new cruise manual that aims to share her "favourite trips by water" with readers looking for advice on how to pick the best cruise.

The Best of World Cruising features a list of her top 40 ocean and river cruise destinations around the world, and has been written especially for the Australian and New Zealand market. The book retails for \$35.

Travel at 60's royal salute



SPECIALISTS in cruise holidays for the over-60s market, Travel at 60 has celebrated a major milestone in the company's short history after closing sales of 96 full berths on board Cunard's *Queen Elizabeth* as it sails around New Zealand this week.

"After just six months in operation, this is the first major group cruise sailing full of Travel at 60 travellers and we couldn't be more excited for our guests,"

said Wendy Harch, Commercial Director Travel at 60.

"The team at Travel at 60 has worked hard to build a strong audience and is thrilled to see groups of Travel at 60 community members travelling together."

The company has partnered with the cruise line to offer a series of deals for its customers.

Pictured: The Travel at 60 team popping the champagne with Sally Gorringer from Cunard.

PORTHOLE

SO WHEN did passenger cruising become a thing?

According to the *Stuff you Missed in History Class* podcast, the whole sector was born when a ship owner named Jeremiah Thompson decided to add a revenue stream to his cargo ship business by squeezing people in between the crates.

The first "cruise trips" were advertised as a faster and roomier way of getting across the Atlantic Ocean between the US and Europe than regular boat sailings.

What started out as a secondary business model soon became a focus for many shipping companies who responded to the growing appetite for cruising the open seas in style and comfort.

It was hunky-dory from there.



AUSTRALIAN CRUISE ASSOCIATION
ACA UPDATE
with Jill Abel - CEO

Warm WA welcome

ACA's destination members are always known for giving a warm welcome to visiting cruise ships but in this case, Tourism WA has dialled up the heat.

On 27 Mar, when *Viking Sun* arrives for its maiden call into Fremantle, it will be greeted with a rousing musical welcome from the WA brass band.

That evening, passengers will arrive back to their cabins for a special turndown gift – a bespoke medallion from the Perth Mint commemorating the ship's inaugural visit.

A plaque will also be presented to the *Viking Sun's* captain on behalf of the WA Government and the Fremantle Port Authority. The plaque is handcrafted from native WA Marri wood in the shape of the state.

A similar welcome was provided to *Silver Muse* which visited Albany, Fremantle and Geraldton on her inaugural visit to WA. *MSC Magnifica* also visits Fremantle for the first time next week bringing around 3,000 passengers.

Cruising is vital to WA's economy as Minister Papalia stated at ACA's annual conference in Broome last year. He told the audience that growing the cruise market and attracting more people to regional WA is a key part of Tourism WA's Two-Year-Action Plan.

As part of that plan, Tourism WA is hosting ongoing Cruise Ready Workshops to support the regional destinations and has almost completed the state-wide rollout of the Accredited Tour Guide Program.

This is a first for Australia and is already being looked at by other states.

Sustainability SUMMIT

30 April 2019
Primus Hotel, Sydney

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Chief Purpose Officer, Intrepid Group

Giles Hawke
Global Lead - Sustainability, CEO UK, Cosmos Tours & Avalon Waterways

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- Tauk provided, water-repellent hooded parka you will receive aboard ship; that is yours to keep.

1 FREE* HOTEL NIGHT - VALUED UP TO \$364/night

Book by 27 September 2019 and receive 1 free hotel night at the Costa Rica Marriott or Alvear Art Hotel for your pre or post stay.



[Click for full itinerary](#)

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12 Days from Panama to San José (or reverse*)
Departing 21st Jan; 25 Feb; 3rd Mar 2020
Other departure dates available, prices vary

Starting from **\$10,540***pp twin share |
\$14,728*pp solo travellers

Tauk Experiences:

- Visit Costa Rica's Manuel Antonio & Carara National Parks, Panama's Darien region & the San Blas Islands.
- Experienced naturalist, Tauk Director and local guides enrich your experience of the jungle, water and flora & fauna.
- Tauk's private shore excursions and distinctive inclusions - **AUD \$3,180 Value!**

1 FREE* HOTEL NIGHT - VALUED UP TO \$412/night

Book by 27 September 2019 and receive 1 free hotel night at the Intercontinental Costa Rica for your pre or post stay.



[Click for full itinerary](#)

Cruising the Land of the Rising Sun

14 Days from Tokyo to Osaka (or reverse*)
Departing 18, 26th Apr; 4, 12th May 2020
Prices based on departure dates listed

Starting from **\$17,050***pp twin share |
\$21,908*pp solo travellers

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- Enjoy 8 nights aboard our elegant yacht *Le Soléal* & 5 nights at premier hotels in the heart of Osaka and Tokyo.
- Special Tauk Experiences featuring local cultural entertainment include a sumo wrestling demonstration, geisha and taiko performances and more.
- Private Tauk Shore Excursions - **AUD \$5,990 Value!**

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*Prices are per person in Australian dollars and are correct as at 18 March 2019. Prices are subject to availability and seasonal surcharges. Pricing for Antarctica and Cruising the Land of the Rising Sun are based on a Superior Cabin - Deck 3 and Panama Canal & Costa Rica based on Deluxe Cabin Deck 3. Bonus Hotel Night offer is for new bookings only deposited by 27 September 2019. Offer is based on maximum 1 room per booking to be used either pre or post tour accommodation. Value of up to \$1,428 per room per night is based on Palace Hotel Tokyo. Other hotels may be applicable. Offer is subject to availability at the time of booking and is not guaranteed. International airfares from Australia are not included in advertised prices. Change and cancellation conditions apply and will be advised at the time of booking. Lic 27A003774.