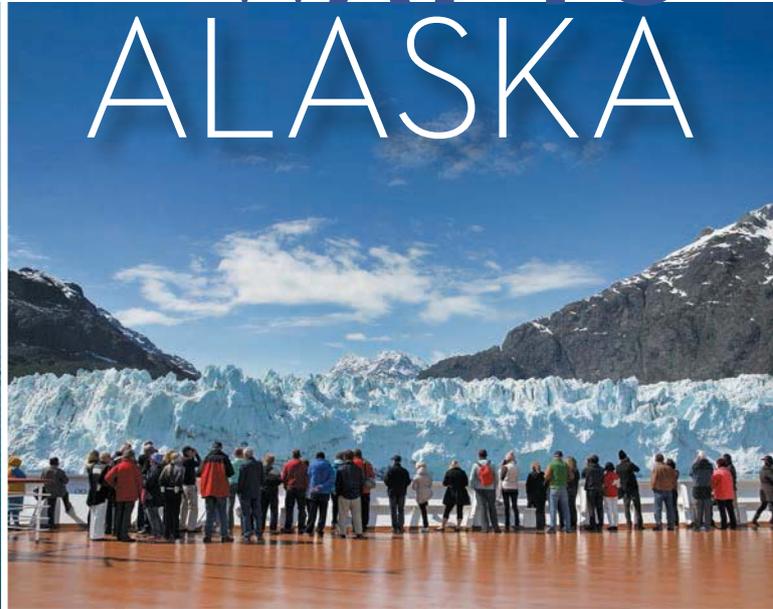


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Norwegian Encore changes hands

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line took delivery of its newest ship yesterday, *Norwegian Encore*, with a ceremony on board, in Bremerhaven in northern Germany.

This milestone begins a nearly month-long tour with preview events scheduled in Europe, New York and Miami, including *Norwegian Encore's* naming ceremony on 21 Nov.

Shortly after, a team of Australian media and trade boarded the vessel - see **page three** for more.

Pictured are: Wolfgang Thos, Yard Captain Meyer Werft; Niklas Persson, Captain *Norwegian Encore*; Tim Meyer, Managing Director Meyer Werft; Andy Stuart, President and Chief Executive Officer of Norwegian Cruise Line; and Harry Sommer, incoming President and Chief Executive Officer of Norwegian Cruise Line.



Win Alaska!

HOLLAND America Line is offering the chance to win your way to Alaska, with one of five places up for grabs in a verandah stateroom on board *Koningsdam* on a May 2020 famil.

See the **cover page** for further details.

Royal's beach day

ROYAL Caribbean International's new Royal Beach Club Collection will launch in Antigua in 2021, along the beachfront, with the company recently signing a memorandum of understanding with the country's government.

CW going daily!

THE ongoing growth of the Australasian cruise market will see the frequency of **Cruise Weekly** move to five editions per week, starting Mon 04 Nov.

It's just a year since the publication moved from two to three weekly issues, and demand has grown even further, according to Business Publishing Group General Manager Christian Schweitzer.

"**Cruise Weekly's** highly curated news content leads the way in keeping the industry informed," he said.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news including a photo page from **P&O Cruises** plus a front cover wrap from **Holland America Line**.



The Greg Mortimer is here!

After a year and a half in the making we are excited to announce the *Greg Mortimer* has arrived in Ushuaia, Argentina christened by the Godmother of the ship, Margaret Mortimer! Today the *Greg Mortimer* sets sail to Antarctica for the inaugural voyage.

Click below to view images and footage of the ship and christening ceremony.

[Find out more](#)

For more information and to book, contact your preferred wholesaler or Aurora Expeditions:
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On location on **Norwegian Encore**

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of NCL, aboard the brand new **Norwegian Encore**.

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's *Norwegian Encore* has kicked off her inaugural cruise with a group of Australian media and trade on board to test out the new vessel.

The team have been busy exploring the ship, jumping into the VR at Galaxy Pavillion, roaring around the largest go-kart race track in cruising and kicking back in the luxurious Haven.

Over the weekend they will sample specialty dining, see performances in the Encore theatre and hear from execs.

Greg Mortimer christened in Argentina

AURORA Expeditions has christened its new ship *Greg Mortimer* the first passenger ship utilising the Ulstein X-BOW.

Co-founder of Aurora Expeditions and godmother to the ship, Margaret Mortimer, christened the ship in a ceremony set against the mountains of Ushuaia, Argentina, smashing a ceremonial piece of Antarctic ice against the X-BOW.

"It never crossed my mind that I would one day be Godmother to a ship named after my husband," Margaret said.

"I am so proud to be launching his namesake and pay tribute to all those hard-working people who have made this ship a reality.

"For future expeditioners, I hope you enjoy many hours of life changing moments on board the *Greg Mortimer*."

Mortimer is the first passenger vessel in the world to utilise the



X-BOW® technology, an inverted bow design enabling a ship to pierce waves with much greater stability than a traditional bow.

"We are so proud to be launching this first in expedition cruising here today," said Aurora MD Robert Halfpenny.

"We are excited to invite our guests to experience mother nature at her best and visit the most remote areas in the world, all whilst in the refined

and relaxed comfort of the *Greg Mortimer*.

"Integral to Aurora Expeditions' DNA is sustainability and preservation of natural areas, and that is showcased in the design of the *Greg Mortimer* with anchorless technology and reduced emissions.

"Aurora Expeditions really is leading the way in expedition cruising."

More on **page five**.




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Prost to NCL's *Encore*



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line executives treated trade and media to dinner at the new *Onda* by Scarpetta on board *Norwegian Encore* last night. NCLH VP Commercial & Business Planning International Todd Hamilton emphasised the importance of the Australian market to the cruise line, with

the local office growing to be the third biggest in revenue for the company.

Pictured are: Jessica Castro, Senior Director International Marketing NCL; Adam Vance, GM Sales & Marketing Cruiseco and Todd Hamilton, VP Commercial & Business Planning International, NCLH.

OOE in deep water



EMBATTLED Antarctic cruise operators One Ocean Expeditions (OOE) yesterday claimed it is in a "difficult period of restructuring" amid a vague Facebook post.

The announcement, signed off on by Managing Director Andrew Prossin, has pleaded for "a few days" of patience.

"We deeply regret the inconvenience caused to passengers and our long-standing partners and we remain focused on doing everything possible to move our company forward."

One Ocean Expeditions hit rocky waters earlier this year when the Russian Government abruptly withdrew two ships it owned run by the line (**CW** 22 May), which came only a few months after a

OOE ship was damaged when it ran aground.

Another ship, *RCGS Resolute* was arrested in Nunavut, Canada in May for \$100,000 owed to a Nova Scotia-based company, and was arrested again in Halifax last month, according to *CBC*.

The same report outlined thousands in wages owed by the company to former employees, as well as cancelled cruises itineraries, such as a bird-watching cruise to Antarctica, canned Fri.

A review on Facebook from Mon written by an individual calling themselves Jo Schmo reads, "fuel bill not paid by One Ocean midway through trip of lifetime. Trip unable to proceed."

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8 NOV 2020



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*Offers correct as at 31 October 2019 and subject to change or withdrawal. Offer ends 18 November 2019 unless extended. For full terms and conditions click here.

Friday 1st November 2019

P&O Cruises recently celebrated one year to go for the arrival of *Pacific Adventure*, the biggest ship ever to join the fleet, hosting travel agent trivia events in the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Newcastle, Wollongong and Parramatta.

One lucky agent at each event was crowned trivia champion plus won a three-night P&O Cruise.

As part of the events P&O National Sales Manager Andrew Thwaites presented to the crowd the amazing features available on *Pacific Adventure*.

Features include the "Twin Racer" water slides and the ship's new dedicated family area, which includes a pool under a sliding glass roof so guests can swim any time of the year.

"Not only are we a year away from welcoming *Pacific Adventure*, we are also a year

away from *Pacific Explorer* cruising from Brisbane.

"*Pacific Explorer* offers guests more balconies and suites, water slides and more amazing dining options.

"Queenslanders are going to love *Pacific Explorer*," he said.



P&O Cruises team: Jacinta Cox; Ryan Taibel; Liz Simbaqueba; Richard Waugh; Jess Sainsbury; Lusia Futialo; Andrew Thwaites; and Brenton Reidy.



BRISBANE P&O BDM Richard Waugh; Jessica Taylor (winning agent), Andrew Thwaites.



BRISBANE agents battled it out to be quickest on the game show buzzer.



GOLD Coast Event - Richard Waugh, Qld BDM; Judy Booker, winning agent; Andrew Thwaites, National Sales Manager.



P&O BDM Jess O'Brien with Wollongong winner Jodie Findlay.



P&O NSW BDMs Angus Mackay & Jess O'Brien with Parramatta winner Fiona Sullivan.



ANDREW Thwaites P&O presenting in Wollongong.



P&O BDM Angus Mackay with Newcastle winner Rachel Adams.



BRISBANE agents ready for trivia.



Want to know what a cruise on *Scenic Eclipse* is like? Read more in the November issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

Ponant new brox

PONANT has released its 2020-2021 Caribbean & Latin America, and Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf & Polynesia voyages.

The two new cruise collections for adventurous travellers.

The 38 voyages included in the brochure depart between Sep 2020 and Apr 2021, taking guests to niche destinations such as the Caribbean, Belize, Grenadines, Martinique and Guatemala.

The new brochure also explores the Sea of Cortez, Chilean fjords and the Amazon River.

Cheers to you, Greg!



AURORA Expeditions celebrated the launch of its purpose-built expedition vessel the *Greg Mortimer* on 30 Oct.

Events were hosted in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane ahead of the christening taking place in Ushuaia, Argentina.

The purpose-built ship uses a patented Ulstein X-BOW which

allows for a smoother ride, faster speeds, & lower fuel consumption and air emissions (*CW* 21 Oct).

Pictured raising a toast to *Greg* are Hamish Naicker, Travel Counsellors; Julie Donaldson, Cruise Traveller; Alex Fayon, Aurora Expeditions; Lisa Koopman, Nordic Travel; Leslie Wright, Helloworld Umina.

Lindblad results

EXPEDITIONS' tour revenues increased 16% to US\$101 million (A\$146 million) as compared to the same period last year, the company announced in its financial results.

The increase was driven by growth of US\$12.1 million at the Lindblad segment and US\$1.7 million at Natural Habitat Adventures.

Lindblad segment tour revenues rise of 19% was primarily due to a 14% increase in available guest nights, mostly from the launch of the *National Geographic Venture* (*CW* 28 Jun 2018).

Adjusted EBITDA for the quarter of US\$24.1 million increased 41%, as compared to the same period in 2018, driven by growth of US\$5.9 million at the Lindblad segment and US\$1.1 million at Natural Habitat.



THE lovely people of the cruise industry are a talented bunch, and *Celebrity Solstice* Cruise Director Lewis Power Stannard was not shy in proving it yesterday.

The affable Stannard showed off his pouring skills in the vessel's Martini Bar during its 12-day cruise from Sydney to Auckland - **CLICK HERE**.

Tom Cruise eat your heart out!



Evergreen's Short but Sweet journeys

EVERGREEN Cruises & Tours has launched a new campaign to promote its shorter length tours on Europe's rivers.

The abbreviated journeys will still feature Evergreen's typical inclusions, such as wi-fi, all tipping and gratuities, port taxes and charges, airport transfers, and all meals, with complimentary wine and beer with lunch and dinner while aboard.

Highlighted trips include the eight-day Jewels of the Rhine river cruise from Amsterdam to Zurich, the eight-day Delights of the Danube river cruise from Munich to Budapest and the nine-day Enchantment of Eastern Europe river cruise from Bucharest to Budapest.

"Our short but sweet campaign showcases Evergreen's great value shorter itineraries which enable guests to custom design their holiday experience using our eight or nine days river cruises as a base," said Director of Sales, Marketing & Product Angus Crichton.

"[Some travellers] want the flexibility to build their European journey around their dream river cruise."

CCC Murray brox

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises (CCC) is inviting passengers to experience the Murray River aboard *Murray Princess* with the release of its 2020-21 brochure.

The 32-page publication places an emphasis on authentic experiences, and showcases *Murray Princess's* weekly, three, four- and seven-night itineraries.

The brochure also features the new Early Booking Saver fare offering up to 20% discount for bookings made 90 days or more in advance, and details the three-night Hot August Night Music Cruise and seven-night Loxton Cruises.