



Ponant adds more cruises in NZ

PONANT will visit Tasmania's Macquarie Island on a number of the cruise line's 14 ex-New Zealand voyages announced for later this year, as well as 2022 and 2023.

The 14 different itineraries vary in duration from seven to 21 nights, with a visit to Macquarie Island, home to the royal penguin (pictured), on a number of its departures.

The season will deep dive into the South Island with special visits to Snares Island, Ulva Island, Enderby Island, Campbell Island and the Antipodes Islands.

Le Laperouse will also visit Norfolk Island, New Caledonia, the Isle of Pines and Lifou Island, and will expedition to the Subantarctic Islands and the Ross Sea to visit the huts of Scott, Shackleton and Borchgrevink.

"From the remote subantarctic islands to spectacular fjords and



fascinating Maori traditions, these voyages offer an eclectic mix of culture and nature that makes travelling to this Land of the Long White Cloud a unique experience", said General Manager Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific Deb Corbett.

"Our exciting new itineraries allow for exploration beyond the beauty of New Zealand, such as neighbouring paradise New Caledonia and Antarctica's seldom visited Ross Sea," she said - to discover all Ponant's' New Zealand voyages, **CLICK HERE**.

Cruise Weekly today

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

NCL's Alaskan Bliss

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's (NCL) *Norwegian Bliss* will cruise Alaska starting 07 Aug, marking the brand's return in the United States.

Bliss will sail revised itineraries through 16 Oct visiting Skagway, Juneau, Ketchikan and Icy Strait Point.

On select sailings, guests will also have the chance to visit Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve or the Holkham Bay's glacier fjord.

Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings President & Chief Executive Officer Frank Del Rio thanked the Alaskan congressional delegation for helping to get the Passenger Vessel Services Act waived.

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AQSC hits the turf

AMERICAN Queen Steamboat Company (AQSC) has released savings for its 2023 cruise to the Kentucky Derby horse race.

With discounts of US\$800 per couple compared to next year's fares, guests can join AQSC's latest paddlesteamer, the newly launched *American Countess* (CW 24 Mar), for a seven-night cruise along the Ohio River.

The itinerary will also see *Countess* and her passengers become contestants in one of the Derby's beloved traditions – the 22-kilometre Great Steamboat Race, which sees a number of vessels battle it out along the river for the Silver Antlers trophy, a prize - *American Duchess* - narrowly lost to *Belle of Louisville* earlier this year.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more.

TA shows off its Gizmo



ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) District Sales Manager Erin King visited Travel Associates (TA) Hawthorne last week - a travel agency which cannot wait for cruising to resume.

She hit the road to showcase "the fantastic resources available to travel partners, discuss family

savings deals and to get everyone excited to cruise again," she said.

King is **pictured** in her brightest Hawaiian shirt with the members of the Travel Associates Hawthorne team (clockwise): Jessica Taylor, Cherie Lavin, and Roslyn Wyatt with the agency mascot Gizmo.

High demand on the Murray River

MURRAY River

Paddlesteamers is witnessing high demand for river cruises aboard *Emmylou*, with the cruise line adding 13 new departures for next year.

In total, Murray River Paddlesteamers will operate nine two-night cruises, 12 three-night cruises, 27 four-night cruises, and nine six-night cruises.

Director Craig Burgess revealed this year is hot for cruisers also, with 2021's season more than 90% sold.

"We have just 35 cabins left across our two-to-six-night cruises and already we have strong demand for our 2022 departures," Burgess added.

He believes the closure of international borders will continue to buoy demand.

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ALTHOUGH electricity and water don't usually mix, floating solar farms could cool down lakes threatened by climate change, according to research published in the International Solar Energy Society's *Solar Energy* journal.

A growing number of floating solar farms are being deployed worldwide on lakes and reservoirs might sound like an accident waiting to happen, but recent studies have shown the technology generates more electricity compared with rooftop or ground-mounted solar installations, *The Conversation* reports.

This is thanks to the cooling effect of the water beneath the panels, which can boost how efficiently these systems generate electricity by as much as 12.5%; it is a positive sign, with climate change having raised the temperature of lakes globally by 0.34° per decade since 1985.

New Creative client

CREATIVE Cruising has announced Tradewind Voyages as its newest supplier.

To celebrate the addition, Creative is introducing a new trade supplier offer, providing a \$50 eGift Card for all Tradewind itineraries booked and deposited before 16 Jul.

For all bookings, contact 1300 362 599.

A view of Vista



OCEANIA Cruises has unveiled upcoming ship *Vista's* signature spaces, including lounges, bars, and wellness facilities.

Vista will feature a wide variety of social, recreation, and wellness places, comprising six of the ship's 11 guest decks.

The reimagined Martinis bar (**pictured**) will host convivial gathering spaces nestled among walls of glass, and custom sculptural lighting.

Attempting to evoke the feeling of a private club, The Grand Lounge will feature sleek, relaxing alcoves in which guests can unwind before an unforgettable dinner, or enjoy a nightcap.

Floor-to-ceiling windows in the Horizons lounge will offer 180° views, while the Aquamar Spa + Vitality Center will provide a host of treatment areas, personal training spaces, and a new salon and barbershop, all set in a terrace with sweeping sea views.

Vista will also retain Oceania's signature Grand Staircase, which will feature a floor-to-ceiling pillar

of crystal and lights.

The first of two new 1,200-guest Allura class ships, *Vista* will set sail in 2023, with her sister to follow two years later.

A-ROSA River Cruises returns

A-ROSA River Cruises plans to resume cruising next month, as countries across Europe outline their plan to reopen for tourism.

The cruise line said it expects its cruises on the Danube, Douro, and Rhine will restart by mid-next month at the latest, and in France by the end of Jun.

MD Jorg Eichler said A-ROSA is busy adapting and updating its protocols in line with the latest regulations in the countries it sails through, and will announce them in the coming days.

A-ROSA sailed successfully for five months last year.



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