



Cruise Weekly today

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

CLIA webinar series

CRUISE Lines International Association's (CLIA) upcoming webinar series will explore cruising's tech revolution, and the newest advances set to reshape the industry.

Cruise lines will explain the many digital innovations that are helping to make life at sea more seamless and engaging, from new on board experiences to the smart systems guiding guest health and safety.

Taking centre stage later this month in the next webinar series will be six sessions held between 30 Nov and 09 Dec, each offering insight from a different cruise line.

Topics will include the latest smartphone applications, wearable devices, digital services, smart-room technologies, artificial intelligence, and the latest technology in on-board entertainment, among others.

Australasia Director of Membership & Events Marita Nasic said the webinars would help agents understand how technology is enhancing their clients' holidays at sea.

For more information and registration, visit CLIA's Virtual Events page [HERE](#).

Aqua to Galapagos



AQUA Expeditions will enter the Galapagos Islands this coming May with *Aqua Mare* (pictured), the archipelago's first superyacht.

The fifth vessel in the Aqua fleet, *Mare* will sail with 16 crew members to ensure a one-to-one crew-to-guest ratio, as well as two naturalists.

Mare will offer seven suites of a minimum of 20m² each, and a 80m² Owner's suite, which itself features a 20m² bathroom.

The ship will offer a choice of two seven-night itineraries exploring the Galapagos, as well as two 14-night voyages for the archipelago's ultimate bucket-list adventure.

Designed and built by the world-renowned Italian CRN yard with custom interiors by Francois Zuretti, *Mare* boasts almost a third more indoor volume than similar yachts in her class.

Mare is spread over four decks, featuring shaded and open sun decks; a six-person jacuzzi; an

outdoor barbecue area and a workout zone.

Multiple indoor and outdoor dining venues provide a variety of settings for either private meals or full-ship charters.

Two custom-made military-grade black rib tenders with central steering consoles ensure *Mare's* twice-daily expeditions are capped at only eight guests.

The ship is also equipped with double kayaks, paddleboards, and snorkeling gear.

One of *Mare's* highlights is her Beach Club, located at the aft of the lower deck, complete with a hydraulic-opening panoramic beam-to-beam window.

Rates on *Mare* start from USD\$9,450 per person for a seven-night itinerary including all meals and beverages; local transfers to/from recommended flights; all excursions; Galapagos Park entrance fee; INGALA transit card; laundry service; and internet - [CLICK HERE](#) for more.

MSC updates visits

MSC Cruises' *MSC Bellissima's* updated winter Saudi Arabia and Red Sea cruises will include an overnight in Yanbu to visit AIUla - revised to reflect pandemic restrictions.



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Adv Canada saving

A **SAVING** of 15% and no single supplement is available for a journey through the Northwest Passage in 2023.

Fares for the 16-night cruise include a bonus free hotel night in Toronto and also Yellowknife in Canada before and after the voyage respectively, with no deposit required until Mar.

There are two journeys available in Aug between Greenland and Canada, with the sailing to link the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

Guests will travel on board Adventure Canada's 198-passenger *Ocean Endeavour* and enjoy daily Zodiac shore visits, and excursions to get up close to wildlife.

Travellers will also be provided with an insight into traditional Inuit culture, including a visit to Canada's northernmost communities.

Exclusive to Cruise Traveller, the offer is available for those who book by the end of Jan.

Call 1800 507 777 or [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Record amount raised



CARNIVAL Cruise Line's *Mardi Gras* has raised a record amount for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, on her inaugural cruise.

Almost USD\$22,000 has been raised during the annual Groove For St. Jude event thanks to the generous donations of guests.

"Along with welcoming our guests back on board, our restart allows us to get back to meeting our goal of raising USD\$30 million by 2025 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital," said President Christine Duffy.

"We are proud to support such

a worthy cause and even more proud of guests for opening their hearts and raising close to USD\$22,000 for St. Jude in one day."

Mardi Gras was christened during a Universe of Fun celebration on 23 Oct in Port Canaveral (**CW** 26 Oct), and sailed her inaugural cruise throughout the Caribbean last week.

Pictured are Godmother & Miss Universe, Dominican Republic Kimberly Jimenez; Miss Universe Puerto Rico Estefania Soto-Torres; Miss USA Asya Branch; Duffy; and Miss Universe Andrea Meza.



LIKE Australia, Japan's cruise industry has not yet returned, and this week, that may be a godsend.

A number of Japan's ports have been damaged and beaches have been covered by pumice pebbles after the eruption of a submarine volcano.

The eruption has prompted the Government of Japan to establish a task force to deal with the situation as a natural disaster.

Fukutoku-Okanoba, part of the volcanic Bonin Islands, has so far damaged 11 ports in Okinawa and 19 others in the Kagoshima prefecture, and ferry services connecting Japan's remote islands have been temporarily suspended.

It is feared the pebbles are moving farther north, and could affect the entire Japanese coast, the government said.

The total cost of damages from the pebbles is still unknown.



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