



### Cruise Weekly today

**CRUISE Weekly** today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **Viking**.

Due to popular demand we are also reintroducing our Cruise Calendar feature, showcasing cruise ship port calls over the coming days in both **Australia** and **NZ**.

## NCLH new Events division

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has announced the creation of a new Experiences at Sea division, built through the merger of its existing Charters, Meetings, & Incentives operation with the in-house Sixthman Festivals at Sea charter business.

The union's first season will host 13 consecutive events over 66 nights in the northern spring, including an immersive multi-week fan-focused charter experience in celebration of the Rugby World Cup.

The newly formed brand will cover Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises, with the first season to sail aboard *Norwegian Pearl*.

Voyages will cruise from Miami from 20 Jan to 27 Mar, calling on a variety of Caribbean islands, including NCLH's private destinations of Great Stirrup Cay in the Bahamas and Harvest Caye in Belize.

Some of the cruises include The Rock Boat XXII, a five-day cruise hosted by Sister Hazel and featuring more than 30 acts from NEEDTOBREATHE, Neon Trees, American Authors, Lit, and more; On the Blue, a rock cruise hosted by Justin Hayward of the Moody Blues; and Chris Jericho's Rock N Wrestling Rager at Sea.

Also part of the inaugural season will be Nursecon at Sea, the "ultimate nursing conference"; Sail Across the

Sun, a four-day cruise hosted by Train, with performances from more than 20 artists including Fitz and the Tantrums, G. Love & Special, plus comedy from Nick Swardson, wine tastings and more; The Friendship, hosted by All My Friends and Gary Richards, DESTRUCTO, a music festival for electric dance music aficionados; The Beach Boys Cruise, featuring the namesake American rock band, as well as The Isley Brothers, The Temptations, The Righteous Brothers, Mark McGrath, and more.

Rounding out the season will be Keeping the Blues Alive at Sea, which will see Joe Bonamassa host a celebration of blues with more than 20 artists, featuring Little Feat, Dion, Bobby Rush, Robert Randolph Band, and more; Atlantis, which offers a carefree experience for the gay community; and the Broadway Cruise, in which guests can immerse themselves in the world of Broadway with special performances from Tony-Award winners Laura Benanti, Kristin Chenoweth, and Alan Cumming.

"We are thrilled to be collaborating with our expansive roster of artists and NCL client partners for a record-breaking 13 back-to-back immersive festival-at-sea cruises aboard *Norwegian Pearl*, bringing guests from an array of like-minded communities together," Sixthman Chief Executive Anthony Diaz said.

## Winter AK cruise

**UNCRUISE** Adventures has announced its first cruise to Alaska during the winter season, with savings also released through Cruise Traveller.

The small boutique expedition cruise line will voyage aboard *Safari Endeavour* on the sailing next year, with Cruise Traveller offering an all-inclusive fly/cruise/stay package with a saving of \$1,680 per couple.

There are six winter departures from Jan to Mar 2024 of the 18-night 'Ski & Sea Alaska 2024', which begins with a flight from Sydney, Melbourne, or Brisbane to Calgary.

The adventure begins with a week of snow & ice activities in Canada's Rocky Mountains, with action including sleigh & sled rides, snowshoeing & ice walks, and more.

The Rockies tour includes three nights in Banff, two in Jasper and two at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, before guests fly to Seattle for one night, and then travel to Juneau for the seven-night, round-trip Uncruise Alaskan wilderness voyage.

Travellers must book by 31 Mar to access the saving, and can also pay just a \$200 deposit until 05 Feb.

**CLICK HERE** for more information, or call Cruise Traveller on 1800 507 777.

## Two boats rescued

**CELEBRITY** Cruises' *Celebrity Beyond* and Carnival Cruise Line's *Carnival Celebration* rescued around two dozen migrants in small boats in the Atlantic Ocean earlier this week.

Crew members aboard *Beyond* rescued 19 migrants from their crowded boat on Tue, after which the United States Coast Guard was contacted, in an incident documented by the ship's Captain Kate McCue (**CLICK HERE**).

Meanwhile, crew members aboard *Celebration* spotted five people in distress on a small vessel about 50 kilometres off the coast of Cuba.

## Viking Explorer sale

**VIKING'S** "Explorer Sale" is making it easier than ever to attract new bookings and earn more - head to **p4** of today's *Cruise Weekly* for more.

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**MORE** than 100 South Australian partygoers who were scammed over a fake New Year's Eve cruise will receive a refund, *9News* has reported.

The \$120 "luxury cruise" promised partygoers the celebration of a lifetime to ring in the new year, with a package deal for a four-hour cruise including drinks, food, and a DJ.

The 150 partygoers lined up at Glenelg Wharf, but after the boat failed to arrive, some attendees realised the Facebook-organised event had been deleted from the internet.

A spokesperson for Eventbrite, the platform through which the bookings were ticketed, admitted the event was fraudulent, and said all would-be passengers will be refunded.

"We are cooperating with South Australia Police to support their investigation into the people behind this event," Eventbrite said.

## NCL turndowns turned down

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) is set to phase out its evening stateroom turndown service for guests in all cabin categories below suite level.

Once implemented this year, guests in Studio, Inside, Oceanview, Balcony and Club Balcony staterooms will receive a once-daily stateroom service.

All other suite and Haven cabin categories will continue to receive a second daily service, with the policy to be rolled out fleetwide by the end of Mar.

## AIDAaura sailaway

**CARNIVAL** Corporation's German offshoot AIDA Cruises has announced a "farewell season" for its *AIDAaura*, confirming the ship will leave the fleet in Sep.

Her final season with AIDA will offer itineraries in South Africa, Norway, Iceland, Greenland, the British Isles and a final voyage on several European rivers, including the Thames, the Seine, and the Scheldt.

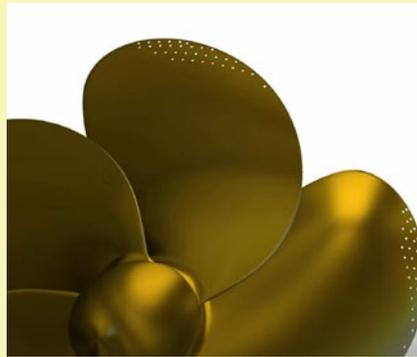
Just before Christmas, Carnival confirmed further rationalisation of its global fleet (*CW* 22 Dec 2022), including two Costa vessels, which will now be joined by the 1,266-passenger *AIDAaura* which became part of the AIDA fleet when she was named in Apr 2003.

## Holey solution to cut propeller noise

**AN INNOVATIVE** technology claiming to substantially reduce the underwater radiated noise generated by ship propellers has been announced by Scotland's University of Strathclyde, and maritime manufacturer Oscar Propulsion.

The system, dubbed "PressurePores" works by putting a small number of strategically placed holes (**pictured**) in the propeller blades, reducing vortex cavitation by relieving the pressure at the tips.

"Underwater radiated noise is one of the most adverse environmental by-products from commercial shipping, yet unlike other forms of marine pollution, there is currently no international legislation in place to prevent or reduce this source of environmental damage," said Oscar



Propulsion's Lars Eikeland.

"Increasing noise levels, especially in the low-frequency range, is disorientating marine fauna and disrupting their communication signals, leading to behavioural exchanges or extinction," he claimed.

The propeller design follows four years of fluid dynamics modelling and cavitation tunnel tests which found the carefully positioned holes can reduce noise by up to 10dB.

A video of the system is at [cruiseweekly.com.au/videos](http://cruiseweekly.com.au/videos).

**HORNBLOWER** Group's American Queen Voyages (AQV) is expanding its leadership team, with new Vice President of Human Resources John Kingston to be joined by Vice President of Marketing Angela Composto, and Project Management Officer Alex Dormoi.

All three will report directly to new President Cindy D'Aoust, who was appointed last year (*CW* 29 Sep 2022).

Dormoi joins AQV as Project Management Officer, having previously been the Senior Consultant, Business Strategy & Planning, for Anew Recruit.

He will be working closely with D'Aoust to implement business-critical initiatives and develop tactical plans to grow individual business units.

Kingston will be responsible for all aspects of AQV human resources functions, including shoreside and shipboard efforts.

He joins AQV with more than 25 years of experience in human resources with leading hospitality companies across the United States, most recently Dimension Hospitality.

Composto will lead the

marketing team as Vice President, offering more than 20 years of experience in the cruise industry, having previously held the role of Marketing Officer at Chief Outsiders.

"We are building a leadership team of the most talented industry experts with the distinct skills and experience to lead and advance American Queen Voyages' success in 2023 and onwards," D'Aoust said.

## NZ Cruise Calendar

The next few port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around New Zealand.

### AUCKLAND

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>Coral Adventurer</i>  | 06 Jan |
| <i>Silver Whisper</i>    | 08 Jan |
| <i>Majestic Princess</i> | 08 Jan |
| <i>Viking Mars</i>       | 09 Jan |

### TAURANGA

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>Silver Muse</i>       | 06 Jan |
| <i>Majestic Princess</i> | 07 Jan |
| <i>Coral Adventurer</i>  | 08 Jan |
| <i>Viking Mars</i>       | 08 Jan |
| <i>Silver Whisper</i>    | 09 Jan |

### BAY OF ISLANDS

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>Majestic Princess</i> | 06 Jan |
| <i>Silver Whisper</i>    | 07 Jan |

### WELLINGTON

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <i>Viking Mars</i>      | 06 Jan |
| <i>Star Breeze</i>      | 06 Jan |
| <i>Norwegian Spirit</i> | 06 Jan |
| <i>ms Noordam</i>       | 07 Jan |
| <i>Silver Muse</i>      | 08 Jan |
| <i>Coral Princess</i>   | 09 Jan |

### AKAROA

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| <i>Silver Muse</i> | 09 Jan |
|--------------------|--------|

### DUNEDIN

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>ms Noordam</i>        | 06 Jan |
| <i>Coral Princess</i>    | 07 Jan |
| <i>Norwegian Spirit</i>  | 08 Jan |
| <i>Celebrity Eclipse</i> | 08 Jan |

### FIORDLAND

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>Coral Princess</i>    | 06 Jan |
| <i>Celebrity Eclipse</i> | 07 Jan |
| <i>Norwegian Spirit</i>  | 09 Jan |

### CHRISTCHURCH

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>Norwegian Spirit</i>  | 07 Jan |
| <i>Coral Princess</i>    | 08 Jan |
| <i>Celebrity Eclipse</i> | 09 Jan |

### GISBORNE

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| <i>Star Breeze</i> | 08 Jan |
|--------------------|--------|

### NAPIER

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| <i>Viking Mars</i> | 07 Jan |
| <i>Silver Muse</i> | 07 Jan |
| <i>Star Breeze</i> | 07 Jan |
| <i>ms Noordam</i>  | 09 Jan |



## AU Cruise Calendar

The next few port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia.

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| <b>SYDNEY</b>              |        |
| <i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>    | 06 Jan |
| <i>Azamara Quest</i>       | 06 Jan |
| <i>Queen Elizabeth</i>     | 07 Jan |
| <i>Silver Shadow</i>       | 07 Jan |
| <i>Carnival Splendor</i>   | 08 Jan |
| <i>Pacific Adventure</i>   | 09 Jan |
| <b>MELBOURNE</b>           |        |
| <i>Viking Orion</i>        | 08 Jan |
| <i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>    | 09 Jan |
| <i>Grand Princess</i>      | 09 Jan |
| <b>EDEN</b>                |        |
| <i>Azamara Quest</i>       | 08 Jan |
| <b>BRISBANE</b>            |        |
| <i>Quantum of the Seas</i> | 06 Jan |
| <i>Pacific Encounter</i>   | 07 Jan |
| <i>Carnival Luminosa</i>   | 08 Jan |
| <b>PHILLIP ISLAND</b>      |        |
| <i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>    | 08 Jan |
| <b>KANGAROO ISLAND</b>     |        |
| <i>Grand Princess</i>      | 06 Jan |
| <i>Oceania Regatta</i>     | 08 Jan |
| <b>ADELAIDE</b>            |        |
| <i>Oceania Regatta</i>     | 07 Jan |
| <i>True North</i>          | 08 Jan |
| <b>PORT LINCOLN</b>        |        |
| <i>Grand Princess</i>      | 07 Jan |
| <b>PORTLAND</b>            |        |
| <i>Oceania Regatta</i>     | 09 Jan |
| <b>FREMANTLE</b>           |        |
| <i>AIDAmar</i>             | 09 Jan |
| <b>AIRLIE BEACH</b>        |        |
| <i>ms Westerdam</i>        | 07 Jan |
| <i>Quantum of the Seas</i> | 08 Jan |
| <b>CAIRNS</b>              |        |
| <i>ms Westerdam</i>        | 08 Jan |
| <b>HOBART</b>              |        |
| <i>Pacific Explorer</i>    | 09 Jan |

## New NCL China policies

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) has enhanced its health & safety measures, with guests who have visited China, Hong Kong, and Macau now required to submit proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours prior to their voyage.

The enhanced measures will only apply to those who have visited the regions within 10 days of embarkation, as precautionary measures to deal with the virus after the Chinese Communist Party's abandonment of its COVID-zero policy.

Additionally, these guests will be required to take a COVID-19 PCR test at the embarkation port, and will be required to test on board the ship every 48 hours, until at least 10 days have passed from when they left in these regions.

These guests must also be fully vaccinated and boosted with an approved vaccine prior to embarkation.

Guests that hold a passport from one of these regions will be subjected to the same protocols unless they can provide proof they have not visited these regions within 10 days prior to embarkation.

The protocols apply to all sailings embarking this month, with Norwegian saying the health, safety and well-being of its guests, crews, and communities it visits is its number one priority.

"As a result of growing concerns regarding COVID-19 in China, and recently implemented travel restrictions by several countries including the United States, we are proactively implementing

preventative health and safety measures.

"We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these measures and thank our guests for their continued understanding as we work to protect the health, safety and well-being of our guests, crew and communities we visit worldwide.

"As always, we will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide updates as appropriate."

The new measures are not dissimilar to those introduced by a variety of countries around the world, including Australia, which are forcing travellers arriving from China to test before arriving.

Australia requires travellers from China to test within 48 hours of departure.

## Whale protections

**THE UN** International Maritime Organization has taken on board a US proposal which increases protection for endangered whales from ships off the Californian coast.

Applying to cruise and cargo vessels, the plan extends ship traffic lanes in and around the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, and expands areas that ships should avoid to give the marine mammals more space.

The changes were initially mooted in 2015, with the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) submitting the proposal to the IMO in partnership with the US Coastguard last year.



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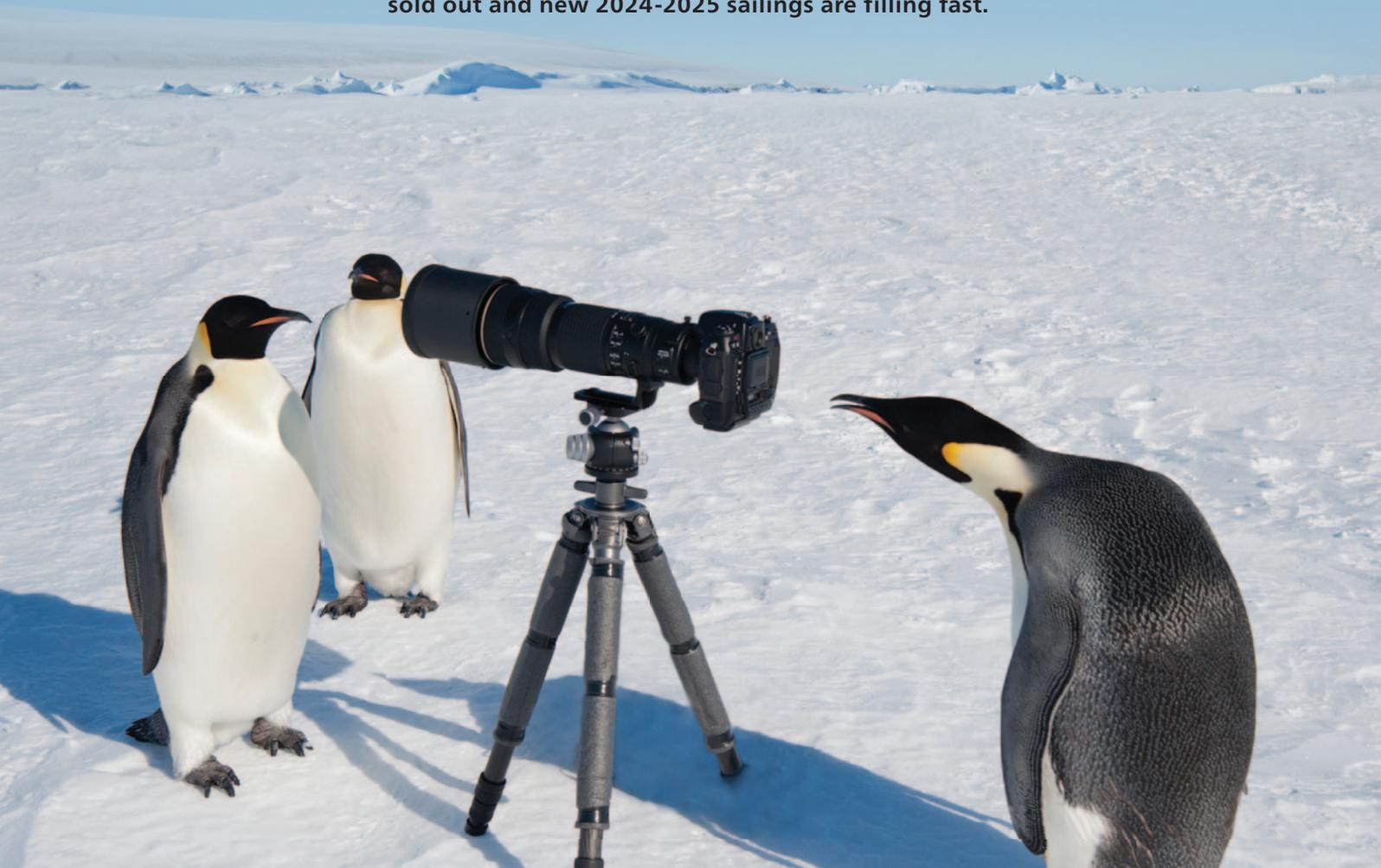


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\*When booking airfares through Viking standard airline deposits and non-refundable conditions apply. Deposits are refundable in the form of a future cruise voucher up until 120 days before departure or final payment. After final payment has been made standard cancellation fees apply.