



Cruise Weekly today

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

Shoot for the stars

CARNIVAL Corporation has expanded its next-generation wi-fi connectivity with SpaceX's Starlink, which will see the technology extend to each of the company's nine cruise lines.

Fleet roll-out of Starlink began in Dec with Carnival Cruise Line and AIDA Cruises, and will now be extended to Costa Cruises, Cunard Line, Holland America Line, P&O Cruises Australia, P&O Cruises UK, Princess Cruises, and Seabourn Cruise Line.

Carnival Corp joins a number of cruise companies adding onboard Starlink internet, such as American and Celebrity.

CLIA reveals cruise awards finalists

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) has this morning unveiled the full list of finalists for the hotly anticipated 20th Cruise Industry Awards (**CW** 13 Dec 2022).

More than 400 entries were received across the 18 categories, which include 11 that were open to self- or peer-nomination.

The finalists include cruise specialist travel agencies, online operators and individuals from across Australia and New Zealand, who will be honoured for their achievements at the cruise sector's biggest party in more than three years.

CLIA MD Joel Katz said the awards recognised the determination and resilience of the travel agent community across Australia and NZ.

"The past few years have given us challenges like never before, and yet the nominations for



this year's CLIA Awards show an incredible amount of passion and strength among our members.

"Each of the finalists chosen for this year's awards is a brilliant example of the tenacity and dedication that has kept our community united and put cruising back on a course to prosperity," he said.

Some of the key categories include Agency of the Year, Cruise Consultant of the Year, Home-based Cruise Agent/Broker of the

Year and Cruise Champion awards for both the advisor and cruise supplier sides of the industry.

There are also awards showcasing cruise promotions and marketing excellence as well as the Rising Star award to honour some of the industry's brightest up-and-comers.

The sold-out event will take place at Luna Park Sydney on Sat 11 Mar, hosted by entertainer Tim Campbell, with the full list of finalists at cruising.org.au.

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SINCE it launched in 2007, Google Street View has offered a glimpse into Australia's tourism assets, such as Ningaloo Reef, Christmas Island, and Kakadu National Park.

The technology is now tracing another famous Australian tourism drawcard, Sydney Harbour, through its ferry network.

In partnership with Transport for NSW, the new offering offers prospective travellers access to a virtual tour of Sydney's ferry network, including routes such as Circular Quay to Manly and Taronga Zoo.

The special Street View collection is live now - **CLICK HERE** to jump on board - but don't forget your Opal card!



Refugee ship over

UKRAINIAN refugees living on a cruise ship docked in Glasgow are set to be rehomed, as the Scottish Government's contract with the vessel's owner comes to an end.

Ambition has been home to about 1,100 people since Sep, with the contract set to end on 31 Mar.

Luxury cruising to soar

VIRTUOSO'S latest partner data indicates luxury cruise production is expected to exceed 2019 by 30% this year, with the sector continuing the dominance it showed in 2022 with the turn of the calendar.

Within the luxury cruise sector, expedition cruising spiked in popularity last year, up more than 200% on 2019 levels across the region.

Local General Manager Fiona Dalton (**pictured**) said affluent travellers are increasingly seeking access to highly curated and bespoke experiential opportunities while cruising.

"Expedition cruising is the perfect travel style, allowing



comfort and highly anticipatory service onboard, accompanied by the most extraordinary shore experiences in the most remote destinations," she said.

"Travellers can explore the far reaches of the Antarctic, visit remote communities along Greenland's west coast that are inaccessible by road, or cruise the Cape Verde archipelago, off the west coast of Africa, traversing Fogo's lava landscapes and the dunes of stark Boa Vista.

"Expedition cruising comes in many shapes and sizes, but there is an option for every traveller type and level of drive to push beyond one's comfort zone."

Azamara package

SAVINGS for solos and couples have been released for a new cruise package in Northern Europe with Cruise Traveller.

The summer 2024 small ship package aboard Azamara's *Azamara Pursuit* is available with a saving of \$2,200 per couple, plus a complimentary stay before and after the cruise.

The 25-night package includes flights from Australia for those who book before the end of Mar.

'In Pursuit of Mediterranean Moments' features two back-to-back voyages, from 10 Jul to 05 Aug.

Destinations include Marseille, Monte Carlo, Livorno, Rome, Venice, Dubrovnik, and more - **HERE**.

Euro Waterways '23

EUROPEAN Waterways has announced its spring 2023 specials of 20% off on select luxury hotel barge cruises in Europe.

Included are charters for the special are the 09 and 30 Apr departures of *Finesse* in Burgundy, and the 02 and 09 Apr departures of *Enchante* on the Canal du Midi.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.

Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	19 Jan
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	20 Jan
MELBOURNE	
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	20 Jan
BRISBANE	
<i>Quantum of the Seas</i>	20 Jan
HOBART	
<i>Silver Muse</i>	19 Jan
<i>Viking Mars</i>	19 Jan
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	20 Jan
BURNIE	
<i>Coral Princess</i>	20 Jan
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	20 Jan
AUCKLAND	
<i>ms Europa 2</i>	19 Jan
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	20 Jan
WELLINGTON	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	19 Jan
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	20 Jan
<i>Silver Shadow</i>	20 Jan
AKAROA	
<i>Le Soleal</i>	19 Jan
FIORDLAND	
<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	19 Jan
<i>Seven Seas Explorer</i>	19 Jan
<i>ms Noordam</i>	20 Jan
<i>Norwegian Spirit</i>	20 Jan
KAIKOURA	
<i>Le Soleal</i>	20 Jan
NAPIER	
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	19 Jan
PICTON	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	19 Jan
WAIHEKE	
<i>ms Europa 2</i>	19 Jan