

THE *MAGIC AHOY!* VIRTUAL CRUISE IS NOW SAILING AND IT HOLDS YOUR CHANCE TO **WIN** A STATEROOM ONBOARD A DISNEY WONDER VOYAGE IN 2025!



What is *Magic Ahoy!* all about? This virtual cruise gives you the opportunity to explore Disney Cruise Line at your leisure. You can dip in, have a break, come back later, or complete all the training in one go – it is completely up to you. You'll learn all about our infamous Rotational Dining, onboard entertainment, Disney's Private Island, and more! This training covers all five ships in our fleet, including *Disney Wonder*, the ship sailing from Australia and New Zealand.

There are 3 Levels to complete – once you have reached Level 3, you'll be entered into the draw to win a Stateroom for you and a Guest onboard a Disney Cruise Line sailing from Sydney!

The competition runs between 26 August and 18 November 2024, with spot prizes to be won throughout the incentive, and an **exclusive *Magic Ahoy!* pin*** once you collect all the Mickey Stamps.

Don't delay and **download *Magic Ahoy!* from the app store today!** *Magic Ahoy!* has launched, and with this mega prize up for grabs, you won't want to miss out!

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MAGIC AHOY!



Viking ups China

VIKING has announced an expansion of its China offering, with six new voyages starting next year.

Bookings have opened for the itineraries, which will explore China as well as Japan, and into Tibet, operating from Sep 2025 to Nov 2025.

The new voyages range from 15 to 22 days, and explore Shanghai, Beijing, Xi'an, Lhasa and Osaka.

The cruises will sail aboard *Viking Yi Dun* - formerly *Viking Sun*, while each voyage will offer guests immersive destination-focused experiences, insightful lectures and regionally inspired cuisine.

"We are proud to open our second season of these unique itineraries featuring exploration of the China coast - something that is entirely exclusive to Viking," said Viking Chair & Chief Executive Officer Torstein Hagen.

"Our guests are curious travellers who travel as a way to broaden their minds."

Oceania to Tampa

TAMPA will welcome its first premium line, with Oceania Cruise Line's *Insignia* releasing a range of new Caribbean and Panama Canal sailings.

The northern winter sailings will range from seven to 20 days, beginning in Mar 2026.

CLIA helping industry thrive



CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Managing Director Joel Katz asserted the industry's aim to secure the right regulatory settings which will allow cruising to "thrive into the future in a well-managed way".

Opening today's Cruise360 conference (see **page two**) in Sydney today, Katz said CLIA is working together with its strong community of stakeholders and supporters as it aims to battle some of the key issues cruise is facing in the region.

"While the market is strong, recent deployment announcements by cruise lines reflect the high cost of operating in this region, and the impact of regulatory complexities," Katz said.

"Capacity in Australia is likely to remain static in the short term, and in New Zealand it is notably down [and] this is where CLIA

is particularly active - alongside our cruise lines, we are working with governments at national and regional levels, on both sides of the Tasman," Katz added.

CLIA's local boss highlighted the investment in new ships around the world - a demonstration of the sentiment in the industry.

"The current world orderbook shows 71 new cruise ships scheduled for delivery through to 2036 with a combined value of more than US\$60 billion.

"It's interesting to note that despite the attention on the largest ships, the reality is we have a good balance among ship sizes in the fleet today, and into the future, with a third being small ships, a third medium, and a third larger ships." *MS*

More from Cruise360 on **page three** and in *Cruise Weekly's* special issue on Mon.

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news and photos, plus a cover wrap from **Disney Destinations**.

Disney Magic Ahoy

DISNEY Cruise Line's Magic Ahoy virtual cruise is now sailing, offering the chance to win a stateroom on board a *Disney Wonder* voyage in '25.

Learn more about the cruise line, and scan the QR code to download the mobile app on today's **cover page**.

Norway plan delay

NORWAY has delayed its plan to ban most cruise ships from its fjords from 2026 back until 2032 (**CW** 17 Jan).

The country had initially planned to ban all cruise ships, except zero-emission vessels, from sailing in the fjords from 2026; however that plan has now been pushed back.

"The goal is to take care of the spectacular fjords and create sustainable tourism," Climate & Environment Minister Andreas Bjelland Eriksen said.

"The introduction of zero-emission requirements will both drive technology and contribute to the development of zero-emission solutions, which will benefit the entire industry," Bjelland Eriksen said.

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Silversea targeting South Australia

EXCLUSIVE

SILVERSEA is targeting Southern Australia as one of its next potential expedition destinations, SVP Expedition, Destinations and Itinerary Management, Conrad Combrink, has revealed.

Speaking exclusively to *Cruise Weekly*, Combrink (pictured with Director Brand Marketing Philippa Walker) revealed himself and his line as admirers of South Australia, and the country's southern coastline, which he believes holds great potential as an expedition destination.

"We would definitely like to do more, especially in expedition.

"We do a lot on the west coast, we do basically everything from Darwin to Fremantle, but I think South Australia has a huge opportunity," Combrink added.

"It's one of those destinations Australians want to travel to."



Locals are still Silversea's key source market for its Australian product, Combrink revealed, although the cruise line is working on evening this metric out to a 50-50 split.

"We started operating [in the Kimberley] in 2014 and interestingly enough, it was predominantly Australian, and now we're seeing more and more American, Brits, European clientele coming to the Kimberley.

"Kimberley is still predominantly Australians for us, but we're also developing [the market] outside of Australia, and we see a really

good response...there's definitely a bigger awareness outside of Australia," he added.

"At one stage, we're certainly hoping it will be more equal in terms of the source market."

Australia manages a lot of heavy lifting for Silversea's expedition product generally, not just the Kimberley, Combrink added.

"We rely heavily on this source market for expedition...it is incredibly important for Silversea overall, but specifically with expeditions, it's our second-biggest source market after the United States," he divulged. *MS*

Big summer ahead

NEW ships and more port calls signal a busy cruise season ahead.

Cruise Lines International Association Managing Director, Joel Katz, revealed Australia will welcome more than 60 ships this summer, bringing billions in economic activity to dozens of ports and destinations around the country.

"Australia will host a total of 62 cruise ships over the 2024-25 summer season, which is among the busiest schedules we've seen in local waters," Katz said.

"The number of ships is slightly down on the 70 hosted last year, but many are staying longer and making more calls.

"The total number of visits will be up 3% to 1,904 port calls, which creates enormous tourism opportunities for local communities," he added.



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“Thank you for creating **TIME**, I believe that this is a fantastic mechanism to encourage tomorrow's leaders today and it's amazing to see so many people from different parts of the travel industry coming together. **Blake Muir - Mentee**”

For more information visit - www.travelindustrymentor.com.au

Fri 30 August 2024

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) kicked off its annual Cruise360 conference in Sydney last night with a welcome cocktail function at Doltone House Darling Island.

Managing Director Joel Katz thanked attendees for their enthusiasm for this year's conference, which he added will be the biggest ever.

"Our travel agent/trade membership is now bigger than it has ever been, and that's a direct reflection of the optimism and enthusiasm around cruising just now," he said.

"Riding the same wave, our 2024 Cruise360 Australasia conference is going to be the biggest we've ever held, and so I want to thank you [all]."



THE "engine room" of the Australian cruise industry: Jon Murrie, CLIA Communications Director; Joel Katz, CLIA Australasia MD; and Jill Abel, Australian Cruise Association CEO.



DANIELLE Galloway, Flight Centre Travel Group Managing Director Luxury & Independent; Caroline Hitchen, CruiseHQ General Manager; and Nikki Glading, The Luxury Travel Collection General Manager Sales & Operations.



MONIQUE Van Gelder, FCTG Head of Cruise Product; Andrew Stark, FCTG Managing Director; and Megan Henderson, Chief Marketing Officer.



DEAN Long, Australian Travel Industry Association CEO; Joel Katz, CLIA Australasia and Steve Brady, Helloworld General Manager Cruise.



RACHEL Kingswell, Travel Associates General Manager; Andrew Stark, Flight Centre Managing Director; and Anna Burgdorf, The Luxury Travel Collection Global General Manager.



LEIGHTON Schembri, Luxury Escapes Partnership & Commercial Contracting Manager with Lisa Teiotu, MSC Cruises MD.



CASSANDRA Kerr, Silversea Director of Sales; Philippa Walker, Silversea Director Brand Marketing and Cinzia Burnes, Helloworld Executive Director.



KEVIN Johns, Helloworld Cruise Product Manager and Lauryn Woodward, Cruiseco Marketing Executive.



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PORThOLE

FOUR travellers disembarking *MSC Magnifica* in Miami have ended their holiday with a stint in jail, arrested and charged with alleged grand theft and credit card fraud.

The four are accused of using counterfeit credit cards not only to purchase their cruise holiday itself but to obtain large cash advances from the ship's onboard casino.

While all of the attempted transactions were declined, ship security contacted police in Nassau and the group was prevented from disembarking during the ship's planned call.

When the ship returned to Miami, US Customs and Border Protection officers swooped and found the cruise booking was made illegally.

Agents take on HAL's Alaska



ANCHORAGE was the first stop on an envy-inducing 10-day adventure through Alaska for this group of lucky travel advisors.

Hosted by Erin King and Helen Courias from Holland America Line, the group explored Alaska and the Yukon, beginning with a ride on HAL's McKinley Explorer Train into the stunning Denali National Park.

There was plenty of wildlife on show for the group, with even a baby moose making itself known.

Agents saw the vast expanse of the Alaskan and Canadian wilderness by road and air, even making their way to the remote Dawson City, via Fairbanks.

But the highlight came next as the group reached Skagway,

where Holland America Line's *MS Koningsdam* was waiting.

Onboard, the agents were treated to a pop-up dining experience at Tamarind, where even Head Chef Morimoto, known for his meticulous designs and food presentation, was waiting to meet them.

A four-night journey through Glacier Bay to Vancouver was capped off with glorious summer weather and not a cloud in the sky as the group admired the stunning scenes in Glacier Bay. *ML*

The lucky agents are **pictured** here during a stop in Whitehorse.

Green serveware

GUESTS on Norwegian Cruise Line can now access reusable bento box serveware made using recycled materials as part of the brand's new partnership with Drinique.

The serveware will be rolled out fleet-wide by end of 2024.

Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	03 Sep
BRISBANE	<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	31 Aug
CAIRNS	<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	03 Sep
	<i>The World</i>	06 Sep
COOKTOWN	<i>The World</i>	05 Sep
THURSDAY ISLAND	<i>The World</i>	03 Sep
DARWIN	<i>Le Jacques Cartier</i>	30 Aug
	<i>The World</i>	30 Aug
	<i>Heritage Adventurer</i>	31 Aug
	<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	01 Sep
BROOME	<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	30 Aug
	<i>MV Reef Prince</i>	31 Aug
	<i>Coral Princess</i>	01 Sep
	<i>Le Laperouse</i>	01 Sep
	<i>True North II</i>	03 Sep
	<i>Eco Abrolhos</i>	05 Sep
AUCKLAND	<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	02 Sep

Earn Avios on RCI

ROYAL Caribbean has joined with IAG Loyalty to offer members of International Airlines Group frequent flyer programs to earn Avios on eligible cruise bookings.

The tie-up is open to members of British Airways Executive Club, Aer Lingus AerClub, Iberia Plus and Vueling Club when booking balcony or suite staterooms.

Currently, the offer only applies to bookings made on Royal Caribbean's UK, Ireland and Spain websites.



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