



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS

**Cruise Agency of the Year
Multi-Location/Brand Australasia
Ignite Travel Group**

**Cruise Agency of the Year
Single-Location Australia
Main Beach Travel**

**Cruise Agency of the Year
Single-Location New Zealand
Pukekohe Travel**

**Online Cruise Agency of the Year
Australasia
Clean Cruising**

**Home-Based (Mobile) Cruise Agent
of the Year Australia
Lauren Jenkins
MTA - Mobile Travel Agents**

**Cruise Broker of the Year
New Zealand
Trish Seherr
TS Travel Ltd**

**Cruise Consultant of the Year
Australia
Tina Wheelock
Cruise Express**

**Cruise Consultant of the Year
New Zealand
Lisa Wharfe
Pukekohe Travel**

**Rising Star
Australia
Jason Rigg
Phil Hoffmann Travel Glenelg**

**Rising Star
New Zealand
Flynn Cox
Travel Associates Howick**

**Agency/Agent Cruise Promotion
of the Year Australasia
My Cruises**

**Large Network Cruise Promotion
of the Year Australasia
Travel Associates**

**Small Network Cruise Promotion
of the Year Australasia
House of Travel Papamoa Group**

**Cruise Month Promotion
of the Year Australasia
Globe Trotters Cruise & Touring**

**Media Award
Australasia
Lee Tulloch**



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features a cover wrap from **Cruise Lines International Association**, plus five pages of the latest cruise industry news, including two photo pages from **Royal Caribbean**.

Costantin departs

EXPLORA Journeys head of sales Nicole Costantin has resigned from her position, as first reported by **Cruise Weekly** (**CW** breaking news Fri).

Costantin spent three-and-a-half years with MSC Cruises' luxury cruise line.

Explora told **CW** in a statement it wishes her the best, and it will now recruit for a commercial director.

Costantin previously worked with Travel Partners and Travel Associates; prior to that, she spent more than 20 years with Norwegian Cruise Line.

Cruise industry stars shine at CLIA Awards

THE brightest stars of the cruise community have been named at a record-breaking 23rd Cruise Industry Awards in Sydney, with three back-to-back winners named on the night (**CW** breaking news Sat).

Held by Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) at ICC Sydney on Sat, the gala dinner and presentation night was the largest ever hosted.

A total of 15 awards were presented to travel agencies and individuals (see **cover page**), with Ignite Travel Group named Cruise Agency of the Year - the night's highest honour - for the second time in a row.

MTA's Lauren Jenkins was also named Home-Based Cruise Consultant of the Year for a second year running.

Meanwhile, Travel Associates was again recognised for its promotional prowess, winning



Network Promotion of the Year for its TA film festival.

Executive director Joel Katz said this year's cruise awards reflected the strength of CLIA's travel advisor community.

"This year has brought our biggest-ever awards night, and we've never before had so much involvement from our travel agent members," Katz said.

"The excitement around these awards is a reflection of the record number of members we now have in Australasia and

the enormous opportunity our community sees in cruising right now," he added.

CLIA on the night also inducted Royal Caribbean vice president & managing director Gavin Smith into its Hall of Fame, the first addition since Stuart Allison was admitted in 2024.

Watch out for a special Cruise Industry Awards-themed issue of **CW** later today. **MS**

Pictured: Clean Cruising team, winner of the online cruise agency of the year category.



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Back to school with Uniworld

UNIWORLD Luxury Cruises & Tours has announced a new Uniworld University course for travel advisors, featuring its 2026 and 2027 highlights.

The latest course focuses on Uniworld's 50th anniversary celebrations, its new super ships, its expanded land experiences with Luxury Gold, and more.

Advisors can register for the new course at www.uniworlduniversity.com.

Odell to return to Aus



EXCLUSIVE

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) and Oceania Cruises have strengthened their global leadership team, with SVP int'l & consumer sales Steve Odell (pictured) set to return to Australia (**CW** breaking news Fri).

One of Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings' (NCLH) most respected and long-standing senior commercial leaders, Odell will transition into an ambassador role supporting both brands, as revealed by **Cruise Weekly** on Fri.

Odell has for the past two years been working in Miami in NCLH's head office after relocating from Sydney to take up the role.

He will now return to Australia as 'global luxury ambassador', having previously opened NCLH's local office in 2015 (**CW** 01 Jul 2015), and having run RSSC locally from 2019-2022.

Odell will first appear in Australia in his new role next

month, as Oceania's *Oceania Vista* makes her inaugural visit to the country.

"Steve is a well-known, much-loved, and highly accomplished sales professional in the luxury travel industry, and we couldn't be happier that he has agreed to continue his connection with our brands," NCLH chief luxury officer Jason Montague said.

Other moves have seen Nathan Hickman and Shawn Tubman appointed chief sales officer for Oceania and RSSC respectively.

Wesley D'Silva was also last week appointed president for RSSC (**CW** 05 Mar), reporting to Montague, who continues to lead the long-term strategic direction for both cruise lines.

Montague said D'Silva, Hickman, and Tubman bring "extraordinary expertise and experience as we build on a remarkable period of performance for both Oceania and Regent Seven Seas." MS

Aranui adds islands

CARGO cruise line Aranui has added Maupiti and Huahine to its itineraries for next year.

Aranui will visit the new destinations in the Society Islands when it takes delivery of newbuild *Aranoa* in 2027.

Teiotu promoted

EXCLUSIVE

STARTS At 60 has named Lisa Teiotu (pictured) as general manager of its travel & cruise division, **CW** can reveal.

She will move into her new role today, having joined the baby boomer travel service around six months ago.

Teiotu previously served as MSC Cruises regional MD, before departing the role in Jan 2025.



railbookers

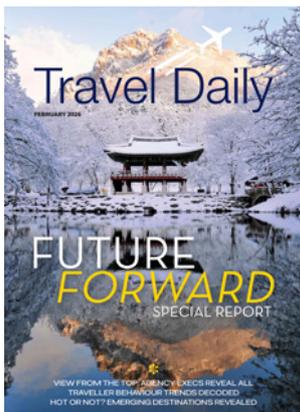
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Travel Daily

CRUISE Royal Caribbean loves rising stars

WEEKLY

ROYAL Caribbean continued its tradition of hosting rising stars from across the cruise industry to celebrate their achievements at the 2025 CLIA Cruise Awards on the weekend.

Monday 9th March 2026

Top travel organisations nominated emerging leaders across the fields of technology, marketing, commercial, sales, support, finance and product.

The group stayed at The W Sydney and were treated to a dinner at Palazzo Salato with the Royal Caribbean team on Friday night.

Each rising star will be sponsored by Royal Caribbean to complete their CLIA Masters Program.



DIANA Lintag, Kurt Johnson, Flight Centre NZ; with Brodie Dobson, RCI.



MELANIE King, MTA and Jenna Johnson, Phil Hoffmann Travel.



RISING stars with Team Royal.



RISING stars with Team Royal.



RISING stars and Team Royal at the after party.



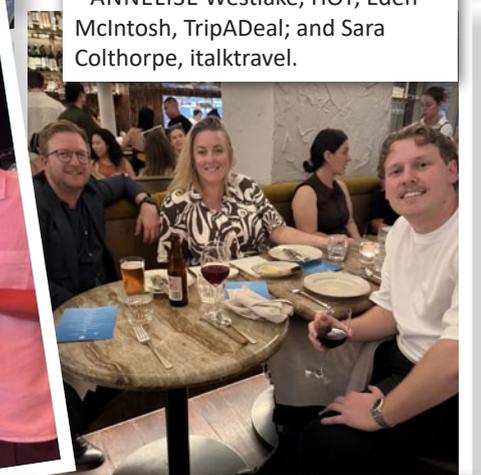
ANNELISE Westlake, HOT; Eden McIntosh, TripADeal; and Sara Colthorpe, italktravel.



BEN Tan and Jordan Ring, Our Vacation Centre; Jenna Johnson, Phil Hoffmann Travel; with Team Royal.



BEC Conolly and Alicia Raynaud from Cruiseabout with Josh Hirst, TripADeal.



ASHLEY Watkins and Jacky Jacobs from Ignite with Josh Hall, RAA.



SOME of the industry's brightest stars with Team Royal.

An after-party fit for Royals

TEAM Royal brought the house down with another stellar after-party at the CLIA Awards! The duelling piano performance had everyone dancing and singing.

Monday 9th March 2026



EPIC duelling pianists rock the after-party hosted by Royal Caribbean.





PORThOLE

HAVE you ever returned from annual leave feeling... thoroughly un-refreshed? New research from Carnival Cruise Line has found Australians are stuck in a 'time off trap', which sees them wasting up to a third of their leave allowance on life admin tasks at the expense of fun.

More than half (54%) of Australians have fallen into this trap the last two years, rising to 63% for millennials and 61% for parents.

Time to play and switch off is instead being swallowed by housework and chores (50%), running errands (42%), e-mails and bills (40%), and attending appointments (37%).

"Cruising is a great way to escape the 'time off trap, to really switch off from those day-to-day responsibilities and just have fun," assistant vice president sales & marketing Anton Loeb said.

Seabourn is perfectly sized



SEABOURN Cruise Line's fleet strategy, which has seen it agree to sell two vessels in the past year-and-a-half, will right-size the brand for the future, president Mark Tamis (pictured) said.

The cruise line has recently flipped two of its vessels to new Japanese luxury brand Mitsui Ocean Cruises: *Seabourn Odyssey* (CW 12 Dec 2024), which was delivered just over 12 months ago, and *Seabourn Sojourn* (CW 06 Mar 2025), which will be delivered this May.

Following the departure of *Sojourn*, which is currently sailing a world voyage visiting Australia (CW 06 Mar), Tamis told **Cruise**

Weekly Seabourn's fleet will be the ideal size and make-up for the brand's personality.

The line's fleet will number five following *Odyssey's* sale.

"One of the reasons Seabourn has always been special is the scale and the size (of the brand)," Tamis said.

"When we look back in the history at the size of the fleet versus the profitability, it can really feel like we're going to be perfectly sized for a strong future," he enthused.

Tamis added although Seabourn has no current ships on order, a new vessel is something the line is "working toward". *MS*

MSC repatriating

MSC Cruises has organised flights for more than 1,500 guests who were on board *MSC Euribia* in Dubai to get them home (CW 02 Mar).

A statement from the cruise line issued Sat morning said a total of seven flights carrying MSC's guests have departed the region.

These flights include dedicated charter services operated by MSC, scheduled commercial services, as well as some govt-organised flights.

Pax have been repatriated to the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Spain, the United States, and Brazil, while a small number remain on the ship.

"I am immensely proud of how the whole company is coming together with this highly complex repatriation operation," executive chair Pierfrancesco Vago said.

"Our ship command and crew have worked tirelessly to ensure our guests are well cared for and our teams across the globe have worked round the clock to get our guests home safely."



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