

### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Virgin LGBTQ cruise

**IN PARTNERSHIP** with Atlantis Events, Virgin Voyages has announced the launch of a new LGBTQ+ sailing.

The seven-night cruise will depart Miami on 31 May 2020, with scheduled visits to include Key West in Florida, Cozumel/Playa Del Carmen and Costa Maya, Mexico.

Reservations for the cruise aboard *Scarlet Lady* will go on sale early next month via Atlantis Events.

To promote the cruise, human headline and Virgin Voyages founder Richard Branson will be jaunting around NYC this Sat on board a Virgin Voyages Pride bus.

## P&O reveals longest ever SA season

P&O Cruises Australia has revealed the 2021 season in South Australia will be the longest ever launched by the cruise line.

In the line's sixth consecutive year of calling Adelaide home, *Pacific Aria* will service four cruises from Adelaide over a 65-day season - twice the number of sailings offered in 2020.

Highlights of the latest program includes two new 10-night Southern Discovery itineraries to Western Australia, calling in at popular cruise destination such as Albany, Busselton, Fremantle and Esperance.

"In response to local demand... our biggest ever program reflects the interest in cruise holidays in the state," said P&O Cruises Australia President Sture Myrmell.

"We know that more South Australians want to experience a cruise and this is why we have



made sure the upcoming season offers a bigger and more varied selection of itineraries that cater for all tastes, interests and budgets from mini-breaks to a longer...holiday," he added.

Meanwhile in another milestone for the brand, P&O has also announced it is poised to carry more than two million passengers from Brisbane during its newly-unveiled 2021 season.

The cruise line's Brisbane program features 30 itineraries

including longer cruises to select South Pacific islands and Papua New Guinea, as well as shorter themed cruise options.

"The deployment of *Pacific Explorer* and the introduction of the city's new international cruise terminal is set to take Brisbane into the big league of cruising," Myrmell said.

P&O's 2021 Queensland season will contribute an estimated \$40 million into the state's economy.

**Pictured:** *Pacific Aria*.



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# CRUISE

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See why NCL's new *Joy* is perfect for Aussies heading to Alaska in June issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*



## Cruise360 earlybird

**DISCOUNTED** earlybird prices for the cruise industry's key annual forum Cruise360 Australasia will expire 30 Jun.

The major Australian cruise event will take place in Sydney on 30 Aug, with Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia Managing Director Joel Katz suggesting the high calibre of presenters makes the conference a must see this year.

"The international line-up of speakers coming this year is excellent and will give travel agents access to insight that will be invaluable as they look to the future," he said.

Book your tickets [HERE](#).

## Voyager ups family appeal



**ROYAL** Caribbean International has announced a US\$97 million (A\$139m) renovation of *Voyager of the Seas* which will take place ahead of her Aussie visit in Nov.

The major refurbishment will include 72 new inside and balcony staterooms, an upgraded Vitality Spa, as well as a host of new and redesigned amenities for kids and teenagers.

Key family attractions to be added on board will be the high-speed water slides The Perfect Storm and the Battle for Planet Z laser tag arena.

"Royal Caribbean is an innovator in holidays, and the newly amplified *Voyager of the Seas* is no exception," said Royal Caribbean International Managing Director for Australia and New Zealand Susan Bonner.

"We are thrilled to welcome *Voyager* back to Sydney where



local holidaymakers can step on board for a holiday of a lifetime with its new bold adventures and exhilarating features," she added.

Further enhancements include a refreshed Adventure Ocean play space for kids of three to 12 years old, a new nursery for babies and tots, and the introduction of a new Suite Lounge and outdoor space.

**Pictured:** A rendering of the new *Voyager* enhancements and **inset** teens enjoying the cruise line's Adventure Ocean youth activity program.

## Sojourn shows off

**SEABOURN** has revealed a new lineup of entertainment for passengers cruising to Alaska on board its *Seabourn Sojourn* ship this season.

The productions will feature dynamic musical arrangements, tailor-made costumes, as well as "cutting-edge" technology and choreography.

Guests can look forward to the *Live & Wired* live concert, the *Stage and Screen* musical theatre showcase, the *World of Wonder* tribute to Stevie Nicks, as well as the *Rock Tonight* rock music show.

For more information on the program, see [seabourn.com](http://seabourn.com).

## NCL's Alaskan Bliss

**TRAVELLERS** looking to experience the wonders of Alaska can do so on board Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Bliss*, with the ship sailing the region between Apr and Oct 2020.

Highlights of the season include the 12-day Denali Alyeska-Southbound Cruise Tour, the seven-day family-friendly Awe of Alaska: Inside Passage and Glacier Bay from Seattle tour, as well as the seven-day Scenic Alaska: Inside Passage from Seattle journey.

For more information on the itineraries, call 1300 255 200.

## Viking halves solo

**PASSENGERS** cruising solo can take advantage of Viking Cruises' latest deal, with the cruise line offering up to 50% off the single supplement on selected river itineraries departing in 2019.

Highlights include the 10-day River of Gold itinerary, the eight-day Rhine Getaway and the eight-day Lyon and Provence sailing.

Guests can also unlock 25% off the single supplement for selected ocean journeys departing throughout 2019 and 2020.

Phone 138 747 for more info.



## Get on board with Neptune

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## Have I got brews for you



**THERE'S** a reason why Carnival's motto is "choose fun", with the team from the cruise line hosting trade partners aboard the *Carnival Spirit* yesterday to sample the latest small batch beers imported from the USA.

Guests will have a selection of new beers to suit their palates with toasted amber, Caribbean wheat and Indian pale ales now available on all departures.

Speaking with **Cruise Weekly**, Anton Loeb, Director of Sales at Carnival Cruise Line said that *Carnival Spirit* had enjoyed a solid 2019, with sales tracking at 92% capacity sold with only "small pockets of opportunities for agents left to sell" for the remainder of the year.

He urged agents to leverage promotions to fill the remaining spaces this year ahead of the ship moving to Brisbane in 2020.

Loeb said that an additional BDM in QLD had joined the team to capitalise on the demand that *Carnival Spirit* is expected to generate.

In other news Loeb said that a



series of "Seminars at Sea" will be available next year when *Carnival Splendor* arrives in Sydney in Dec for agents to familiarise themselves with the added facilities aboard the fleet's largest vessel.

**Pictured:** Kim Ryan, BDM NSW/WA Carnival Cruise Line; Tim Faircloth, I Love Cruising; Anton Loeb, Director of Sales Carnival Cruise Line; and Craig Chisholm, OzCruising.

### A whale of a time

**SILVERSEA** Cruises' whale watching voyages yielded a total of 1,076 sightings for guests, including blue whales, killer whales, humpback whales, and sperm whales.

## Navigator flaunts style



**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises has celebrated the inaugural voyage of *Seven Seas Navigator* following her two-week refurbishment in Brest, France.

The first passengers to experience the vessel's enhancements are currently sailing aboard an 11-night London to Dublin voyage.

"*Seven Seas Navigator* now reflects the consistent look and feel of our fleet, but with special

touches that make her distinctly unique," said Regent's President CEO Jason Montague.

Notable upgrades on board include: a reimagined contemporary American steak house Prime Seven (**pictured**), new furnishings installed in the Navigator Lounge, and a fresh new look for the Star Lounge which now boasts marble tables and new champagne coloured wall coverings.

### More from Seashore

**MSC** Cruises has announced sales for the inaugural season for *MSC Seashore* in the Western Mediterranean will open to the public on 11 Jul.

The ship's first sailing sets sail in Jun 2021 and is a seven-night itinerary calling at the ports of Barcelona, Marseille, Genoa, Naples, Messina and Valetta.

*Seashore* is the third ship in the cruise line's Seaside generation and follows *MSC Seaside* and *MSC Seaview*.

"With an increased capacity and expanded facilities, *MSC Seashore* will offer guests myriad opportunities to get closer to the sea," said MSC Cruises CEO Gianni Onorato.

Sales for the 2021 MSC Seashore season is open for MSC Voyagers Club members.



**THE** cruise industry is constantly on the lookout for new intriguing ocean attractions, so how about an ocean spacecraft dump?

Known to be the most remote location on Earth, Point Nemo in the Pacific Ocean is where NASA has historically dumped most of its dead or dying space vehicles.

The spot is an estimated 2,250 km from any land, which is why the American space organisation decided it was the best place for its "spacecraft cemetery."

God bless their aluminium composite souls.



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