



AUSTRALIAN
CRUISE
ASSOCIATION

NEWS



Edition 43 April 2022

In this issue:

- Message from the Chairman
- ACA Conference Townsville 7-9 September 2022
- Visit Victoria Cruise Restart Workshops
- Shute Harbour reopens after \$63.5 million rebuild
- One of Sydney's oldest ports to be transformed in world first project
- Townsville preparing to welcome larger ships
- Stunning Norfolk Island
- Discover McLaren Vale and The Cube tour
- Sydney Opera House Tour reimagined
- New team appointed in SA
- Taronga Zoo excited to welcome cruise ship passengers back
- Viking celebrates 25 years
- Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, Great Ocean Road Victoria
- Port of Broome's new Floating Port Terminal
- New name, same service: Auriga Pilots – Great Barrier Reef Pilots & Master Reef Guides
- Pre or post cruise options in Darwin
- Kangaroo Island back to life
- Outer Harbour passenger terminal upgrade in Adelaide
- K'gari – Fraser Island packed with activity
- Feel new in Sydney and New South Wales
- SeaLink Marine & Tourism – We have Australia covered
- Southern Tasmania abounds in fresh tourism experiences
- Reef Magic pontoon
- See the invisible at Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Message from the Chairman

The last edition of our newsletter spoke of the 2019 season coming to an end and the enormous challenges that we endured with bush fires.

Little did we know of the pandemic ahead and the soul-destroying halt to the cruise industry.

Two years on I am thrilled as the relatively new Chair of the Australian Cruise Association to be writing for this edition of our newsletter.

An enormous amount of work has been done by our Association and our members in working with Government agencies to bring about the recent announcement of the lifting of the cruise ship ban on 17 April and I am grateful to all that have worked so hard to secure this positive outcome.

Our strong relationship with Cruise Lines International Association Australasia (CLIA) has been critical to reaching a unified approach to the extensive guidelines for a successful and safe restart to cruise and we look

forward to building on this partnership even more in the future.

We are critically aware of the challenges our ports, destinations and tourism operators have experienced over the past two years and acknowledge the strength of the cruise sector to contribute in such positive ways to support and drive the recovery.

We are thrilled to be returning to Miami in the coming days to attend Seatrade Cruise Global, to re-engage with the cruise world to discuss all things new and exciting that Australia has to offer and to reaffirm we are open for business.

Once again, we will present a great regional perspective with New Zealand Cruise Association on booth # 811.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Miami and then shortly after, celebrating the return of our international ships to Australian waters.

Philip Holliday
Chairman

ACA Conference Townsville 7-9 September 2022

Well third time lucky!
We are all systems go for the
2022 ACA conference.

After a couple of false starts, we are thrilled to be heading to Townsville to celebrate the restart of cruise in Australia. The timing will be perfect as we head towards a more normal summer season of cruising.

There will be plenty to discuss as our gradual restart will be by then, a few months in.

Please note that cruise line execs are invited to join us and if the opportunity exists to present on relevant issues, we would be delighted to discuss with you.



Townsville Sign at Central Park (Credit: Megan MacKinnon)



The Ville Resort Casino (Credit: Megan MacKinnon)

Visit Victoria Cruise Restart Workshops

With the announcement of cruise restarting in Australia on 17th April 2022, Visit Victoria facilitated two Cruise Restart Workshops for the industry with the support of Australian Cruise Association, Cruise Lines International Association and Tourism Australia.

Four of Australia's leading cruise experts travelled to Phillip Island to experience the destination and presented to the industry.

A second workshop was held in Melbourne. More than 60 industry representatives were in attendance.

Cruise bookings are looking quite strong in Melbourne and Phillip Island in 2022/23 and Visit Victoria is working with the cruise lines, ground handlers and industry to showcase new and innovative experiences.



L-R: Michael Mihajlov, Kim Storey, Claire Nuthall, Joel Katz, Jill Abel, Chris White

Shute Harbour reopens after \$63.5 million rebuild



Shute Harbour Marine Terminal

The stunning Shute Harbour Marine Terminal was officially reopened in December 2021 after a \$63.5M restoration, following the destruction caused by TC Debbie in 2017. The project delivered a state-of-the-art marine facility within 2.8NM of the easily accessible Port Molle Cruise Ship anchorage.

Recycled timbers from the old marina pontoons have been included in the modern terminal building design and offer a nod to the beauty and power of the surrounding natural habitat, while also enforcing the marina's dedication to a resilient and sustainable future for the region.

Shute Harbour Marine Terminal's true benefit is its proximity to the famous 74 islands of the Whitsundays. The marina offers the quickest and most idyllic access to natural wonders such as world-famous Whitehaven Beach and the island resorts of Long Island,

Daydream Island, Hamilton Island and Hayman Island.

Located in a natural harbour, the ever-calm waters and deep draft of the marina boast three finger pontoons. These pontoons can accommodate vessels in excess of 40m, providing access and ample space for ship to shore vessels as well as cruise tenders. The marina supplies both Premium ULP and high-flow Diesel at competitive rates, as well as a detailed and speedy provisioning service.

The double storey facility includes a soon to be launched restaurant and bar and is also home to a penthouse style lounge seating area, which doubles as an event and function space. Offering unrivalled views over towering rainforests and sparkling azure waters, the fully air-conditioned space can accommodate up to 200 cruise passengers in a luxe lounge formation. Additionally, al fresco style dining seating is located along the wharf and in the lower open flow terminal area.

Shute Harbour also offer a multitude of tour operators ready to service incoming

cruise passengers. This includes Sealink, Cruise Whitsundays, Explore Group Hamilton Island, Ocean Rafting, Reefstar Cruises, Scamper, Salty Dog Kayaking, Island Transfers and Pioneer Adventures. A wide range of activities is available for all, including daily resort connections to the nearby island resorts as well as day trips to famous Whitehaven Beach and the world heritage listed Great Barrier Reef.

The coastal town of Airlie Beach is a short 10-minute drive away with frequent bus services on offer. Marina guests have the best of both worlds, with easy access to the hustle bustle of the township or a peaceful and tranquil retreat at the natural harbour.

For those looking to relax in the marina, a recreational fishing pontoon is open for novice and experienced fishers alike and guests also have access to adjacent Snows beach recreational area.

Shute Harbour is now taking cruise ship reservations.

www.shuteharbourmarine.com.au

One of Sydney's oldest ports to be transformed in world first project

NSW will be home to the world's first 100 per cent renewable energy shore powered shipping precinct, at the Bays Port in the heart of Sydney.

Minister for Transport and Veterans David Elliott said Bays Port, which includes Glebe Island and White Bay, will be the first bulk shipping precinct fully supplied by shore power. The White Bay Cruise Terminal will also be the first shore powered cruise berth in the Southern Hemisphere.

"Our Government is creating the ports of the future and in doing so transforming the communities in which they continue to operate," Mr Elliott said.

"The first berth is set to come online in 2024, and will allow shore power capable ships to cut their diesel generators, thereby reducing emissions, air pollution and noise levels while at port.

"Shore power is cleaner and quieter, minimising the impact of ships on neighbouring areas and ensuring our last remaining deep water harbour berths continue to operate sustainably into the future," Mr Elliott said.

In the Bays Port area alone, renewable shore power will remove up to 14,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere over 12 months, the equivalent of taking over 4,000 cars off our roads every year.

The Port Authority of NSW CEO, Captain Philip Holliday, announced the net zero and shore power plan with the support of bulk shipping and cruise industry leaders.

"This is an historic partnership with the Port Authority of NSW investing over \$60 million to deliver this infrastructure as the first step, with port users already pledging to retrofit and build ships to take advantage of this technology," Captain Holliday said.

"Delivering Shore Power will drive us even further than our already ambitious NSW net zero targets of a 75 per cent emissions reduction by 2030 and be net zero by 2040."

Townsville preparing to welcome larger ships

Dredging is underway to widen Townsville's shipping channel, which on completion will allow ships up to 300 metres long to safely access the Port, including the Wharf 10 Cruise Ship Terminal.

The \$232 million Channel Upgrade project will see the port's 14.9km shipping channel widened from 92m to 180m at the harbour entrance, tapering to 120m at the seaward end.

It is the largest infrastructure project in the Port of Townsville's 158-year history and will support North Queensland's growing tourism industry. Dredging started last month following the completion of a new 2.2 kilometre rockwall, creating a 62-hectare reclamation area where dredge material will be located.



Townsville Project Works

Dredging works are anticipated to be completed early 2024.

The Channel Upgrade project is the first stage of the \$1.6 billion Port Expansion Project, which will result in a further creation of six new berths in the outer harbour, channel deepening and the creation of a 150-hectare land reclamation.

Stunning Norfolk Island

Watawieh yorlyi, se tiem fe weset... Hi everyone, it's time to visit...

We're ready and waiting to welcome you all to our little slice of paradise and we've got plenty to keep you occupied while you're here. Whether you're just dropping in for a day on a visiting cruise ship or you decided to fly in for a week-long break, there's never enough time to see everything.

Norfolk Island is a small 8km by 5km gem in the South Pacific. Set atop a volcanic outcrop, our picturesque landscape lends itself to some spectacular photographic opportunities. It's a pristine, clean and friendly place with a rich and varied history which still remains relatively untouched by mainstream tourism. Tourism is the Island's major industry. The primary tourism market comes from Australian airline services and we are looking forward to being able to welcome our New Zealand neighbours back once international flights recommence. Pre-covid, Norfolk Island was experiencing growth in cruise ship calls to the Island. An emerging destination on the international cruise program, Norfolk Island was regularly at the top of passenger surveys following a visit.

One of the first things you'll notice on your visit to the Island are our new passenger tenders. They are increasing the landing rate of calling cruise ships by reducing the risk of damage to precious ship resources. They are operated by fully qualified local crews that are familiar with the Island's waters and conditions, so be sure to say Watawieh as you climb aboard!

Once you set foot on our shores, there are many different tourism experiences available on the Island for you to enjoy. Over 40 tours are available to those staying on Island, along with plenty of activities, attractions and sights to see. A smaller selection of tours has been designed specifically for the cruise market. Created to suit a typical landing day, these tours offer the opportunity



Slaughter Bay

to sneak a peek at what this Island is all about. You can choose from tours covering our history, environment, food, local industries and sightseeing.

Our varied history includes four distinct settlements, a famous shipwreck and the infamous Mutiny on the Bounty, whose descendants formed the fourth and current settlement of the Island. You'll find a lot of the local guides, crew and drivers can trace their ancestry back to the Mutineers.

Historic Kingston holds the details of the other significant settlements, here you'll find some of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in the southern hemisphere. These are remnants of the second convict settlement with many of the buildings still being used today, some as museums, where you can find more information on all of the Island's settlements.

Kingston is also home to the Island's popular swimming beaches, nestled in the coral lagoon, it's a great place for snorkelling and is the second southernmost coral reef in the world,

complete with its own endemic species. It's very photogenic so be sure to pack your underwater camera. If you're not up to swimming around, the Glass Bottom Boat tours are an excellent way of catching a glimpse of what lies beneath. The local golf course also calls the Kingston World Heritage area home and there is a small opportunity for a game for visiting cruisers, just be sure to book early!

If you are keen on any particular tour or activity on the Island, we highly recommend pre-booking as soon as you can, spots are strictly limited and the popular tours fill fast. Be sure to get into the cruise tour desk quickly to avoid any disappointment.

Contact the friendly staff at Burnt Pine Travel for further details by free call 1800 501 128 or International +6723 22195, by email to cruise@burntpinetravel.nf or visit our website www.burntpinetravel.com

Discover McLaren Vale and The Cube tour

Taste some of the best food, wine, gin and beer in picturesque McLaren Vale and visit the spectacular d'Arenberg Cube on Adelaide Sightseeing's McLaren Vale & The Cube Experience Tour.

This tour includes morning tea at the Stump Hill Café and Gift Shop before visiting the famous d'Arenberg Cube, nestled amongst the Mourvedre vineyards. This five-storey multi-functional "Rubik's cube" has been designed to give the optical illusion of floating in a vineyard.

Enjoy a 2-course lunch and formal wine tasting. It's then on to Beresford Estate Wines for a choice of one of three tastings in their elegant Tasting Pavillion. Choose from their Estate and Limited



d'Arenberg Cube

Release range of wines, Vale Brewing craft beers, or their range of 23rd Street crafted gins.

The final cellar door is the stunning Wirra Wirra Vineyards for a guided tasting of their quality wines.

For bookings visit: adelaidesightseeing.com.au or call 1300 769 762.

Sydney Opera House Tours reimagined

We're excited to take you on a journey to uncover untold stories, anecdotes, and history – now's your chance to discover the magic beneath the sails.

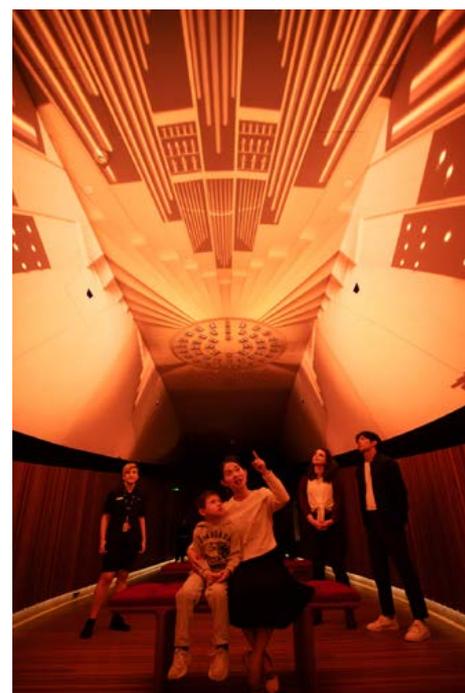
In 2022, the 1 Hour Tour will include a new immersive digital experience. For the first time ever, watch unforgettable moments from past Concert Hall performances, learning about the history and future of this world-famous hall. Experience the future within a new purpose-built venue that boasts heritage-inspired interiors, and state-of-the-art technology, including 270-degree visuals and surround sound.

2022 will also see the reopening of the Concert Hall, and its inclusion on tours when available.

It will also see the launch of the new Architectural Tour. Join us on this historical tour where you'll learn how in the mid-1950s, Australia and a man from Denmark, Jørn Utzon, created a sculpture on Sydney Harbour that changed the course of twentieth-century architecture. To quote US architect Frank Gehry, "(it) changed the image of an entire country."

Hear how visionaries, idealists, architects, engineers, pragmatists and artists together built this architectural and engineering masterpiece that was at the cutting edge of what was possible at the time.

See their work up close on this special tour around the Opera House every Saturday at 10am.



Tours Immersive Digital Experience (Credit: Daniel Boud)

New South Australia team appointed

South Australia has seen a changing of the guard with Leah Rusby leaving SATC to work in another SA government department.

The new SA team appointed to replace her is Mark Gill, Andrew McKinnon and Tess Barmore. The team looks forward to meeting and working with the Australian cruise industry and to welcoming cruise ships back to South Australian waters.



L-R: Mark Gill, Tess Barmore and Andrew McKinnon

Taronga Zoo excited to welcome back cruise ship passengers

At Taronga Zoo Sydney we are looking forward to working with our cruise partners.

We have a range of Australian animal-based tours available to guests who wish to learn about Australian Fauna and Flora as well as our sustainability initiatives and conservation projects all just moments from Sydney Harbour.

FIT Tours

The Aussie Gold Tour is an intimate tour, featuring Australia's wildlife that brings you close to the animals led by an expert guide where there are plenty of photographic opportunities with our iconic Australian fauna. Perfect for inquisitive minds travelling solo or in small groups seeking a learning experience and plenty of one-on-one time with their guide.



Aussie Gold Tour

Group Tours

Groups wanting a general introduction to Australian wildlife and a higher level of information than they would gain on an unguided walk through the Zoo. With before, during and after hour zoo tours this option is the perfect educational tour for larger or corporate groups and can focus on particular conservation initiatives depending on the group's interests.

Wildlife Retreat at Taronga

Don't forget we also offer Pre & Post accommodation for guests at our Wildlife Retreat at Taronga. Wake up to our Australian animal sanctuary and enjoy an early morning tour. Packages are all inclusive, offering dinner, breakfast and zoo admission.

Bookings and more information please contact Trade@zoo.nsw.gov.au

Viking celebrates 25 years

Two Viking ships will sail in Australia and New Zealand in 2022/2023.

For 25 years, Viking has been setting the standard in cruising. In 1997 they began operations with four ships and a vision that travel could be more destination-focused and culturally immersive.

They wanted to offer experiences designed for the thinking person—for curious travellers. Their mission at the time is the same today: “Exploring the world in comfort.” This year Viking celebrates its 25th year in business and welcomes 11 new vessels, taking its fleet to more than 80 state-of-the-art river, ocean and expedition ships.

Viking will have two of their award-winning ocean ships in local waters for



Viking Orion on Sydney Harbour

the 2022-2023 Australia and New Zealand cruise season. This is the first time two Viking ships will be in the region and shows the line's commitment to supporting cruising in our local market.

Viking Orion will return to her seasonal Sydney and Auckland home ports between November 2022 and March 2023. While *Viking Mars*, the line's newest ocean vessel, launching in May,

will spend her maiden season sailing itineraries in Northern Europe and the Mediterranean before embarking on voyages in Asia, Australia and New Zealand. She is scheduled to arrive in Sydney on 27 December 2022 before departing on a special New Year's Eve sailing from Sydney to Auckland.

For additional information, contact Viking on 138 747 or visit www.viking.com

Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, Great Ocean Road Victoria

Included on the UNESCO World Heritage list for its outstanding universal values, the First Nations owned and operated Budj Bim Cultural Landscape Tourism offers visitors a personally guided experience of Gunditjmarra Country in Southwest Victoria.

The region is renowned for its complex coastal landscape of wetlands, forests, beaches and for its ancient aquaculture system of lava flows and life-filled waterways. Gunditjmarra have thrived



Budj Bim Cultural Landscape Tourism

here for more than 39,000 years, sustained by the living knowledge of their ancestors. Visitors can discover the region's heritage through these shared stories. The Tae Rak Traditional

Aquaculture Centre and eatery opening onsite in June 2022 brings to life the kooyang (eel) farming techniques practiced over hundreds of generations.



Artists' Impression Broome Floating Terminal

Port of Broome's new Floating Port Terminal

The exotic pearling port of Broome is a 'bucket list' destination for many cruise guests, with 22 kilometres of beautiful white sand and turquoise water at Cable Beach, striking rust-red cliffs, Broome pearl farms and 130 million year old dinosaur footprints. Broome is a melting pot of cultures, creating an exotic mix of historic sites and fusion flavours.

The Port of Broome is set to welcome larger cruise ships with the construction of a new floating port terminal, previously approved by the WA Government. This new and innovative facility is set to be constructed and funded by Kimberley Marine Support Base (KMSB) Pty Ltd, and the facility is scheduled to be operational in early 2024.

This innovative facility has been designed to incorporate a floating wharf linked to a fixed causeway, allowing safe and efficient 24/7 operations regardless of tide depth.

Key design elements include:

- 300m long, bi-directional causeway.
- 85m linkspan bridge.
- Two restraint structures.
- 55m x 180m floating wharf platform.
- 700 tonne crane capacity.

The positioning of the wharf takes advantage of naturally occurring deep water to create a berth pocket that is a minimum of 17 metres deep at low tide, with no additional dredging required.

The new KMSB facility will complement Port of Broome upgrades that were undertaken via a channel dredging project undertaken in 2019 to enhance all-tide vessel access to the port, particularly for larger cruise vessels, and improve navigational safety within the Port.

For more information about cruising in WA, Broome and the KMSB project, please look for Shayne Murray, Chair, Cruise Broome, on the ACA stand and visit their website at <http://cruisebroome.com>

New name, same service: Auriga Pilots – Great Barrier Reef Pilots & Master Reef Guides

Australian Reef Pilots Auriga Pilots (AP) has been protecting the Great Barrier Reef for over 125 years.

The company's origins can be traced back as far as 1872 when the first known pilotage along the Queensland coast took place after a former Master of a local trader assisted the German immigrant ship "Humbolt" from Moreton Bay to Bowen. Australian Reef Pilots operated under this name until 2021, when it was then incorporated into the Auriga Group of Companies.

Exclusively servicing the Great Barrier Reef, Kimberley Coast, Northern Territory Coast and Whitsunday Passage, our Great Barrier Reef Pilots remain the first choice for specialised cruise ship pilotage. Our experienced pilots are pleased to work with onboard management to provide entertaining bridge commentaries when passing historical regions and offer passenger lectures when not engaged in pilotage tasks.

Recognised by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority as Master Reef Guides, (a Queensland Government initiative), our team are the only Pilots in Australia licensed as Master Reef Guides, refer GBRMPA - Master Reef Guides

Our cruise team works closely with cruise operations management to provide local knowledge and advice on itinerary options for all vessels.

The cruise team at Auriga Pilots looks forward to welcoming international cruise lines back to Queensland and Australia.

Our cruise contacts:
welwyn.gamble@auriga.com.au
gary.hunter@auriga.com.au
cruise@auriga.com.au

Pre or post cruise options from Darwin

There's even more to see, do and experience in the Northern Territory.

Visitors can expect new accommodation offerings including desert glamping and luxe farm stays, as well as unique offerings from Aboriginal-led organisations including a paint-your-story experience with local artists in Alice Springs and a chance to camp on remote homelands in East Arnhem Land, connecting with Traditional Owners.

Kings Creek Station is launching ten premium eco tents, each with a custom deck offering breathtaking views and a private fire pit. After a day exploring the working cattle station or majestic Kings Canyon, relax by the pool and retreat to your tent, enjoying the desert's solitude and sunsets.

Located on Finnis River Station, a working cattle property just a 90 minute drive from Darwin and set near floodplains, Finnis River Lodge offers six luxe rooms described as bush character meets contemporary elegance.



View from the Drovers Dream (Credit: Tourism Australia)

Guests can immerse themselves in station life, participate in private wilderness tours, enjoy thrilling airboat rides or discover nearby Litchfield National Park.

Liya Wanhurr Camping and Tours in East Arnhem Land is an opportunity to immerse in Yolngu culture and history, including experiencing a bungul (dance and ceremony), learning skills such as weaving and

stay in campgrounds exclusively accessible through this experience.

In Eastern Arrernte language, Ayeye Atyenhe Art translates to 'my story'. Have your story painted by an Aboriginal artist, using a mix of traditional and contemporary techniques.

The result is intimate, meaningful and customised to your story.

Kangaroo Island back to life

Sip and See Around Kangaroo Island Tour

SeaLink in South Australia operates a day tour to Kangaroo Island that will spoil your senses, indulge your taste buds and allow you to get up close to some of the magnificent wildlife found on Australia's third largest island.

This one-day tour kicks off with the amazing In-Flight Birds of Prey presentation at Raptor Domain, then it is off to Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distiller for a two-course lunch, history talk and guided tour of the distillery.

No visit is complete at Clifford's Honey Farm without tasting the delicious home-made honey ice-cream. Relax in the afternoon sampling wines at the picturesque False Cape Wines



Raptor Domain

Cellar Door before heading back to the mainland in the early evening.

For bookings visit sealink.com.au or call 13 13 01.

Outer Harbour passenger terminal upgrade in Adelaide

The Port Adelaide Passenger Terminal at Outer Harbor has recently undergone renovations to ensure a vibrant and COVID-safe welcome for cruise ship passengers.

The South Australian Tourism Commission has partnered with Flinders Ports to install new air conditioning, conduct internal painting, laying a new floor treatment, rebranding the



Port Adelaide Passenger Terminal

walls with new welcome signage, new furniture and a large 4.5m x 2.5m screen for welcome videos and safety messages.

In addition, new mooring access points allow double gangway entry to the

terminal and will enable more usable space inside the terminal building for passenger movement.

The project is due for completion by June 2022.

K'gari – Fraser Island packed with activity

There's a reason K'gari is enticing nature lovers and adventure-seekers to its shores. Stretching 123 kilometres, it claims the title of the world's largest sand island and is brimming with remarkable sights just waiting to be explored.

K'gari - Fraser Island was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1992 in recognition of its natural values, ongoing ecological and biological processes, and is as an example of superlative natural phenomena.

The island's pristine natural environment is characterised by vast golden sand blows, over 100 freshwater lakes, and a bona fide 75 Mile beach highway along the eastern coast.

Now a world-class tourist attraction, this protected paradise is attracting travellers who want to discover the diverse landscapes, and the variety of great outdoor experiences the island has to offer.

Kingfisher Bay Resort is an award-winning eco resort nestled along the



Bush Tucker Tasting at Kingfisher Bay Resort

western bay of K'gari, designed to give guests an enjoyable nature-based experience on World Heritage-listed K'gari - Fraser Island, while creating minimal impact on the environment.

Touring options include: 4WD natural heritage tour; bush tucker & medicine walk followed by bush tucker

experience; sea explorer adventure cruise; great Sandy Strait walk; ranger-guided canoe paddle and ranger-guided mangrove walk.

The options are endless!

Contact:

lisa.walker@kingfisherbay.com

Feel new in Sydney and New South Wales



Family enjoying the Burrawa Indigenous Experience at BridgeClimb, Sydney (Credit: Destination NSW)

Discover the endless feelings a cruise visit to NSW can inspire. It's time to feel new again. Pure joy as you wake to the sunrise. The relief of rejuvenation as you wade into a coastal rockpool. Connection as you taste native, fragrant leaves. A sense of belonging as you meet friendly locals. Here's a snapshot of new experiences in Sydney and New South Wales.

Feel connected: Join a Burrawa Climb with Bridgeclimb and scale the summit of Sydney Harbour Bridge with a First Nations storyteller as your guide.

Feel awe: The Sydney Modern, an art museum experience spanning two buildings and an art garden at the Art Gallery of NSW in the heart of Sydney, is scheduled for completion in late 2022.

Feel joy: Experience nine new rides at Sydney's harbourside Luna Park, located by the north side of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. From rollercoasters to family fun, this \$30 million upgrade is sure to bring joy.

Feel adventurous: Take a tour to discover how gin and whiskey is made by the experts at Hickson House Distilling Co and enjoy a tasting from the gin range produced onsite in The Rocks, adjacent to Circular Quay.

Feel free: Explore ancient Gondwana rainforest and waterfalls on a Coffs Harbour hinterland tour with Waves to Wilderness.

Feel belonging: Visit the new, purpose-built Eden Welcome Centre, which is open and ready to welcome cruise visitors landing at the recently completed Eden Cruise Wharf.

Find out more on [sydney.com](https://www.sydney.com) and [visitnsw.com](https://www.visitnsw.com) and download free images and videos from the Destination NSW content library - content.destinationnsw.com.au

SeaLink Marine & Tourism – We have Australia covered

Tours – Day Cruises – Ship to Shore Transfers – Coaches/4WD & Buses

We are genuinely passionate about what we do, and this passion has delivered a strong history of outperforming our competitors to become the preferred provider in the markets we operate in.

As a leading global transport company, we are committed to exploring and investing in new technology to deliver more sustainable marine transport solutions and responsible tourism experiences. We actively engage in working with and supporting the communities we serve, providing an unmatched service and experience to our customers.

We specialise in:

- Passenger, vehicle, and freight ferry operations
- Design and development of hydrogen and electric vessels
- Marine Infrastructure development and management
- Commercial marine fleet operations, replacement, and project management
- Marine safety and regulatory compliance management
- Harbour and river marine hospitality services
- Resort management
- Boutique accommodated cruising operations.

With globally recognised marine and tourism brands right across Australia, we connect travelers from around the world to Australia's most iconic holiday destinations and experiences.



Whitehaven Beach and Hill Inlet

For bookings:
internationalsales@sealink.com.au

Go West – Western Australia

Our safe, reliable service and first-class safety record has made Go West the integrated transport provider of choice across regional and metropolitan centres and remote sites.

We have strong relationships with our clients and work with management teams to develop tailored transport solutions to help achieve business goals.

Our drivers and administration staff are selected for their excellent and safe driving skills, administrative abilities and their ability to ensure that every client's experience with Go West Tours exceeds their expectations.

We have offices in: Bunbury, Hopetoun, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Newman, Perth, Port Hedland and Tom Price.

For bookings:
<https://gowesttours.com.au>

SeaLink Whitsundays

The SeaLink Big Island Day Tour to Whitehaven Beach departs from Shute Harbour at 9am and cruises through the Molle group of islands. Crossing the Whitsunday passage into Cid harbour, the cruise travels through Hook Passage before anchoring at Tongue Point to visit Hill Inlet.

Leaving Tongue Point, you will cruise across Whitehaven Bay to visit the famous Whitehaven Beach. The tour departs Whitehaven Beach as you cruise back through the Whitsunday Islands returning to Shute Harbour around 5pm.

The SeaLink vessel can carry 280 passengers, however, we deliberately cap our day cruises to 85 so our guests can enjoy the space, comfort and amazing views from all three decks. We also provide access to all the facilities on the vessel for guests to use all throughout the cruise.

For bookings:
<https://www.sealinkqld.com.au/whitsundays/whitehaven-beach-big-island-tour>

Southern Tasmania abounds in fresh tourism experiences

Tassie has been busy during the shutdown and there are some incredible new tourism offerings which have been developed within close proximity to Hobart which will provide a range of fresh tourism experiences for cruise ship passengers arriving at Tasmania's capital city, Hobart.

Amaze – Richmond

In the historic township of Richmond located 30 minutes' drive from Hobart's cruise ship berth, the revamped Richmond maze has recently opened following a seven-year redevelopment process.

The \$8million Amaze development challenges visitors to find their way through 2.6km of hedge and timber mazes and also features a cafe and external dining areas that can accommodate up to 300 people.

With particular appeal to families, Amaze is a welcome addition to the Richmond township and will further add to the region's rich tourism offering for arriving cruise passengers.

Cascades Female Factory – Hobart

The Cascades Female factory located within 10 minutes of Hobart's CBD has welcomed a new \$5 million History and Interpretation Centre which provides visitors with a state-of-the-art interpretative experience.

The World Heritage-listed Cascade

Female Factory has long been a popular attraction for cruise passengers and brings to life the largely untold story of convict women and the role women have played in the development of modern Australia.

The Cascades Female Factory is particularly important as it is the only remaining female factory with visual fabric and ruins still intact.

The new facilities and experiences at the History and Interpretation Centre include an exhibition, audio tour, convict history tour, theatrical performance, educational tours and, in the future, with further works planned to develop a program of special events that align with the heritage values of the site.

Callington Mill – Oatlands

At the historic and beautiful township of Oatlands, the Callington Mill development will add to Tasmania's world-class brand of high-quality products and experiences. This one is a real game changer and will be a must-do when visiting Tassie.

Callington Mill houses a Tasmanian-made automated turnkey whiskey

distillery as well as a world-class Visitor Centre and tourist experience amidst unique Georgian buildings including the oldest working Lincolnshire Windmill mill in the Southern Hemisphere.

Located on Tasmania's Heritage Highway approximately 1 hour from Hobart, the Distillery will be a significant drawcard for the Oatlands area showcasing Tasmania's rich colonial past.

Due to be completed in the coming weeks, the development will be ready for the eagerly anticipated return of cruise ships to Tasmanian waters.

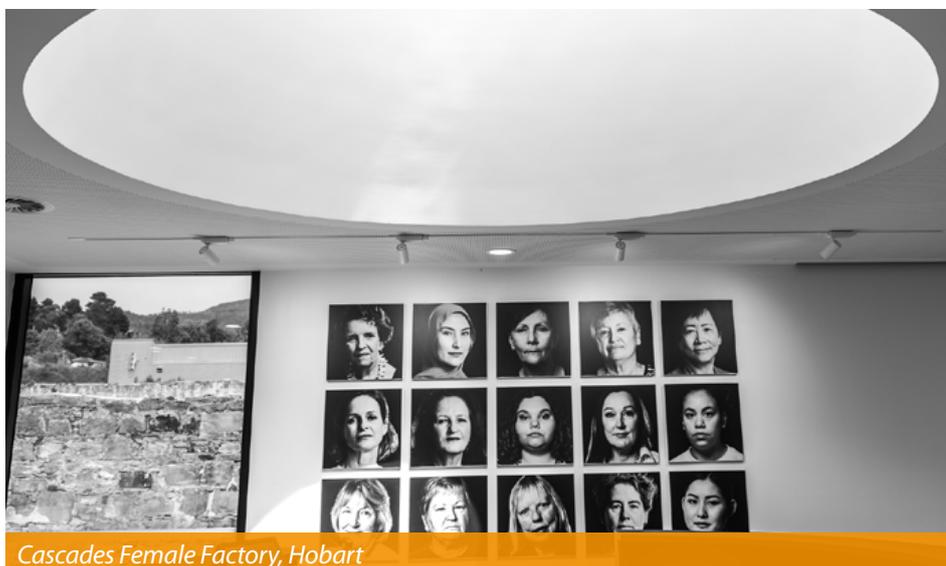
Lark Whisky Village – Pontville

In addition to the original distillery in Hobart, whisky connoisseurs can now experience Australia's oldest single malt whisky at its new home at Pontville. Located just 30 minutes' drive from Hobart, Lark Distilling Co. has acquired the iconic Pontville Estate and Distillery.

The impressive and visually stunning Estate is home to Tasmania's only working whisky village featuring a 130,000L distillery, as well as a cellar door, working cooperage and historic homestead with stables and stores, all dating back to the early 1800s.

Visitors can join in immersive tours of the distillery, enjoy a tasting of the iconic Lark whisky or Forty Spotted gin in the cellar door or join a masterclass and blend their very own bottle of Tasmanian Malt whisky under the guidance of a Lark whisky specialist.

Set amidst a stunning landscape and meticulously restored historic buildings, Lark Distillery at Pontville is an immersive and unforgettable whisky experience that will truly be a highlight of a trip to Southern Tasmania.



Cascades Female Factory, Hobart



Reef Magic pontoon on the Great Barrier Reef

Reef Magic pontoon

Reef Magic, a new \$7M marine science and tourism pontoon, owned by one of our newest members, Experience Co. (EXP), has begun operating on the Great Barrier Reef.

This will be a great attraction for cruise passengers who are interested in exploring the Reef from both a science and tourism perspective.

The new three-level floating platform is based at Moore Reef, a large horseshoe-shaped reef system nearly 45km offshore from Cairns. The 1000sqm activity pontoon will provide capacity for up to 250 guests who can enjoy guided snorkelling and introductory and certified diving, entering and exiting the water easily from an innovative 15m wide staircase on either side of the pontoon.

Helmet Diving is also available using an underwater platform that loops around the pontoon offering one of the longest circuits on the Great Barrier Reef.

Local Traditional Owners will work closely with Experience Co's marine

biologists to offer guests a narrative of Indigenous knowledge along with western science.

Those guests wanting to stay dry can experience the Reef via the semi-submersible, glass bottom boats or enjoying the large air-conditioned underwater observatory which features floor to ceiling windows.

In between activities, a spacious sundeck complete with sun loungers and extensive shaded retreat areas invites passengers to lie back and relax in comfort while admiring the views of the outer reef. Onboard catering from well-known Ochre restaurant in Cairns will provide delicious morning and afternoon teas as well as hot and cold lunchtime offerings featuring Indigenous flavours such as Lemon Myrtle Roast Chicken Breast and Native Dukkan Crusted Smoked Kangaroo

Loin. A fully stocked licenced bar will complement the culinary treats.

Adding to the guest experience is a purpose-built onboard marine science laboratory. Marine biologists will be available to take guests through the Reef research and conservation work being done onboard.

Numerous science groups will utilise the laboratory with onboard accommodation allowing for multi-day stays during major reef events such as coral spawning.

With sustainability as a priority in its design, the day-to-day operations of the platform will focus on reducing the impact on the environment with three wind turbines, 16 solar panels and, where possible, electricity generation to power the pontoon – a first for the region.

See the invisible at Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria has a wide variety of free, interactive activities on this year, from guided audio tours, sound experiences to self-guided tours and exhibitions.

The world's most ambitious augmented reality art exhibition is on until September 2022. "Seeing the Invisible" is an alfresco art exhibition showcasing works by some of the world's top contemporary artists, including Ai Weiwei, Refik Anadol, El Anatsui, Isaac Julien, Mohammed Kazem, Sigalit Landau, Sarah Meyohas, Pamela Rosenkranz and Timur Si-Qin.

Visitors to the Botanic Gardens can explore "Seeing the Invisible" for free, viewing the artworks via an app available on smartphones and tablets. When you visit "Seeing the Invisible" you'll also be taking part in an exhibition that's happening simultaneously around the world in 12 different locations. Melbourne's Botanic Gardens are the only Australian location taking part, with other venues including the Eden Project in Cornwall, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden in Cape Town, Royal Botanical Gardens in Ontario, and the San Diego Botanic Garden.

"Flora and The Baron" is a sound experience, designed to add a new dimension to various parts of the Gardens that is guided by the ghost of Baron Ferdinand von Mueller – eccentric outsider, global scientific powerhouse and Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria's first director. Cut off from his beloved Gardens for the last twenty years of his life in self-imposed exile,



Sonica Botanica, Royal Botanic Gardens

his spirit re-enters the Gardens as your audio tour guide, delighting in the powerful beauty of the plants, revelling in his scientific legacy, and entertaining us with stories from his remarkable life. To start the tour: use your smartphone to scan the QR code near Gate F.

Sonica Botanica is a series of four audio experiences created by Patrick Cronin. Each episode responds to people, place and plants connected with specific collections or landscapes at Melbourne

Gardens. It can be accessed through the Gardens' website or via scanning a QR code in the Garden they are based on. There is one on Oak Lawn, The Arid Garden and the Herb Garden.

These activities take place at Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria. Use your charged smartphone and headphones to access these activities and remember to wear comfortable clothing.

www.rbg.vic.gov.au



**AUSTRALIAN
CRUISE**
ASSOCIATION

Published by

AUSTRALIAN CRUISE ASSOCIATION

[ABN 44 021 935 869]

Editor: Jill Abel

Address: PO Box 1117 Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia 7006

Phone/Fax: +61 3 6223 7334

Email: ceo@australiancruiseassociation.com

Web: www.australiancruiseassociation.com

Disclaimer:

Opinions published are not necessarily those of the publisher. Every effort is made to ensure the information published is correct.