CRUISE WEEKLY
AGENT UPDATE
Thursday 31 Mar 2016

ACA Update

Jill Abel - CEO

AUSTRALIAN CRUISE ASSOCIATION

Aussie cruise uptick

OUR recent visit to the USA was a huge success for the Australian Cruise Association.

Seatrade Cruise Global in Fort Lauderdale afforded us some exciting opportunities to showcase Australia as a destination full of varied experiences across a broad landscape.

The sales mission that followed allowed the team to drill down into the special areas of interest by state.

Based on feedback from the cruise lines, there is no doubt we will see continued growth across all our ports.

A good example of how this is working is in SA which has seen significant increases over the last few years, according to Leah Clarke at the SATC.

Kangaroo Island which had three cruise ship visits in the 12/13 season will have 19 ships call in to this "wild and welcoming" destination in the 16/17 season with a total capacity of nearly 38,000 passengers and crew coming to visit.

"This is pinned to the diversity of experiences on offer," said Clarke. "With an abundance of nature and wildlife and the outstanding local produce of the Island we are seeing more visitors enjoying their visit to this remote landscape."

In Adelaide, P&Os homeporting of the *Pacific Eden* followed by *Pacific Aria* next year has been a boon for the city.

Next season, South Australia is looking forward to 51 scheduled visits – up from 37 this year - including the QM2 to Kangaroo Island and the behemoth Ovation of the Seas into Adelaide.

Another great success story for the Australian cruise industry.

Island Escape Cruises

CRUISE Tahiti for seven nights with Island Escape Cruises on board *Island Passage* and save up to NZ$2,000 per person (AU$1796).

Valid for new bookings only, the special is available for departures on the 22 & 29 May as well as 05 & 26 Jun.

The deal covers all meals on board, beverages, shore excursions as per itinerary.

Prices range from NZ$3,950 per person for a stateroom to bridge suites at NZ$6,950.

Agent fares for the cruise begin at NZ$5,950 for two.

Visit islandescapecruises.com.

Le Boat Europe trip

BOATING vacation company, Le Boat, has introduced a series of self-skippered boat cruises, exploring the canals of Holland and the South of France.

For more information or to book a trip visit, leboat.com.

All aboard *ms Noordam*

HOLLAND America Line's *ms Noordam* welcomed aboard more than 100 members of the Australia-Dutch business community last week, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Dutch discovery of Australia by explorer Dirk Hartog.

Joined by chairman of Dutchlink, Bert Bardoel and Consul-General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Willem Cosijn, guests were treated to a delicious lunch at the Pinnacle Grill.

Shane Phillips from Tribal Warrior, discussed ways in which the not-for-profit supports indigenous and non-indigenous youth in Australia.

Over $5,000 was raised for the initiative during the event.

Pictured (from left) are: Shane Phillips, ceo, Tribal Warrior; Ali McEvoy, consultant, Corporate Giving Holland America Line; Bert Bardoel, chairman, Dutchlink; Captain Henk Draper, ms *Noordam*; Anna Mansfield, account manager for Holland America Line, PEPR Publicity; Wilem Consijn, Consul General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Philip Engelberts, director, PEPR Publicity.

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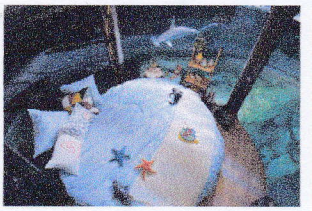
PORTHOLE

A ROOM with a very special view is up for grabs.

Airbnb has partnered with the Paris Aquarium to offer an underwater bedroom surrounded by 35 sharks.

The room will be available for three nights in Apr as part of a competition organised by Airbnb, with the underwater sleepover aiming to teach guests more about the often misunderstood species.



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