

Cruise Weekly today

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

Crystal out for 2020

CRYSTAL Cruises has pulled the pin on its entire 2020 ocean cruise season, saying the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 health crisis "hinders the ability for all cruise lines to operate".

Departures affected include all cruises aboard *Crystal Serenity* and *Crystal Symphony*, as well as *Crystal Esprit* yacht voyages.

Impacted guests will receive a 125% future cruise credit along with a refund of port charges, taxes, fees and any air and hotel packages booked through Crystal.

Credits are valid for use on any Crystal experience.

Hurtigruten hit by coronavirus

36 HURTIGRUTEN crew members and one passenger have reportedly tested positive for coronavirus aboard *Roald Amundsen* (pictured), currently docked in Tromsø.

The entire crew was tested after four staff members became sick with non-coronavirus disease symptoms.

The four initial patients were isolated, admitted to hospital and tested positive for coronavirus, with an additional 32 crew members testing positive and 122 testing negative.

The passenger to test positive reportedly sailed on the 17 Jul departure.

32 of the 34 confirmed cases are from the Philippines, with overseas crew members required to test negative twice before leaving their home country.

No pax are currently on board, but 154 of the original 158 crew



members remain on the ship, all of whom are still asymptomatic.

Potentially impacted passengers travelled on two separate voyages disembarking on 17 and 24 Jul.

There were 209 guests on the first voyage and 178 on the second, all of whom have been asked to self-quarantine.

The outbreak comes just over a month after Hurtigruten became one of the first cruise lines to return to cruising (**CW** 19 Jun).

Roald Amundsen had been scheduled to set sail to Svalbard again on Fri, but the voyage has been cancelled.

"We are now focusing all available efforts in taking care of our guests and colleagues," said VP Global Communications Rune Thomas Ege.

"We work closely with the Norwegian national and local health authorities for follow-up, information, further testing, and infection tracking."

Travel Daily



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Expeditions back

PONANT has recommenced Arctic expeditions, following its initial restart of French coastal voyages.

The cruise line recommenced travelling to the region with Spitsbergen-bound departures aboard *Le Boreal* on 18 and 25 Jul.

Ponant's Unexplored Svalbard itinerary, sailing roundtrip from Longyearbyen, also departed on Fri, and will depart again this coming Fri.

Between now and Sep, Ponant will be undertaking no fewer than five itineraries to the Arctic, with destinations including the Bering Strait, Chukotka, the Kuril Islands, the Northeast Passage and Svalbard.

New name, look for RCG



ROYAL Caribbean Cruises has officially announced its rebranding as Royal Caribbean Group (RCG).

Group Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Richard Fain

described the new identity as simpler, fresher, more modern and more descriptive.

"Royal Caribbean Group sounds like a parent company name, reflective of our growth and evolution since we last updated our identity more than 20 years ago," Fain said.

Royal Caribbean Group's logo has also been slightly updated (**pictured**), with the iconic crown and anchor emblem having been sharpened and made more symmetrical, and will now reside inside a circle at all times.

POT annual survey

THE Port of Townsville (POT) wants to know the thoughts of the public via its short annual survey.

While the study is anonymous, those who provide their contact details can go into the running to win a family pass for two adults and two children to Magnetic Island with SeaLink.

CLICK HERE for the survey.



THE maritime industry is presently in search of a good ambassador, and it could do far worse than professional golfer Joel Sjöholm.

The Swedish pro was in the midst of his final round at the Hero Open in Birmingham, England on Sun when his second shot on the 17th landed on an island in the middle of a water hazard.

Sticking to the mantra of "play it where it lies", Sjöholm hopped on a boat and ferried himself to the island to play his shot.

His third shot landed back on the mainland, but he had to settle for a bogey and finished tied for 22nd.

CLICK HERE to watch the ordeal unfold.

HAL name change

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has designated its newbuild *Ryndam* as its flagship, and is also changing its name to *Rotterdam*.

The vessel is the seventh in Holland America history to bear the name, and is expected to be delivered by 30 Jul 2021, as opposed to its initial scheduling of May 2021.

When the new *Rotterdam* is delivered from Fincantieri's Marghera shipyard in Italy, it will spend the summer exploring Northern Europe and the Baltic on roundtrip cruises from Amsterdam.

Travel & Cruise Weekly

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