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In the spirit of our Partners First philosophy, we want to reward you for your support of NCL and help to grow your business.

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 <b>\$100 GIFT CARD</b> for every deposited booking*.	 <b>SAVE 20%</b> on all sailings from April 2021 and beyond*.
 <b>GENEROUS COMMISSIONS</b> We offer some of the best commissions in the cruise industry.	 <b>BOOK RISK-FREE</b> with our flexible cancellation policy.
 <b>PROTECTED COMMISSION</b> As part of NCL's Peace of Mind policy, your commission will be protected on fully paid bookings if they are cancelled*.	 <b>FREE AT SEA</b> Choose 2 free offers, including a free beverage package*.
 <b>BOOK-A-BDM</b> Connect with your BDM in a time and way that suits you.	 <b>REDUCED DEPOSITS</b> Save 50% on the deposit on all sailings*.
 <b>LOCAL CONTACT CENTRE</b> Our friendly and knowledgeable team are based in Sydney and are available Monday to Saturday.	 <b>NCL'S PEACE OF MIND</b> With Sail Safe, your clients can cruise safely with enhanced health & safety protocols.

**PARTNERS-FIRST**  
NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION **CLICK HERE** OR **CALL 1300 255 200 (AU)** OR **0800 969 283 (NZ)**

\*For more information on Partner Promotions visit [trade.ncl.com/berewarded](https://trade.ncl.com/berewarded) \*Offers correct as at 12 August and are subject to change or withdrawal. Offers end 31 August 2020 unless extended. For full terms and conditions visit [ncl.com](https://ncl.com)



### Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a front full page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

### NCL partners first

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) is today showcasing the wide range of rewards it's offering to travel agents for their support of the cruise line.

Benefits include a \$100 gift card for each deposited booking, protected commissions, the ability to book a Business Development Manager consultant at a convenient time and a Sydney-based contact centre.

Current offers for clients include savings of 20% on all sailings from Apr 2021, reduced deposits, flexible cancellation policies and the Norwegian "Sail Safe" program of enhanced health and safety protocols.

Free beverage packages are also on offer - see the **cover page** for more details.

## Our focus remains on the future

### OPINION

*Joel Katz is the Managing Director Australasia of Cruise Lines International Association.*



**THE** release of the *Ruby Princess* Special Commission report last week has reinforced once again that, as an industry, our best response to the COVID-19 pandemic is as a united cruise community with a common focus – working together and with regulators, to always put safety first.

However difficult this has been amid huge public scrutiny, this is our industry's greatest strength, and it's helping to drive the many teams of people around the world who are working hard to achieve a new foundation for cruising and create a pathway towards recovery.

At CLIA we know our work has never been more critical, both to the future of cruising and the livelihoods of those who rely on cruise tourism.

And while there's still much

to overcome, we have already achieved a great deal in terms of creating a strong footing for the future.

This month, CLIA has had important engagement with government agencies on both sides of the Tasman, putting forward the framework we have created for discussions on future operations.

This includes explanations on the work currently underway internationally among cruise lines and within CLIA to establish extensive new health protocols.

When the time is right, we envisage a carefully controlled and phased resumption of operations that works within border restrictions and protects Australia and New Zealand from outside infection.

Limited local itineraries for Australians only, within Australia, and for New Zealanders only, within New Zealand, provide an opportunity for a measured resumption of cruising and a revival of economic opportunities for communities in both

countries.

CLIA's travel agent community is equally key to the future prosperity of the cruise industry.

The economic impact of the cruise suspension on travel agents has been a key part of our work in Australia and New Zealand, and CLIA will continue to advocate in our members' interests in all government dealings.

These efforts on behalf of the whole cruise community are our most important task right now, and while much still depends on the future status of COVID-19 in our states and territories, and the advances being made on the medical front, we are confident we have the expertise and resilience to succeed.

As we drive our plans forward, we will continue to advocate not only for our future safe resumption, but also for the needs of our travel agent community and other industry stakeholders who will play such an important part in our national recovery.

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Travel Daily




## PORTHOLE

**A ROBOT** boat has just completed its three-week mission in the Atlantic Ocean.

The 12-metre unmanned surface vehicle (USV) *Maxlimer* completed its 22-day-long mission to map an area of seafloor in the Atlantic, a mission set out for it by developer SEA-KIT International.

The voyage was "skipped" from Tollesbury on England's Essex coast.

The USV was despatched from Plymouth in late Jul and sent to a location around 460 kilometres off the coast.

The boat mapped more than 1,000km<sup>2</sup> of continental shelf down to about a kilometre in depth.

## Bahamas welcomes cruise



**THE** Bahamas has changed its stance on cruise ship passengers, with local officials hoping cruising will return to Nassau upon the resumption of the industry.

Last year representatives from the Bahamas were bemoaning the lack of money spent by cruise passengers visiting the country.

However, following the devastation caused by Hurricane Dorian (**CW** 09 Sep) and the COVID-19 pandemic, Minister of Tourism Dionisio D'Aguilar said he intends to "encourage" cruise lines to return to Nassau once they are able to, as that is where tourists would make the most economic impact for the country.

"Obviously, when they start cruising again, they will not

want to come to the population centres, they will want to go to their private islands, because they can control the environment," he said.

D'Aguilar added the relatively short distance between Florida and the Bahamas would work in the country's favour.

"At the onset, [the cruise lines] will want to check their protocols and see how they work.

"We're wonderfully positioned for the rebound of the cruise industry, because we're so close and they can do short cruises."

"The shorter you make the cruise, the less the risk...you can do a three-day cruise involving Nassau and your private island."

D'Aguilar and many others have in the past expressed fears private islands such as Great Stirrup Cay and Perfect Day CocoCay siphon money from Nassau or Freeport, but the Minister of Tourism says the Government of the Bahamas will now not allow that to happen.

**Pictured:** Warwick Paradise Island.

### Miami waivers

**MIAMI-DADE** County has extended its lay berth and harbour fees waiver for its cruise line partners for an additional 30 days.

The new extension runs through 10 Sep, subject to availability at PortMiami.



AUSTRALIAN  
CRUISE  
ASSOCIATION  
**ACA  
UPDATE**  
with Jill Abel - CEO

### Report provides clarity

**WE ARE** pleased to note that the findings of the *Ruby Princess* inquiry upheld the integrity and professionalism of the Princess Cruises team as they managed through the unfolding coronavirus crisis and the unprecedented challenges it presented

Very importantly, the report will inform the ongoing discussions and planning being undertaken by the cruise sector in conjunction with all levels of Australian government around the safe and responsible re-start of cruising in our country.

Cruise tourism plays an important role in our economy contributing much needed financial support to city gateways and smaller regional destinations. Over 18,000 Australians rely on our sector for a job and the industry contributes \$5.2B in economic output.

While we acknowledge the complexities of re-starting our cruise industry in Australia it is vital that we find a way to do just that while also ensuring the safety of the destinations, the passengers, and the crew.

To support that goal, we have been working closely with like-minded organisations here and overseas to observe their development of health and hygiene protocols and plans to welcome cruise ships back to our waters.

There is no doubt that cruising will follow a staged plan and may not look like it did previously for some time, but we look forward to exploring all the options being presented.

### Emerald brochure

**EMERALD** Waterways has released a new 2021 Russian river cruise brochure for the Australian market, which will see the cruise line introduce a new river ship to its portfolio, the recently refurbished *Nizhny Novgorod*.

The new vessel will sail the Volga River from May 2021, with a highlight of the new program the 11-day Imperial Charms of Russia river cruise, sailing from St Petersburg to Moscow, leading in at \$5,095 per person twin share - call +61 2 8274 1336.