



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Joel Katz at TTIH

NEXT week the cruising sector across Australasia will have the opportunity to engage directly with Cruise Lines International Association Australasia MD Joel Katz, via an exclusive Zoom interview with *Travel Daily's* Bruce Piper.

It will be the third in a series of conversations with industry leaders facilitated by The Travel Industry Hub (TTIH), following similar interviews with AFTA CEO Darren Rudd and CATO Chairman Dennis Bunnik over the last two weeks.

Participants can register now for the session which will take place at 11am Sydney time next Wed - [CLICK HERE](#).

## CLIA “acknowledges” CATO proposal

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia says it will take time to consider the new discussion document released this week by the Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO) (*Travel Daily* 24 Aug), but has noted CLIA was not involved in the paper's development.

CATO has proposed the industry take the opportunity afforded by the COVID-19 pandemic to undertake major reforms to the entire travel sector, including the expansion of the current AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme (ATAS) into an industry-wide program jointly administered by a board from CATO, CLIA and the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) with separate criteria for participants set by each body.

The cruising division of the proposed “Australian Travel Accreditation Scheme” would

cover cruise lines, CLIA allied members, product & service suppliers to the industry and “other cruise relevant entities”.

The CATO paper, which intends to “spark debate and discussion”, also proposes any international booking through an ATAS-accredited entity would have a 1% compulsory levy applied which would fund insurance for a general supplier insolvency scheme.

In a statement issued this morning CLIA noted unlike CATO and AFTA, it is a global trade association and may therefore be limited in its ability to become directly involved as suggested.

“CLIA strongly supports the interest of its travel agent members during the current COVID-19 crisis and will continue to work with governments and fellow industry bodies to advocate on agents' behalf,” a

spokesperson told *Cruise Weekly*.

AFTA Chair Tom Manwaring yesterday noted the organisation has already been looking at the appropriate evolution of ATAS and the AFTA Chargeback Scheme for close to a year, adding that “it's a highly complex matter”.

The Association's lobbying efforts with the government this year also included a submission in Mar as the coronavirus crisis deepened, specifically seeking support for consumer bookings, with Manwaring adding “AFTA continues to lobby on these highly sensitive matters including in our pre-Budget submission”.

“The chances of success are not elevated as a result of publicly airing these issues in this way...we have had preliminary discussions with CATO and prefer to continue these discussions in a collaborative way rather than via the media”.



TRAVEL DAILY AWARDS

# NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

**Hurry, nominations close Monday**

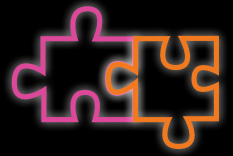
Travel Daily wants to support the industry by honouring travel agents and suppliers for their work through COVID-19. Tell us who has gone above and beyond in these challenging times and how they have supported you.

**Click here to nominate someone now!**

**More information at  
[awards.traveldaily.com.au](http://awards.traveldaily.com.au)**

**NEED A DISTRACTION  
AMID THE DOOM  
AND GLOOM?**

Check out our daily puzzle page.



Travel Daily



**IF YOU'RE** from Western Australia and are looking to get back out on the water, this may be for you.

*The Raft* is a 445m<sup>2</sup> former fireworks barge which has since been turned into a bar.

The venue is set to host a raft of events to the Swan River, including "pinot pilates" and "yoga on the barge".

The floating venue will hold up to 250 guests, who will be transported from Barrack Street Jetty to the venue, moored between the Narrows Bridge and Elizabeth Quay.

## Another Viking winner



**VIKING** has announced Flying Colours Travel's Jacqui Ingram (pictured) is the second winner of its Mississippi trade training e-mail webinar (CW 15 Jul).

The Sale, Victoria travel agent is the winner of a gourmet Mississippi hamper filled with authentic Louisiana hot sauce, White Lightnin' Moonshine and a collection of reading materials, such as cookbooks and leather-bound Mark Twain novels including *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

Ingram won her prize by scoring top marks in the quiz.

She also responded to "what sets Viking Mississippi apart" with: "all staterooms are outside and have a Veranda or French balcony, stunning plunge pool to relax in after taking one of your included shore excursions."

"There's a choice of restaurants and magnificent outdoor lounges

to enjoy the beauty of cruising on Viking Mississippi."

## RCG cancels also

**ROYAL** Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises have both extended their suspension of sailing in Australasia until the end of Oct.

The two Royal Caribbean Group (RCG) brands followed other pauses from Carnival Corporation's local cruise lines (CW yesterday).

Oceania Cruises' *Insignia* has also had its sailings suspended from 10 Nov through to 26 Apr.

Royal Caribbean Group recently secured a new US\$700 million loan from investment bank Morgan Stanley, which the company has purposed for "general and corporate" (CW 14 Aug).

## Carnival to Qld

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has confirmed its commitment to Queensland with the launch of its Brisbane cruise program through to 2023.

Almost 50 cruises will be on offer from Jun 2022 through Mar 2023, with *Carnival Spirit* to be the newest and largest ship homeported year-round in Queensland.

*Carnival Spirit* will offer a wide variety of itineraries featuring destinations such as Airlie Beach, Cairns and Port Douglas, as well as international destinations in the South Pacific and Papua New Guinea.

A three-night sampler cruise leads in from just \$374 per person.



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