



RCI restarts

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) today resumed cruising in Singapore with *Quantum of the Seas* (**CW** 09 Oct).

The ship departed from the Marina Bay Cruise Centre on its first Ocean Getaway cruise, with the three- and four-night itineraries available exclusively for Singapore residents.

Quantum of the Seas will operate at reduced occupancy rates of up to 50%, implement mandatory & universal testing during embarkation and debarkation, and enforce mask wearing & physical distancing among other hygiene measures.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Pent-up demand finally realised

CONSUMERS' pent-up demand for cruising, widely-touted throughout the industry, is finally becoming a reality, according to Silversea Cruises Senior Vice President & Managing Director Asia Pacific Adam Radwanski (pictured).

The Silversea local SVP said yesterday's introduction of three additional Kimberley voyages for next year (**CW** yesterday) was down to the demand for the region as part of Silversea's 2021 Kimberley season, which has almost sold out.

"Our new booking levels are close to double the volumes we had last year, just in the last few days," Radwanski enthused.

"This week has been the biggest we've ever had in Australia and New Zealand in terms of inquiries.

"The new season launch is actually only a pre-sale for our



Venetian Society, so we haven't even opened that sale to the general public and we're already seeing record sales.

"It's a great story for the trade that's looking forward to finally making bookings.

"There's no doubt it'll be a sell-out in the coming months."

Radwanski said the result was also great for Australia, as it showed there is local demand, and travellers are "serious about our country.

"We provide free local accommodation, so we're supporting local businesses, especially local tourism."

Silversea will be especially pleased with the result off the back of a recent local sales restructure (**CW** 23 Nov), which Radwanski said was enacted to remain "strongly connected and relevant to our trade partners".

"Servicing levels will increase as a consequence, because we will have fantastic salesmen on the road, but we've also created a small inside sales team.

"It's a more agile structure, so we'll be able to pick up the phone, we'll be able to communicate via digital media, via video conferences, all the things we're now used to, while a more serious and bigger business development discussion can take place face-to-face with our salesmen on the ground.

"This kind of dual-servicing model will give us a great level of flexibility and ability to respond to the trade's needs."

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IF YOU'RE desperate to get back out on the water, and want to take in some Xmas cheer, the Mandurah Christmas Lights Cruise in Perth is ideal.

Departing twice nightly until 03 Jan, the annual event is returning for 2020, showcasing Mandurah's luxury canal homes that have been decorated in Christmas cheer.

Cruisers will experience millions of illuminated Xmas lights, amazing Christmas themed-displays, Xmas trees, Santas, snowmen, reindeer & sleds, twinkling stars and snow globes, opulent stairways and carols sung from balconies, as well as a number of Australian touches, such as dolphins & kangaroos, private jetties, and watercraft.

The one-hour cruises depart nightly at 7:30 and 8:45, with adults sailing from \$35, children from 3-12 departing from \$25 and kids under three sailing free - [CLICK HERE](#).

NCL hosts Aria lunch



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) hosted a celebratory lunch yesterday in recognition of the 12-month countdown to *Norwegian Spirit's* inaugural Australian 2021/2022 summer season.

Travellers will have the opportunity to experience a collection of 10- and 12-day itineraries departing both Sydney and Auckland.

Hosted by Vice President & Managing Director APAC Ben Angell, guests were treated to a delectable lunch at Aria Restaurant Sydney, with the local Norwegian VP noting the cruise line was "delighted to be offering our Australian and New Zealand guests the opportunity to explore the beauty we are lucky enough to have in our own backyard with a cruise holiday.

"*Norwegian Spirit's* deployment to Australasia for her inaugural 2021/22 summer sailing season demonstrates our ongoing commitment to delivering an exceptional experience for the

region's loyal cruise fans."

He also highlighted a number of new ports for Norwegian for *Spirit's* inaugural season, such as Timaru, New Zealand.

The ship will arrive in Dec 2021, where she will showcase her bow to stern modernisation (**CW 18 Feb**).

Guests at the lunch were shown the latest TVC currently airing (**CW 30 Nov**), as well as a new Norwegian Embark video showcasing the *Choir of Man* onboard production, filmed live in London.

With 2022 selling extremely well, Norwegian is encouraging agents to reach out to their clients and let them know there has never been a better time to book, especially given the recent release of 2023 itineraries, which will feature Caribbean island-hopping, Alaskan glacier viewing and European explorations (**CW 23 Nov**).

Pictured at Aria are Michelle Wiederman, Charli Beale, Ben Angell, and Damian Borg.

Vega interiors

SWAN Hellenic has revealed the interiors of its Vega Class ships in a virtual tour video by designers Tillberg Design of Sweden.

The video takes viewers through a Vega Class ship as if the viewer were returning from an expedition by Zodiac. View the video [HERE](#).

More Medallion

ALL of Princess Cruises' fleet will feature the line's MedallionClass Experience next year (**CW** breaking news).

Upon approval to return to service in 2021, all ships will feature the OceanMedallion wearable, with the technology to also now support new health protocols.

Coral Princess, Diamond Princess, Emerald Princess, Grand Princess, Island Princess, Majestic Princess, and Sapphire Princess will return as MedallionClass ships, along with the new *Enchanted Princess* (**CW 09 Oct**).

Micro-cruising

A SVALBARD "micro-cruising" adventure to the Norwegian Arctic is now available with Secret Atlas.

Travellers will explore the archipelago on-board the 12-passenger, purpose-built small expedition vessel *Togo*.

Secret Atlas's 2021/22 Arctic cruise season opens with a collection of expeditions of seven- to 15+ days from mid-April to Sep - [CLICK HERE](#).

No lease deal

RUMOURS of Pullmantur Cruises restarting with two Millennium class ships have not been agreed to, Celebrity Cruises has insisted.

"We have not agreed to lease or sell any of our ships, including any Celebrity Millennium class ships, to Pullmantur," the cruise line said.