

Cruise Weekly today

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

Scenic Eclipse '22

SCENIC Luxury Cruises & Tours has announced its new *Scenic Eclipse* 2022/23 Worldwide Voyages Collection.

The program now covers six continents and 35 countries across 48 voyages, with highlights including an enhanced Antarctica program, and new voyages to the Northeast Passage, Japan, the Sea of Cortez and the Russian Far North.

Guests will enjoy a range of new helicopter excursions as well as a *Scenic Neptune* submersible voyage in the waters of South Georgia, and excursions will be led by a Discovery Team made up of experts in their field.

Super Earlybird savings are currently available for the season, offering up to 20% on selected departures, with Scenic's Flexible Booking Policy allowing clients to defer their travel plans up to 60 days prior to departure.

A complimentary Deposit Protection Plan has also now been included.

For more on the 2022/23 Worldwide Voyages Collection, call Scenic on 1300 763 772.

New Viking Health & Safety program

VIKING has announced its Health & Safety Program, developed in coordination with an international team of scientific and medical advisors.

The crux of the program will include daily PCR testing for all Viking guests and crews (**CW** 03 Nov), processed in full-scale dedicated onboard and shoreside laboratories, new air purification technology installed on all ships, and additional health checks, sanitisation and physical distancing to protect guests and crews at all points of the journey.

To aid travellers with what to expect on their journey, Viking has released a step-by-step online guide, taking guests from doorstep to doorstep.

Journeys will begin with an online digital health questionnaire developed by scientific and medical advisors, however guests will not be required to take a coronavirus test before travel.

Once in-location, guests will be assigned boarding times based on their flight arrivals.

Check-in counters will be spread out to ensure proper distancing, and sanitised between every guest's check-in, with a touch-free online option to also be available.

In cooperation with local partners, all cruise port terminals will be sanitised prior to guest

arrival, and upon embarkation, guests will receive a temperature check via a touchless thermometer, and complete another health questionnaire, before undergoing their first PCR test, processed via a saliva sample in a plastic tube.

Depending on local regulations and travel itineraries, guests may be asked to wait for test results in their hotel or a designated waiting area.

Further tests and questionnaires will be conducted aboard the ship each day from guestrooms.

On board, face masks may be required for all guests and crew members while moving about the ship, depending on conditions at time of sailing.

All staterooms will feature independent air handling units that do not share air with other areas of the ship, and air in public areas will also be purified with new short-wavelength ultraviolet (UV-C) lights and high-density filters, which kill 99.99% of all airborne viruses and bacteria.

Onboard temperature checks

will be conducted via automated thermal cameras, while ship surfaces will be cleaned and sanitised continuously with daily scheduled deep cleanings.

Ocean ships will use sanitisation robots that utilise UV-C light to treat surfaces in public areas.

Only Viking shore excursions will be offered while in port, with each excursion to utilise audio headsets to allow for physical distancing among groups.

Complimentary face masks will be provided for excursions where proper physical distancing may not be possible, or if required by local guidelines, and upon return to the ship, guest temperatures will be checked via automated thermal cameras.

To view the Health & Safety Program in full, and to view a list of frequently asked questions, **CLICK HERE**.

Viking also recently advised travellers it was extending its suspension of cruises worldwide through until the end of Mar.

For more information, call Viking on 1800 143 775.

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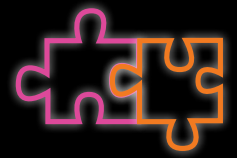
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Princess announces Europe, Alaska

PRINCESS Cruises has announced its 2022 cruises and cruisetours to Europe and Alaska this week.

Highlights of the cruise line's European season will see five ships sailing to the Arctic Circle and the Mediterranean Sea, while the Alaska season will see Princess' latest ship, *Discovery Princess*, (CW 14 Oct 2019) as the newest vessel sailing in the state.

The cruise line will offer 178 European departures on 70 unique itineraries, to 114 destinations in 30 countries from Mar through Nov 2022.

The season will feature the new *Enchanted Princess* sailing in the Baltic on Scandinavia & Russia voyages for the very first time.

Other highlights of the season will include hillside castles in the British Isles, ancient ruins in Italy, the Blue Lagoon in Iceland and the Western European-inspired



architecture of St. Petersburg.

The Alaska program goes on sale Wed, with six ships, 12 itineraries, and 25 cruisetour options that visit Denali National Park.

From May through Sep 2022, *Discovery* and *Emerald* will depart from Seattle on the seven-day Inside Passage itinerary, while *Ruby* (pictured) will offer a 10-day

version of this itinerary from San Francisco.

Grand Princess, *Majestic Princess* and *Sapphire Princess* will sail the seven-day Voyage of the Glaciers itinerary, which features two glacier-viewing experiences, including Glacier Bay National Park.

Call Princess on 1300 551 853.

Cunard cancels

CUNARD has extended its pause in operations due to the ongoing travel constraints in place across the world.

Voyages departing on board *Queen Mary 2* up to and including 28 May and on board *Queen Elizabeth* up to and including 04 Jun are cancelled, while departures on *Queen Victoria* remain unaffected, and are scheduled to resume 17 May.

Guests who have had their voyage cancelled will automatically receive a 125% cruise credit to redeem against a future voyage, which can be used on any new booking made by the end of 2021.

"The tremendous response already to our 2022 voyages clearly demonstrates our guests are eagerly anticipating travelling again with us," said President Simon Palethorpe.

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THERE'S nothing like a celebrity endorsement, and Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady has recently rubber-stamped the maritime industry with his purchase of a 40-foot multi-million-dollar boat (**pictured**).

The vessel, *Viva a Vida*, was delivered to Brady in St. Petersburg, Florida, last Thu.

However, in making the purchase, Brady raised a number of eyebrows, after his company, TB12, was also recently rubber-stamped for a US\$960,000 Paycheck Protection Program loan, an initiative instituted by the federal government to help businesses continue paying their workers through the COVID-19 pandemic.

It seems Brady may not have been struggling financially as much as his company has been.



Qatar Ponant p'ship



QATAR Airways subsidiary Discover Qatar has announced an expedition cruise series travelling around the country's coastline.

The cruises are designed for seasoned travellers, and will provide the opportunity to observe the largest gathering of the world's largest living fish, the whale shark (**pictured**), in the Al Shaheen marine zone.

The Whale Sharks of Qatar itinerary will see guests snorkel in coral reefs, explore mangroves, and sail through the turquoise waters of Khawr al Udayd.

A team of expert guides, marine biologists, naturalists and ornithologists will also lead guests to identify local wildlife, and offer a cultural perspective on the sites explored.

The eight-night expedition package on board Ponant's *Le Champlain* can also be extended to a ten-night package, including a three-night stay in Doha.

On board *Le Champlain*, guests will also enjoy a 24-hour butler service, two restaurants, a luxury spa, an infinity pool and a multi-sensory futuristic underwater lounge with large observation windows below the waterline.

Le Champlain also features a hydraulic platform to ease disembarking and embarking to participate in expeditions.

Cruising will start in Apr, with seven consecutive weekly departures starting from US\$5,295 per person (A\$7,135).

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Fred. Olsen sale

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines is inviting guests to sail from £599 (A\$1,079), with free drinks or up to £600 to spend on board.

The cruise line's annual sale launched last week, applicable on new bookings made on selected sailings before 02 Feb.

Voyages start from just £599 per person with more than 120 cruises included in the sale from 2021 and 2022.

Highlights include *Bolette's* 12-night Icelandic Wonders & Wildlife, *Braemar's* five-night Delights of Devon & Cornwall, *Balmoral's* six-night Spellbinding Fjords of Norway and *Borealis's* 24-night Amalfi Coast & Italian Riviera.

For more, [CLICK HERE](#).

RCI COVID case

A GUEST aboard Royal Caribbean International's (RCI) *Quantum of the Seas* recently tested positive, which saw the ship return to port.

RCI has since cancelled the four-night cruise scheduled to depart today, and the guest has been transported to a medical facility.



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