



Hurtigruten adds expert

HURTIGRUTEN has announced the engagement of Professor Orjan Olsvik, a highly experienced expert in medical microbiology, to lead the cruise line's post-pandemic restart program.

Olsvik has broad field experience in investigating and combatting disease outbreaks on cruise ships, and has worked for more than a decade at the United States' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

He has also been affiliated with the World Health Organization and involved with the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and for the Norwegian Armed Forces Medical Services in controlling disease outbreaks, such as the West African Ebola virus epidemic.

"We are very proud to reinforce our medical team through this collaboration with a world-leading authority in the field

of infection control," said Hurtigruten CEO Daniel Skjeldam.

"The safety and well-being of guests and crews, and to all our partners and the public in the ports we visit, will always be our absolute main priority," he said.

"By strengthening our medical expertise with the unique world-class expertise Professor Olsvik represents, we aim to develop a pioneering, world-class system for safe sailings," Skjeldam said.

The initial phases of the work have seen Olsvik undertake an extensive analysis of Hurtigruten's Safer Together program, with the company set to introduce coronavirus testing on all expedition cruises.

"A key part of the upcoming work will be to optimise these systems in accordance with the development of testing, vaccines and new knowledge and technology," Olsvik said.

CLIA webinar

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia is hosting a webinar this week to outline benefits to its members for next year.

The 2021 CLIA Travel Agent Rewards Program (**CW** 16 Oct) will be outlined during the webinar, which will occur at 11am AEDT on Thu.

Open to everyone, the webinar will also explain key benefits such as events, and certification programs.

CLIA Australasia Director of Membership & Events Marita Nasic said member benefits, developed to give agents the best possible support, had never been more comprehensive and would give agents a significant advantage as the travel industry moved into recovery.

To take part in the webinar, register **HERE**.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Cruiseco**.

Join NCL in getting into the Xmas spirit!

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is encouraging travel partners to get into the holiday spirit with a five-day Christmas giveaway.

Beginning today and running through to Fri, NCL will pose a daily question about *Norwegian Spirit*, with the most creative responses to win the prize of the day, from a total prize pool valued at over \$2,000.

Today's prize is a pair of Apple AirPods Pro, valued at \$400.

To enter, click **HERE**.

The competition comes with NCL having last week announced a new Partners First Rewards program (**CW** 07 Dec).



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CRUISING has had yet another brush with Hollywood, with Cunard Line's *Queen Mary 2* appearing in a new HBO film, *Let Them All Talk*.

Directed by Steven Soderbergh, also known for *Sex, Lies & Videotapes* and *Traffic*, the film stars Meryl Streep, who, in one of the opening scenes of the movie, arrives at Brooklyn Cruise Terminal, and gazes in awe at *Queen Mary 2*.

The majority of the film was shot on board, in venues such as the Art Deco Commodore Club, the Queens Grill, the dining room, the Royal Court Theatre and the library.

Given *Let Them All Talk* was filmed before the COVID-19 pandemic, there were many guests aboard who served as extras in the film.

The news follows Tom Cruise's hiring of two Hurtigruten cruise ships to buoy the filming of his latest *Mission: Impossible* movie (*CW* 04 Sep).

AIDA resumes

AIDA Cruises is back cruising, with *AIDAperla* sailing from Gran Canaria over a week ago.

According to reports, 800 people are onboard the 3,250-passenger ship, which will sail the same itinerary over the next few weeks.

This is AIDA's second restart, after briefly resuming in Oct (*CW* 30 Oct).

Journey Beyond celebrates



JOURNEY Beyond Cruise Sydney hosted a luncheon on Fri to thank a group of its loyal supporters for their friendship in 2020.

Hosted by Business Development Manager Craig Owens and led by Captain Frank (pictured), the luncheon saw the group enjoy a 2.5-hour cruise around Sydney Harbour, and tuck into a scrumptious menu

consisting of slow-cooked beef cheek, Hawkesbury snapper and a trio of desserts, including almond cake, pavlova petite, and a chocolate brownie.

Bring back cruise

CRUISE influencer Honida Beram, host of *Cruising With Honey*, has launched a bring back cruising petition, urging the government to allow domestic cruising to restart early next year.

The petition draws attention to farmers, travel agents, crews, cruise line staffs, tour operators and more, whose livelihoods have been decimated due to the suspension.

CLICK HERE to view.

MSC 2021/2022

MSC Cruises has confirmed its winter cruise program for 2021/2022.

Following her inaugural season in the Mediterranean in the northern hemisphere summer, the cruise line's flagship *MSC Seashore* will sail the Caribbean, homeporting from Miami.

MSC will send four ships to the Mediterranean - *Fantasia*, *Grandiosa*, *Magnifica* and *Poesia*, and the season will also take in the postponed world's fair, Expo 2020, in Dubai, with *Opera* and *Virtuoso* to overnight in the city.

Also featured are South Africa, South America, and a range of Grand Voyages.

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QUEENSLAND SHORT BREAK

Cruise departs 16 Nov 2021 | Sydney return
Ovation of the Seas®



7 night cruise incl. all main meals+ and entertainment on board

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TASMANIA & MELBOURNE

Cruise departs 22 Nov 2021 | Sydney return
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Inside from **\$1,340pp*** Outside from **\$1,490pp*** Balcony from **\$1,695pp***

TASMANIA VOYAGE

Cruise departs 24 Nov 2021 | Brisbane return
Quantum of the Seas®



8 night cruise incl. all main meals+ and entertainment on board

Inside from **\$1,550pp*** Outside from **\$1,695pp*** Balcony from **\$2,095pp***

QUEENSLAND VOYAGE

Cruise departs 29 Dec 2021 | Brisbane return
Quantum of the Seas®



9 night cruise incl. all main meals+ and entertainment on board

Inside from **\$1,555pp*** Outside from **\$1,850pp*** Balcony from **\$1,915pp***

*Prices are per adult in AUD, based on the lowest available twin-share accommodation in each of the specified categories, port charges and government fees, (excluding onboard purchases), correct as at 8 December 2020. Prices are inclusive of gratuities. Offers are valid for a limited time only, are for new bookings only, are capacity controlled, subject to availability/change and can be withdrawn or varied at any time without notice. Any additional accommodation and transfers made necessary due to flight schedules are the sole responsibility of the passengers. Single passengers must pay a single supplement. Some staterooms may have an obstructed view. All discounts/savings have been applied. To be read in conjunction with the Terms and Conditions of Royal Caribbean Cruises, which passengers will be bound by. Agents may charge fees and/or fees for credit card payment which vary. Cancellation penalties and conditions apply.

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