



Cruise Weekly today

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

Pullmantur scrap

THE three ships operated by Royal Caribbean Cruises' 49%-owned Spanish offshoot Pullmantur Cruises are likely to be scrapped.

The company was placed into bankruptcy protection last month (CW 23 Jun), with crew reportedly removing fixtures and fittings from *Horizon* (formerly *Celebrity Horizon*), *Sovereign* (ex *Sovereign of the Seas*) and *Monarch* (was *Monarch of the Seas*) as the ships were placed into cold lay-up.

The vessels are being relocated to Aliaga, Turkey, the location of a major ship-breaking yard.

Expedition cruise restart plan unveiled

PROPOSED protocols for the relaunch of expedition cruising in Australia have been revealed by the Australian Chamber - Tourism's Tourism Restart Taskforce, as part of an overall plan to get tourism and travel restarted.

The report, released on Sat, notes the wide ranging impact of the border shutdowns on the cruise sector, including on other parts of the tourism industry such as shore excursions, transfers, day tours and more.

The timetable previously released by the Taskforce (CW 27 May) envisions domestic expedition cruising starting as soon as this month, "irrespective of whether the vessel is Australian or foreign-owned and flagged" with draft risk mitigation measures including limiting public areas on board, such as restaurants and theatres to 50%

of normal capacity.

"Although this is not sustainable from a business perspective in the longer term, it will provide an effective and safe first step for these important tourism businesses," the draft suggests.

There would be no limit on guests, provided there is just one household per cabin, but there would be no buffet services and enforcement of 1.5m social distancing on board.

Operators would commit to "greatly enhanced systemic cleaning processes" including twice daily stateroom cleaning, hourly cleaning for regularly used items and at each stopover for transfer craft.

Vessels would provide 100% ventilation of fresh, non-reticulated air to staterooms, and air systems would incorporate UV sterilisation and microfiltration.

The proposals would include on-

board medical services and the availability of isolation suites.

Prior to departure all luggage and goods would be disinfected through misting or UV lights, and all food items would be loaded under COVID-Safe conditions.

Passengers undertaking off-shore activities would be limited to six guests per open-air zodiacs, and temperature screening and disinfecting would be implemented for all passengers and crew on their return.

The plan envisages best practice bathroom guidelines, similar to the rest of the hospitality sector, including hourly cleaning of all surfaces, hand towel bins next to doors, the availability of hand sanitiser and handwashing and COVID Safety signage.

All staff would be trained in COVID safety, and be required to stay at home if symptomatic in any way.

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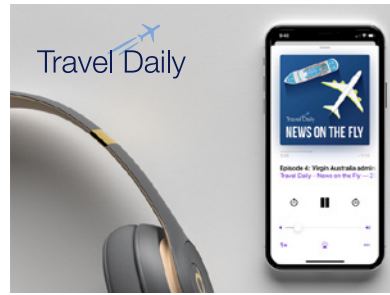
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AIDA extends

AIDA Cruises has extended the pause of its operation until end of Aug.

The extension does not apply to individual departures from *AIDAprima*, *AIDAprera* and *AIDAdiva*.

AIDA will support travel agencies through the COVID-19 pandemic by paying out a liquidity advance of 10% of the credit value to be transferred as soon as AIDA has issued the travel credit to the customer.

Extra commission

THOSE who book and deposit an Oceania Cruises sailing through Creative Cruising can earn bonus commission for Jul.

Bookings made by 11 Jul will see guests benefit from an exclusive upgrade sale with up to a four-cabin category upgrade (**CW** 03 Jul).

Creative Cruising has also launched its own range of Oceania packages - call 1300 362 599.

PortMiami update



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's new Terminal B at PortMiami will finally be completed this month (**CW** 02 Aug 2019).

PortMiami Port Director Juan Kuryla updated *The Miami Herald* on the scheduled completion timelines of the port's under-construction terminals.

He revealed Virgin Voyages' opening of its Terminal V to be Nov 2021, before the cruise line's second ship visits the port.

Currently under timeline review is MSC Cruises' Terminals AA and

AAA, as well as Royal Caribbean Cruises' new facilities.

MSC is also building new headquarters at the port, while Carnival Cruise Line is planning a large-scale renovation to its cruise terminals.

Although renegotiations for terminal deals are taking place, Kuryla said the port itself hasn't had to dip into its reserves, thanks to continued cargo business estimated at about US\$35 billion, as well as cost-cutting measures.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez has also temporarily waived berthing fees to support the industry, which would've totalled around US\$8 million from mid-Mar through mid-Jun.

Last year, PortMiami saw a record year, with a 22% increase in cruise passengers, to 6.8 million (**CW** 16 Jan).

Florida private rail operator Brightline, soon to be rebranded Virgin Trains, had also recently received the nod to build a station at PortMiami.



A BOAT used for an experiment recently washed up on the shore of Dalyellup, Western Australia, after 463 days at sea.

Discovered by locals walking along a beach, the *Sacred Heart Star of The Sea* mini-boat (pictured) was filled with letters from students in Massachusetts.

A GPS and satellite had been fixed to the mini-boat, which was then launched off a research boat south of Madagascar in Mar.



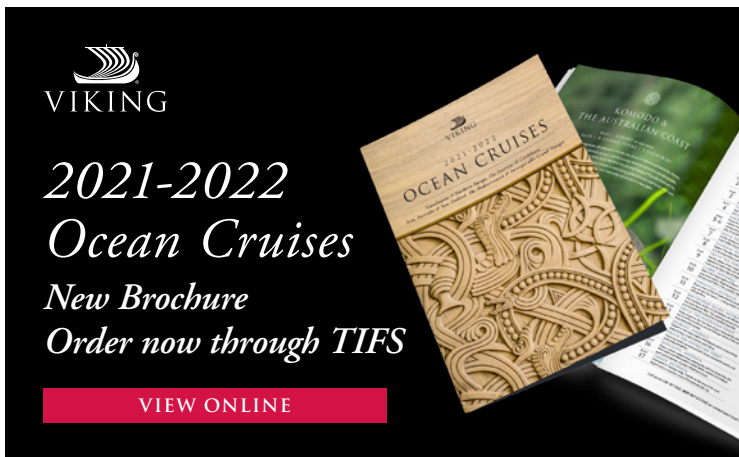
A-ROSA training

A-ROSA Cruises has launched a new agent training video with the Travel Industry Network.

The initiative is designed to introduce travel agents to A-ROSA's product, and provides detail on its ships, rivers, itineraries, ideal clients, and how to use the A-ROSA booking system.

"A-ROSA's contemporary style of river cruising appeals to active travellers of all ages, seeking choice and flexibility in a relaxed setting," said A-ROSA Regional Director Australia and New Zealand Birgit Eisbrenner.

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