



### Princess inaugural

**PRINCESS** Cruises has announced changes to its 2021 deployments, with the new *Majestic Princess* replacing *Regal Princess* in Alaska.

The new ship will operate all existing *Regal* published Seattle Inside Passage departures from May-Sep, apart from the 04 May five-day Alaska Sampler which has been cancelled.

*Regal Princess* will instead sail from Southampton in the UK, replacing *Grand Princess* on 17 roundtrip departures to the Mediterranean, Norway, Scandinavia and Iceland.

*Grand Princess* will in turn deploy to the US West Coast for a new summer Mexico and California Coast season ex Los Angeles, with further details to be announced shortly.

Bookings will automatically be moved to the revised ships.

## Cruising positive, says Lux Escapes

### EXCLUSIVE

**DATA** from Luxury Escapes exclusively provided to **Cruise Weekly** shows a majority of Australians are still keen to cruise in the future, with 64% admitting they would consider cruising if health measures were implemented in line with government regulations.

The travel & accommodation package provider recently surveyed over 7,000 subscribers, finding 63% would wait until 2021 to cruise, with just 9% saying they would cruise in 2020 even if travel resumed.

Expected budgets for cruising have not fallen, with most respondents (42%) citing \$2,000+ as their ideal budget per person for their next cruise, followed by \$100-\$1,500 per person (24%).

In Australia, the Kimberley (pictured) and Tasmania are the most desired cruise destinations,



with Broome, the Whitsundays, Darwin and Queensland other popular choices.

If a trans-Tasman bubble were established, 66% of respondents said they would consider a cruise to New Zealand or the South Pacific, with 59% saying they would consider cruising to other international destinations, with

Europe and Fiji proving popular.

“The smartest operators in this space are already preparing for the surge in consumer interest while taking steps to alleviate potential concerns around hygiene and health associated with the industry,” said Luxury Escapes Chief Executive Officer Cameron Holland.



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## PORTHOLE

**HOLLAND** America Line's Australian office recently celebrated Independence Day, raising a virtual glass over Zoom.

**Pictured** top row are National Sales Manager Nikki Glading, National Marketing Manager Brendan Wall and Business Development Representative Rebecca Cranston.

Middle row is Marketing Specialist Catherine Rynd, Business Development Manager Faye Oxley and Business Development Manager Christine Oliver.

Bottom row is Business Development Manager Helen Courias, Business Development Manager Amanda Hillard and Senior Director Tony Archbold.



## Carnival updates



**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has revealed changes to its ship delivery and deployment schedules, with *Carnival Mardi Gras* (pictured) now delayed until 14 Nov.

The cruise line's transformed *Carnival Radiance*, as well as *Carnival Breeze* and *Carnival Magic*, have also had their itineraries revised, as part of an updated deployment plan through to May 2021.

*Mardi Gras* will now enter service from Port Canaveral on 06 Feb, with itineraries initially

scheduled until 30 Jan having been cancelled.

*Radiance's* US\$200 million dry dock in Cadiz was also suspended earlier this year at the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in the delay of its completion.

The ship is likely not going to be complete until the northern spring.

### ITWF assists CMV

**THE** International Transport Workers Federation (ITWF) is assisting with crew repatriation from Cruise & Maritime Voyages (CMV) ships which have recently been detained (**CW** 24 Jun).

The organisation has been assisting hundreds of seafarers aboard the six vessels in Bristol and Tilbury with repatriation, which will take place over the next few days.

Crew members on board the vessels have been stuck for several months, with many facing expired contracts after more than a year on board.

### NCL new offer

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) is inviting travellers to discover Europe in 2021, with a new offer providing guests with free prepaid gratuities and five free perks.

Those booking a Balcony stateroom or above on any ship to any destination will have their gratuities covered, and will also get a free beverage and speciality dining package, free shore excursion credit and free wi-fi.

A third and fourth guest can also sail at a reduced rate.

Those booking now can also take advantage of NCL's peace of mind policy - **CLICK HERE**.

### Viking extends

**VIKING** has extended its temporary suspension of operations across all sailings through to the end of Sep.

If itinerary changes are required, impacted guests and their travel agents will be notified directly by Viking Customer Relations.

### Certified Explorer

**GENTING** Hong Kong's *Explorer Dream* is the first cruise ship to receive Certification in Infection Prevention for the Maritime industry (CIP-M) by international accredited registrar DNV GL.

The certification coincides with *Explorer Dream's* commencement of operations in Taiwan from 26 Jul, on a series of island-hopping itineraries (**CW** 30 Jun).

For more on Genting, visit [www.dreamcruiseline.com/en-au/](http://www.dreamcruiseline.com/en-au/).

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