



Cruise Weekly today

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

FCO cruise advice

THE United Kingdom's Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) is now advising against cruise ship travel, a hardening of its previous advice that only over-70s and those with existing health conditions avoid the sector.

The advice is the first update pertaining to cruise ships since Mar, and is down to "the ongoing pandemic and is based on medical advice from Public Health England.

"The government will continue to review its cruise ship travel advice based on the latest medical advice," the Foreign & Commonwealth Office said.

Hapag-Lloyd to resume cruising

HAPAG-LLOYD Cruises will resume operations at the end of the month, with a 10-point health plan and new routes.

Cruises will resume later this Jul, initially for residents of Germany, Austria and Switzerland, with 40% fewer passengers and extensive prevention and hygiene measures onboard.

The eight new short cruises will sail roundtrip from Hamburg, aboard *Europa 2* and *Hanseatic Inspiration*.

The resumption follows the development of guidelines from relevant authorities, which have been produced in coordination with members of Cruise Lines International Association Deutschland, and in collaboration with experts.

Hapag-Lloyd's 10-point health plan will be based on these new guidelines, and will include mandatory health disclosure, the



use of thermal imaging cameras, a staggered boarding process, and rigorous training, health checks & quarantining of crews.

There is also a supervised medical team onboard and emergency plans in place.

Guests will also be given a care

set which includes face masks, and will only stay in outside staterooms.

Hapag-Lloyd will aim to integrate the new standards into life on board as seamlessly as possible.

Pictured: *Europa 2*.

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P&O Cruises has begun Live in Your Living Room, a month-long initiative dedicated to virtual entertainment.

The program features P&O's most popular onboard entertainment, such as trivia, music, comedy, games and events, delivered through Facebook.

Next week sees a week-long dedication to the popular 1980s tribute cruise, including exclusive performances from the Eurogliders, and 1927's Eric Weideman, as well as trivia from the decade - [CLICK HERE](#).

Crystal's confidence



CRYSTAL Cruises is offering greater flexibility for new and existing bookings with its new Crystal Confidence initiative.

The program has seen the cruise line adjust its cancellation,

down payment and final payment policies to provide greater flexibility for guests.

The Crystal Confidence policy is applicable to all 2020 sailings booked before 31 Jul, with guests able to cancel up to seven days prior to sailing for a 100% future cruise credit on any voyage through to the end of 2022.

Final payment is also now due 90 days prior to sailing, having previously been 120 or more.

For more on the Crystal Confidence program, [CLICK HERE](#).

Solo travellers can also currently enjoy reduced single supplements aboard select cruises on *Crystal Symphony* (pictured).

A reduced solo supplement of 105% of the per-person, double-occupancy fare is available for six sailings aboard the ship, each an abbreviated segment of longer itineraries.

The cruises are available from Nov 2020 to Feb 2021, and range from seven to 10 nights, exploring destinations such as Abu Dhabi, Cambodia, India, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

Emerald season

EMERALD Waterways' new 2021 European river cruise season is now on sale, following the brand announcing its launch in Australia (*CW* 30 Jun).

The new season includes new itineraries, earlybird offers and the debut of StarShip *Emerald Luna*, Emerald's eighth in Europe.

New land extensions venture to Istanbul and Transylvania, while Emerald's complimentary down payment protection, valued at \$125 per person, allows travellers to book with confidence at a reduced deposit of \$500pp.

"We're seeing increasing demand for our 2021 Europe river cruises not only because they're on the bucket list for many Australians, but because of the small ship experience," said Evergreen's Angus Crichton.

"With a maximum of just 180 guests, our river cruises never feel crowded.

"In addition to attractive Earlybird savings of up to \$4,300 per couple, we've also included a complimentary Deposit Protection Plan."



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Murray carries on

MURRAY River Paddlesteamers will continue to operate its Victorian school holiday cruises despite Melbourne moving into stage three lockdowns.

Customers can cancel any new or existing booking and receive a future cruise credit.