

Sea you soon...

'Navigating King George River in a Zodiac is nothing short of breathtaking. The 80-metre high weathered Warton sandstone gorges truly reflect the timeless Kimberley landscape, endowed with an incomparable array of colours and textures varying constantly in the glow of late afternoon light. Majestic scenery that is a photographer's dream.'

'As we await the time we can explore again, let's remind ourselves of the many beautiful and exciting experiences that lie ahead of us.'

Sea you soon...

Monique Ponfoort
Vice-President Asia Pacific

Monique Ponfoort



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a front cover wrap from Ponant.

Ponant in the wings

PONANT continues to plot an early return to local expedition cruising, inspiring the industry with more stunning imagery from its voyages on the Kimberley coast - see the **cover page**.

Endeavor delay

CRYSTAL Cruises has confirmed that its highly anticipated *Crystal Endeavor* will not enter service until 2021 due to COVID-19 stoppages at the MV Werften shipyard. The 200-pax expedition ship had been set to debut in Aug.

Silversea doubles up down under

THE 2021/22 deployment of two Silversea Cruises "classic fleet" vessels in Australia and NZ (**CW** breaking news) is set to build on the line's growing regional presence, with the newly refurbished *Silver Shadow* to join flagship *Silver Muse* in the company's most extensive Australasian program ever.

The cruise line last night opened up an exclusive pre-sale for its global portfolio of voyages over the period, which totals 86 new itineraries around the world.

The expanded program of regional sailings includes two-week voyages in both directions across the Tasman aboard *Muse* and *Shadow* (**pictured**).

There are also two unique trips between Sydney and Cairns on *Shadow*, visiting ports up and down the east coast of Australia including Airlie Beach, Brisbane, Newcastle, Hobart, Port Arthur,



Geelong and Melbourne.

Muse has capacity for 596 passengers, while the 388-guest *Shadow* has just emerged from a makeover of floor-to-ceiling upgrades of all suites and reimagined public spaces (**CW** 24 Dec 2019).

As well as the Australasian voyages, Silversea has revealed

details of a further 74 cruises worldwide between Oct 2021 and Apr 2022 taking in the Caribbean, South America, Galapagos, the Middle East and Asia.

Members of Silversea's Venetian Society loyalty program can book the itineraries now, ahead of a wider public release on 17 Jun - more at silversea.com.

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CDC to grade cruise ship COVID status

THE Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is set to publish a “scorecard” indicating the level of COVID-19 infection on board all pax cruise ships currently in US waters, as part of efforts to help repatriate more than 62,000 crew still on board.

Updated guidance posted on the CDC website this week gives details of colour-coding which will indicate whether crew are able to get home using commercial or charter transport, and measures to be taken on board during the current no-sail period for each level of infection.

“Green ships” are those which have had no confirmed cases of COVID-19 or COVID-like illness for 28 days; “red ships” have had one or more cases of confirmed COVID-19 or COVID-like illness within the past 28 days; and “yellow ships” will have been previously designated green but had a case of COVID-like illness which is awaiting testing.

To maintain green status ships must submit a weekly “enhanced data collection” form to the CDC.



Ships which are designated as green can undertake crew transfers and repatriation via commercial transportation.

On board procedures also vary between vessels depending on

their status, with yellow and red ships required to relocate all crew to single-occupancy cabins with private bathrooms; cancel all face-to-face employee meetings, group events or social gatherings; implement social distancing and close all bars and gyms.

All vessels must eliminate self-serve dining, promote hand-washing and place hand sanitiser throughout the ship.

The CDC is also believed to be in the final stages of reviewing health and safety plans submitted by cruise operators in Apr in response to the no-sail order, outlining how they will detect, prevent and mitigate the spread of coronavirus at sea.

The *Miami Herald* says COVID-19 cases have been confirmed on 63 ships, or almost a quarter of the global ocean passenger cruise fleet.

The newspaper also reports that non-working crew members on many of the stranded vessels are not being paid, while some are also being asked to pay for their own onboard toiletries.



NEW ZEALAND CRUISE ASSOCIATION
He Waka Eke Nua

NZCA UPDATE

with Kevin O'Sullivan
CEO, NZCA

Domestic Visitors a New Hope

LAST weekend was a long one - not because it was boring, but quite the reverse.

It was Queens Birthday weekend in New Zealand, and many decided to go and spend money with our fellow citizens. For me it was to drive around the North Island visiting family I hadn't seen in a very long time stopping on the way.

We're still at Level Two which has controls on contacts, but the cafes restaurants bars and retailers I visited had systems in place so we can enjoy eating, drinking or buying with reasonable security.

There was a happy vibe wherever I went – like coming outside into the sunshine after a hard winter.

New Zealand has had no new cases of COVID for 12 days and we may move to Level One next week, which will mean returning to a life that is almost normal.

Border controls will still be in place – so far no indication when that will lift. But moving from place to place provided a good appreciation that we will be ready when cruise returns.

Some businesses might not survive, but many more will.

Keep your clients engaged and planning their next trip with *keep dreaming...*

Check out our special ski edition!



Travel & Cruise
Weekly

RCL Alaska off

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises (RCL) has cancelled all of its 2020 Alaska, Canada and New England sailings, after the Canadian Government extended its ban on large ships in local waters until 31 Oct.

The move also applies to Celebrity Cruises, which has also cancelled northern autumn itineraries to Hawaii.

An RCL spokesperson said the firm was “working with public health agencies and governments to ensure a safe return to service, and look forward to setting sail from and to these destinations next year”.

RCL's latest update indicates a wider return to service is envisaged from 01 Aug.

We're still hungry for recipes

Send us your meatball or mince recipe for our weekly feature.

CLICK HERE



Calls for industry change



TRANSPORT unions have called for radical reform among the cruise industry before ships are allowed to return to Australia.

Opponents to the status quo of cruising are hitting out at the return to business of cruise lines, which often sees the companies earn their profits from ships registered in tax havens.

"I think this is the only opportunity in my lifetime to make some changes and make these people live up to the standards that we expect," said International Transport Workers Federation Australian Coordinator Dean Summers.

"If we let them go back to business as usual, we are missing our chance.

"Australia should be paving the way for Australian cruise ships.

"It doesn't have to be like this, we don't have to employ the most vulnerable people under very low conditions."

Maritime Union of Australia National Secretary Paddy Crumlin said Australia has a "moral obligation" to change the status quo.

Happy 70th BLC!

BLUE Lagoon Cruises (BLC) is celebrating its 70th birthday, and is doing so with a 70% off sale.

Travellers are able to claim the savings on three-, four-, and seven-night cruises, with travel available through to Jun 2022.

Guests can also score a FJ\$70 per person bar and spa credit, and also have the flexibility to choose departure dates later once the borders reopen and flights resume from Australia.



IT SEEMS as if the power of hemp is being harnessed for everything these days, and it now may even be taking to the "high" seas.

A solar-powered cannabis boat (pictured) is set to be built in Croatia, after its designer was successful in his entry to a public contest for IRI, an EU investment fund.

Mastermind behind the project Luciano Beg has used the fibres of hemp in tandem with resin to construct the boat hull's, with solar panels mounted on top.



KiwiRail issues RFP

KIWI RAIL has issued a request for proposal (RFP) for two 50,000 gross tonne hybrid rail ferries, following on from the award of NZ\$400 million in the New Zealand government's 2020 budget (**CW** 25 May).

The next step forward in its major fleet renewal program, the two ferries will service the route between Picton and Wellington, and will expand on the current three-strong fleet.

The Interislander ferries are extensions of New Zealand's State Highway 1 and the Main Trunk Line across the Cook Strait, linking the North and South Islands.



POST YOUR BEST WELLNESS SELFIE TO WIN A CRUISE FOR 2

This month Cruise Weekly has partnered with Celebrity Cruises to give you the chance to WIN a free cruise for two people onboard *Celebrity Solstice* departing Sydney.

Just like you, we're dreaming of seeing new shorelines on the horizon. Until then, we want to ensure you are looking after yourself because a little bit of self-love goes a long way!

How to enter:

1. Snap your best wellness selfie (whatever that means to you)
2. Post the shot in *Celebrity's Trade Facebook Group*
3. Include the hashtags #ModernLuxury and #CruiseWeekly

The most creative entry which features both hashtags will win!

