



Creative Cruising free white label setup

CREATIVE Cruising has launched an offer to assist travel agencies through the COVID-19 pandemic, waiving set up fees for “white-labelled” cruise websites and reducing monthly subscription costs for the remainder of 2020.

The offer is open to the first 50 travel agencies that sign up for a new site, and is available to both existing and new Creative Cruising customers.

General Manager Caroline Hitchen (**pictured**) said she believed technology would help enable agents to emerge from the other side of the pandemic.

“We have seen the rise of technology trends across all sectors in recent months, including consumers moving more towards online shopping and digital payments.

“Building the necessary platforms to support our agents



in an increasingly digitised world is essential within the new paradigm we face,” she said.

Savings under the offer equate to about \$2,300 per site, with Hitchen saying although agents are currently very busy processing refunds, this is also an opportune time to review and set up digital platforms ahead of the upturn.

The new websites from Creative Cruising feature each agency’s

own brand, logo and contact details, with all enquiries and bookings made attributed directly to the agent.

Clients can search for almost 40,000 sailings from over 50 cruise lines, and also secure packages with wholesale airfares and land content.

The sites integrate live booking API technology and offers live cabin availability with interactive deck plans alongside rich content including videos, images and facts about each cruise ship.

Hitchen said this month had seen interest returning to the cruise market, particularly from those who have future cruise credits wishing to secure 2021 trips.

“Those that have cruised before are keen to book again and our cruise line partners are offering extremely flexible terms to support these new bookings.”

HLO holding funds

A NUMBER of travel agents have contacted **CW** following our story (**CW** yesterday) about Helloworld’s (HLO) Seven Oceans wholesale cruise division not passing on funds.

One agent has advised of several bookings paid to Seven Oceans, but the wholesaler hasn’t passed the money onto the supplier even though it is the wish of the client & agent.

“Clients therefore miss out on additional future cruise credits, and in some cases we miss out on guaranteed commission when a cruise is canx due to the fact that they have not paid,” the agent said.

“Also the money that was not paid to the cruise lines is still sitting in their account...after three months”.

Helloworld didn’t respond to a request for further info before **CW**’s deadline today.

RETURN

with REGENT

FOR YOUR CLIENTS

Regent Reassurance: Cancel up to 15 days prior and receive 100% FCC*

Save up to 30%* on select voyages

US\$1,000 Shipboard Credit per suite

10% Reduced Deposit

Best Price Guarantee

\$500 Visa Gift Card

Make a booking before 31 July 2020 on any sailing departing before 31 May 2021 and receive a \$500 Visa Gift Card.*

Sell Three & Sail Free

Book any three suites between 18 May - 31 July 2020 on any 2021/2022 sailing and sail free with Regent.*

*These incentives are combinable.

- BOOK BY 31 JULY 2020 -

FIND OUT MORE

*Terms and conditions apply. For more information visit rssc.com/returnwithregent. *For more information on our Partner Promotions please visit: www.rssc.com/travelpartnerbonus (\$500 Visa Gift Card) and www.rssc.com/sail-free (Sell Three & Sail Free)



Have you read the June issue of *travelBulletin*? Find out the future of AFTA, why SA is great for a road trip plus more news and analysis.

CLICK to read **travelBulletin**



DESPITE her unfortunate situation, one formerly-quarantined Australian cruise ship employee made the most of her time in lockdown.

Zaandam dancer Ashleigh Perrie took to creating a range of incredible outfits out of paper bags (pictured), documenting her seamstressy on Instagram.

The costumes were constructed out of whatever Perrie could get her hands on, including napkins, containers, disposable cutlery and the bags.

CLICK HERE to view Perrie's range of clothing - not (yet) for sale.



Savings fit for a Queen



AMERICAN Queen Steamboat Company has launched its 2021 brochure for its American river cruises, with a range of savings on offer.

With a program of 173 cruises travelling five rivers aboard four paddle steamers, guests can save up to US\$1,500 per couple on a Pacific Northwest cruise, through Cruise Traveller, when booking by 30 Jun.

The season will also feature the debut of the new 245-passenger *American Countess* (pictured, **CW** 18 Mar).

The brochure can be accessed **HERE**.

Oceania trade inc

OCEANIA Cruises has launched a new trade incentive as part of Oceania Trade Rewards, offering a \$250 gift voucher for any new bookings made and deposited during its Ultimate Sale.

The promotion and sale close at the end of the month, and is valid on any sailing departing 2021 and 2022 - **CLICK HERE**.

Welcome back, Capt

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises has launched sales for a special "welcome back" cruise aboard *Murray Princess*.

The one-off, seven-night itinerary departs 23 Jun, travelling from Renmark to Mannum.

Murray Princess has recently emerged from dry dock, where she received maintenance and survey work.

For further information and bookings, contact 1300 729 938.

Uniworld soiree

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruises has launched a 'Soiree Series' of webinars.

The online information sessions are aimed at both the travel trade and consumers, with six sessions in total to be hosted this week and next from Tue-Thu, the first later today at 4pm AEST.

This afternoon's session is focused on an 'Introduction to the Magic of River Cruising'

CLICK HERE to register for the webinars.



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!

