



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

Coral resumption

CORAL Expeditions has released health protocols and a new domestic sailing schedule for safe operations post-COVID.

The resumption plans will include a revised sailing schedule focussed on nature-based expeditions in Australia's remote coastal wilderness, as well as a three-pillar SailSAFE protocol, developed in partnership with Respond Global over the last six weeks.

The health emergency specialist also conducted full inspections of the Coral fleet in Cairns.

NZCA agitates for cruise resumption

THE New Zealand Cruise Association (NZCA) is urging industry stakeholders to contact the country's Tourism Minister Kelvin Davis, and lobby local Members of Parliament to urge a return to local cruising, with the message "Kiwi Cruising for Kiwis".

The move follows last week's "hugely disappointing" announcement by the New Zealand Government which indefinitely pushed back the current suspension of cruise ships in NZ waters (**CW** 24 Jun).

"We believe this to be a purely political position taken in light of the recent events within our quarantine processing systems," the NZCA said, referring to the return of COVID-19 to the country after two infected international travellers were allowed to leave isolation to attend a funeral.

The NZCA said it believed the

decision to extend the ban was taken "without consideration of actual 'risk' to New Zealanders... and it was an easy tool to throw at the ensuing unrest in a bid to calm nervous communities".

The Association said it would continue to lobby for the return of ships offering New Zealand as soon as possible.

"We have cruise lines with fleet ready and willing to deploy to our country to do just this, to provide us with the support desperately needed within our towns, cities and countryside.

"This is the exact restart we need," the NZCA added, noting a huge appetite for domestic cruising programs and for the relief the spending would bring to the country's regions.

"We know that Kiwis love to cruise and right now our options for travel are severely limited like

no other time in our history."

Domestic cruising around New Zealand would also pave the way for trans-Tasman cruising once a travel bubble with Australia becomes a reality, with the NZCA suggesting stakeholders stress to officials the "real opportunity that is being lost right now, daily".

"An opportunity lost right now in a period where there is so little opportunity, is almost criminal in itself," the Association said.

The organisation has been working on an internal NZCA Cruise Recovery Plan which is constantly evolving due to the changing political and scientific situations around COVID-19.

"We need you to be vocal, we need you to be active, we need your support more than ever," the Association said, suggesting the industry contact Kelvin Davis on k.davis@ministers.govt.nz.



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Travel Daily



THOUSANDS of boaters have attended a "drunken boat party" in Michigan last week known as the Jobbie Nooner (pictured).

Known as the Mardi Gras of the Midwest, the party has been known to reach up to 10,000 boats and 100,000 people.

Partygoers attach their boats together to form long bridges or park in the shallows of Gull Island, near the border of the United States and Canada.

Last year, what was predicted to be a beautiful day with record crowds suddenly turned into stormy weather, sending 20 people to the hospital.



NCL's book-a-BDM



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has introduced a book-a-BDM platform, designed to connect travel agents with Business Development Managers at the most-convenient time and manner.

The new initiative is a part of NCL's partners first philosophy, with agents now able to connect with Business Development Managers via telephone call, videotelephony or a face-to-face in-store meeting.

The platform allows users to book a 30-minute session to discuss anything on their mind.

CLICK HERE to access the portal.

True North returns

ADVENTURE cruise operator True North is preparing to release an amended sailing schedule for the second half of 2020.

The updated program will also place emphasis on flexible booking conditions, nature-based experiences, social distancing and more.

Kimberley savings

SAVINGS and complimentary flights on 2021 Kimberley expedition voyages with Ponant have been released.

Couples can save up to US\$8,500, and get free return flights on a luxury, all-inclusive cruise when booking by 31 Jul.

Travelling aboard *Le Bellot*, savings are available through Cruise Traveller, on a range of departures available from Apr to Sep 2021.

To book, call Cruise Traveller on 1800 507 777 or **HERE**.



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!

