



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Travel Daily's Sustainability Summit**.

Noordam layover

HOLLAND America's *MS Noordam* will stay in Tauranga, New Zealand for five nights this week with only crew on board, in what the Port of Tauranga is calling an "unprecedented visit".

Port of Tauranga CEO Leonard Sampson confirmed the reason for the prolonged visit is due to "schedule changes" and is unrelated to COVID-19.

Sampson said the extended layover would see local businesses benefit from the 700 crew members staying in the Bay of Plenty.

Major cruise lines cancel all sailings

A **NUMBER** of cruise lines have recently announced the temporary suspension of all cruises, due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak and resulting travel restrictions.

Viking Cruises was the first to make the decision yesterday afternoon (**CW** breaking news), revealing it would cancel all river and ocean cruise operations until 01 May.

Affected Viking guests will be compensated in the way of a future cruise voucher valued at 125%, or a refund equal to the amount paid.

"The situation has now become such that operating...involves significant risks of quarantines or medical detentions, which could diminish the travel experiences for which our guests have been planning," Viking Chairman Torstein Hagen announced in a video (watch **HERE**).

Carnival Cruises has also put a stop to all itineraries across its Princess Cruises line for 60 days (**CW** breaking news), with sailings currently underway to be cut short, unless they are scheduled to wrap up before 17 Mar.

"While this is a difficult business decision, we firmly believe it is the right one and is in alignment with our company's core values," said Princess Cruises President Jan Swartz in a video message - **CLICK HERE** to view.

Princess will allow guests booked on cancelled cruises to transfer 100% of the money paid to a future cruise of their choice, plus an "additional generous future cruise credit benefit".

Princess will protect travel agent commissions on bookings for cancelled cruises that were paid in full, and for the total amount of the future cruise credits.

Following suit, Celestyal

Cruises has suspended all cruise operations until 01 May, with the seven-night Three Continents, seven-night Eclectic Aegean, and three- and four-night Iconic Aegean sailings affected.

Celestyal guests who paid in full for the cancelled sailings will be offered a future cruise credit valued at 120% of the original booking value, or a refund of original amount paid.

Uniworld has made a similar call, announcing it will suspend all European itineraries until 23 Apr, with guests able to rebook to any 2020 or 2021 cruise or receive a future cruise credit valid for the next 24 months.

Meanwhile, Virgin Voyages has postponed the inaugural sailing season for *Scarlet Lady* until 15 Jul, with guests able to get a full refund or a voyage credit with "extra special bonuses" if they book a future sailing.

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Cunard bookings

CUNARD has updated its cancellation policy to allow all guests with existing and new bookings on sailings departing before 31 Aug to cancel up to 48 hours prior to departure.

Cancelled bookings will receive a future cruise credit equivalent to the cancellation fees and refunds will be given on any remaining money paid.

Guests may also transfer their booking free of charge up to 48 hours prior to departure.

Additionally, guests sailing before 31 Aug will receive between US\$150-\$900 extra spending money per cabin depending on the voyage duration.

Global Dream revealed



DREAM Cruises has revealed more details, including rendered images (**pictured**), of its soon-to-be-launched ship, *Global Dream* (**CW** 19 Nov 2019).

Currently under construction in Germany, the 208,000-tonne, 342-metre vessel will feature voice and facial recognition technology, as well as self-guided mobile assistants.

The cruise line also announced some of the attractions to be featured at Dream Park at the Pier, the "first ever theme park at sea", including a trampoline park,

surf simulator and mini karts.

Passengers will also be able to enjoy a multi-deck water park; an eight-theatre cinema; and Dream Cruises' "all-inclusive, all-suite" luxury concept, The Palace, which includes The Palace Poolside Grill and Hot Pot restaurant.

While deployment details have not yet been released, voyages are expected to venture beyond Asia to Australia, New Zealand, the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean.

The ship is expected to be completed in early 2021.

Celeb cancels India

CELEBRITY Cruises has cancelled *Celebrity Constellation's* 17 Mar and 02 Apr sailings due to port closures in India.

All guests booked on the cancelled sailings will receive a full refund as well as a 25% future cruise credit.

TUI cuts out Asia

TUI has curtailed its 11-day round-trip *Marella Discovery* voyage after the ship was refused entry in Vietnam earlier this week, despite no suspected COVID-19 cases on board.

The German cruise line revealed in a tweet that it is working hard to get all 1,400 pax flown to the UK, and said it has cancelled all cruises to Asia due to the restrictions currently in place.

Affected customers will be contacted by TUI, who confirmed "all other Marella Cruises continue to operate as usual".



A LARGE crab has reportedly nicked off with a scientist's \$4,000 thermal imaging camera on Christmas Island.

Ironically, the crab in question is known as a robber crab, the world's largest land crustacean, and they are notorious for their "curious nature", which means it isn't uncommon for them to scuttle off with man-made objects for a closer look.

After examining the crime scene, Western Sydney University PhD candidate Annabel Dorrestein concluded the crab had knocked over the tripod (which was covered in claw marks), ripped the camera off, mangled the cables and "just dragged it into the forest".

Despite searching the forest and finding a number of the crabs, Dorrestein wasn't able to locate her camera.

A Royal thank you on board *Spectrum*

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) has completed two of its four-night humanitarian cruises aboard *Spectrum of the Seas* for bushfire first responders (**CW** 02 Mar).

On the first cruise, which departed 29 Feb, the ship's Captain Charles Teige, was presented with a Rural Fire Service (RFS) helmet in gratitude - **CLICK HERE** to see the exchange.

The third and final sailing will depart Sydney today, and is due to return on 17 Mar.


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Cruise Calendar

The next few port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	14 Mar
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	15 Mar
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	14 Mar
MELBOURNE	
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	14 Mar
FREMANTLE	
<i>The World</i>	13 Mar
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	14 Mar
HOBART	
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	13 Mar
<i>Sea Princess</i>	14 Mar
<i>MSC Magnifica</i>	14 Mar
<i>Pacific Ariia</i>	15 Mar
<i>Viking Oriom</i>	15 Mar
ADELAIDE	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	15 Mar
BURNIE	
<i>Sea Princess</i>	13 Mar
CAIRNS	
<i>Amsterdam</i>	12 Mar
DARWIN	
<i>Crystal Serenity</i>	13 Mar
EDEN	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	15 Mar
MARGARET RIVER	
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	13 Mar
TOWNSVILLE	
<i>Wind Spirit</i>	12 Mar
AUCKLAND	
<i>Seven Seas Navigator</i>	13 Mar
BAY OF ISLANDS	
<i>Seven Seas Navigator</i>	14 Mar
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	15 Mar
WELLINGTON	
<i>Ruby Princess</i>	14 Mar

Action on board: Aqua Parks



SHIPS: All Norwegian Breakaway and Epic Class ships.

LOCATION: *Norwegian Encore*, *Norwegian Getaway* – Deck 15; *Norwegian Bliss*, *Norwegian Breakaway*, *Norwegian Escape*, *Norwegian Joy* – Deck 16; *Norwegian Encore* – Deck 17.

FROM towering waterslides and splash parks, to hot tubs, swimming pools and waterfalls, Norwegian Cruise Line's Aqua Parks, located on the top deck of each ship, offers a slippery selection of fun for everyone.



Drop at the speed of 4Gs on the Free Fall slide, before challenging your friends to a



race on one of two side-by-side twister slides called the Whip.

And if that's not enough adrenalin, why not try the Epic Plunge, dropping a heart-stopping four stories down into a larger-than-life water bowl (pictured).

For the younger kids, a splash at the Kids' Aqua Park, inset, might just be the ticket, while those looking for a much quieter dip without their littlest crew will enjoy lazing in a selection of each ship's pools and hot tubs (pictured left).

For the ultimate in peace and quiet, don't miss Spice H2O - a dedicated area where guests can lie back with a book, or enjoy blissful moments under a cascading waterfall.

Life sure is good at the top.

Ponant's solo offer

PONANT has struck the single supplement off more than 110 of its voyages, allowing travellers to sail solo in a double stateroom at no extra cost.

The No Single Supplement offer includes the Best of New Zealand voyage aboard *Le Bellot*, departing Auckland on 21 Jan 2021 and concluding in Dunedin on 30 Jan.

The Polynesia & Easter Island journey, which offers multiple departure dates in Oct 2020 and Apr 2021, is also included in the deal - [CLICK HERE](#).

Birdwatch cruise

CRUISEALONG has announced a 17-day bird-watching itinerary to the Sub-Antarctic Islands from \$14,990ppts, scheduled to depart 19 Dec.

The voyage includes two nights' accommodation in Dunedin, return Economy airfares from any airport in Australia as well as transfers, and a 15-day expedition cruise on *Silver Explorer*.

For more, call 1300 662 002.

New-look Explorer

P&O Cruises' Pacific Explorer has returned to her homeport in Sydney with a new look, including redesigned public spaces and restaurants, plus a revamped spa.

The ship also has two new five-berth suites and a new games arcade.



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