



Cruise Weekly today

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

Pursuit of a dock

74 AUSTRALIANS are believed to be among the hundreds of passengers stranded aboard *Azamara Pursuit*, after she was prevented from docking in Chile.

Despite the fact no-one aboard the ship is believed to have the virus, many South American governments are preventing cruise ships from docking, and with parent company Royal Caribbean Cruises axing all itineraries for 30 days, the cruise was cancelled midway through.

The cruise line told **Cruise Weekly Pursuit** would soon be sailing to Miami, where it would help all guests disembark and return home.

Hurtigruten suspends operations

HURTIGRUTEN this morning announced the halt of the majority of its operations until at least 19 Apr, with almost 3,000 staff also put on temporary leave.

The company will keep just two public transportation and freight ships sailing between Bode and Kirkenes.

Sailings will cease for 30 days for Norwegian coastal voyages and 45 days for expedition ships, with Chief Executive Officer Daniel Skjeldam telling his Instagram followers in a post it was the toughest situation he had seen in his time in the travel industry, but added it was the only responsible decision to make in the face of the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Putting more than 2,800 people on temporary leave is the toughest decision I have had to make," he said, noting there had been no instances of COVID-19 aboard its ships.

The cruise line is encouraging



guests to move their bookings, free of charge, with those who have had their voyages cancelled because of the pause in operations offered a future cruise voucher in the amount of 125% of amounts paid, including fees.

Guests will also get a 10% discount on any future Hurtigruten cruise from 01 Jul to 31 Dec 2021.

Guests booked on voyages through to 30 Sep are also being offered rebooking without any change fee, to any departure between 01 Jul and 31 Dec 2021, despite not being affected by the pause in operations.

Hurtigruten also has a dedicated page for those hoping to rebook their cruise, accessible **HERE**.

Pictured: MS Midnatsol.

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A cruise in the Galapagos offers wildlife encounters like nowhere on earth. Read more in the March issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



THE COVID-19 situation taking place around the world is devastating for everyone, especially the travel and cruise industries, but one of the many important messages being conveyed is #wewillbeback. *Sky Princess* recently helped get this message out in a creative manner, pictured below.



Meyer Turku layoff

FINNISH shipbuilding company Meyer Turku is planning layoffs, with the company having reportedly begun talks with representatives of its personnel.

Meyer Turku is understood to employ as many as 4,000 people, but it is not known who or what the layoffs would entail, with reports supposedly suggesting layoffs could last 90 days.

With the cruise industry hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis, a number of Meyer Turku customers, such as Carnival and Royal Caribbean, have announced they would be taking actions to improve liquidity.

Silversea rewards!



SILVERSEA Cruises flew representatives from its 20 top-selling agencies for 2019 out to Melbourne for the cruise line's inaugural Campioni di Silversea event on 29 Feb.

The high-achieving travel agents were treated to a program of events, beginning with an entree in the Royal Botanic Gardens, complete with a string quartet and an opera singer who serenaded with Italian opera from a gondola.

Attendees then enjoyed a main course at the Grossi Fiorentino with paired wines, followed by awards for each agent, before indulging in dessert and cocktails at Brunetti Finders Lane, where

there was a huge ice sculpture of the Silversea logo and an Italian accordion player.

The agents also got to enjoy transfers via helicopter and Rolls-Royce, as well as hair & makeup and pamper sessions.

"It was such a privilege to reward our top 20 selling agencies in 2019 for their dedication," said Silversea Cruises Director of Sales – Australia and New Zealand Steve Richards.

"Our 2020 Campioni is already well underway so all agents are in with the chance of enjoying an indulgent reward such as this."

Pictured: Adam Armstrong and Steve Richards with Darlene Santler from Ecrusing.

Dream Cruises to persist with Click Frenzy

DREAM Cruises will persist in its involvement in the Click Frenzy Travel event at the resumption of its operations.

The revised sale sees three seven-night itineraries aboard *Explorer Dream* offered as part of the Click Frenzy GOLD offer, from Fremantle to Sydney; Sydney to Tasmania; and Sydney to Auckland, and eight voyages offered under the SILVER offer.

Ultimate Alaska

LATITUDE 33's new Ultimate Alaska: Chasing Lights & Brown Bears itinerary takes guests on an 18-night luxury cruise-tour, departing 21 Aug 2021.

Travelling with just 20 people, the itinerary begins in Vancouver, where guests will fly to the all-inclusive Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge on Vancouver Island, where they will spend four nights, before boarding *Seabourn Odyssey* for a 10-night cruise to Anchorage.

Included also is a two-night post-cruise stay at Simon & Seaforts in Anchorage - for full details of the itinerary, **CLICK HERE**.

A Grand finish

GRAND Princess has finally disembarked all her passengers, after initially docking in Oakland on 09 Mar reporting 21 cases of COVID-19 (**CW** 06 Mar).

More than half the ship's crew have also debarked, with the remainder to complete a 14-day quarantine before getting off in nearby San Francisco.

Seven more cases of COVID-19 were diagnosed aboard the ship after its arrival in Oakland, bringing the total to 28.

The ship is currently anchored in San Francisco Bay, with United States President Donald Trump last week praising the coordination of the disembarkation of the ship.