



Cruise Weekly today

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

A second Eclipse

THE 3. Maj shipyard in Croatia begun work on *Scenic Eclipse II* last week.

The six-star vessel is a follow-up to *Scenic Eclipse*, which finally launched in Aug after much delay (**CW** 16 Aug 2019).

Like her predecessor, *Eclipse II* will carry 228 pax, and is the first cruise ship being constructed at the yard in four years (**CW** 06 Feb 2018).

The 3. Maj shipyard is located in Rijeka, which is where *Scenic Eclipse* will remain docked during COVID-19.

The plan should see the keel of the ship fitted by the beginning of the northern summer.

CLIA plots cruising social campaign

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) is set to establish a social media campaign to help rebuild the industry's reputation, with the entire sector urged to participate and promote positive cruise messages in the face of recent adverse coverage.

Speaking to members yesterday in an online webinar, CLIA MD Australasia Joel Katz said "we need to be telling people that cruising is neither the cause, nor the source, of COVID-19.

"This is a social virus that thrives anywhere that people come together - this is why gatherings are banned and restaurants are closed," Katz said.

He said ongoing negative news stories about the industry were inevitable in the current situation.

"There's no point in driving ourselves crazy about things we can't control - we need to come together to combat the negativity

to the best of our ability."

Katz said CLIA's maritime policy team was working to develop baseline health protocols for the resumption of the global cruise sector as soon as possible, covering items such as stringent screening, on-board medical facilities, protocols, crisis management and more.

"Once we know what those changes are, that will give us information you can get out to your customers to give them confidence that they can cruise again," he added.

Social media assets are being developed for agents to share, with Katz urging the industry to tag any posts with #wearecruise to create a unified message.

"We have a tough road ahead, these messages are going to be important to restart the industry...at the end of the day whether you're a travel agent or a

CLIA executive partner, your voice is just as important in building an echo chamber of positive messaging," Katz said.

He urged the industry to focus on the facts about the benefits cruising brings to the community, saying CLIA continued to engage with mainstream media to stress the industry's contribution.

Katz highlighted resources on the COVID-19 page on the CLIA website at cruising.org.au, and offered extensive support for any members who wanted to speak to the media to put out positive stories about cruising.

In terms of a restart, Katz said his expectation was that cruising would resume gradually, particularly given the global leadership of Australia and New Zealand in dealing with COVID-19, with domestic and/or regional cruising likely to start up sooner than international voyages.



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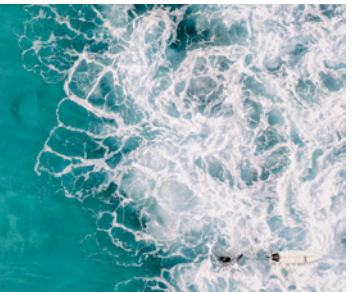
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Viking 2021-22

VIKING has opened bookings for its 2022 river and ocean departures, with three new itineraries and two new ports revealed.

The 10-day Christmas Along the Elbe, the 13-day Amazon & Caribbean Adventure; and the 15-day Canada & New England Scenic Shores itinerary are all new, with the latter voyage visiting the new ports of St. John in New Brunswick, Canada and Fort Lauderdale in Florida.

Details of the new season include deployments for Viking's six ocean ships from Oct 2021 to Oct 2022, while many of the cruise line's most popular itineraries are available to book until Dec 22.

Mission: Carnival



CARNIVAL Cruise Line is undertaking a massive crew repatriation in the Bahamas over the next several days. 18 of the cruise line's ships

currently based in the United States will rendezvous in the Caribbean, with nine of the ships to then repatriate 10,000 healthy crew members who remain on board due to restrictions limiting air travel.

The crew will move ships via water shuttles, and once repatriation begins, the nine ships not used will remain anchored in the Bahamas, or head to Panama, where they will steadily reduce crew numbers to a minimum workable level.

Carnival President Christine Duffy thanked the crew for their hard work, patience and understanding during the process, and acknowledged the Bahamian Government for its support of the operation.

Crew who will be returning home have undergone a health check and have been cleared for travel by Carnival's medical team.

The company has been working closely with immigration officials on efficient debarkation process, with crew health to be continually monitored.



WHEN there is a fund-raiser to be supported in this country, P&O Cruises is never far away.

With an Australian Olympic team to support ahead of the 1996 Summer Olympics, the P&O team took part in a 24-hour endurance race kitted out in the guise of *Oriana* (pictured).

Teams of 20 each took part in the event, with P&O's team raking in more than \$11,000 - a gold medal performance!



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Final Celebration

MARELLA Cruises will retire *Celebration*, following capacity adjustments.

Built in 1984 by Chantiers de l'Atlantique for Holland America Line (HAL) as *Noordam*, she sailed for HAL until 2005, when she was sold to then-Thomson Cruises, the precursor to Marella (*CW* 10 Oct 2017).

The ship was due to sail from Cyprus, Dubrovnik, and Dubai in the next few years, plans which have now been cancelled.

Marella did not further elaborate on the future of the vessel.