





cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Friday 15th May 2020

#### Cruise Weekly today

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

#### Silversea revisions

**SILVERSEA** has revised its cruise with confidence, cancellation and commission policies (CW 21 Apr), now offering simpler guidelines and 48-hour cancellations.

Those cancelling will still receive a future cruise credit, valid for two years, while voyages cancelled by Silversea will trigger a 125% future cruise credit, to be emailed to guests within 15 days.

The future cruise credit is transferable to family and friends, and can be used partially and applied on more than one new booking, with customers also able to access a cash refund if preferred.

## Carnival new cost-saving measures

**CARNIVAL** Corporation has announced layoffs, furloughs, four-day work weeks and salary reductions, to help the company strengthen its ability to manage an extended pause in cruising.

Carnival is undertaking the measures to further strengthen liquidity if the global cruise suspension lasts longer than is currently manageable.

The moves will save hundreds of millions of dollars in cash annually, the Corporation said.

"Taking these extremely difficult employee actions involving our highly dedicated workforce is a very tough thing to do," Carnival Corporation President & Chief **Executive Officer Arnold Donald** bemoaned.

"Unfortunately, it's necessary, given the current low level of guest operations and to further endure this pause.

"Understanding the impact this



is having on so many strengthens our resolve to do everything we can to return to operations when the time is right."

In a message to the local team, Carnival Australia President Sture Myrmell expressed regret about the changes, which will take effect from 01 Jun and 01 Jul.

The Miami Herald reports the measures will affect more than 1,300 workers at its Florida headquarters, which is almost half the head offices' workforce, with Carnival UK undertaking similar measures at its Southampton base.

Pictured: AIDAnova.



These are extraordinary times, however all of us at P&O are looking positively toward the future.

As our valued Travel Agent partners you are at the heart of what we do.

You, more than anyone, understand the gravity of what is happening in the travel sector and we are standing with you during these challenging times.

A big thanks for your past, present and future support.

We look forward to working with you in welcoming guests back onboard soon

We will all get through this together.





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#### RCC notes offering

**ROYAL** Caribbean Cruises (RCC) has announced a private offering of US\$3.3 billion of senior secured notes, due 2023 and 2025.

The notes will be secured the company's intellectual property and 28 of its ships, with RCC expecting to use the proceeds of the notes to repay its US\$2.35 billion loan with Morgan Stanley and wiping out additional debt, as well as for general purposes.

#### Disney extends

**DISNEY** Cruise Line (DCL) won't sail again until end of Jul at the earliest.

The announcement comes after Disney Chief Executive Officer Bob Chapek last week prophesied the cruise line would likely be the last of the company's divisions to resume operations (CW 08 May).

That has now been confirmed, with DCL extending its sailing suspension until 27

The choice to idle all four of its ships was made "in line" with guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which has issued an extension to its nosail order, and is now in place through to 27 Jul also.

The new order affects 55 sailings.

## Avalon's path forward

**AVALON** Waterways has unveiled its path forward to "welcome aboard", detailing a range of preliminary plans and protocols for future river cruises.

In anticipation of the resumption of crusing, the line has developed a new Avalon Assurance program to safeguard the health and happiness of

The program currently features seven major categories and protocols which span all guest experience touchpoints, and include:

- 1. Welcome aboard: New embarkation procedures providing travellers with safety during the process, including mandatory health screenings, touch-free temperature checks and luggage disinfection.
- 2. Fresh air: inside & out: 80% of Avalon cabins are Panorama suites, offering guests an open-air experience. The air in the ships is also not circulated between staterooms: only within an individual stateroom. and is mixed with fresh air.
- 3. New technology to ensure cleanliness: The company is also introducing new top-ofthe-line technologies including electrostatic cleaning and UV disinfecting systems.
- 4. Touching hearts, not hands: Avalon's new assurance protocols will ensure more hands-free services onboard,

such as more hand sanitiser stations throughout the ship, including in all public areas; replacing buffet and self-serve stations with crew services and hourly-minimum disinfection of all public areas.

- 5. Blending cultural proximity with social distance: Avalon will introduce more space for social distancing including reducing ship capacity and alternative dining venues, as well as providing guests and crew masks for use, as needed or required.
- 6. Commitment to the cleanest ships: Unwavering commitment to ship cleaning procedures, with some new steps including deep-cleaning and disinfection of each stateroom during turnover, disinfection of all dining areas between meals and disinfection of shared items such as bicycles or umbrellas after each use.
- 7. Focus on crew health & education: Ensuring a happy. healthy Avalon crew is also a priority through required medical screenings and certificates of health, new social distancing in crew living quarters and ongoing training in personal protective equipment use and hygiene. The protocols are constantly

being reviewed and renewed, with the cruise line also reviewing excursion standards.

### Sailing in Memphis

**CRUISE** on the Mississippi River to Memphis in 2021 with the American Queen Steamboat Company and save up to US\$2,000 per couple.

Those booking by 30 Jun can access the earlybird discount, with prices beginning from US\$1,598 per person, twin share.

View included sailings HERE.

#### Rabbitt pounces

**KEVIN** Rabbitt has been named as the new CEO of Hornblower Group, the parent company of American Queen Steamboat Company and Victory Cruise Lines.

Rabbitt is expected to take up the role in Jul, while founder, Chairman & current CEO Terry MacRae will continue as Executive Chairman.

"Kevin brings an entrepreneurial mindset and tremendous business expertise to Hornblower and is well qualified to helm our organisation in the challenging times ahead," MacRae commented, adding. "Kevin's track record combined with his understanding of our business, made him a great fit."

Rabbitt has been a member of the Hornblower board since 2018, and will join as CEO as many aspects of the Group's operations prepare to resume.





# JOURNEYS WORTH PLANNING







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### like for the travel industry? Find out in the May issue of travelBulletin.

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### Action on board: Entertainment on Regatta



SHIP: Oceania Cruises' Regatta.

LOCATION: Lounge - Deck 5; Horizons Bar - Deck 10.

COST: Included in fare.

FROM arts aficionado to enthusiastic show-goer, guests on board Regatta will be spoiled for choice with the eclectic range of entertainment the ship has to offer.

From quiet lounge cocktails through to the raucous fun of a stage show, the nights are as unique as each passenger's entertainment tastes.

Guests can tap along to themed music sets featuring a selection of different performers, or sit back and experience a range of colourful folkloric shows inspired by the ship's locale.

Those who prefer a quieter evening can enjoy the classical melodies of the string quartet, pictured, or mingle with newfound friends over cocktails in Martinis bar to the sounds of live piano music (pictured



If stage shows are more your scene, head to one of the spectacular productions held in the Lounge, with recent offerings including a fresh take on the music of the Rat Pack with Tuxedo; a roaring 20s-themed musical bonanza called Gatsby's; a musical tribute to Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin and Smokey Robinson in Good Lovin; as well as Get on the Floor and Dance, a show featuring the songs of music icons such as Gloria Estefan, Michael Buble, and Brian Setzer

So sit back, relax, and let Regatta entertain you!

### TUI streamlining

What does recovery from COVID look

TUI Group is shedding 8,000 jobs as it scales back its global operations.

The Group posted a loss of €741 million (A\$1.24 billion) in the first three months of the year, and needed a €1.8 billion (A\$2.2 billion) loan from the German government as travel bans and lockdowns brought its business to a standstill.

TUI is now aiming to reduce its costs by 30%, with Chief **Executive Officer Fritz Joussen** detailing plans for increased hygiene and protection measures on its cruises, as well as in its hotels division and in airports.

"TUI should emerge from the crisis stronger, but it will be a different TUI," Joussen said.

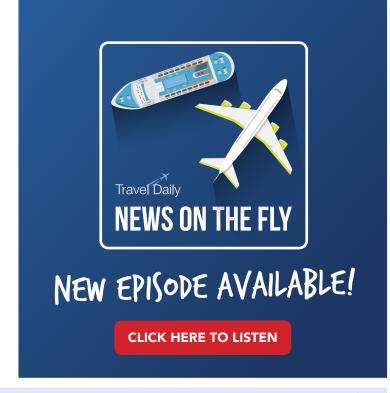


**TWO** fisherman from the tiny nation of the Marshall Islands have been found alive after 42 days adrift in the ocean.

Lost since o<sub>2</sub> Apr, the men

washed into a tiny atoll in Micronesia yesterday morning. Barely alive, it is believed the men drifted 1,600 kilometres, after leaving Ebeye Island on a fishing trip.

During a period of high winds and rough seas, they became lost in the ocean, with a search by the US Army and Coast Guard and the Marshall Islands Sea Patrol unable to find them.





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Cruise Weekly is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper

Contributors – Adam Bishop, Jasmine Hanna, Nicholas O'Donoghue, Myles Stedman info@cruiseweekly.com.au

Jenny Piper accounts@cruiseweeklv.com.au

**BUSINESS MANAGER** 

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au

advertising@cruiseweekly.co.nz

Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia

Tel: (AU) +61 2 8007 6760 or (NZ) 0800 799 220 Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220

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info@cruiseweekly.co.nz