

Cruise Weekly today

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

Dream even bigger

CELEBRITY Cruises' Dream Big sale is back, following the success of the first.

The deal offers savings of up to \$1,500, and includes beverages, internet, and US\$150 of onboard spending money.

The sale ends tomorrow, and is applicable on itineraries of four nights or longer from Oct 2020 to Dec 2021.

The offer applies to inside, outside, veranda, concierge and AquaClass stateroom categories.

Terms and conditions apply, and the deal excludes Galapagos Islands sailings.

Cruiseco sees reason for optimism

CRUISECO Chairman Kevin Dale has dismissed questions about the future of the cruise industry, with a recent survey conducted by Cruiseco member and Your Travel & Cruise MD Les Farrar suggesting there is every reason for optimism.

In an opinion poll of around 1,600 consumers, 91% suggested they would consider taking a cruise holiday in the future, assuming the implementation of stricter health measures, with 62% also considering booking domestic travel again this year.

However, Dale stressed that although 71% of respondents' opinion about travel agents had not been affected, the cruise industry still needed to win public confidence by adopting robust COVID-safe protocols.

Other notable results included 85% saying they are happy to



consider a trip to New Zealand or the south Pacific once the virus is contained, 71% of respondents believing it is okay to be receiving offers now for future travel opportunities, and 42% considering cruising to still have a positive perception.

Dale noted an industry-wide COVID-safe policy, relating particularly to embarkation protocols, is currently being formulated in conjunction with the Centres for Disease Control & Prevention.

Pictured: *Norwegian Spirit.*

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Travel Daily



HEROES like these is what porthole is all about folks!

One Alaska man is making a 14-hour boat trip to Costco every week to supply his small town of Gustavus with groceries amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The town is only accessible by boat or plane, and Toshua Parker, owner of grocery store Icy Strait Wholesale is keeping the town fed by making the voyage to the state's capital Juneau, over 80 kilometres away.

Parker usually has food and supplies shipped to the store, but the service is no longer running because of the pandemic, as well as damage caused to the city's dock by severe storms.

It takes him about 14 hours to complete the journey on his 96-foot vessel.

Keep Toshua in your thoughts the next time you're grabbing the last toilet rolls at Coles!

NCLH restart plan



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) is set to relaunch five ships at a time once sailings recommence, but the company has not revealed when that may be.

NCLH shared the news in its earnings report for the first quarter of 2020, estimating it would take around five to six months before the entire fleet of 28 ships across three brands had resumed operations.

"Nothing will be more critical to resuming sustained and profitable long term operations than making cruising the safest

option in [the] travel and leisure space and providing cruisers with peace of mind," said Norwegian Cruise Line President and Chief Executive Officer Frank Del Rio (pictured).

"There will be fits and starts and it will require the implementation of new protocols as we learn what works," he said, adding consumer demand wouldn't drive the timeline, and that it would be the company's capability to safely resume operations.

Del Rio also added the self-serve buffet would likely be gone from the ships for good.

Cruises out in BC

CRUISE ship passengers will not be welcome in British Columbia, Canada, for the northern summer, the province's health officials have decreed.

Ships will be allowed to stop for refuelling, but passengers not permitted to get off - that's if the country's Federal Government decides cruising can resume from 01 Jul.

Provincial Health Officer Bonnie Henry said her sentiments are shared by health officials in Yukon, as well as across the US border in the states of Alaska and Washington.

A statement from the Port of Vancouver said it is closely following developments, and will continue to be in discussions with its cruise line partners over the next few months.

Pile thanks cruise

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises' Vice President & General Manager Australia & New Zealand Lisa Pile has offered the industry reassurance in the face of COVID-19.

In a video address, Pile reinforces the cruise line is there for the community, and offers her personal thanks.

CLICK HERE to view the video.

News apologises to Ruby Commissioner

NEWS Corp's *The Australian* has apologised to the special commission of enquiry into the *Ruby Princess*, and its Commissioner Bret Walker, over a highly critical article it published.

The piece said the NSW Government's Inquiry into the cruise ship was a "sham", with scenes that were "harrowing and disgraceful", and that the commission was "state-sponsored bastardry".

The article also labelled the affairs a "taxpayer-funded show trial aimed at achieving a political end".

Senior Counsel Assisting Richard Beasley suggested the article might constitute contempt.

Seychelles ban

THE Seychelles has banned cruise ships from its capital Victoria until 2022 out of COVID-19 fears.

Minister for Marine, Ports and Tourism Didier Dogley announced the plan, alongside a series of stimulus measures intended to support the east African archipelago's travel industry until tourism picks back up.

The move was welcomed by Seychelles Ports Authority Chief Executive Ronny Brutus.

AIDA Cruises' *AIDAblu* is the only cruise ship to sail from the country.