



Seabourn pause

SEABOURN Cruise Line has announced a further extension of its cruise pause for three vessels, with *Seabourn Ovation* out until 03 Jan 2021; *Seabourn Encore* sailings cancelled until 06 Jan 2021; and *Seabourn Quest* operations paused until 10 May next year.

Shipyard closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic have also resulted in a revised delivery date for *Seabourn Venture*, the cruise line's new ultra-luxury purpose-built expedition ship, which is now scheduled to debut on 01 Dec 2021.

Quest will operate the company's 2021/22 Antarctic voyages, while *Venture* will now launch its inaugural season with a series of "Norwegian Winter" cruises, with full details to be unveiled next month.

Viking pushes 2021-23

VIKING has today launched a major sale on voyages departing in 2021, 2022 and 2023, along with a dedicated digital brochure which can be customised by travel agents via the Viking Marketing Centre.

The "Explore the Viking Way" offers include flight credits and savings on river, ocean and expedition voyages, while the extension of Viking's Risk-Free Guarantee through until the end of this month means travellers have full flexibility to change their plans up to 24 hours before departure for any reason.

Viking ANZ Managing Director Michelle Black, said "in time we'll be travelling again and this will all be behind us.

"In the meantime we want to help your clients make the most of their precious time, by planning their future adventures

the Viking way," she said.

The deal includes voyages such as the 15-day Grand European river cruise between Amsterdam and Budapest, priced from \$5,995 per person, along with other itineraries in France and on the Mekong River.

There's also a 13-day Antarctic Explorer cruise ex Buenos Aires in the new *Viking Polaris* expedition ship starting at \$20,995, and a 15-day Australia & NZ cruise in Dec next year from \$7,995 - see myvikingjourney.com/agent.

Azamara bonus

AZAMARA Cruises has launched a "double upgrade + double points" promotion applying to voyages departing 20 Mar 2021 through to 11 Apr 2022, valid for bookings from today - **CLICK HERE**.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Back in the water

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has unveiled its "back in the water" plans, which will see three of its fleet returning by Apr 2021 at the latest.

A return-to-the-water date for *Balmoral* will be confirmed over the coming weeks, with plans underway for it to be the first ship sailing, hopefully prior to Mar 2021.

Guests looking to book onto the new ships, *Bolette* and *Borealis*, will be able to do so soon, with the former to go on sale next Mon, and the latter on 15 Sep.

The two new vessels will join the rest of the fleet in Scotland in early Sep.

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PORTHOLE

49 MIGRANTS have been rescued from a pink boat stranded in the Mediterranean Sea, after it issued urgent calls for assistance.

Louise Michel, which is funded by English street artist Banksy, was assisted by an Italian patrol vessel, which helped move a group of the migrants to other assisting ships.

The remaining migrants on board, totalling around 150, were received by a vessel chartered by non-governmental organisations Sea-Watch and Medecins Sans Frontieres, according to tweets from both organisations and *Louise Michel's* crew.

The stranded ship's crew said the 31-metre ship had become overcrowded and unable to move, warning some migrants had fuel burns and had been at sea for days.

Banksy maintains he funds the boat to aid non-European migrants.

A-ROSA attracting



SINCE its resumption of cruising in Jun (**CW** 24 Jun), A-ROSA River Cruises has noticed an increase in bookings from guests who traditionally book ocean cruises.

With river cruise lines possessing the added advantage of flexible route planning, A-ROSA immediately alters its ports of call when necessary to avoid any potential infection risk for its guests and crews.

"The wellbeing of our guests and crew is our highest priority and we are fully aware how critical an effective hygiene concept is," said Chief Executive

Officer Jorg Eichler.

"Our stringent health measures provide our guests with peace of mind and allow them to enjoy relaxing holidays on board.

"Guests feel safe on board, no doubt an important factor that contributes to the increase in demand for our city and nature cruises."

One river cruising convert is blogger Fabian Betzendahl (**pictured**) who spontaneously decided to book an A-ROSA Danube River cruise, and reportedly "thoroughly enjoyed" his experience.

RSSC, Windstar out

BOTH Windstar Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises have flagged further cancellations, with Windstar canning its sailings for the rest of the year.

Also suspended is Regent Seven Seas' voyages aboard *Seven Seas Mariner* through to Apr 2021, including the 2021 World Cruise.

Genting moves

EMBATTLED cruise operator Genting Hong Kong has a new Deputy Chief Executive Officer Colin Au, replacing the recently resigned Lim Keong Hui.

The incoming Deputy Chief Executive Officer has served as group President since Mar 2017, having been the founding Pres and Chief Exec.

Au has waived his fees and compensation, including his director's fee, for the remainder of the year.

Hui also resigned as a director, and has been replaced by Kam Hing. Genting is in the midst of restructuring its debts.



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