

## Brisbane Terminal on hold

**THE** closure of the Queensland border and the three-month extension of the Australian Government's cruise ban (**CW** 04 Sep) has put paid to any hopes that the new Brisbane International Cruise Terminal will open on schedule.

The \$177 million facility, which has been jointly funded in partnership with Carnival Australia, was timed to open on 03 Oct, just a month before the upcoming Qld state election.

However *News Corp* reports now speculate that it may not open until "at least Mar or Apr, possibly later" if the foreign cruise ship ban is extended again.

An update from the Port of Brisbane last week highlighted the recent delivery of two Passenger Boarding Bridges (**CW** 15 Jun), adding "we're committed to ensuring the Brisbane International Cruise Terminal is ready for when the authorities, in consultation with the cruise industry, determine that cruising can safely resume in Queensland".

A website tracking the

Terminal's construction noted originally 180 cruise ships had been scheduled to call during the facility's first season over the upcoming summer, with it "designed to cater for the biggest cruise ships in the world and give passengers a world-class experience".

The *News* report cites Cruise Lines International Association Australasia MD Joel Katz, who noted delays caused by the extensive preparations involved in restarting cruises, including bookings and sourcing F&B.

"These are long lead times and even if we were signing off on a restart today, it wouldn't be until the end of the year, Nov or Dec, that those ships would be able to get back to Australia," he said.

The first departure had been scheduled as P&O's *Pacific Dawn* which was due to sail on 03 Oct.

With the current biosecurity order ban in place until 17 Dec, the first voyage from the new facility could now be a *Carnival Spirit* seven-day Pacific Islands cruise scheduled for 20 Dec.

## Hurti 2022 release

**HURTIGRUTEN** has opened bookings for 2022 departures visiting Alaska, Greenland, Iceland and the Northwest Passage.

The cruises in the 2022 northern hemisphere summer "take guests to some of the High North's most beautiful destinations sailing on our premium, spacious, small, sustainable ships that visit hard to reach places and small communities other ships can't access," said Damian Perry, Hurtigruten MD Asia-Pacific.

Two Northwest Passage voyages will operate, one aboard Hurtigruten's *Roald Amundsen* expedition flagship, cruising from Vancouver to Halifax, and a shorter version on *Fram* which starts at Cambridge Bay, after a flight from Edmonton, in Sep 2022.

The season also includes an exploration of Greenland's western coast aboard *Fritjof Nansen* roundtrip from Reykjavik - for more info see [hurtigruten.com.au](http://hurtigruten.com.au).

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## Dream Cruises restart a big success

**DREAM** Cruises' restart of cruise operations in Taiwan (**CW** 28 Jul) has been hailed as an overwhelming success, with occupancy levels now building to almost 100%.

The cruise line restarted operations in Jul aboard *Explorer Dream*, with the first sailing limited to just 50% occupancy as Dream implemented a range of COVID-19 safety policies.

*Explorer Dream* has been operating two-, three-, and four-night Taiwan Island-Hopping cruises from Keelung, visiting Kinmen, Penghu and Matsu Islands, with domestic passengers only.

"The market response to the *Explorer Dream* deployment in Taiwan is very encouraging," said Dream Cruises' parent company Genting Hong Kong.

## Catch up on the news of the week



Travel Daily

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**OVER** the past five months, *Cruise Weekly's* porthole column has been tracking a number of flotillas in honour of American President Donald Trump (*CW* 05 May, *CW* 18 Aug).

Over the weekend, the most recent of these 'Trumpillas' has turned bad, with another boat parade dedicated to POTUS on Lake Travis in Texas seeing a number of participating vessels sink.

Speculation figures the large number of ships moving within close proximity of each other caused choppy conditions, which saw some boats take on water and others sink entirely.

Fortunately, nobody died, and all 2,500 in attendance enjoyed the flag-adorned parachutists jumping out of a helicopter.

## Less privacy plz!

**REEARTH** President Sam Duncombe is pushing for a ban on cruise lines developing private islands in the Bahamas.

The activist is also urging for environmental impact assessments to be conducted to assess the cruise industry's activities and effects on the Bahamas as a whole.

Calls come after Minister for Tourism Dionisio D'Aguiar admitted he will be encouraging cruise ships to return after the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Aurora trade webinars



**AURORA** Expeditions is running a number of trade webinars next week previewing its Arctic and Global 2022 program.

Taking place next Tue 15 Sep, the sessions will be hosted by Head of Sales APAC Dianna Schinella (**pictured**) and her team, with the season going on sale at the end of Oct, with a number of new destinations included.

Travel agents can find out how to pre-register their clients on the new voyages before they go on sale to the public, and will also be detailed on Aurora's updated health & safety protocols and its new deposit protection program.

## Oceania upgrade

**OCEANIA** Cruises has unveiled an exclusive upgrade sale, offering guests the opportunity to jump up to four stateroom categories, when booking select itineraries until 15 Sep.

For more information call Oceania on 1300 355 200.

There will also be an update on Aurora's second purpose-built expedition ship, *Sylvia Earle* (*CW* 24 Jan) which is on track for delivery in Oct 2021.

Australian and New Zealander agents in attendance will receive a free coffee to enjoy after the webinar - no, seriously - with the first 200 to register granted a \$10 coffee voucher.

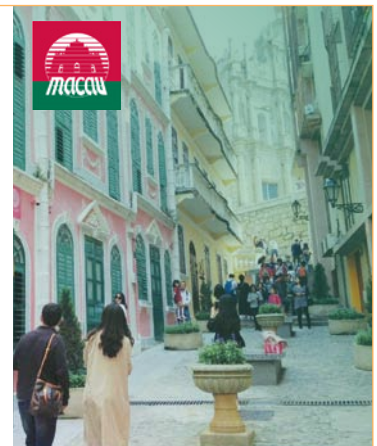
There will be a 10am AEST and 4pm session - to register for the morning webinar, **CLICK HERE**, and for the afternoon session, **CLICK HERE**.

## Bolette inaugural

**FRED.** Olsen Cruise Lines has unveiled a range of new sailings for its newest ship *Bolette* (*CW* 20 Jul), including a series of British cruises.

Guests can now book into the season, with *Bolette's* maiden voyage for Fred. Olsen to be a seven-night Scotland & Island cruise setting sail from Southampton on 05 Mar 2021.

This will precede a range of other British departures, before *Bolette* travels to the warmer climates of the Azores and Madeira over the Easter break.



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