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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a front full page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

Windstar chief

CHRIS Prelog has been appointed the new President of Windstar Cruises, after being promoted from Chief Operating Officer.

Prelog will report into parent company Xanterra Travel Collection Chief Executive Officer Andrew Todd.

As Windstar Chief Operating Officer, Prelog led the US\$250 million Star Plus investment in renovating the cruise line's fleet (**CW** 20 Sep 2019).

Prelog will fill the role vacated in Mar when John Delaney stepped down "to focus on personal priorities".

Cruise could restart by Dec

THE Tourism Restart Taskforce has approved its updated Timetable, which has plotted the resumption of local cruising from Nov, with domestic expedition voyages to be first.

These would be followed by cruises to New Zealand and the Pacific, hoped to take place as early as Dec.

The proposed Tourism Restart Timetable 2.0 was endorsed last Fri at a meeting of the Taskforce, which includes representatives from across the tourism and travel sector, including Flight Centre's Graham Turner, The Walshe Group's Jacqui Walshe, Ponant's Sarina Bratton and Tourism Australia's Bob East.

The Timetable calls for all state borders to be open by Dec, and allows Kiwis to enter the country without quarantine, with a possibility of reciprocal free entry by Australians into NZ once their

election is finished next month.

The new iteration of the plan comes four months after the first version (**CW** 26 May) which aspired to have expedition cruising restart as early as Jun.

However subsequent waves of COVID-19 infections put paid to those hopes, with the latest Timetable setting out new expectations in the light of the current pandemic and easing of transmission rates.

The proposed Timetable "reflects what industry feels are realistic restart targets for governments and health authorities to consider, given the current COVID conditions," according to the minutes of the Taskforce meeting obtained by **Cruise Weekly**.

The plan also envisages the Australian Govt allowing all domestic cruising to fully resume by Feb - more in today's **TD**.

NCL Spirit special

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line is offering travel advisors a \$100 gift card for each Australia/NZ booking of *Norwegian Spirit* when she sails locally from Dec 2021 - see the **cover page**.

HOT river booking engine goes live

HOUSE of Travel (HOT) yesterday launched a new River Cruise Search engine which allows customers to access live feeds from a range of suppliers including APT Travel Group, Uniworld Boutique River Cruises Collection and more.

Future additions to the HOT Cruises site will also see content from Crystal, CroisiEurope, Avalon and Viking, with the platform powered by Revelex.



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Travel Daily



A ROMANIAN politician and former cruise captain who died of coronavirus has recently been re-elected Mayor of his town.

Ion Aliman's win was celebrated in the cemetery, by the people of Deveselu, who he served for two terms.

The 57-year-old was hotly tipped to win a third, but after testing positive earlier this month, his condition deteriorated and he succumbed to the virus about a week ago.

Much like Ben Kenobi, he was even stronger after being struck down, winning 60% of votes.

Silversea Academy expands



SILVERSEA Cruises has announced a makeover of its Academy digital training platform, which now features 18 modules accessible to the cruise line's travel partners across the globe.

For the first time agents in Asia, Canada, Latin America and the United States can use the online educational program, while users

in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand and the United Kingdom are able to take advantage of the new content.

Each module takes an average of 20 minutes to complete, and local consultants will obtain two Cruise Lines International Association accreditation points for each module they finish.

Some of these are dedicated to destinations across the globe, while there's also a Selling Silversea course, providing a comprehensive understanding of the cruise line and its vessels.

The Expedition Cruise Expert module delivers an in-depth knowledge of the luxury expedition voyage experience, while other modules cover public spaces, suites, restaurants and voyages.

The Silversea Academy also offers easy access to the MySilversea.com portal where advisors can view and manage bookings as well as access a range of marketing tools.

To celebrate the launch, travel partners who complete a training module will be entered into a draw for the chance to win a \$100 gift card each month for the next three months - **CLICK HERE**.



Bid Farewell

THE downturn of cruising in Aus has far reaching impacts across many sectors of the industry.

This month we should have been in Townsville listening to inspiring presentations from a range of industry experts at our annual Australian Cruise Association conference.

Instead we are saying farewell to one of our long-term members and great supporters, Martin Bidgood who is leaving his role as the Head of Australia for TUI (InterCruises) as the company goes through a COVID right-sizing program.

Martin is one of the most experienced shoreside operators I have had the pleasure to work with, having held a leadership role with InterCruises since he moved here from the UK 10 years ago.

During this time, he has not only successfully grown the ground touring operations but has also worked with industry to support the development of new ports.

He has shown incredible commitment to ACA where he has served on the management committee for the last five years, two of them as Deputy Chair.

He has spearheaded our education program and helped tourism operators develop their businesses to become cruise ready.

I will miss his strategic thinking and his warm sense of humour.

We all wish him an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing him back in the industry so that together we can enjoy Townsville 2021.

BE PART OF THE TD AWARDS

ON WED 30 SEP

1 JOIN OUR FACEBOOK EVENT

To find out the winners as they are announced, join our Facebook event - **CLICK HERE**.

2 GET GLAMMED UP & SEND US A PIC

Celebrate all the hard work of everyone in the travel industry by dressing up in your finery and make sure to send us a photo! You might see yourself in *Travel Daily* if you do.

3 USE AND FOLLOW #TDAWARDS2020

Follow all the awards excitement and use our hashtag when you post your pics on social media.

