



Cruise Weekly today

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

nib: be prepared

DATA from nib Travel customers shows almost 80% of cruise claims have been related to medical expenses.

The insurance company found claims ranged from relatively small cases, including motion sickness and minor slips, to more serious conditions requiring further medical treatment.

nib Travel General Manager International & Partnerships Dylan Wilkinson said it is important advisors are prepared and ready to answer questions from clients relating to cruising and travel insurance.

"One of the most common causes for confusion in regards to travel insurance is medical cover on a cruise between Australian ports because, once off-shore, they may not be covered by Medicare, leaving them to foot the bill if they're uninsured...[which] is true regardless of whether the cruise provider is an Australian company, or foreign," said Wilkinson.

nib will this week host an Insurance Information Series edition on cruise - advisors can sign up online [HERE](#).

Dream restarts in HK

DREAM Cruises is celebrating the inaugural sailing of *Genting Dream* in Hong Kong, the first ship to restart service in the country.

The sold-out cruise embarked on Dream's maiden Super Seacation voyage on Fri with more than 1,000 guests.

Before *Genting's* departure from Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, an official ceremony was attended by Hong Kong's Secretary for Commerce & Economic Development Edward Yau, China Travel Service Director Yiu Si-wing, Commissioner for Tourism Vivian Sum, Hong Kong Tourism Board Chairperson Pang Yiu-kai and Genting Cruise Lines President Kent Zhu.

Guests on board the inaugural cruise will be treated to a Magical Seacation on *Genting* with renowned local magician Louis Yan, and on the most recent sailing, yoga instructor Coffee Lam, who is the first Cantonese person to gain more than a million subscribers on YouTube.

She will headline Vitamin Sea & Dream, the cruise line's signature wellness concept, and personally conduct two of her signature yoga classes, Gentle Stretching Yoga and Fitness Yoga at Sea.

From next month, Dream will present Around the World at Sea, a series of thematic cruises that will bring some of the world's most popular travel destinations on board the ship, such as Japan and Germany (**CW** 04 Jun).

Genting guests will be treated to a 360-degree Japanese Festival at Sea, combining a myriad of activities and thematic elements including extensive decorations, arts & crafts workshops and cultural performances.

Travellers will savour a variety of Japanese gastronomic delights from a selection of festival deli food stalls.

Guests can also indulge in Oktoberfest, and celebrate with German beers and Bavarian culinary specialties for the whole month of Oct, as well as culinary workshops to learn how to make apple strudel and potato salad.

Bavarian Folk dances and games will also be performed, with prizes for the best dressed.

"We are grateful for the support we have received from the Hong Kong government, authorities and trade partners for their trust in Dream," said Zhu.

"We have also been very encouraged by the response to our Super Seacation Cruises."

In preparation for welcoming its first passengers on board, since her arrival into Hong Kong in early Jun, the crew has been implementing new health, hygiene and operating protocols to ensure *Genting* complies with and exceeds all local regulations.

All crew members and guests must be fully vaccinated 14 days prior to departure, and all guests must pass a coronavirus test 48 hours prior to sailing.

Silversea Otium

SILVERSEA Cruises has announced the introduction of Otium, a new concept aimed at offering guests unique wellness experiences, relaxation and indulgence while on board *Silver Dawn*.

Through treatments designed by Silversea's experts, Otium can be enjoyed in-suite, in the spa, and in many more venues on board from Nov.

The concept will include a couples massage set to live music, sipping champagne while immersed in a steam bath, and more.

To be rolled out to the rest of the fleet at a later date, Chief Marketing Officer Barbara Muckermann said Otium is about anticipating the needs of and pampering guests.

A Majestic return for Princess Cruises

PRINCESS Cruises has successfully completed its first voyage following its extended pause in operations.

Majestic Princess returned to Seattle on Sun following her first successful voyage.

The ship kicked off Princess' partial season of 'North to Alaska' sailings departing through 26 Sep.

The round-trip, seven-day cruise visited Glacier Bay National Park, Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan.

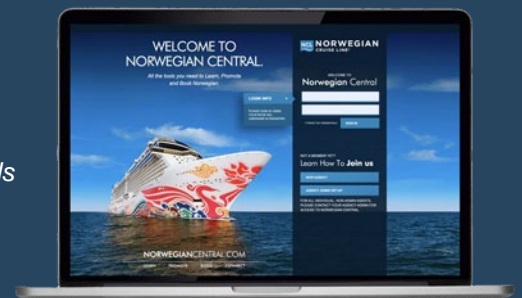


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Blue you away

TRAVELLERS can save almost \$8,000 on Cruise Traveller's luxury package, including a sailing from Australia to New Zealand in 2023, paired with a Blue Mountains stay.

The 18-night package begins on 10 Feb 2023, with a transfer from Sydney to the Hotel Mountain Heritage Blue Mountains for a three-night stay including a tour to Jenolan Caves with high tea.

Guests will then board Oceania Cruises' *Regatta* for a 15-night return-trip voyage to New Zealand, visiting Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, Napier, Rotorua, Auckland and the Bay of Islands.

CLICK HERE for more information.

Party in the USA



MARDI Gras (pictured), Carnival Cruise Line's newest ship, departed on her maiden voyage from Port Canaveral on the weekend.

The cruise ship also embarked on its homeport's first sailing with guests since the pandemic, and to celebrate the dual occasions,

Carnival President Christine Duffy and *Mardi Gras* Captain Giuseppe Giusa led a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Carnival's newest flagship, *Mardi Gras* is the first cruise ship in the Americas to be powered by liquified natural gas, and features the first roller coaster at sea.

Mardi Gras boasts six distinct themed zones with a variety of food, beverage and entertainment options, including dining venues from Emeril Lagasse, Guy Fieri, and more.

The ship is the fifth Carnival vessel to resume service, with the line harbouring plans to have more than half (15) of its fleet cruising by Oct.

"*Mardi Gras* has been five years in the making so to finally welcome guests on board to experience this one-of-a-kind ship is something that we've been looking forward to for a very long time," Duffy said.

"Not only is *Mardi Gras* providing a truly unique vacation experience to our guests, it's so gratifying to be able to play a role helping the local community by providing much-needed jobs and a boost to the economy."



THIS week sees New Richmond, OH, host the International Cardboard Boat Regatta, a high-spirited race on the Ohio River which has been taking place for almost 30 years.

More than 70 colourful boats will set out from New Richmond, many of which won't finish, despite the race not even covering 200 metres.

Captained by commanders of all ages, the cardboard boats range from canoes and kayaks to elaborate vessels shaped like guitars, ambulances and more.

The regatta draws thousands of spectators, and in true American tradition, many participation trophies are handed out, in categories such as highest speed, most durable, best costumes and more.

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Azamara 2021/22

AZAMARA'S new northern winter 2021/22 itineraries are now open for booking.

The line's *Azamara Journey* and *Azamara Quest* vessels will cruise the Caribbean with six voyages ranging from seven to 16 nights.

For travellers looking for a European getaway, Azamara will also offer six back-to-back Canary Islands sailings, including four Country-Intensive Voyages.

To view a full list of the 2021/2022 northern winter sailings, **CLICK HERE**.