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NEWLY RELEASED ITINERARIES
2023-2024

RESERVATIONS
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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover page from **Regent Seven Seas Cruises**.

CCL extends pause

CARNIVAL Cruise Line (CCL) has extended its rolling pause in operations in Australia, saying there is still no certainty as to when cruise departures from the country can resume.

In line with guidance from the Australian Government, CCL is extending its pause in operations for Australian sailings through to and including 16 Dec for *Carnival Spirit* and *Carnival Splendor*.

Travellers booked on an impacted cruise will be contacted shortly.

As throughout the pandemic, CCL is protecting the commission on all bookings paid in full.

Travel advisor commissions are protected on the original fully paid booking cancelled by Carnival and on the final fully paid rebooking when a future cruise credit is redeemed on an active sailing.

CCL last month announced the appointment of its new Vice President, Kara Glamore, formerly Director of Marketing & PR, who has succeeded the outgoing Jennifer Vandekreeke (CW 26 Jul), who departed for NRMA Expeditions.

CLIA guest list expanded

AN EXPANDED international lineup for Cruise Lines International Association's (CLIA) Virtual Cruise Forum has been announced.

Offering insight from key international leaders and regional executives steering the cruise industry's recovery, registrations for the Virtual Cruise Forum have now reached 600, equal to CLIA's biggest Cruise360 Australasia conference, the most recently held congress in 2019 (CW 02 Sep 2019).

The 27 Aug Virtual Cruise Forum will be held online in lieu of this year's Cruise360 to provide an essential update for the region's cruise community, and new speakers will include Royal Caribbean International Vice President Asia Pacific Angie Stephen (pictured), Norwegian Cruise Lines Vice President & Managing Director APAC Ben Angell and CLIA Managing Director UK & Ireland Andy Harmer.

The Virtual Cruise Forum is open to all CLIA Australasia and Asia members & stakeholders at no charge, and will feature live panel discussions and interviews.

Topics will include a state of the industry update on cruising's road to recovery, how the cruise sector is working to rebuild confidence, how travel advisors can achieve new relevance as cruise specialists, and how close collaborations have resulted



in successful resumptions of operations internationally.

Other key speakers already announced include CLIA Global President & Chief Executive Officer Kelly Craighead, MSC Cruises Chief Executive Officer Gianni Onorato, Uniworld Boutique River Cruises President & Chief Executive Officer Ellen Bettridge, Regent Seven Seas Cruises President & Chief Executive Officer Jason Montague, Singapore Tourism Board Director Cruise Development Annie Chang, CLIA Australasia Chair Gavin Smith, CLIA Advocacy Committee Chair Sture Myrmell, Ponant Chair Asia Pacific Sarina Bratton and Virtuoso Senior Vice President, Global Operations Michael Londregan.

The event will run from 10am to 4pm AEST.

For further details and registration, **CLICK HERE**.

New payment

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings brands Regent Seven Seas Cruises and Oceania Cruises have announced a new payment option for travel partners in Australia.

Alongside credit card and direct deposit payment options, the cruise lines are now also accepting payment from travel partners in Australia via the TravelPay platform.

The move comes as the industry prepares for the closure of the eNett International EFT remittance system at the end of the month.

Advisors who wish to use the platform should contact TravelPay directly to register.

Meanwhile, Regent Seven Seas has announced its new 2023-2024 Voyage Collection, featuring captivating new ports of call and immersive cultural experiences in destinations throughout the globe (CW yesterday).

Reservations open today for the Collection, which offers sailings including the recently announced 132-night 2024 World Cruise (CW 16 Jul), and four Grand Voyages, which includes an Asia-Pacific 59-night sailing from Sydney to Tokyo.

The Collection also features more than 129 overnight calls.

For more information, see the **cover page**.

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Norwegian moves

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has appointed Braydon Holland as Senior Director Sales Asia, returning to the company after five years.

Holland will work alongside Director of Sales Australia & New Zealand Damian Borg in driving the sales strategy throughout the Asia region, and report in to Vice President & MD APAC Ben Angell.

Formerly Sales and Marketing Director for NCL when it was owned by Genting Hong Kong, Holland successfully grew the brand to become an established business throughout Australia.

With almost 30 years experience, Holland has also held roles such as Genting Hong Kong Vice President Sales, where he led the performance for NCL, Crystal Cruises, Dream Cruises, and Star Cruises across APAC.

Bolette maiden voyage



FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines' new flagship *Bolette* (pictured) has set sail from Dover on her scenic maiden voyage.

Bolette will offer a picturesque sailing of the Isles of Scilly and the dramatic coastlines of the Channel Islands on her maiden three-night cruise.

This milestone sailing follows an extensive refurbishment that has seen public areas revamped, cabins updated, new bathrooms installed and new carpets laid throughout, as well as introducing many new venues, including an

all-weather pool, a two-tiered theatre and The Auditorium.

The project also introduced popular Fred. Olsen venues such as the Morning Light Pub, The Bookmark Cafe, and The Oriental Tea Room.

There will be opportunities for guests to tantalise their taste buds in new specialty dining venues, including Vasco, a fresh, modern take on Indian food named after famous explorer Vasco Da Gama, and Colours & Tastes, offering modern Asian Fusion dishes.

Victory for cruisers

A **NEW** saving and zero down payment offer has been announced for Victory Cruise Line's biggest-ever program in 2023.

A saving of up to US\$2,000 per couple is available on 2023 expedition cruises in the Americas for those booking by the end of Oct.

Travellers will not need to pay a deposit until the end of Jan 2022, and will also benefit from substantial early bird savings, when booking through Cruise Traveller.

Adding to the value are a host of complimentary inclusions such as a pre-cruise hotel stay, all onboard meals and beverages, comprehensive shore excursions, port charges and ship gratuities.

Victory will debut a new deluxe expedition vessel in 2023, *Ocean Discoverer* (CW 06 May).

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PORTHOLE

POPULAR Norwegian Sea-based mammal Wally the Walrus is taking the pandemic easy, recently spotted relaxing on a small boat in Ireland (**pictured**).

New pictures posted to social media show the marine creature chilling out in a small pleasure craft in Crookhaven Harbour.

Unfortunately, Wally has left a trail of destruction in his wake, having caused thousands of Euros worth of damage and sinking at least two boats after picking them out as his resting point.



My dinner with Windstar



WINDSTAR Cruises and the James Beard Foundation have resumed and strengthened their culinary partnership.

The collaboration will see three themed cruises per year hosted by a James Beard Foundation-affiliated chef, beginning in 2022, with dates and chefs to be announced soon.

The themed cruises will include chef demonstrations, as well as a hosted four-course dinner.

Each of the chefs will provide recipes for the sailing, which will also be featured on Windstar's menus across the fleet and sailing regions.

The partnership also includes a variety of events and cross-marketing promotions, plus sponsorship status for the James Beard Awards in 2021.

Windstar has partnered with the Foundation for the past five years (*CW* 09 Feb 2017), and the new cooperation extends until 2025.

The Foundation's mission is to celebrate, support, and elevate those behind the United States' food culture, and champion a standard of good food anchored in talent, equity, and sustainability.

This mission aligns with Windstar's commitment to fresh and local epicurean experiences around the world.

Pictured right, Chef Jennifer Jasinski performs a culinary demonstration aboard a Windstar cruise in 2017.

Dream promotion

DREAM Cruises is spotlighting Singaporean brands in upcoming collaborations that will be available for purchase aboard *World Dream*, as part of the cruise line's newly-launched Support Local initiative.

The first collaborations will be with The 1872 Clipper Tea Co, The Animal Project, Creamier and Binary Style, and will be showcased in the latter part of next month.

Star Clippers packs

CREATIVE Cruising has launched four exclusive Star Clippers 2023 Europe packages.

Combining air, land, and sea, travellers will receive bonus value of up to \$1,800 per person on the packages.

Creative Cruising Head of Product Carina Mullen said these longer itineraries have been designed to inspire travellers to plan now.

"Cruising to smaller ports with the feel of being on your own private yacht when the sails unfurl is an experience not to be missed."

One of the packages visits Greece, Montenegro & Croatia, and departs 08 Jul 2023 aboard *Star Flyer*.

The package includes return airfares with Emirates, three nights in a 4.5-star hotel in Athens with breakfast, an 11-night cruise from Piraeus to Venice with breakfast and more - 1300 362 599.

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