



## Cruise Weekly today

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

## More vax changes

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line and Disney Cruise Line will now both require proof of vaccination for Florida sailings. "Effective 28 Aug through Oct for departures from all Atlantic and Gulf homeports, only children under 12 and adults with a medical condition that prohibits their vaccination are exempt from vaccination requirements to sail," Carnival said. Meanwhile, Disney will require all guests sailing to the Bahamas beginning 03 Sep until Nov to be fully vaxed. The Bahamas is requiring cruise lines to prove all eligible passengers are vaccinated from 03 Sep (CW 23 Aug).

## Future-focused cruise demand returning

### EXCLUSIVE

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) Senior Vice President & Managing Director Asia Pacific Steve Odell told *Cruise Weekly* advisors who look further out will find plenty of demand for cruise.

Odell revealed the appetite level in the market saw advisors who focused heavily on RSSC's recent 2023-2024 Voyage Collection do amazingly well for themselves.

The Collection's release saw records tumble, including RSSC's biggest-selling day since the opening of its Australian office in Oct 2015, and its biggest-selling day of all-time (CW 24 Aug).

"My advice to travel agents is to look further out, that's where the demand is," he said.

"There's higher demand at a higher price and longer trips, and there's a big opportunity in that for travel agents who are investing in the cruise business."



Odell said RSSC is almost sold out for next year, which is the reason it pushed out the '23-'24 Collection two months early.

"We need to get more options on the table for people, and I think you're seeing that broadly in the industry," he said.

"'22 is a well-booked year, and that's obviously a very positive sign there's still confidence in cruising, particularly from past customers who understand the value proposition."

Odell said he did not expect staterooms to stop walking out the door in Australia any time soon, with RSSC's new *Seven Seas Grandeur* (CW 23 Jun) going on sale on 22 Sep.

"We're expecting high demand for her locally, because our Australian regular guests gravitate toward new ships we put into service.

"I expect it won't be any different for *Grandeur*," (pictured) he added.

  
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**SINGAPORE** Airlines is chartering a cruise for its frequent fliers.

The airline has teamed up with Dream Cruises to operate *World Dream* on a two-night cruise to nowhere itinerary out of Singapore exclusively for KrisFlyer members.

It sails from 17-19 Nov, and KrisFlyer members will be able to redeem miles for the cruise.

Members can bag a Balcony stateroom for two by redeeming 50,000 KrisFlyer miles, or a Palace suite for 120,000 KrisFlyer miles, including all port fees and taxes.

All passengers must take a rapid antigen test at the port.

## Hurtigruten's Otto show



**HURTIGRUTEN** Expeditions has added a third battery-hybrid-powered ship, *Otto Sverdrup* (pictured), which departed on her maiden voyage from Hamburg on Tue.

*Otto Sverdrup* not only marked Hurtigruten Expeditions' cruising resumption, but also the introduction of the brand's third

battery-hybrid-powered cruise ship, and the institution of the first year-round expeditions from Germany, offering departures directly from Hamburg to the Norwegian coast.

Equipped with battery packs and other green technology, *Otto Sverdrup* was completely upgraded during the first half of last year, and was transferred from Hurtigruten Norwegian Coastal Cruises to the Expeditions brand, following her renaming from *Finnmarken* (CW 12 Jun 2020).

"We saw the travel industry's global pause as a golden opportunity to invest, upgrade and improve our ships and product," said Hurtigruten Expeditions Chief Executive Officer Asta Lassenes.

"We see a huge pent-up demand for travel, with substantial and growing demand for authentic adventure travel.

"We expect to see this trend to strengthen, as we continue to expand our global offering with even more unique and more sustainable experiences," she said.

## Cunard savings

**CUNARD** Line's Annual Savings Event will run from 01 Sep to 20 Nov offering guests a reduction of up to 20% on select voyages in 2022/2023.

Local voyages include a 28-night Australian Circumnavigation roundtrip from Sydney, from \$6,999, a 14-night Christmas Voyage roundtrip from Melbourne from \$4,049, and a 16-night Singapore to Sydney cruise from \$3,249.

Other highlights include a 13-night trans-Atlantic Crossing on *Queen Elizabeth*, a seven-night Norwegian Fjords cruise on *Queen Mary 2*, and a 19-night Japan and Alaska voyage.

For all itineraries, call 1800 707 116.

## Princess webinar

**PRINCESS** Cruises has announced the launch of a new edu-series PrincessPartners, designed to offer travel advisors the most up-to-date information on its return-to-service, including the onboard experience.

Host Key Account Manager David Craven will be joined by special guest Senior Vice President Sales & Marketing North America John Chernesky, who will give an exclusive insight into the resumption of cruising, after most recently sailing the maiden Alaska voyage onboard *Majestic Princess*.

**CLICK HERE** to sign up for the webinar, which will take place at 11am AEST on Tue.

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