



Cruise Weekly today

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

Emerald events

EMERALD Cruises' Virtual Travel Showcase starts 18 Feb, supporting travellers and travel advisors to plan and book their next cruise.

The information webinars will run throughout the next two months, on the topics of Europe and Southeast Asia river cruising.

There will also be the opportunity for a traveller to win \$2,500 toward a cruise with Emerald, in addition to accessing special offers and learning more about earlybird and super earlybird offers.

For more information, dates and times visit emeraldcrui.com.au/events.

SA welcomes the return of cruising

THE inaugural Coral Expeditions season in South Australia kicks off today, with authorities in the state saying the move is an "important step forward for the industry and the eventual safe return of cruise".

Coral Adventurer will undertake a 10-day voyage along the remote South Australian coast, and is the first ship to cruise in the state's waters for almost 12 months.

The South Australia itinerary follows a successful season by Coral out of Cairns last Oct (**CW** 28 Oct 2020), as well as the cruise line's recent deployment in Tasmania (**CW** 26 Nov 2020).

Operated under stringent conditions, the South Australian trip also sees the state welcome its first small expedition ship in more than a decade, according to South Australian Tourism Commission Chief Executive Officer Rodney Harrex.

"These ships provide a unique experience to explore remote nature-based locations that the bigger traditional cruise ships aren't able to," he said.

Passengers and crew will be required to complete COVID-19 PCR testing within 72 hours prior to boarding, undertake a GP health screening seven days before cruising and also complete a health declaration.

Medical staff will conduct daily health & temperature checks of passengers and crew members, with all shore visits having strict protocols in place, and minimal on-shore interaction with communities due to the itinerary's remote locations.

"With some of the most stringent health measures in place - over and above what's required to get on a plane or attend an event - and 12 successful Australian cruises

already under their belt, this is a wonderful opportunity to have Coral Expeditions expand its itinerary to include South Australian tours," Harrex said.

"This is good news for locals wanting to see more of our state and good news for our broader visitor economy, not only so we can grow the expedition sector in SA but so we can get a blueprint for the safe return of cruise when the time is right," he added.

Coral Commercial Director Jeff Gillies said he hoped that the SA itinerary could become a regular part of the cruise line's annual sailing season going forward.

CLIA Australasia Managing Director Joel Katz said the deployment was another important step forward for cruise in Australia, and showed the industry's strict health protocols can support a carefully managed cruising resumption.

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A PAIR of fishermen have been left "badly shaken" after a giant mako shark decided to make them work for their catch.

The duo of big-game fishermen were live baiting for marlin when they hooked what they thought was a small shark.

However, as they reeled it in, they realised how heavy it was, and perhaps perceiving it had the upper hand, the shark began to charge the boat.

"The next thing I felt this massive bang like we had just run into a ship and I said to my mate 'what the hell was that', and this bloody shark rolled off the roof and down the windscreen and on to the deck and then rolled off," one of the men said.

It is a gentle reminder that sometimes when you are catching fish, the fish may try to catch you.

Heritage solo offer

HERITAGE Line is currently offering a solo traveller promotion, waiving the single supplement charge on most of its cruising destinations and luxury ships.

Featured sailings include the three-night Upper Mekong journey, the seven-night Lower Mekong cruise, and the 11-night Ayeyarwady & Chindwin tour.

CLICK HERE for details and cruise departure dates.

APT Europe 2022 launch



APT has launched its European season for 2022, with a range of Superdeal savings and earlybird pricing available.

Highlights of the season include the best-selling 15-day Magnificent Luxury Europe river cruise between Amsterdam and Bucharest, starting at the special price of \$6,495 per person, twin share.

APT's Signature Experiences for this voyage includes a visit to Namedy Castle, a cocktail reception & concert at Stadtpalais Liechtenstein, and the Grand Empress steam train.

New for 2022 is the Emerald Ireland or The Festive Spirit of Switzerland, combined with the Magnificent Europe river cruise.

These two pre-cruise add-ons feature a trip around Ireland visiting Giant's Causeway, the Slieve League, a boutique whiskey distillery and a Celtic concert; or a Swiss voyage, visiting Christmas markets, and enjoying a drink in a glacier bar.

Travellers on these two itineraries will then cruise from

Amsterdam to Budapest on the 15-day Magnificent Europe river cruise.

Also new for 2022, all guests travelling on APT's Concerto river ships for the season will benefit from an onboard Wellness Host, who will offer fitness classes such as morning stretching, cardio, dancing and yoga.

On land, Wellness Hosts will lead active walks and bike rides.

To celebrate the launch, APT is offering earlybird pricing and a range of Superdeal savings for those booking before the end of May.

Travellers who book selected holidays that include a river cruise of 14 nights or more in select suite categories can fly Business class for \$2,995 per person.

Other Superdeals include a fly to Europe for \$995 deal, no solo supplements on select itineraries, and an early payment discount of \$500 per person when you pay for your holiday in full 10 months prior to departure.

To discover more, **CLICK HERE**.



CLIA UPDATE

with Joel Katz
MD, CLIA Australasia

Thank you

I WANT to thank all of you who have renewed your CLIA membership.

We know that there are still many challenges ahead for 2021, but we are grateful for your commitment to being the best trained, most professional cruise agents you can be with access to the gold standard in cruise industry educational content and resources.

You are in good company - more than 44,000 agents globally were part of CLIA in 2020, and they tell us the number one reason they join CLIA and renew, every year, is the credibility that comes with being a CLIA member and part of the cruise community, as we work to represent the interests of cruise and protect and enhance the industry and our members.

Members also join to access exclusive benefits designed for them to make money and save money, including the 2021 Rewards Program, and access to discounts and savings with leading brands.

Most importantly, CLIA membership affords you access to CLIA Professional Development, the definitive source for cruise industry training available.

When you are part of CLIA, you can use your CLIA certification as a competitive advantage to win more business.

So on behalf of all of us, thank you for being part of CLIA.

To find out more, or renew, **CLICK HERE** or email info-us@crusing.org.

