

A Taste of the Tropics in 2022/23

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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover page from Ponant.

Insurance mandate

ROYAL Caribbean (RCI) will require unvaccinated travellers on Florida cruises to have travel insurance.

As part of a number of changes to its vaccine policies, from Aug, passengers leaving from Floridian ports who are not vaccinated will be required to be insured, until at least the end of the year.

Policies must cover all unvaccinated guests over the age of 12 with at least USD\$25,000 per person in medical expense coverage and USD\$50,000 per person for quarantine and medical evacuation related to a positive test result.

Guests over the age of 16 sailing from American ports, except those in Florida are required to be fully vaccinated, and from Aug, the rule will apply to all guests over 12.

A Taste of the Tropics

PONANT is giving travellers a taste of the tropics in 2022/2023.

Luxury tropical expeditions including the Kimberley are now available - cover page.

P&O, Princess cancel



CARNIVAL Corporation's P&O Cruises Australia and Princess Cruises brands have extended their cruising pause in the country until mid-Dec (CW breaking news yesterday).

P&O Australia has cancelled its cruise holidays through 17 Dec, and Princess through 19 Dec, with both brands citing ongoing uncertainty around a pathway to resumption in the country.

Guests whose bookings have been affected will be notified of the pause and their available options either directly or via their travel advisor.

Princess said guests booked on a cancelled cruise will automatically be moved to an equivalent voyage next year at the same rate.

Alternatively, guests can choose a future cruise credit (FCC) equivalent to 100% of the cruise fare paid, plus an additional non-refundable bonus FCC equal to

10% of the cruise fare paid.

Guests can also opt for a full refund by the end of this month via the online form (CLICK HERE).

Princess will continue to protect travel advisor commission on bookings that were paid in full.

P&O Australia President Sture Myrmell said the cruise industry has been discussing a framework for the re-start of domestic-only cruising with govts and health authorities since Oct 2020, but thus far nothing has yet materialised.

"This is about the livelihoods of the thousands of individuals and small businesses, many family-owned businesses, who rely on the cruise sector.

"These businesses cover a range of activities such as the supply of fresh food, entertainment, shore tours, coach operators and marine engineering services," Myrmell said.

Pictured: Pacific Adventure.

CDC approvals underway for cruises

THE Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has given Royal Caribbean International (RCI) a tick of approval to begin both a revenue and test sailing.

RCI announced earlier this week *Freedom of the Seas* had become the first ship to successfully complete a simulated voyage and receive a conditional sailing certificate.

Freedom operated its simulated cruise last month, and will sail its first revenue cruise tomorrow from PortMiami to the Bahamas.

RCI also announced *Oasis of the Seas* has been approved for a simulated voyage from New Jersey on 22 Aug.

The CDC has now approved 11 ships to operate simulated voyages and another eight for revenue voyages.

Unfortunately, Disney Cruise Line announced the postponement of its first planned simulated cruise, a two-night voyage aboard *Disney Dream*.

Originally scheduled to depart yesterday from Port Canaveral with 300 employees as the volunteers, several crew members tested positive for coronavirus during the routine testing required by the CDC.

The cruise would have been the first with passengers from Port Canaveral.

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The July issue of *travelBulletin* is out now. Take a deep dive into the question of whether agents should charge service fees and read about cruising Europe and more.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*

Fiji cruise raffle

BLUE Lagoon Cruises and South Sea Cruises are holding a fundraising raffle, offering the chance to win a seven-night cruise, as well as a double day pass to Malamala Beach Club, with a FJ\$200 food and beverage voucher.

The goal of the raffle is to raise FJ\$15,000, and all of the proceeds generated will go directly toward relief assistance for staff unable to find work or generate income while awaiting the reopening of Fiji's borders.

This prize is valued at FJ\$12,668, and the winner will have until 30 Jun 2023 to use it.

Entries close at the end of the month - to enter the raffle, **CLICK HERE**.

Blue Lagoon Cruises & South Sea Cruises have continued to support their more than 300+ staff throughout the COVID-19 pandemic with more than FJ\$125,000 in relief assistance.

Approximately 125,000 people in Fiji are directly employed within, and rely on, the country's tourism industry.

Seabourn gets Sourcey



SEABOURN Cruise Line has expanded its Seabourn Source mobile application.


Accessible to all guests on a complimentary basis, and available to download prior to sailing, Seabourn Source helps guests to manage and plan their holiday, with intuitive, up-to-the-minute access to daily details of their voyage via smart phone, tablet or laptop.

During the planning phase of a trip, guests can view booked voyages & future cruise credits, as well as deposits and available onboard credits, browse and book shore excursions as well as spa & wellness treatments, view menus for different dining venues

aboard all ships, retrieve boarding passes, complete mandatory health questionnaires, and more.

Throughout their holiday, guests can review *The Herald* onboard newsletter and the schedule for the day's activities, scan the Seabourn Source Pass when leaving and returning to the ship in ports, manage & access shore excursion tickets through the app wallet, access the internet, review an onboard account, read newspapers and magazines, chat with fellow guests, and manage disembarkation arrangements.

After their cruise, guests can manage their Seabourn account, plan another cruise, or review past onboard statements.



PORTHOLE

THERE is now so much plastic pollution in the ocean the debris has become a rafting route for invasive species, threatening native animals with extinction.

The Steinhardt Museum of Natural History in Tel Aviv has found "mass rafting" events, such as that brought on by the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami in Japan, carried almost 300 of the country's marine species to distant shores.

While it is rare for these non-native species to successfully survive in a new environment, these aquatic organisms attaching themselves where they are not wanted has become known as "biofouling", and can result in the same effects as any other invasive species: the threatening of biological diversity, food security and human wellbeing.

Maybe think about that next time you stick a message in a bottle and innocently let it drift out to sea!



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