



Cruise Weekly today

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

Oceania incentive

OCEANIA Cruises has announced a new trade reward for travel partners, with any new bookings made between now and the end of next month earning an upfront bonus commission in the form of a \$150 Visa gift card.

This new incentive is valid on all sailings departing between 01 Jan 2022 and 31 Aug 2023 and will run in conjunction with Oceania's offer providing guests the flexibility of booking with a reduced 50% down payment until the end of next month, which is also combinable with the OLife Choice package.

To receive the gift card, down payments need to have been received by 07 Sep.

"This trade incentive, combined with the reduced 50% deposits, demonstrates our dedication to maintaining an industry-leading standard by offering incredible value," said Oceania Vice President Australia & New Zealand Jason Worth.

"This is yet another reason why Oceania Cruises enjoys one of the highest repeat cruise rates of any line."

To submit claims, [CLICK HERE](#).

Let's learn from Norway

HURTIGRUTEN has issued an open invitation to Clean Cruising General Manager Dan Russell to visit Norway and meet with the cruise line's leadership to "learn how to operate domestic and regional cruising effectively and safely".

Responding to Russell's proactivity in his repeated calls for Queensland to "break the cycle of inaction and become a leader in opening cruise to the local market" (CW yesterday), Hurtigruten's Managing Director Asia-Pacific Damian Perry (pictured) said he would also welcome "relevant politicians and genuine decision-makers" to see how Norway is opening up.

Hurtigruten now has all seven of its coastal ships operating in Norway on a full schedule.

"Stringent protocols are in place and operational procedures have been established...which have integrated management procedures, combining the expertise of health professionals on board and local authorities and health workers onshore," Perry said.

"Guests are returning in numbers and enjoying the fjords of Norway...we continue with our 34-port round trip operation and have been able to re-employ hundreds of staff and get people back to work.

"We have also been able to generate business opportunities and throw our support behind



our local partners and suppliers along the coast, restoring their business," he added.

The Melbourne-based Hurtigruten MD said that in pursuing Australia's unrealistic elimination strategy "our advisory groups, policymakers and politicians no longer have the ability to deliver solutions and remain in a paralysed state of inaction and indecision".

"If they are willing to learn from our mistakes we would happily assist and facilitate an opportunity to learn from a like-minded country on how to move forward, create jobs, personal wellness and get Australia moving."

In yesterday's open letter, Russell pointed out the ridiculous disparity between Queensland's immediate action to enable a National Rugby League bubble versus the state's reluctance to even engage with the cruise sector, saying that with the new \$200 million Brisbane International Cruise Terminal sitting idle, Qld has the opportunity to lead the nation's cruise restart.

No ships in Venice

THE Government of Italy has moved to ban cruise ships from passing through the centre of Venice.

Following the return of cruise ships last month, yesterday's decree maintains the temporary solution struck back in Mar, which forces large vessels to dock in Marghera, across the Venetian Lagoon (CW 31 Mar).

The order takes effect from next month, with the Port of Venice having launched a tender for the refurbishment of the docks a safe distance from the city centre, which will serve as a temporary port for the cruise ships.

The planned permanent solution is to build a new dock for large ships outside the entrance to the Lagoon which as of yet, has no timeline.

"This is a fundamental step to protect the environmental, landscape, artistic and cultural integrity of Venice," said Italy's Minister of Infrastructure and Transport Enrico Giovannini.

Cruise Lines International Association National Director Italy Francesco Galietti said the cruise industry has been supportive of a new approach for many years, "so this is a major step".

"We now look forward to progress being made toward the provision of alternative docking arrangements in time for the 2022 season."





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Fly the Flag for P&O

P&O Cruises Australia has launched the Fly the Flag campaign to support calls for a restart for domestic cruising.

The crusade enables Facebook users to change their profile picture to show their support with a special frame.

The push was inspired by one of P&O Australia's hard-hit suppliers, Inter-Marine Managing Director Graeme Blackman, who has been a partner with the cruise line since it was operating *Fairstar* in the late 1980s.

Blackman routinely flies the P&O flag outside his Mortdale workshop in Sydney.

Earlier this month, P&O and its fellow Carnival brand Princess Cruises extended their cruising pause in Australia until mid-Dec (**CW** 02 Jul).

Pictured: Hotel Director Kevin Boag sporting the Fly the Flag for P&O campaign Facebook frame.



Leisure abound on *Seashore*



MSC Cruises' *MSC Seashore* has revealed further details of its choice of leisure activities, including theatres, mall-style shopping, the casino, spa, swimming pools and more.

Around a third of the public spaces aboard *Seashore* have been reimagined, with a total of 13,000m² of outdoor space for guests.

Seashore's redesigned retail area is almost three-quarters larger than that of her sister ships, and includes a new multisensory fragrance bar.

MSC's upcoming flagship features a larger than ever casino, at more than 1,100m², with 182 slot machines, 12 tables and the latest gaming technology.

Entertainment amenities include full-size F1 and rafting simulators, and an XD cinema.

Seashore's aft pool (**pictured**)

has been redesigned to create an infinity pool, one of the largest at sea, which extends to the stern of the ship, with a glass wall offering uninterrupted sea views and submerged sunbeds.

The Jungle Pool has also been enhanced, with the area now spread over two decks, with an extensive magrodome able to be closed to create an indoor pool when needed.

Other features include an almost 1,000m² New York-themed piazza which covers three decks in the heart of the ship's vibrant Times Square, and features an 8.5-metre LED wall (**CW** 09 Jul), spanning four decks, on which passers-by will be greeted by a new scene every night.

For those looking to revitalise, the MSC Aurea Spa will feature professional hair and nail salons and a barbershop.



NZCA UPDATE

with Kevin O'Sullivan
CEO, NZCA

Opportunities in cruise

CHAIR Debbie Summers and I met with New Zealand Tourism Minister Stuart Nash two weeks ago, and it was an amicable discussion with time for us to talk through the options for the future regeneration of cruise.

Health is the biggest topic of course, and he undertook to liaise with his Cabinet colleagues to convene a group so we could discuss the considerable work that the cruise industry has successfully put into establishing health protocols that are already working very well (enabling the restart of cruise in much of the rest of the world).

The second major discussion topic is increased employment.

Cruise has been responsible for bringing many jobs to regional New Zealand, and the Minister asked about the creation of jobs on board ships.

For many years cruise lines have supported New Zealand's Maritime Schools, offering career opportunities for officer cadets, and this will continue and expand.

NZCA works with New Zealand educational institutions to help train future leaders in all parts of the cruise industry.

In the new age of cruising we will see many more local employment opportunities.



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Seattle-Alaska returns



THE Port of Seattle is preparing to welcome the return of Alaska cruising this week, with Royal Caribbean International's (RCI) *Ovation of the Seas* and *Serenade of the Seas* docking (pictured) in anticipation for the shortened season.

Starting Tue, *Serenade* will sail a seven-day Alaska itinerary, and in the coming weeks, Seattle will welcome more RCI ships, as well as vessels from Celebrity Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Carnival Cruise Line and Silversea

Cruises.

Ovation and *Serenade* are the first cruise ships to arrive in Seattle in 18 months, with the shortened season to see 84 round trip voyages to Alaska before the end of Oct, with sailings every day except for Weds.

Port of Seattle International Tourism Development Manager Patti Denny said the facility is looking forward to the return of passengers from Australia next year, and working with the travel trade to promote Washington cruise and stay itineraries.



FISHING is one of the (mostly) free pleasures of life, but one man's angling adventure will cost him big time.

A man has been fined for deliberately sinking a boat in South Australia's St Vincent Gulf to create a reef to attract fish.

The SA Environment Protection Authority (EPA) said CCTV showed the man using another boat to tow the now-sunken vessel from the O'Sullivan Beach Boat Ramp in 2018.

EPA officers found the boat used for towing at a Largs North address, where they also found a GPS location on a device at the house, which led them to the sunken eight-metre boat under 30 metres of water.

Both the EPA and commercial fishers say the act is an example of a growing problem of people creating artificial reefs to improve fishing opportunities - a practice which became illegal in 2016.

Play it again Crystal

CRYSTAL Cruises has announced new luxury Bermuda escapes for *Crystal Symphony*, which will become the first cruise ship to sail from Boston and New York City since the pandemic.

The seven-night cruises will round trip from Boston beginning 22 Aug and New York City starting 24 Sep.

The first four voyages will sail Sun-Sun from Flynn Cruiseport Boston, followed by nine Fri-Fri voyages from New York City's Manhattan Cruise Terminal.

The Luxury Bermuda Escapes will feature two days and two nights in the country, replacing *Symphony's* previously scheduled 10-night voyages to Antigua and St. Maarten (CW 12 May), which were cancelled due to ongoing uncertainty regarding ports of call and availability of adequate airlift.

Symphony will set sail with a reduced capacity, and with all guests and crew members vaccinated.

CLICK HERE for more information on the new sailings.



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Cruise Weekly is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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