



Cruise Weekly today

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

Aqua launches fourth ship



AQUA Expeditions has launched a new 20-suite luxury river vessel, *Aqua Nera*.

The new ship successfully embarked on its maiden voyage in the remote Peruvian Amazon from 03 Jul to 10 Jul.

In its maiden season, guests will sail on three-, four- and seven-night explorations into the depths of the world's largest tropical rainforest, in an exclusive journey hosted by the company's Chief Executive Officer and founder, Francesco Galli Zugaro.

The itineraries were tailored with once-in-a-lifetime experiences including encounters with exotic wildlife and exhilarating adventures ranging from jungle walks, spotting the Amazon river dolphin, piranha fishing, kayaking along the river's narrow black water tributaries, and more.

Nera is custom-designed by Vietnam-based architect and design firm, Noor Studio.

On board, guests will enjoy the spacious and elegant indoor (**pictured**) and outdoor lounges, a river-facing gym with the region's first designer boxing corner, an observation deck, a billiards room, a private lounge with movie screening facilities, a spa, and an outdoor plunge pool located at the bow of the ship for panoramic rainforest views.

Voyages on *Nera* start from USD\$4,125 per person, including all meals and beverages, all excursions, transfers to/from the vessel, flights, laundry service, and the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve entrance fee.

Nera is also available for private hire, starting from USD\$153,000 for 40 guests.

All crew members were tested for coronavirus for several days leading up to embarkation, and guests were required to present proof of a negative test result issued within 72 hours of departure.

They'll never take our cruises!

YESTERDAY saw the restart of domestic cruise travel in Scotland, with the Scottish Government's reduction of COVID restrictions to Level 0.

The first cruise ship to visit Scotland since early 2020, *Island Sky*, docked in Lerwick, in Shetland overnight.

Scotland last month stopped a cruise restart at the 11th hour, with the Government announcing the day before the United Kingdom's summer domestic cruise restart it had decided to keep its ports closed (**CW** 10 Jun).

However, in line with the United Kingdom's 'Freedom Day', cruising in Scotland will resume once again.

"Over the last year, the cruise sector has worked tirelessly with the Scottish and UK Governments and industry partners to develop and strengthen health and safety measures which now exceed those of any other travel sector and are the result of extensive collaboration," said Cruise Scotland Chairperson Rob Mason.

"The decision to resume cruise is a welcome encouragement for our Scottish ports and harbours with the wider supply chain now able to recommence operations, welcoming UK sailings and UK passengers".

CSO upheld by court

AN AMERICAN appeals court has blocked the ruling that would've suspended the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC) Conditional Sailing Order (CSO) (**CW** 21 Jun).

Last month, US District Judge Steven Merryday sided with Florida in the state's lawsuit against the CDC, finding it "highly likely" the national public health institute exceeded its authority in adopting rules governing the resumption of cruise ship sailing.

The latest block came about 10 minutes before the ruling, which would have made the CDC rules non-binding rather than mandatory, was due to take effect.

The CDC in May began approving some cruise operations after lengthy talks with the industry about health and safety protocols, with its CSO requiring at least 95% of passengers and nearly all crew members to be vaccinated to resume sailing without test cruises.

The CDC in its appeal earlier this month warned lifting the CSO could put travellers at risk (**CW** 08 Jul).

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2024 World Cruise

SILVERSEA Cruises has opened the pre-sale on its World Cruise 2024, as the cruise line witnesses “unprecedented demand” for extended voyages.

The 132-day Far East-West cruise aboard *Silver Shadow* will visit Australia, where guests will enjoy A Unique Night of Magic at Uluru, in which they will experience dinner under the stars.

In total, guests will visit 65 destinations across 14 countries throughout the Pacific.

Including the Australian land program, there will be 23 overnight stays for the cruise, which will depart San Francisco on 15 Jan 2024.

The round-trip itinerary will encompass most of the Pacific Rim, including Hawaii and remote Pacific isles.

Breeze blowing again



CARNIVAL Cruise Line’s *Carnival Breeze* returned to service from Galveston late last week (pictured), becoming the third of the company’s ships to resume guest operations.

Breeze departed on a four-day cruise from Galveston, following the earlier sailing of *Carnival Vista* from the coastal resort city.

Carnival Horizon also returned to sailing from Miami earlier this month.

The voyage visited Cozumel,

while five-day cruises departing on Mon and Sat will also call at Costa Maya and Progreso.

Later this month, *Carnival Miracle* will begin sailing Alaska cruises, and the line’s newest ship *Mardi Gras* will set sail for the first time from Port Canaveral.

President Christine Duffy said short cruises are very popular with Carnival’s guests, with roughly half of the cruise line’s fleet operating sailings of five days or less.

Cunard int’l return

CUNARD Line will return to international waters during the upcoming northern winter, with more than 40 new Grand Escape Voyages.

Visiting the Caribbean, Western Europe, the Baltic states, the Iberian Peninsula, the Atlantic islands and Asia, the season goes on sale tomorrow.

The voyages will range from two to 40 nights, visiting more than 49 destinations on board flagship *Queen Mary 2*, *Queen Victoria* and *Queen Elizabeth*.

Guests who book a Grand Escape Voyage by the end of Sep on a cruise of more than six nights will receive the Cunard Double Upgrade from Inside to Balcony, free onboard credit up to \$600 per stateroom, hotel and dining service charge included, reduced deposit, and more.

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Fred. Olsen canx

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has cancelled *Borealis'* next cruise amid technical issues.

The five-night Scenic Orkney & Faroes cruise was supposed to depart from Liverpool on Sat, but faced potential issues following upgrades.

"We recently upgraded our on board technology and although in our sea trials this worked perfectly, we have since identified a potential issue, which we are working hard to resolve," explained Fred. Olsen Managing Director Peter Deer.

Borealis will need to remain in Portsmouth while the work takes place, Deer said, adding all guests affected are being provided with regular updates.

A view of Vista's suites



OCEANIA Cruises has revealed the new suites and stateroom designs aboard its newest ship *Vista* (CW 25 May) due to debut in early 2023.

Aiming to set new standards for comfort and residential-style luxury, *Vista* will feature all veranda accommodations.

All staterooms and suites feature bathrooms with oversized rainforest showers, large vanities, and copious storage space.

Penthouse, Oceania, and Vista Suites will be ultra-spacious, with an abundance of living and dining space for entertaining.

Vista will also feature a new category of Concierge Level Veranda Staterooms, dedicated to solo travellers, which will feature extraordinary wardrobe and storage space, and a marble bath.

Concierge Level Veranda Stateroom guests will also enjoy a wealth of additional amenities, such as a dedicated Concierge Lounge, room service from The Grand Dining Room, and free laundry services.

Vista's inaugural season itineraries will open for viewing on 10 Sep, and go on sale the following week on 16 Sep.

Pictured: a Suite living room.



UNFORTUNATELY, many pets which received a home during the pandemic are now being let go as the world reopens, but it seems some species are thriving.

Authorities in Minnesota have warned the city's citizens not to release their goldfish into the wild, where they have been wreaking havoc on native species, and growing to more than a foot in length (pictured).



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The World stops

DREAM Cruises' *World Dream* has returned to Singapore, after a passenger on board tested positive for coronavirus.

World arrived back in Singapore only a few hours earlier than scheduled, after the passenger, who is fully vaccinated, returned the positive test.

All passengers were asked to return to their cabins upon receipt of the positive test, and all activities on board were stopped.

The passenger had tested negative in an antigen rapid test on the day of departure, Dream said, with the pax's three travelling companions identified and isolated.