



Cruise Weekly today

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

Coral Expeditions Tasmania cruise

CORAL Expeditions has released a new journey for next year, Tasmania's Bass Strait Islands.

The 13-night Hobart to Melbourne expedition aboard *Coral Geographer* explores the outlying island groups of Eastern Tasmania and the Bass Strait.

Departing 16 Feb 2022, the voyage will take in the wilderness regions of the Kent and Furneaux Groups, and the unique Australian wildlife at Maria Island.

Guests will enjoy a variety of day hiking options including the Fluted Cape walk, Bishop & Clerk, and spectacular Cape Hauy; part of the renowned Three Capes track.

The voyage will culminate with two days enjoying King Island, with special events along the way including a long lunch on King Island, and a visit to the award-winning Bangor Vineyard Shed for a gala dinner experience overlooking the Bangor vineyard.

Fares twin share per person start at \$9,490 - for more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Main Beach cruise surge



MAIN Beach Travel (pictured) is dealing with more forward bookings than pre-pandemic, with clients looking at longer voyages than before.

The travel agency recently contributed four 2024 Regent Seven Seas Cruises World Cruise bookings - an itinerary which sold out in less than three hours earlier this month (*CW* 12 Jul).

Director Mandy Dwyer told *Cruise Weekly* those who have not been able to spend any money on travel over the past 18 months are now looking to release their accumulation of disposable income.

"They haven't spent any money so they're prepared to spend more, go for an upgrade or longer cruising," Dwyer said.

"We've been very fortunate to pick up some great around-the-world bookings...in the past you

might pick up one per year, but we've been fortunate.

"We had quite a few other enquiries, some didn't come to fruition, but some went on another cruise line around-the-world, so it's definitely positive for the future."

Dwyer also noted different kinds of trends now emerging as the end of the pandemic nears, such as the utilisation of credits.

"[Travellers] are upgrading to better cabins...they haven't been anywhere for two years, so instead of a three-week European cruise they're going to do a grand voyage, or from a grand voyage to around-the-world," she said.

Although booking trends have changed throughout the pandemic, Dwyer believes a larger European cruise, combined with a river cruise or a land tour, will still prove most popular.

Int'l cruises okay from the UK

INTERNATIONAL cruises from England are set to restart from 02 Aug.

The move is part of a plan to relax isolation rules for arrivals from the rest of Europe and the United States, who will not have to quarantine as long as they have been fully vaccinated.

The Government of the United Kingdom said international cruise travel advice will be amended "to encourage travellers to understand the risks associated with cruise travel and take personal responsibility for their own safety abroad".

However, arrivals will still need to take a pre-departure test, and a PCR test on the second day after entry.

RCI policy extended

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) has extended its Cruise with Confidence program, allowing pax to cancel their cruise for a credit, until the end of Aug.

Guests can cancel up to 48 hours before their sail date in exchange for a 100% cruise credit when booking on or before 31 Aug for sailings departing by 30 Apr 2022.

The Best Price Guarantee program is also extended.

OFFER ENDS 12 AUG

READY. SET. BREAK FREE.

\$250 OFF

2022 CRUISES

5 free OFFERS

UP TO US\$2,900 IN TOTAL VALUE*



[LEARN MORE](#)

*Conditions apply.



THE French Navy is set to test a new "laser" weapon at sea.

The HELMA-P laser weapon system will be tested next year, after a demonstration of its destructive power took place earlier this month in a test centre.

The war on drones is the catalyst for the development of laser combat, with this month's test seeing an unmanned aerial vehicle destroyed by the weapon.

The laser is operated by a single user through a man-machine interface, and has the capability to reach targets up to 1km away - what's next, sharks with laser beams on their head?



Complete Norway

HURTIGRUTEN Norwegian Coastal Express' bestselling Complete Norway itinerary is now available to book for 2022/23.

From \$3,728 per person twin share, the 16-day self-guided Complete Norway tour showcases Norway's highlights while in search for the Northern Lights in winter, and the midnight sun during summer.

We knead cruising back



A POPULAR bakery in the historic Tasmanian town of Richmond is proof small businesses are part of the cruise industry's value chain.

The iconic Richmond Bakery's business has slumped by half since cruise ships stopped coming, and bringing their dozens of coachloads of pax per day.

"It has left a big hole for us because each year the number of cruise visitors was increasing so on cruise days we could average 12 buses because Richmond, being an historic town, was added on to a number of local tours," said proprietor Kim Kay. "It has hit us pretty hard especially from that Dec through to the end of Mar period when we received the bulk of cruise visitors."

"The tour coordinators and bus companies would send me the details of how many passengers to expect and I would distribute that information to the other places in Richmond so that they

could put on extra staff if they wished."

Carnival Australia President Sture Myrmell said The Richmond Bakery's experience was strong evidence the cruise economy was both deep and wide in terms of its reach and value.

Myrmell said Kay's circumstance confirmed many of the businesses that benefited from cruising were small family owned-and-operated enterprises.

Fred ATW 2024

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has unveiled its brand new 101-night Around the World Voyage aboard *Borealis* in 2024, which will visit Australia.


The cruise, which is setting sail from Southampton in Jan 2024, offers a wealth of once-in-a-lifetime experiences, including a visit to the Great Barrier Reef, and an extended overnight stay in Sydney.

Travellers will also stay overnight in Charleston, Auckland and Dubai, call into the historic cities of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, and step ashore in rarely-visited Alotau in Papua New Guinea.

Arguably the highlight of the cruise will be the opportunity to venture to the Taj Mahal in an extended, three-day overland tour from Mumbai.

Guests will also enjoy up to £600 per person to spend on board, which can be used towards a la carte dining in one of *Borealis'* specialty restaurants.

CLICK HERE for further information.



Travel Daily

LEARN MORE ABOUT VIKING WITH THE TRAVEL DAILY TRAINING ACADEMY

[Click here to discover](#)