







cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Thursday 25th March 2021

# Flights by Celebrity set to take off

**CELEBRITY** Cruises has launched its Flights by Celebrity booking platform, with the cruise line now including air travel.

Flights by Celebrity will provide flexibility, price guarantees and expert support on air ticketing through a dedicated team.

As well as helping streamline the process of booking and planning a holiday, the air program unlocks a multitude of agent benefits, including guaranteeing the lowest fares possible.

For those who book travel with Flights by Celebrity and find a lower fare within 24 hours, Celebrity will credit 110% of the price difference to spend on board the passenger's cruise.

Flights by Celebrity comes without any additional handling fees, and travellers will still be able to earn frequent flyer points. Celebrity Cruises Australia &



APAC Managing Director Tim Jones said its research shows travellers believe true luxury is a seamless experience with everything included.

"Following the introduction of Always Included earlier this year, Flights by Celebrity is the next step in ensuring agents feel supported through every stage of the holiday journey, delivering the very best experience for their clients," he said.

To celebrate its launch, guests who book a sailing from 16 Mar to 30 Apr can receive up to \$500 of airfare credit per booking, based on sail duration.

The offer extends to sailings across all destinations, excluding the Galapagos Islands, departing from Oct 2021 to May 2023.

### Cruise Weekly today

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

#### RCI to Bermuda

**NEW** Royal Caribbean International (RCI) sailings from Bermuda have been announced, beginning in Jun.

The seven-night cruises are the first time RCI has homeported in Bermuda, with the itineraries to feature visits to Perfect Day at CocoCay.

The new itineraries aboard *Vision of the Seas* will open for bookings on 29 Mar and depart from 26 Jun.

Sailing with vaccinated crews, the cruises are currently available to adult guests who are fully vaccinated against coronavirus, and those under the age of 18 returning a negative test result.



## Your Invitation

Together with Regent Seven Seas Cruises®, host your key clients at our newest series of Luxury Cruise Events.

Exclusive limited time offers will be available at the event.

**REGISTER NOW** 

DOWNLOAD AN EDITABLE EVENT INVITATION TO SEND TO YOUR CLIENTS OR REGISTER NOW USING THE LINK ABOVE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE.



Thursday 25th March 2021

## **NEED A DISTRACTION AMID THE DOOM** AND GLOOM?

Check out our daily puzzle page.





EGYPT'S Suez Canal has become blocked after a massive container ship ran aground yesterday.

The 400-metre-long Ever Given began to hold up traffic when it became stuck attempting to pass through the Canal while en route to Rotterdam (pictured).

According to witnesses, tugboats were sent to attempt to either pull or push Ever Given to dislodge her, to no avail.

A subsequent attempt to move the ship saw an excavator sent to attempt to dig out the bow.



## MSC group offer

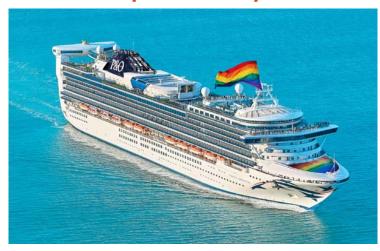
MSC Cruises is offering a group discount of up to 30%, and up to 40% on drinks

With the flexibility to change names free of charge up to 90 days prior to the cruise's departure, there is no upfront commitment fee for cabins.

MSC will also help generate bookings by holding information nights to promote the itinerary.

To be eligible there is an eight cabin booking minimum - contact your MSC Business Development Executive today, or call 1300 028 502.

## P&O pushes pride



P&O Cruises Australia will be flying the rainbow flag (pictured) on its inaugural Pride Cruise next year.

The celebratory weekend at sea has been created especially for members of the LGBT community, as well as their friends and family.

Pacific Adventure will depart Sydney on the inaugural Pride Cruise on 04 Nov 2022 and will return on 07 Nov 2022.

Joining P&O Australia for the sailing will be a raft of community organisations that support the LGBT community through health, wellbeing and social initiatives, including the Harbour City Bears, as well as the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation and its ambassador Simon Dunn, the first openly gay male to represent any country in the sport of bobsled.

P&O has partnered with a lineup of LGBT artists and comedians to develop the three-night cruise, headlined by comedy cabaret star Hans the German.

The sailing will also see Queer Screen showcase its first Queer

Screen @ Sea Film Festival.

P&O Australia President Sture Myrmell said the cruise line has long been a supporter of diversity and inclusivity.

"Our inaugural Pride Cruise is yet another reflection of our strong commitment to diversity and inclusivity, and we couldn't be prouder to include it in our 2022 offerings."

P&O Partnerships Manager Chris Rich said the sailing will celebrate love, compassion, respect and understanding through lectures, educational and spiritual events, same-sex marriages and wedding vow renewals.

"There'll be something for everyone - as well as the unique blend of love and laughter that makes the LGBTQIA+ spectrum so special," Rich said.

Guests can register their interest by **CLICKING HERE**.

Tickets go on sale from 9am AEDT on 07 Apr.

For more information visit pocruises.com.au, or call 13 24 94.



#### Trans-Tasman travel possible

IN NEW Zealand we are waiting on a date when two-way quarantine-free travel between New Zealand and Australia (by air) will become a reality.

The latest message from our Prime Minister is that government will advise after Easter a date for the resumption of air travel.

The airports and airlines need some lead time of course and it seems they are now gearing up for flights late in Apr.

This is great news for our tourism industry and for families on either side of the sea; and much more positive than we have become used to.

Lovely though it will be to come visit each other, it doesn't help cruise yet.

In Australia the ban on cruise ships has been extended again to mid-Jun, and in New Zealand it is indefinite.

To take advantage of potential cruise passengers flying in through New Zealand airports, the maritime border must be opened in both countries, not just to commercial shipping, but to cruise.

Opening the maritime border must now follow quickly on the heels of the trans-Tasman air bubble so we can prepare to sail once more.



cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz

Cruise Weekly is part of the Business Publishing Group family of

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

#### **FDITORIAI**

Editor in Chief and Publisher - Bruce Piper Associate Editors - Myles Stedman,

Contributors - Nicholas O'Donoghue info@cruiseweekly.com.au info@cruiseweekly.co.nz

#### ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au advertising@cruiseweekly.co.nz

**BUSINESS MANAGER** Jenny Piper accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia Tel: (AU) +61 2 8213 6350 or (NZ) 0800 799 220 Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220

Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter -Travel & Cruise Weekly - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.



Cruise Weekly is a publication of Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.