

#### cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 31st May 2021

## Cruise Weekly today

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

### ATG data check

**APT** Travel Group (ATG) has assured the industry it is not aware of any misuse, dissemination of disclosure of a "small subset of data" which may have been downloaded in a network intrusion.

The company, which last week advised travel agents it was experiencing communication issues, has confirmed preliminary findings of a "cyber incident involving unauthorised access to our systems".

An extensive investigation is under way, and in the meantime ATG's IT team, with the assistance of external experts, has now managed to return booking systems to operation and establish a special reservations email address which is now live at ATGreservations@outlook.com.

Authorities have been advised of the incident, with ATG saying it will work with law enforcement agencies and privacy regulators as required.

Access to the group's servers has been restricted, with the issue impacting the ability for ATG staff to work from home during the current lockdown in Victoria - more in today's *Travel Daily*.

# Vale Gavin MacLeod



**PRINCESS** Cruises has announced with a heavy heart the passing of its global ambassador, Gavin MacLeod (**pictured**), best known for portraying Merrill Stubing, the ship's captain on the *The Love Boat* from 1977-1986.

MacLeod, who had been part of the Princess family for almost 40 years as its global ambassador, appeared in a vast array of advertising campaigns for the cruise line, as well as countless public and media appearances for the company, distinguishing him as the longest-serving celebrity spokesperson and brand ambassador in history.

From his 10 seasons starring as Captain Stubing and for more than three decades following The Love Boat's final season, MacLeod enthusiastically shared his passion about the joys and adventures of exploring the world aboard a cruise ship.

MacLeod made two visits to Australia after *The Love Boat* series wrapped, including leading the 'love tour' in 2014, where he renewed the wedding vows of guests aboard *Sun Princess* leading into Valentine's Day.

The cruise line sends its heartfelt condolences to his wife Patricia and his entire family who have lost a loving husband, father and grandfather.

MacLeod, who celebrated his 90th birthday in Feb, always reminded his fans "cruising gives people something to dream about."

### EU river resumptions

**AMAWATERWAYS** and Crystal Cruises have both detailed their plans for a restart on Europe's rivers.

Sailing in Portugal from 03 Jul aboard *AmaDouro*, AmaWaterways will also return to France's rivers, such as the Danube, Saone, Seine, Rhine and Rhone throughout the rest of the month.

"We are so excited to see the situation in Europe evolving in a positive direction and are very optimistic about the new tourist entry requirements that will be officially announced in the coming days," said AmaWaterways President Kristin Karst.

Crystal will resume on 29 Aug, the line revealed in a letter to advisors, with no further details about itineraries - only that they would look different.

Instead, Crystal said it is assessing its final ship deployment for 2021, with further details to be communicated once decisions are made.

"I am pleased to announce that plans are well underway to resume river cruising in Europe beginning 29 Aug, as we are cautiously optimistic about the recent news from the European Union allowing entry for vaccinated travellers," said Crystal Senior Vice President & Managing Director Walter Littlejohn.







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#### **DESPERATE** to cruise?

CVS Pharmacy might send you on one if you get vaccinated! The United States-based pharmaceutical chain is throwing its weight behind President Joe Biden's push to get 70% of Americans vaccinated against coronavirus by Independence Day, promising prizes ranging from cruises to a trip to Super Bowl LVI in LA.

The scheme will run from Jun, and feature gift cards and prizes from Norwegian Cruise Line in a series of weekly sweepstakes.

Also up for grabs are prizes from consumer goods company Procter & Gamble and dating app Hinge.

The sweepstakes follow a promise from Ohio Governor Mike DeWine earlier this month offering baseball tickets and beer, as well as a \$1 million prize draw for those who got at least one vaccine dose.

#### **HAL Europe cruises**

**HOLLAND** America Line (HAL) has extended its Eurodam season in the Mediterranean, assuming previously scheduled Westerdam itineraries.

Following a series of four cruises to Greece in summer 2021, Eurodam will shoulder Westerdam's departures from 12 Sep, and will offer a dozen five-day itineraries in total, HAL said.





FLORIDA Governor Ron DeSantis (pictured) has said Celebrity Cruises' vaccine requirement "violates the spirit" of his emergency order, which prohibits businesses asking for proof of a vaccination as a condition of providing a service.

Celebrity intends to be the first line to offer cruises from the United States (CW 28 May), set to do so from Jun, but will require all passengers to be fully vaccinated.

That stipulation contravenes the "fundamental rights of Floridians - including the right to medical

privacy," according to DeSantis. "The policy would also be a

violation of Florida's recently enacted law banning vaccine passports," he said.

Celebrity is imposing the vaccination requirement in line with Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC) conditional return to service order, which stipulates cruise lines can operate without running test voyages if 95% of passengers and 98% of crew are vaccinated against coronavirus.

Despite the CDC's guidance, Florida has warned it could fine a company US\$5,000 for every person required to show proof of a vaccination.

Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings has already voiced fears about Florida's law, which could see cruise lines pull out of the state.

#### Tradewind package

A NEW package launched by Cruise Traveller adds a Blue Mountains adventure to an Australian coastal cruise aboard Tradewind Voyages' new Golden Horizon.

Those booking by the end of next month can save \$200 per couple on the journey from the Blue Mountains to Adelaide in Jan 2022.

The three-night stay in the Blue Mountains comes at the start of the 20-night package, with travellers also staying one night at a five-star hotel in Sydney before their 16-night sailing to Adelaide.

The South Australian and Tasmanian Adventure starts on 02 Jan 2022 - CLICK HERE.

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