# #wegotto80

# **CONGRATULATIONS AUSTRALIA!**

WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY, MORE THAN 80% OF US ARE NOW FULLY VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19.

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cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 8th November 2021

#### Cruise Weekly today

*Cruise Weekly* today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a **cover page** celebrating Australia's 80% COVID-19 double-vaccination milestone.

#### Hurtigruten makes new appointments HURTIGRUTEN has

announced the appointment of Dennis Basham to the newly created role of Regional Sales Manager.

Based in Brisbane, Basham brings extensive experience to the business, with his most recent role as Global Head of Marketing, Partnerships & Distribution at On The Go Tours.

Basham has also served as Country Manager for Back-Roads Touring, and as Scoot General Manager Australia, prior to which he spent 14 years in various Virgin Australia commercial roles.

Hurtigruten MD Asia-Pacific Damian Perry also announced the appointment of Joe Zou as Marketing Lead for China.

Based in the company's local Melbourne HQ, Zou has been in the inbound market for about 12 years, co-founding Oceania Travel Management.

Perry said more roles would follow shortly, with Hurtigruten currently seeking customer service and sales staff, as well as a PR Manager and more.

# National Cabinet "notes" cruise paper

A PAPER covering the possibility of reopening Australian waters to international cruise shipping was "noted" during a meeting of Australia's National Cabinet last Fri, as the key 80% double-vaccinated milestone was achieved across the nation.

It's the first mention of the "C"-word in a National Cabinet communiqué for some time, but the leaders also confirmed no recommencement would be able to take place until Minister for Health Greg Hunt has revoked the *Biosecurity (Human Biosecurity Emergency) (Human Coronavirus with Pandemic Potential)/ (Emergency Requirements for Cruise Ships)* legislative instrument.

No time frame was given for such a revocation, although unless it is renewed following the quarterly pattern of the last 20 months, the existing determination is set to expire effective from 17 Dec.

However, once the federal ban is lifted, "National Cabinet noted that states and territories will control the recommencement of cruises in each jurisdiction".

**MEANWHILE** Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has reiterated the urgency of a recommencement, this morning releasing a new video highlighting the industry's readiness for a careful resumption, as part of its ongoing Ready Set Sail campaign. "This latest campaign JUST GET ○N WITH IT

targets cruise guests and local communities to show how much work has been done by cruise lines and the need for action from governments," said CLIA Managing Director Australasia Joel Katz.

"We are encouraging our supporters to share the video and tag Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet and other state leaders," he said.

CLIA noted the number of passengers who have sailed worldwide since ocean cruise operations resumed last year had now passed three million, with more than 50 countries once again welcoming cruise vessels. With more than 80% of the global passenger cruise ship fleet set to be operational by next month, Katz said this "remarkable achievement...shows the effectiveness of the cruise industry's new health protocols introduced in response to the global pandemic".

However Katz said although CLIA has made enormous progress in other countries, govts in Australia are still yet to agree on plans for a local revival.

"International cruise operations are still suspended and tens of thousands of jobs are in doubt, while we have no clear indication from governments on a path to revival," he said.

The video is now live at cruiseweekly.com.au/videos.



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#### Ponant event

**PONANT** is hosting a *Le Commandant Charcot* live online event Thu week.

The cruise line's Craig Farrell and Alastair Newton will host the event on 18 Nov at 4pm AEDT, detailing their recent journeys aboard *Le Commandant Charcot* (*CW* 08 Oct).

Those in attendance will get access to exclusive offers, as well as the chance to win prizes.

**CLICK HERE** to register. **MEANWHILE,** Ponant recently organised the world's first international rescue exercise in a remote polar zone aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*, during a trial voyage to the North Pole (*CW* 29 Oct).

The one-off on-site scenario was live, and coordinated between Ponant's on-board and head office teams.

# Viking expands 2023

VIKING has announced new expedition voyages for 2023, with new itineraries to include additional offerings in the Americas, such as an immersive two-week journey exploring the Great Lakes.

Debuting in Jun 2023, the new 15-day Great Lakes Collection itinerary will sail between Toronto and Duluth, providing guests with a complete view of the region.

Three additional expedition voyages the Americas will also debut in the northern summer of 2023: the 16-day Canada & the Atlantic Coastline itinerary, which will expand offerings along the St. Lawrence River and Atlantic coastline, featuring destinations such as Quebec City, Trois-Rivieres, Norfolk, Charleston, and more

Guests can also discover the natural beauty of Patagonia while

sailing from Santiago to Ushuaia on the new 14-day Patagonian Shores & Chilean Fjords itinerary, while passengers looking to explore destinations in North, Central and South America can choose the new 18-day itinerary Panama & Scenic South America.

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As a result of strong demand, Viking has also announced 2023 sailing dates for four existing Great Lakes expedition voyages: the eight-day Niagara & the Great Lakes, the eight-day Great Lakes Explorer, and the eightday Undiscovered Great Lakes itineraries; as well as the 13-day Canadian Discovery itinerary.

Viking also recently released a new ocean itinerary for later this year, the 17-day Hawaiian Islands Sojourn (**CW** 27 Oct), which invites travellers to celebrate Christmas and welcome the new year in the state.

#### A Dreamy year

**DREAM** Cruises has celebrated its one-year milestone in Singapore with *World Dream* on Sat.

CLICK HERE

The cruise line pioneered safe cruising in Singapore on 06 Nov 2020 (*CW* 12 Nov 2020), and *World* has since welcomed close to 200,000 Singapore residents aboard, with more than 150 Super Seacation voyages to date.

Bookings for *World* continue to show a positive trend, as most sailings for the next two months are almost sold out, complemented by a strong momentum early next year.

"It's been a remarkable journey and memorable experience so far for many of us here at Dream Cruises and on *World*," said President Michael Goh.

"This month is truly special," he added.



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# FACE-2-FACE: Julie Pratt

Sales Manager VIC/TAS/SA, Silversea Cruises

## 1. What is your favourite part of your job?

I love working with the Trade to build their ultra luxury cruise business.

It is so great to hear the amazing feedback I receive from their clients who are regulars of Silversea.

## 2. What attracted you to a career in the cruise industry?

Having been in the travel industry for many years I have attained a diverse array of skills and experience, however, have felt I was in need of a challenge and hadn't worked in cruising before.

Being here now seven months I have learnt so much and am still learning, which I love.

#### 3. What is key to success in the cruise industry?

Being as knowledgeable as possible about the brand, and honest if I don't know the answer (before finding it always learning).

#### 4. How has COVID-19 changed the way you do your job?

I am based in Victoria. Our head office is in Sydney and currently I am working from home, however, with Zoom and over-the-phone meetings, I still keep in touch with my



key business partners.

Nothing beats being out on the road and visiting agencies face-to-face.

# 5. What was your best fam trip?

Oblivious to the fact that the pandemic was about to hit, I was fortunate enough to participate on a River Cruise down the Danube.

It was amazing and my first introduction to river cruising. The food, wine and group I travelled with made it the most memorable fam trip ever.

# 6. How do you wind down after a busy week?

Pour a nice glass of Pinot Gris, put my feet up and research my next holiday destination.

7. The celebrity you would most like to cruise with?

Michael Buble so he can sing to me the whole time.

# 8. When not at work, how do you spend your time?

Exercising, catching up with friends when we are allowed, Netflix and hanging out with my two little boys.

#### RSSC R-E-S-P-E-C-T

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has unveiled its inaugural travel advisor appreciation month this Nov.

The Regent Loves Travel Advisors initiative will run for the duration of the month, and recognise the stellar work of Australian agents throughout the pandemic.

Rewards and incentives available for advisors include a \$100 Visa gift card for every new deposited booking throughout the month, Double Gold Cinema passes given away daily on RSSC's Facebook Group (**CLICK HERE**), fine food hampers for up to 35 outstanding travel partners, and framed *Seven Seas Grandeur* posters signed by President & Chief Executive Officer Jason Montague.

The month will also culminate in three travel advisor lunches to be hosted in Melbourne and Sydney by the Regent Seven Seas Cruises sales team.



**DISNEY** Cruise Line has announced when its newest ship *Disney Wish* debuts in next year's northern summer, she will feature a super-powered family competition based on the characters of *The Incredibles*.

The Incredi-Games will be located in *Wish's* Hero Zone, a futuristic sports arena where Disney passengers are encouraged to take on a new kind of active family play.

The attraction will be an interactive game show which dares families to take on an obstacle course with physical challenges themed to the powers of *The Incredibles'* Parr family and their friend Frozone.

Guests will be able to test themselves, with feats of strength such as busting through a "brick" wall with Mr. Incredible's "power punch".

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Applications close 12th November 2021.

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