







cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Wednesday 6th October 2021

DTWM cruise closure

THE Australian office of Discover the World Marketing (DTWM) has announced the difficult decision to close down its cruise department, due to the ongoing effects of the pandemic.

Country Director Jeannie Foster told CW the sad move would be effective from this weekend. with existing bookings continuing to be serviced via the main reservations@discovertheworld. com.au email address.

The cruise division operated under the Discover Travel Shop brand, a Traveltek-powered portal featuring several cruise lines.

The agent-facing site promised competitive commissions, access to live inventory and pre-packaged itineraries, and highlighted the Discover the World team's long expertise in cruise and CLIA accreditation.

Foster stressed all other channels of the Discover The



World operation remained open for business, but no new bookings would be taken for the cruise lines represented.

Discover The World is a local GSA partner with Celestyal Cruises, Hebridean Island Cruises and Variety Cruises, and also has wholesale partnerships in place with Aqua Cruises, Ponant, and Sea Cloud Cruises.

"It's time to consolidate our business and build on our growth channels of business in Australia," Foster said.

"We have loved working with all our long-standing relationships with our cruise partners, and are saying goodbye in Australia only, as Discover will continue working with them in other parts of the world where we represent them."

Resolution delivery

LINDBLAD Expeditions has accepted delivery of National Geographic Resolution from Ulstein Verft, marking the official completion of the cruise line's second polar newbuild.

Present at the handover ceremony in Ulsteinvik for the official signing were Lindblad Senior Vice President New Buildings Nikolaos Doulis, and Ulstein Verft Project Director Kenneth Pettersen.

Resolution is now ready to set off for her inaugural polar voyage on 17 Nov to Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands.

The state-of-the-art 126-guest Resolution features the Ulstein X-BOW, which provides fuel efficiency while significantly improving guest comfort in rough seas, and is PC5 ice-class.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Are you for Rio?

BRAZIL will authorise the return of cruise ships, with the country's Ministry of Tourism announcing the resumption of sailings from next month.

The next step will be detailing an operational plan for the ships, with Brazil now working with ports of call, and the National Health Regulatory Agency defining sanitary protocols, which will be announced soon.

Preliminary plans call for ships operating with reduced capacity, COVID-19 testing for all passengers prior to boarding, vaccinated crew, use of face masks onboard and more.

Shore excursions will need to be organised by the cruise lines in a bubble format.





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Costa introduces a "new way of travel"

CARNIVAL Corporation's Costa Cruises will present "a new way of travel", as the line renews its offering with a focus on three specific themes - cuisine, touring and sustainability.

The concept is in line with the principles of Costa's "manifesto for value-driven, sustainable, and inclusive tourism", and will be explored both on board and ashore.

Partnerships with chefs Bruno Barbieri, Helene Darroze and Angel Leon will lead Costa's culinary revolution.

The three have explored authentic local recipes from the destinations visited by Costa ships, reworking them with their own personality, resulting in two major new features.

Destination Dishes, which are individual recipes designed by the chefs, interpret the traditions and flavours of the port the guests will be visiting the following day.

They are available at main restaurants, and will be included in the price of the cruise.

The new Archipelago restaurant gives guests a unique culinary experience with three menus to choose from, one by each chef, offering five dishes created to explore each part of the sea route through its cuisine.

Archipelago is currently only available on flagship Costa Smeralda (pictured), but will be coming soon to other ships in the fleet.



Both culinary concepts feature a focus on sustainability, with ingredients sourced from local producers, and prepared in order to prevent food waste.

Archipelago's "island" tables are also framed by a copper sculpture enclosing pieces of driftwood which were salvaged from the

For every dinner eaten at Archipelago, Costa will donate part of the proceeds to the Costa Crociere Foundation to support environmental projects.

Costa has also rethought its entire tour range to enable guests to explore hidden and rarely visited gems.

Itineraries have been redesigned to accommodate longer stopovers in ports, giving guests more time to explore their destinations.

With the exception of Archipelago, the new concept is available now aboard Costa

Deliziosa, Costa Diadema, Costa Firenze, and Costa Luminosa.

Innovations will soon be extended to the next ships to gradually return to operation, including new flagship Costa Toscana, the second LNGpowered ship in the fleet, entering service from Mar.

"Now our ships are sailing again, we decided to completely renew our offer," explained President Mario Zanetti.

"The innovations are so significant that we can talk about a whole new way of travelling with Costa.

"We want everyone who holidays with us to enjoy unique, enriching experiences".

The cruise line's new concept will be buttressed by a new visual identity, including a new logo, which reshapes the iconic 'C' which has been accompanying Costa across the world's seas for more than 70 years.

Crystal World Cruise

CRYSTAL Cruises' 'Celebrated Cultures & Treasured Temples' 2024 World Cruise is now open for sale.

Embarking in Miami aboard Crystal Serenity on 05 Jan 2024, this epic 105-night adventure features 49 ports of call in 22 countries and destinations including Australia, as well as the Panama Canal, Mexico, French Polynesia, the South Pacific, New Zealand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, the Red Sea, the Suez Canal, Cyprus, Crete and Sicily.

This sailing marks Crystal's 27th World Cruise, and visits 45 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, from the Buddhas of Mumbai's Elephanta Caves to the Land of Frankincense in Oman and the Paphos Mosaics in Cyprus.

Celebrated Cultures & Ancient Temples can be enjoyed as a 105-night World Cruise from Miami, or as an 89-night World Cruise from Los Angeles, both ending in Rome.

The itinerary is comprised of seven unique 13- to 18-night segments, which can be combined for customised regional explorations.

Fares for the Full 2024 World Cruise include Air Credit of \$1,000 and up to USD\$17,250 Book Now Savings.

Each guest will also receive As You Wish shipboard credits of up to \$2,000 per guest.



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AUSTRALIANS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL WHEN WE REACH 80% OF THE POPULATION VACCINATED, SO LETS

#givetravelashot #letsgetto80





YOU'VE heard of "two ships passing in the night", but this is ridiculous.

While the sun had not quite set, quests on board both Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines' Bolette and Borealis recently experienced a similar phenomenon, as the two ships passed by each other in the Atlantic Ocean (pictured).

Bolette was sailing south to Cadiz, while Borealis was cruising north to A Coruna.



MSC's European winter



IN AN MSC Cruises-first, MSC Magnifica (pictured) will offer seven-night northern winter European getaways this season.

Following on from the success of its Northern European season this northern summer, the new winter program will feature

access to five European cities starting from 14 Nov: Hamburg, Southampton, Le Havre, Zeebrugge and IJmuiden.

With extended calls of up to 12 hours, guests can travel to some of the global cities accessible from these ports, including London, Paris, Bruges, Brussels and Amsterdam.

Embarkation will be possible in each port, ensuring that there are plenty of convenient connections close for guests.

MEANWHILE, MSC has extended the Ready to Sail onboard credit promotion, as well as its flexible booking policy.

Ready to Sail is valid on all departures from 01 Mar 2022 to 06 Dec 2022.

This promotion now ends on 14 Nov, as does the flexible booking policy, which enables guests to reschedule their cruise free of charge up to 15 days prior to departure.

The policy is valid for all sailings taking place on or before 30 Sep



Australia falls further behind

AUSTRALIA has become even more isolated among cruise nations over the past week.

China has welcomed its first local sailing since the start of the pandemic, and Brazil and South Africa have both announced they'll resume cruise operations within weeks.

These milestones show yet again how far behind the rest of the world Australia has fallen and how little progress our governments have made towards confirming a plan for cruising's careful revival.

Given Fri's announcement Australians will be able to travel overseas sooner than expected, we now face the ridiculous possibility that we'll be able to travel to other countries to cruise but won't be able to sail in our own waters.

This is not only an absurd scenario, it also means valuable cruise tourism will head overseas while the jobs of more than 18k Australians remain in jeopardy.

Almost 2 million people have now sailed in dozens of countries around the world where cruising has resumed, yet in Australia governments are still failing to engage in meaningful discussions about how we can achieve similar success locally.

CLIA and our cruise line members are continuing to lobby hard for a phased resumption.



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