



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### MSC to zero by '50

MSC Cruises has pledged to achieve net zero emissions from its operations by 2050.

The cruise line has signed the "Getting to Zero" coalition's call to action to help accelerate the decarbonisation of shipping.

MSC is also involved in several industry leading research projects exploring technologies and fuels offering the potential to decarbonise ship operations.

The target will cover both MSC Cruises and the new luxury Explora Journeys brand, and goes beyond the International Maritime Organization's own ambitions.

## Celebrity Edge to cruise Down Under

**CELEBRITY** Cruises this morning revealed its *Celebrity Edge* will make her first trip to the Southern Hemisphere in 2023/24, undertaking a series of voyages from Sydney, as well as Auckland, between Dec 2023 and Apr 2024 (**CW** breaking news).

The cruise line's Vice President & Managing Director Australia & APAC Tim Jones said *Celebrity Edge* had changed how people view a cruise holiday.

"She is in a class of her own with a plethora of firsts onboard.

"We have long anticipated her arrival to the region - this is a moment of real celebration for Australian travellers and Celebrity Cruises," he said.

Sales for the season will open mid-Oct, with itineraries including themed getaways under 'Sun and Beach Escapes', 'Food and Wine Classics' and 'Five Star Getaways' and featuring overnights in



Cairns, Hobart and Auckland as part of a 22-port destination lineup.

As well as trans-Tasman cruising the season will also offer a South Pacific itinerary taking in New Caledonia, Vanuatu & Mystery Island.

On board, *Edge* features a host of innovations including 29 restaurants, bars and lounges, an immersive wellness offering, modern two storey villas with plunge pools and of course the shipside Magic Carpet venue cantilevered over the ocean.

The move realises a long-cherished ambition of former Celebrity Asia Pacific chief Susan Bonner, who prior to taking up her local role (**CW** 28 Jun 2018) was heavily involved in the development of the Edge fleet.

Celebrity Cruises Chief Executive Officer Lisa Lutoff-Perlo said *Edge* was a "luxury boutique hotel, Michelin-quality dining, a luxurious spa retreat with the world at your service.

"We are so excited to offer such a truly special vacation experience Down Under."

  
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## Crystal vax rule

**CRYSTAL** Cruises has extended its vaccination requirement through next year.

The cruise line is the first major operator to announce a guest and crews vaccine mandate through next year, for its entire river fleet, ocean ships *Crystal Serenity* and *Crystal Symphony*, and expedition yacht *Crystal Endeavor*.

President Jack Anderson said protecting the health and safety of Crystal's guests and crews is paramount, and extending its vaccination requirements through 2022 is the next step to continue to safeguard the health and wellness of the Crystal family.

## WA rebrand

**WESTERN** Australian marine tourism companies Broome Cruises, Mandurah Cruises and Rottnest Cruises are set to be brought under a new parent company Sea West.

The new firm will also be expanding its fleet, with South West Cruises due to start culinary tours early next year.

Operating out of Dunsborough in the Margaret River region, Sea West will offer culinary and catch-and-cook experiences, BBQ boating cruises, luxury experiences and on-deck cooking classes.

## More Carnival Aus canx

**CARNIVAL** Corporation's P&O Cruises Australia and Princess Cruises brands have both extended their pauses until Jan.

The decision means P&O Australia's Melbourne summer season has been cancelled entirely, as have *Royal Princess* and *Sapphire Princess*' local seasons.

P&O said it is no longer feasible to deliver the Melbourne season because of the latest biosecurity extension, with the cruise line's President Sture Myrmell acknowledging the decision would dash the hopes of many travellers.

"We recognise this is disappointing for our guests who were looking forward to cruising with friends and family over Christmas and New Year, however, we wanted to make this announcement as early as possible to ensure they could plan with certainty for the holiday period," he said.

P&O's pause will also apply to cruises scheduled to depart from 18 Dec through to 14 Jan for Brisbane, and 18 Jan for Sydney.

"I would like to once again thank our guests for their loyalty and support," Myrmell added.

"We look forward to the day when we can welcome guests back onboard to celebrate these special events on the holiday calendar."

Princess announced it will be extending its pause in Australian

cruise vacations until 27 Jan 2022 due to the uncertainty around the return of cruising in the region.

In addition to *Royal* and *Sapphire*, *Coral Princess*' voyages through 17 Jan are also cancelled.

"It became apparent we would not be able to deliver planned deployment of *Royal Princess* and *Sapphire Princess* in Australia before they were due to start their published northern hemisphere voyages," said Princess Chief Commercial Officer Deanna Austin.

"We recognise that guests planning cruises over the popular summer and New Year holiday period will be particularly disappointed with the changes, however, we wanted to give guests as much notice as possible so they could plan their holidays with certainty."

For guests booked on a cancelled Princess cruise, they have the option to move to an equivalent sailing, with the traveller's fare protected on their replacement sailing.

Alternatively, travellers can choose a future cruise credit (FCC) equivalent to 100% of the cruise fare paid plus an additional non-refundable bonus FCC equal to 10% of the cruise fare paid, or a full refund.

P&O guests whose bookings have been affected will be notified of the pause and options available either directly or via their appointed travel advisor.



## THE GREAT TRAVEL DAILY BAKE OFF

Bake along with us in September, with different recipes each week.

Send us a picture of your baked goods, along with any extra tips or secret ingredients or variations, and the best one will win a \$50 gift voucher. Email [bakeoff@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:bakeoff@traveldaily.com.au)

This week's recipe:  
**CHOC CHIP COOKIES**



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CATO is forging its own future with a new constitution, accreditation scheme and other reforms. Read more in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.



**A NORTH** Carolina fisherman has found a stolen BMW in a lake using his sonar technology.

The fisherman spotted something very odd and large on his sonar as he was cruising along Lake Wylie outside Charlotte last month, and reported it to the local police.

A further investigation by the county sheriff determined there was a car sitting six metres down, and last week, a multi-departmental operation recovered the vehicle.

The BMW 5-Series was reported stolen from Charlotte in 2017.

## Croisi seas Red

**FROM** Nov to Mar, CroisiEurope will offer an 8-day cruise between Egypt and Jordan on the Red Sea.

*La Belle de l'Adriatique* will visit iconic ports of call such as Luxor, Petra, Wadi Rum, Ras Muhammad National Park, and Hurghada.

The program will also offer a three-day pre-cruise itinerary in Cairo to discover the Great Pyramid of Giza, as well as The Egyptian Museum.

There will also be two unique cruises to celebrate Christmas and New Year's Eve, with special itineraries of 11 and 12 days with two free excursions to the Monastery of Saint Anthony and Dendera Temple complex - [CLICK HERE](#).

## FACE-2-FACE: James Sitters

Business Development Manager  
- QLD/WA/SA/NT, Oceania Cruises



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

Educating our amazing trade partners on our wonderful product and seeing their cruise aspirations come to life. Also, hearing from our loyal past guests on their life-changing experiences that they have encountered while cruising with Oceania.

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

After nearly 18 years within the travel industry in a variety of roles, Oceania Cruises seemed to be the perfect fit for my style of cruising and travel.

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

Selling the right product to your clients. There is no better compliment than having a high volume of repeat clients on your database.

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

It absolutely has – there would not be one person within the travel industry that hasn't been affected in one way or another.

### 5. What is the best thing to say to people who are hesitant to cruise?

Oceania Cruises is undertaking a plan for a healthy return to service that protects our guests, crew and communities. The SailSAFE

Health and Safety Program creates multiple layers of protection against COVID-19.

### 6. What was your best fam trip?

It definitely has to be visiting Tahiti, onboard Oceania Cruises' *Marina*, in Mar 2019.

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

I like to spend some time with the family outside at one of the hundreds of amazing beaches or parks along the Gold Coast, followed by sinking a few refreshing ales.

### 8. The celebrity you would most like to cruise with?

Carl Barron – who doesn't love a wholesome belly laugh?

### 9. What should the cruise ship of the future look like?

Smaller ships, energy efficient, environmentally friendly and health and safety paramount for our guests and crew.

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

We are currently renovating our house so that keeps me very busy in my spare time, but outside of that, all the great things that the Gold Coast has to offer – beaches, surfing, golf, football, live events, bars and a wide variety of restaurants. Hopefully travelling again soon too!

ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND CLIENTS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM COVID-19 AND HELP AUSTRALIANS BE ABLE TO TRAVEL BY GETTING VACCINATED.

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