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cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 4th April 2022

Win a spot on a Silversea famil

SILVERSEA Cruises is inviting travel advisors to win an ultraluxury polar adventure.

Ten spots are up for grabs on the famil, which is valued at \$19,350 per person.

For information on how to qualify for this famil, head to page 3.

Break free with NCL

IT'S time to break free with Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL)!

Travel advisors who book their clients on a Norwegian Spirit cruise in Australia can score double rewards - up to 70 points for every reservation made this month, and up to 35 points on all other sailings booked in Apr.

Start your rewards journey with NCL today by visiting the cover page.

WA cruising to resume **CRUISING** will resume in Western Australia in a staged manner in just under a fortnight, the state has announced (CW

breaking news yesterday). Smaller interstate expedition vessels will resume cruising in Western Australia from 17 Apr, the date on which the federal human biosecurity emergency period expires (CW 16 Mar).

Ships with up to a maximum of 350 persons can recommence with a range of safeguards, which crucially allows expedition cruise lines such as Ponant and Silversea Cruises to operate their Kimberlev season.

Plans to enable the return of larger cruise ships to Western Australia will take place from Oct, ahead of the country's largest vessels heading Down Under for their local summer season. All cruise ships operating in Western Australia will be required to have a COVID-19 management plan prior to undertaking itineraries in the state's waters, and under WA's border requirements, all crews and passengers will be required to be double-vaccinated, and if eligible, have received a third dose.

Cruise Lines International Association's local Managing Director Joel Katz hailed the decision, telling Cruise Weekly "confirmation that international expedition vessels will be able to return to WA in a carefully managed, phased manner, beginning with the upcoming Kimberley season, is a huge relief for the many travel agents, tour operators, hotels and restaurants, food and beverage suppliers, and regional communities who rely on the cruise industry".

There were 106 cruise ship visits to WA in the 2019-20 season, generating \$261.9m for the state.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise news, a front cover from Norwegian Cruise Line plus a full page from Silversea Cruises.

Ponant is ready

PONANT Chair Asia-Pacific Sarina Bratton has applauded the Western Australia and NT govts for their agreement to a staged restart - a relief for 4,000 booked guests.

"This certainty is a huge boost to our suppliers, ground operators, hoteliers, indigenous communities, our local Australian crew members who we engage in the Kimberley and importantly our travel industry," Bratton said.

"We can't wait to deliver exceptional expedition experiences in Australia's North West."



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Monday 4th April 2022



UKRAINIAN refugees in the Netherlands will use a Holland America Line cruise ship as a floating shelter.

The line has docked Volendam in Rotterdam, where it will begin a three-month charter agreement with the city to house refugees currently staying in hotels.

Holland America has agreed to provide three hot meals per day, private rooms, housekeeping services, fitness facilities and internet access to the temporary residents.

The charter is part of the Netherlands' commitment to accept 50,000 refugees fleeing from the Russian invasion.

The displaced will start moving onto *Volendam* next week.

Silversea's new Dawn

SILVERSEA Cruises has christened *Silver Dawn* in Lisbon, the line's third ship to debut in nine months.

The launch of *Dawn* also sees the introduction of Silversea's new wellness program Otivm (*CW* 29 Mar), the next iteration of the cruise line's S.A.L.T. culinary program.

Executives from Silversea, Royal Caribbean Group, and Fincantieri, as well as local dignitaries, celebrated the milestone with a formal ceremony and gala dinner, welcoming the cruse line's 10th ship.

P&O confirms Pride Cruise



P&O Cruises Australia Pride Cruise will still go ahead, the line has confirmed.

The celebratory weekend at sea, which has been created especially for members of the LGBT community and their friends, family, and supporters, was first announced around 12 months ago (*CW* 25 Mar 2021).

Setting sail from Sydney on 04 Nov and Melbourne on 09 Dec, the three-night cruises will give Australians the chance to join P&O Cruises in proudly recognising individuality, diversity, and inclusion in our society, alongside a raft of community support organisations.

P&O Australia has partnered with some of the biggest names in the local LGBT community, including the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Harbour City Bears, as well as Queer Screen, which will showcase its first 'Queer Screen @ Sea Film Festival.'

Headlining the fun and festivities aboard the cruise will be international superstar, accordionist Hans the German, who found fame on America's Got Talent.

Other diversity trailblazers

joining the cruise include Simon Dunn, ambassador for the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, and the first openly gay male to represent any country in bobsled.

P&O's Queensland Rugby League ambassador Meg Ward and ex-NRL star Ian Roberts, who are also "out and proud", will also be part of the onboard line-up.

The cruise line's Partnership Manager Chris Rich said P&O is excited to return to service with such a special itinerary.

"Guests on the Pride Cruise will be able to celebrate the themes of love, compassion, respect and understanding through lectures, educational and spiritual events, same sex marriages and renewal of vows.

"The cruise will welcome everyone who is a member or supporter of the LGBTQIA+ community – as well as the unique blend of love and laughter that makes the LGBTQIA+ spectrum so special."

Pictured are some of the taent on board the Pride Cruise: singer Victory Anthony, drag queens Coco Jumbo and Etcetera Etcetera, Hans the German, and Simon Dunn.

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Sea Princess' food

PRINCESS Cruises is going "Wild For Alaska Seafood" with new menus and events, debuting in the northern spring.

Alaskan voyagers will experience "destination dining" while they explore the state, with 30 distinctive Alaska seafood dishes featuring seafood sourced seasonably from AK's fisheries.

The program will be available aboard six vessels, and will be accompanied by destinationinspired cocktail experiences, including Alaska spirits sourced from local distilleries.

RCI + Village Roadshow package

ROYAL Caribbean International and Village Roadshow Theme Parks have created the 'Ultimate Queensland Getaway', making it easy to plan a holiday which combines the best of land and sea.

Ahead of Royal Caribbean's highly anticipated Brisbane return in Nov, the two companies will offer guests sailing aboard *Quantum of the Seas* access to exclusive accommodation and attraction packages.

Royal Caribbean cruisers can enjoy unlimited entry to Warner Bros. Movie World, Wet'n'Wild Gold Coast, and Paradise Country, as well as Sea World, where travellers can also access a 15% discount on accommodation - **CLICK HERE**.

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