



Explorer to return to Sydney next Mon

P&O Cruises Australia has confirmed its flagship *Pacific Explorer* (pictured) will arrive home in Sydney in one week to lead the restart of cruising in the country (CW breaking news Fri).

On Easter Mon, *Explorer* will return home after an absence of more than two years.

The 18 Apr arrival will give Sydney's boaters an opportunity to sail alongside *Explorer* from 9:30am when she enters the Heads, and escort her as she makes her way up the Harbour to the Overseas Passenger Terminal at 10.30am.

Carnival President Australia Marguerite Fitzgerald said *Explorer's* return marked the start of rebuilding cruise tourism in Australia, which, prior to the pandemic, contributed more than \$5 billion a year to the national economy.

"Seeing *Pacific Explorer* sail



into Sydney Harbour will be an emotional moment for our employees, many thousands of guests and our numerous cruise suppliers, travel agents and entertainers," she said.

"For our suppliers and for so many others, our flagship's arrival is a symbol of the resurgence of their businesses and livelihoods as hope and optimism replaces

uncertainty.

"Our supply chain team is already gearing up to deliver hundreds of pallets to *Pacific Explorer* containing locally supplied fresh produce, wine and other products necessary for cruise operations."

Explorer's first cruise will be a four-night round trip to Brisbane departing on 31 May.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the news.

NCL x Travel Daily update online

LAST Fri, Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) Vice President International Business, Eamonn Ferrin joined colleagues Ben Angell and Damian Borg for "The Great Cruise Comeback," an online **Travel Daily** event.

Discussed was the upcoming launch of *Norwegian Prima*, how the ship resonates with the Australian market, and the highly anticipated debut of *Norwegian Spirit* Down Under later this year.

The event attracted almost 200 registrations.

If you missed it, the full recording is now live at traveldaily.com.au/events.

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Travel & Cruise Weekly

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Special Easter issue




A MAN who bought a cruise ship on Craigslist in 2008 and began to completely restore it is nearing the end of his project.

The almost 100-metre vessel was built in Germany, and was moored in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta when he bought it.

The restoration process began shortly after purchase, and in order to cut down on the three-hour round trip between his home and his new purchase, the man and his partner decided to live on the ship full-time.

To track the ship to its completion, check out the Aurora Restoration Project on YouTube [HERE](#).

Hurtigruten wants you!

DO YOU have a sustainability project that needs funding - Hurtigruten Foundation wants to hear from you.

The charity is inviting communities and organisations along coastal areas and remote destinations, where Hurtigruten travels to apply for project funding.

Protection of endangered birds in the Galapagos Islands, whale research studies on the Pacific Coast & Antarctica, and an education project in Argentina are just some of the climate and conservation projects that have received funding over the last 12 months.

Rivers of the World '24



UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection has introduced its four-ship Rivers of the World Cruise for 2024.

Sailing from Lima to Ho Chi Minh City, the cruise departs 03 Oct 2024 and sails for 54 nights until 26 Nov.

Cruising to three continents and 10 countries, the once-in-a-lifetime sailing will also offer a range of spectacular land tours in destinations such as Machu Picchu, Iguazu Falls, Copacabana Beach, and more.

Guests will also explore historic wineries in Provence, private classical music concerts in Vienna, Vietnam's Ha Long Bay, and Angkor Wat in Cambodia.

A small group of 68 guests will partake in the cruise, which travels in four parts: Peru & Brazil (15 nights); the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, & Hungary (14 nights); France (seven nights); and Vietnam & Cambodia (15 nights).

The cruise also features all-inclusive amenities such as a dedicated travelling concierge; welcome and farewell events; a number of luxury hotel stays, and all internal flights, portage, & transfers.

Uniwold has created a wait list exclusively for Australians, with a spot able to be secured

for a \$1,400 per person fully refundable deposit - pre-register **HERE**.

Pictured is *Beatrice*, one of the ships on which the cruise sails, in Hungary, one of the countries visited in the voyage's second leg.

Aurora expands

AURORA Expeditions has expanded its North American sales team, hiring three new business development managers in a move to expand its regional presence.

The new team members include Kelli Mills, who will look after the continent's Northeast region; Bonnie Newman, who will have remit for the Western region; and Jennifer Reynolds, who will oversee the Southeast.

The trio joins Lisa Bertini, who was recently appointed local Vice President of Sales.

Travel Daily Events PRESENTS **AN EXECUTIVE INTERVIEW**

with publisher Bruce Piper and Joel Katz, Managing Director, Cruise Lines International (CLIA) Australasia and Jill Abel, CEO, Australian Cruise Association.

The Tide Turns For Cruise

After more than two years of international cruise ships being banned from Australian waters, the local cruise sector has finally received a green light to recommence operations. Join us at this special event as we chat with Joel Katz and Jill Abel. They will discuss all things cruise including their journey during the pandemic, the current state of the start-up, protocols, destinations and much more.




WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL, 1.00pm (AEST)

REGISTER