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WEEKLY WEEKLY

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Tuesday 22nd February 2022

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a **cover page** from **Norwegian** *Cruise Line*.

AIDA booking well

AIDA Cruises is seeing strong summer bookings and high demand for sailings to start the year.

In particular, bookings for the northern spring and summer seasons are developing very positively, AIDA reported.

Interest in cruises for the upcoming winter sailings and the 2023 summer program is also at a high level, and has been growing continuously.

On Sat, *AIDAcosma* will be launched, with voyages from Hamburg to the major cities of Western Europe.

It is the second LNG vessel from AIDA Cruises to be powered by liquefied natural gas.

Following the inauguration ceremony of *AIDAcosma* on 09 Apr in Hamburg, voyages in the Western Mediterranean to La Spezia, Rome, Barcelona and Corsica are on the program of the one-week Mediterranean Treasures itinerary until Oct.

AIDAaura will resume cruise operations on 07 May, with a 14-day voyage from Hamburg around Great Britain and Ireland.

Hurti to upgrade ships



HURTIGRUTEN has kicked off one of Europe's biggest environmental upgrades, as it rebuilds its ships with modern technology to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 25%.

When completed next year, the upgrades will also cut nitrogen oxide emissions by as much as 80%.

All of Hurtigruten's seven Norwegian Coastal Express ships will be upgraded, with three to be converted to hybrids - *Kong Harald, Nordlys,* and *Richard With* (**pictured**), which is currently at Myklebust Verft in northwestern Norway.

Meanwhile, Nordnorge, Nordkapp, and Polarlys will receive selective catalytic reduction facilities, which is the same process Vesteralen went through three years ago. The upgrades will also include several other small and large changes, such as new propeller blades, hull optimisation, a new bulbous bow, new gears, new generators, new control systems, and a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant, to minimise emissions to the sea.

"This will make a real impact in reducing emissions in Norwegian waters," said Hurtigruten Norway Chief Executive Officer Hedda Felin.

"The fact that such an investment also leads to ripple effects in the local communities along the coast, is something we are very proud of.

"Our goal is zero emissions, but the technology is not mature enough yet, and we must do what we can to cut emissions with the best technology available today and extend the service life of the iconic ships we have in our fleet."

Silversea events

SILVERSEA Cruises is inviting travellers to join it at its special in-person events to save up to \$2,000.

The cruise line is hosting events around Australia next month, where it will share its best offers.

The presentations will cover Silversea's Mediterranean and Northern Europe voyages, cruising close to home, and its expedition experiences.

Hosted in Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne, exclusive offers will available to those who attend.

For more information including dates, session times & venues, or to register your interest, **CLICK HERE**.

Carnival unmasks

EFFECTIVE aboard Carnival Cruise Line sailings departing from next month, masks on board will no longer be required, the company said. However, Carnival reminded guests there may be certain venues and events where they will continue to be used.

Carnival confirmed the move alongside verification that it will participate in the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's update program for cruise ships operating in American waters (*CW* 14 Jan). Children under five years old will also not be included in any vaccinated guest calculations.

\$450

OBC*

Find out more

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ALTHOUGH P&O Cruises has been unable to create new memories in Australia for more than two years now, good times from sailings past continue to bear fruit.

A romance between a young couple, who met aboard P& O's Pacific Dawn almost five years ago, has gone viral, after the two announced their wedding.

The two met in 2018, and despite hailing from NSW's Central Coast and Mid North Coast, more than five hours apart, the two kept the flame alive, growing into what will surely be a happy life together.

Their post on the P&O Facebook page led to the cruise line's biggest response in the past 12 months, including more than 5,000 likes and in excess of 700 comments in 24 hours.

Many of the well-wishers were other couples, both young and old, sharing the good news they too had found each other on a P&O cruise.



Arvia coin ceremony



THE United Kingdom's P&O Cruises has celebrated a build milestone for its newest, most environmentally friendly ship, with the team constructing Arvia partaking in the vessel's traditional coin-laying ceremony.

Tuesday 22nd February 2022

Specially selected Barbados coins were placed by the team at the Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg, before they were affixed to Arvia.

"This is yet another landmark in P&O Cruises new build history,"

President Paul Ludlow explained. "Arvia will be our second ship to be powered by liquefied natural gas as part of P&O Cruises' ongoing commitment to sustainable travel.

"Other world-class environmentally friendly innovations include shore power connectivity and the latest technology."

Arvia will be delivered in Dec, and will sail her maiden voyage to the Canary Islands followed by a winter season in the Caribbean.

The ship will have 16 decks, and will feature Altitude Skywalk, a unique high ropes experience; a swim-up bar with a stunning infinity pool; new and exclusive Mission Control, a multi-sensory escape room; a new restaurant Green & Co, featuring Mizuhana, serving a plant and fish-led menu; Ocean Studios cinema; 1,300m² of shopping and more.

Croatian savings

SAVINGS on a Croatian island voyage aboard Tradewind Voyages' Golden Horizon are available when booking through Cruise Traveller this year.

Couples can save more than \$2,500 on the Adriatic Sea adventure, and pay a low deposit of \$400 for bookings made by the end of next month.

Fares for the back-to-back 21-night package include allday beverages, wi-fi, laundry services, a pre-cruise night in Split, and onboard gratuities, some of which are exclusive to Australians as part of this deal.

It is currently available from \$14,685 per person, twinshare, in an Oceanview cabin call Cruise Traveller in Australia on 1800 507 777 to book.

MSC Arabian deal

DISCOVER the Arabian Peninsula with MSC Cruises' two-for-one deal.

The deal is on offer for sailings from 02 Apr to 25 Jun aboard MSC Bellissima, and will see the second passenger only pay port charges, which amount to \$175.

All bookings must be made by the end of next month.

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