



Dream resumes from Taiwan



DREAM Cruises has officially resumed its homeport deployment in Taiwan with the return of Super Seacations aboard *Explorer Dream* (pictured).

Stringent health & safety guidelines will provide peace of mind for local vacationers, as Dream brought to an end its seven-month hiatus of cruising in Taiwan on New Year's Eve.

Departing Keelung, the Super Seacation itineraries will see guests enjoy a two-night cruise to Hualian.

In support of the local tourism industry, Mayor of Keelung Lin Yu-Chang made a special appearance at the cruise terminal to greet guests

"We are pleased to see *Explorer Dream* setting sail once again

from Keelung today, taking guests on a spectacular cruise to catch the first sunrise above the horizon in 2022," said Dream VP Sales, Taiwan Sally Riu.

"We are also excited to announce our line-up of thematic cruises next year, including for the Lunar New Year celebrations and the widely acclaimed Around the World on Dream Cruises series, featuring an immersive experience of food, culture and snap-worthy decorations that are inspired by popular travel destinations.

"Food lovers can look forward to new dining options at sea that are curated by talk-of-the-town restaurants, such as The Dining Place at Taipei Marriott Hotel and Hutong Yakiniku".

Booster required?

AS CASES of the Omicron variant soar, some cruise lines, led by Carnival Corporation's brands, will require a COVID-19 vaccine booster.

P&O Cruises last week became the first line to require passengers to get a booster shot to board its ships, notifying customers for a recent sailing they would need to show proof of the additional dose.

Until last week, P&O had required passengers on similar sailings to be "fully vaccinated" for COVID-19, meaning two doses of an approved two-dose vaccine or a single dose of an approved single-dose vaccine.

Fellow Carnival Corp brand Cunard Line also plans to implement a booster shot requirement for at least one cruise scheduled to begin on 14 Jan.

In a letter sent to passengers booked on the sailing, Cunard said they would need to show proof of a COVID-19 booster.

Cruise Weekly today

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

CDC raises the alarm for cruising

THE United States' Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) is urging all travellers to avoid cruising, regardless of vaccination status.

The CDC raised its travel health notice to the highest level on Fri, reflecting the increase in COVID-19 cases on board cruise ships due to the Omicron variant.

According to the CDC, even those who've been fully vaccinated and boosted should reconsider cruising, with the tight quarters on cruise ships increasing the risk of spreading COVID-19, according to the public health agency.

Before Fri, the CDC had ranked cruising as a level three on its scale from one to four.

Those who do decide to embark are recommended to get tested pre- and post-cruise.

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YOU may need to idle your engine a little bit longer than usual to get this car running safely...

The frozen *Sun Rio* roll-on/roll-off cargo ship recently delivered a vessel full of ice-covered cars to a Russian port in temperatures of up to 19-below.

Local media outlets reported that some of the cars were encased in ice up to six inches thick.

The Swan is reborn



SWAN Hellenic's new year maiden sailing aboard *Minerva* (pictured) has launched a new era for the reborn cruise line.

Minerva recently left Ushuaia on a nine-day new year celebration Antarctic cruise, sailing in the expert hands of industry veterans Captain Tuomo Leskinen and Hotel Director Philipp Reutener.

The ship's first guests will celebrate the new year deep in the splendours of Antarctica, where they will explore the inspiring sights and wildlife of the Antarctic Peninsula and milder Shetland Islands in the company of Expedition Leader Pablo Brandeman, polar expert Steve Blamires and ornithologist Andy Bunten.

Chef Jorg Lehmann is bringing Swan Hellenic's distinctive new gastronomic vision to life on board, presenting varied menus of freshly cooked delicacies that include original Italian and Asian fusion dishes, created in partnership with Consultant Chefs Andrea Ribaldone and Sang Keun Oh.

"We are immensely proud to

have welcomed our first guests aboard this wonderful new ship to live unique new experiences that advance the revered Swan Hellenic tradition, taking them to see what others don't in exceptional comfort and style," said Chief Executive Officer Andrea Zito.

Scenic to Antarctica

SCENIC'S *Scenic Eclipse* will recommence her expedition voyages to Antarctica this week, with new ship enhancements and experiences.

The cruise line's 13-day Antarctica in Depth voyage takes in the endless, pristine landscapes of the continent, after nearly two years of Scenic having not visited.

"Our crew and staff are so delighted to be able to welcome guests back on board our world-class yacht, *Scenic Eclipse*," said Chief Operating Officer Rob Voss.

"Besides the opportunity to be one of the first cruise lines to return to Antarctica after nearly two years of no visitors, we are also excited to showcase several enhancements on board".

New NCLH appt

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has announced the appointment of PortMiami Director & Chief Executive Officer Juan Kuryla as Senior Vice President, Port Development & Construction Management.

Effective 17 Jan, Kuryla will lead NCLH's Commercial Development, Construction and Private Island Operations teams in his newly created role, reporting to Executive Vice President & General Counsel Daniel Farkas.

"As Director and CEO of PortMiami, widely considered the cruise capital of the world, I have had the privilege to work closely with Juan over the years and I am confident that he will be a tremendous asset to the company," commented NCHL President & Chief Executive Officer Frank Del Rio.

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