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cruiseweekly.com.au





cruiseweekly.co.nz Thursday 2nd June 2022

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise news plus a cover page from Regent Seven Seas Cruises.

Away in Wonder

'AWAY in Wonder', Regent Seven Seas' 2025 World Cruise, will sail from Miami to San Francisco.

Departing on 07 Jan 2025 aboard Seven Seas Mariner, the 150-night cruise visits five continents, 25 countries, and 97 ports, including 16 overnights.

Guests will be able to take almost 400 free shore excursions and three exclusive shoreside events across the course of their 36,000+ nautical mile trip.

For more information, head to the cover page.

Hurti back in action

HURTIGRUTEN has posted a healthy first quarter update, and has forecasted a strong second quarter, with all the Group's ships fully operational as of yesterday.

The company confirmed Fridtjof Nansen resumed sailing on 01 Jun after she had previously run aground on a voyage from Lofoten to Flam in Jan.

It is the first time since Mar 2020 all of Hurtigruten's ships are back in operation.

The fleet will be sailing with no capacity restrictions, with forward bookings for the 12-month period (from the second quarter of this year to the first quarter of 2023) also higher compared to prepandemic levels, Chief Executive Officer Daniel Skjeldam said.

He explained while Q1 was still heavily affected by the pandemic, countries in Hurtigruten's key source markets and destinations have moved closer toward

normality.

"We have already made significant progress this year, with all our ships in Hurtigruten Norway back in operation, and Hurtigruten Expeditions' MS Roald Amundsen and MS Fram also successfully completing an Antarctica season."

"From 01 Jun, all Hurtigruten Expeditions ships across the globe can finally offer unique adventures to our travellers without many restrictions."

Skjeldam also forecasted a robust O2.

"The outlook for the second quarter and beyond is very positive, considering everything we've been through over in recent years," he said.

"Although we've been tested, we are emerging from the pandemic in a strong position, with new investments and our eyes firmly fixed on the future."



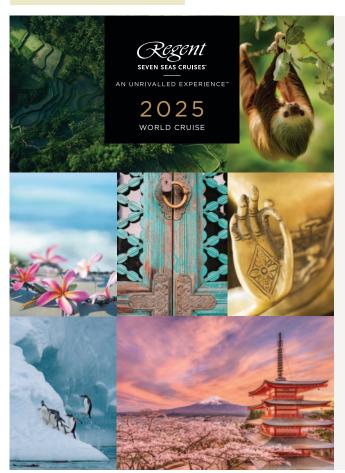
On location in **Lake Superior**

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Viking, aboard the brand new Viking Octantis.

STRONG winds continue to impact our trip, with the adaptable Viking team rejigging the Viking Octantis itinerary to pass through the Soo Locks a day early today en route to Lake Huron.

The transit is a highlight, with Octantis specifically built to just fit through the lock system.

After a seven-metre change in water levels we will head to Alpena, a newly added port where the expedition staff have amazingly pulled together a full suite of shore excursions with just 24 hours notice.



AWAY IN WONDER

Seven Seas Mariner®

150 NIGHTS | MIAMI TO SAN FRANCISCO | 7 JANUARY 2025

3 OCEANS CRUISED | 12 SEAS, STRAITS, GULFS, BAYS & CHANNELS CRUISED 5 CONTINENTS | 25 COUNTRIES | 97 PORTS OF CALL 16 OVERNIGHT STAYS | 48 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES 395 INCLUDED SHORE EXCURSIONS | 36,295 NAUTICAL MILES SAILED

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Thursday 2nd June 2022





WHILE one British start-up cruise line is rejecting the advances of children, another is welcoming them with open

Perhaps taking inspiration from Virgin Voyages' no kids policy, Ambassador Cruise Line is now offering £1 child fares on a dedicated multi-generational sailing this northern summer.

The Scandinavian itinerary aboard Ambience includes calls at Copenhagen, Ronne, Tallinn, Helsinki, Stockholm, Visby and Skagen, however, it is unclear whether or not the offer is available to Australians.

TIME for a big announcement...

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has announced its first TIME 'Partners First' scholarship recipient, Helloworld Travel Mackay's Johanna Wood.

The beneficiary of the first of two scholarships endowed by Norwegian, Wood will enjoy a six-month mentoring experience with TIME to help achieve her individual career goals and objectives.

"I am excited to see what the next six months will bring while working with my mentor and am looking forward to broadening my knowledge in many areas, including wholesale, negotiations, leadership and brandbuilding," she said.

Cruise's crews issues



CRUISE lines are cancelling sailings, closing restaurants, and allowing fewer guests on board amid hiring difficulties.

Norwegian Cruise Line's Pride of America (pictured) which typically operates with more than 900 crew members, is now sailing with under 550 workers, according to reports.

As a result, Norwegian has cut Pride of America's guest capacity, and reportedly, some unluckier guests travelling on overbooked itineraries will have to be transferred to another, as reported by Insider.

Cunard Line has also limited its number of guests, and has cancelled sailings aboard Queen Elizabeth (inset) and Queen Victoria, reportedly blaming the "wider impact of COVID-19" on its difficulties with hiring.

Cruise lines less affected include Holland America Line, which has decided to "pace its restart over the year," as per Insider.

Royal Caribbean International also acknowledged similar difficulties in hiring, but doesn't

expect it will be cancelling any future itineraries.

While there is sufficient demand to work on ships, securing visas, particularly for the Schengen Area and the United States, can prove to be a lengthy process, occasionally taking up to six months.

"We do have some shortages, but we are fortunate we're being able to move staff from one ship to another ship to fill those gaps," Holland America SVP Guest **Experience Michael Smith is** reported to have said.

"Most of our shortages are in the galley operations, but we are moving staff within departments, not necessarily to go and cook but maybe to...do other cleaning jobs in different parts of the ship".

Ponant 23-24

PONANT has opened its 2023-2024 Antarctic season with 32 expedition sailings and 12 different itineraries on board luxury expedition ships Le Boreal, L'Austral, Le Lyrial and Le Commandant Charcot.

Sailing in the Weddell and Ross seas, a host of activities will bring guests into direct contact with Antarctica, including, Zodiac outings & landings, kayaking, hiking & snowshoeing, polar diving, swimming, and more.

There will also be talks by experts about the fauna, flora, and history of the polar regions.

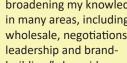
Back in business!

AZAMARA'S entire fleet of four ships has returned to service, with *Azamara Journey* returning to sailing last Fri.

As its fleet returns to cruising, Azamara will visit 362 unique ports around the world, with 392 overnight stays, 862 late nights, and more than 3,000 shore excursions, nearly 1,000 of which have been created since the pandemic began.

On board restaurants, including Discoveries and Windows Cafe have had their menus redesigned to feature 'World Cuisine Selection' dishes, highlighting a variety of countries visited by Azamara's

Meanwhile, guests sailing on the cruise line's new Azamara Onward can experience the new specialty venue Atlas Bar.



CRUISE

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