



Cruise Weekly today

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

Resilient delay

VIRGIN Voyages has “after very careful and deliberate consideration” decided to defer the launch of its third ship, *Resilient Lady*, until the second quarter of next year.

Initially scheduled to set sail from Athens mid-Aug of this year, *Resilient* will remain in Genoa until the completion of her on-board work.

She will aim to hit the high seas next northern spring, Virgin said.

“It was a tough decision, but we want to ensure that when *Resilient Lady* does hit the water, she’ll be ready to execute brilliantly”, it added.

All passengers and agents impacted are being contacted.

Aurora 2023-24 Antarctic season

AURORA Expedition has released its new bumper season for 2023-24, which includes 11 brand-new itineraries – six in Antarctica and five in the Arctic & British Isles.

The new season features dozens of departures across both *Greg Mortimer* and the upcoming *Sylvia Earle*, including the new ‘Antarctic Explorer Express’ - a nine-day voyage tailored for travellers seeking a briefer adventure to the Antarctic Peninsula.

There is also the ‘Circle and Weddell’, an 18-day voyage aiming to tick two major Antarctica boxes off travellers’ lists – crossing the Antarctic Circle and venturing into the Weddell Sea.

Meanwhile, travellers looking to explore the Arctic & British Isles next year will also have several new itineraries to choose from,



including the ‘Svalbard in Depth’ cruise, which offers extra time for deeper and genuine exploration in the region.

Meanwhile, ‘Iceland, Jan Mayen, Svalbard’ offers a combination of breathtaking contrasts as passengers sail across the Arctic Circle to the High Arctic tundra, while the ‘Epic Northwest Passage’ voyage will attempt to sail the full length of the Northwest Passage from western Greenland to Nome, Alaska over 30 days.

In the British Isles, a new

‘Ireland & Scotland Discovery’ voyage will explore The Emerald Isle’s rugged West Region, as well as the Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland Islands over 17 days.

“We are thrilled to launch our new Antarctica season, where we have continued to build on our pioneering heritage in exploring this region,” said Chief Marketing Officer Hayley Peacock-Gower.

There is currently an early bird offer of up to 25% off, valid until the end of the month.

For more information, visit aurora-expeditions.com.

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CRUISE visitors to the port of Marseille, France are being offered discounts to visit a new underwater attraction - without having to actually get wet.

The newly opened Cosquer Mediteranee is an exact replica of a major cave art site which was discovered 37m beneath the surface in 1985.

The huge natural cave, which is pretty much inaccessible and partly flooded, is facing eventual total submersion, so officials have created a "virtual conservation" based on an accurate 3D model.

The amazing site is decorated with more than 500 drawings and engravings which have been digitised for reproduction.

Not quite a theme park ride, guests access the new "cave" via a special nautical elevator which simulates a diving chamber, and explore the artwork aboard "slowly moving autonomous exploratory vehicles" each carrying six passengers.

Up to 40% off RCI

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) guests can enjoy half-price deposits and up to 40% off sailings, plus up to \$500 in instant savings until next Tue 14 Jun.

A number of sailings out of Brisbane on board *Quantum of the Seas* and out of Sydney onboard *Ovation of the Seas* are applicable.

For more info **CLICK HERE**.

Cruise Europe is back



THE recent Cruise Europe Conference was heralded as the largest-ever event the cruise sector has held in Scotland.

Member ports, associates and cruise line executives came together to discuss the new world order post-pandemic.

The one-day conference took place in Edinburgh's Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel, with a series of networking events also taking place at The Royal Yacht Britannia and the National Museum of Scotland.

"Resilience" was the theme highlighted by Forth Ports Capital Cruising head Rob Mason, describing how the cruise sector has come through the last two years.

Scotland itself is due to welcome more than 100 cruise ships to its ports this season - an encouraging start as passengers become more confident about returning to holidays away from home.

"We have a record 200 member

delegates attending from 20 countries as well as 20 cruise line executives from across the cruise spectrum," said Cruise Europe Managing Director Jens Skrede.

Pictured: Cruise Europe Chair Michael McCarthy and Forth Ports COO Stuart Wallace with Mason and Skrede.

Silver Nova dining

SILVERSEA Cruises has unveiled the culinary lineup aboard its new 728-guest *Silver Nova* which is scheduled to launch in 2023.

The newbuild will feature eight "signature restaurants" including La Terrazza, La Dame, Atlantide, S.A.L.T. Kitchen, Silver Note, Kaiseki, The Grill and Spaccanapoli.

Nova is also claiming an industry first with a hybrid power system using fuel cells and batteries to achieve local emission-free operation while the ship is in port.

NCLH commitment

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has announced its animal welfare goals, expanding its commitment to furthering the legal, ethical, and humane treatment of animals across its supply chain.

Goals include 100% targets for: gestation crate-free pork by 2025; certified sustainable seafood by 2025; and chicken purchased from suppliers who meet Global Animal Partnership standards by 2024.

"We are pleased to strengthen our commitment to animal welfare and responsible sourcing with concrete goals around chicken, eggs, pork and seafood...we recognise our responsibility to be good corporate citizens and our unique position to drive a positive impact across our supply chain," NCLH said.

10 days in Iceland

OCEANIA Cruises is inviting travellers to be the first to experience its brand new, 10-day Iceland itinerary.

Cruising on board *Sirena*, the sailing provides guests the opportunity to visit many fascinating ports of call, including Seydisfjordur, Djupivogur and Heimaey.

The cruise will also feature an overnight stay in Torshavn in the Faroe Islands.

The round-trip sailing departs from Reykjavik on 07 Jul 2024, and is priced from \$5,220 as part of a special OLife Choice promotion.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.