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Domestic-led return for Carnival Aus

CARNIVAL Australia's cruise restart will be domestic-led, the division's new President Marguerite Fitzgerald has said.

Speaking to **Cruise Weekly** on a meet and greet webinar on Fri, Fitzgerald said Carnival is targeting a middle-of-the-year return to service, and domestic sailings will be the first to reboot.

Fitzgerald emphasised Australia-only cruises were a big part of Carnival's business pre-COVID, and it was planned for that to continue upon the brand's return.

"We definitely see that as continuing to be a very important part," Fitzgerald said.

"In the short term, that's probably where we'll be starting, and part of it will be, 'what are the restrictions internationally', but part of it will be bringing back tourism and tourist dollars to those ports and those regional areas."



In addition to plotting a return, Fitzgerald said Carnival had also been using its Australian downtime to envisage how it can make the cruising experience even better.

"You will see some different things, you'll see some new

dining, some new bar concepts, particularly on P&O.

"When you think about some of the concepts that were already there on (*Pacific Explorer* (pictured) we're going to, bring those over to newer ships, and also some new ideas."

Cruise Weekly today

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

Wine not try this?

DOUBLE rewards on Alaska and Hawai'i bookings this year are currently available with Norwegian Cruise Line, as part of its Partners First Rewards program.

Giving travel advisors a range of benefits, a \$35 gift card (35 points) can also be earned on all other destinations deposited between Jan and Mar - see the **cover page**.

The promotion comes as Norwegian's Meet the Winemaker series returns in 2022, back by popular demand for its sixth year, on 17 Jul and 12 Oct - **CLICK HERE**.

Did you know?

Travel & Cruise Weekly's fortnightly consumer magazine called *Keep Dreaming* is specially designed for agents to send their clients - giving you a reason to reach out to your database.

Keep Dreaming is full of destination articles, cruise stories and more to inspire.



Click here for a toolkit to help you share it with clients



Click here to view *Keep Dreaming* magazine

Travel & Cruise
Weekly



A WATER slide is one of the most popular destinations on a family oriented cruise ship, but a viral TikTok has exposed what can happen when a flume fails.

The video shows a woman sliding down the water chute, however due to a lack of lubrication thanks to low water pressure, she fails to complete the slide's upswing.

To add further drama to the situation, the woman remains stuck suspended over the ocean.

The video has received almost 1m "loves" since its posting.

Providing an update on her situation, the publisher explained there is a side door allowing a staff member to extract a rider from the slide, in such circumstances.

CLICK HERE to view the video.



One giant NEcOLEAP



MEYER Turku has been selected to take part in Business Finland's financing project for leading companies and their partner ecosystems, through the shipyard's climate-neutral cruise ship 'NEcOLEAP' project.

The financing program aims to help Finnish companies increase their research, development, and innovation investments in the country, with NEcOLEAP to develop carbon-neutral and sustainable technological solutions for cruise ships through an extensive partnership network with industry trailblazers.

Gaining access to Business Finland's RDI funding was significant for Meyer Turku's goal to secure a billion-euro climate-neutral cruise ship order, following the development of a concept by 2025.

Meyer Turku also hopes to achieve carbon-neutral shipbuilding by 2030.

The cost estimate of NEcOLEAP is approximately €100 million, of which Business Finland's financial contribution will be €70 million.

Many parties have already expressed an interest to participate in NEcOLEAP, with the project's undertaking and results to also provide direction and guidelines for future research and product development.

"In the NEcOLEAP project, we will explore new sustainable technologies that can be leveraged to develop energy and resource efficiency, automation, robotics, and cybersecurity, for ships and shipbuilding," Meyer Turku Executive Vice President Tapani Pulli explained.

Pictured: Meyer Turku's render of a climate-neutral cruise ship.

Ponant events

PONANT is set to host a live online event next Thu, Explore to Inspire, to highlight their range of new luxury expedition itineraries for 2023.

The real-time virtual event will be hosted by Ponant's National Business Manager Craig Farrell, together with guest speakers Director of Expeditions & Destination Development Mick Fogg, and Ponant Expedition Guide Ryo Ijichi.

Showcasing Ponant's incredible 2023 itineraries, the two-part free event invites guests and travel advisors to discover new experiences and immerse themselves in expeditions to far-reaching destinations across the globe.

CLICK HERE to register for the first session, 'Tropical Expeditions', and **CLICK HERE** for the second, 'Polar Expeditions'.

SCL cancels Russia

SEABOURN Cruise Line (SCL) has modified select Baltic itineraries this year on *Seabourn Ovation* originally scheduled to visit St. Petersburg.

Replacement ports will vary by voyage, and will include stops throughout Europe, such as the Norwegian Fjords, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Ulvik, Sandness, Farsund, Aalborg, and more.

Booked guests of affected sailings will receive updates and specific details applicable to their booking, which will be available soon.

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