



Cruise Weekly today

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

The last voyage

THE return of *Seven Seas Voyager* has marked Regent Seven Seas Cruises' full resumption of service.

Voyager is returning in Europe, after a two-year hiatus, with a sailing in the western Mediterranean.

The 10-night, destination-intensive voyage departed Civitavecchia, and features calls in 10 ports across Spain, Italy and France.

Voyager will offer additional itineraries in the Mediterranean, and also the Canary Islands, through to the end of May.

In early Jun, *Voyager* will reposition to Northern Europe.

Princess guests set for new discoveries

PRINCESS Cruises has debuted *Discovery Princess* (pictured), its newest MedallionClass ship, which is currently sailing her maiden voyage to the Mexican Riviera.

The 3,660 berth vessel is the 15th ship in the Princess fleet, and is the sixth and final Royal class newbuild, joining sister ships *Enchanted Princess*, *Sky Princess*, *Majestic Princess*, *Regal Princess* and *Royal Princess*.

The cruise line's President John Padgett welcomed the first guests on board at the Port of Los Angeles, which is the same port the very first Princess voyage departed from in 1965.

"Cruising is back, and the elegant *Discovery Princess* showcases the many reasons why travellers should take a cruise now," he said.

The ship is now sailing a series of Mexican Riviera and



California Coast voyages until late Apr before heading north to Alaska for a season of week-long departures out of Seattle.

With an array of new experiences, guests will enjoy 270-degree sweeping views from Princess' largest balconies at sea in the Sky suites, unwind in ultimate comfort at The Sanctuary and indulge the senses with world-class dining options. Princess' live entertainment

presents mesmerising Broadway-style production shows that can only be seen in the state-of-the-art Princess Theater, including the newest show, Spotlight Bar.

Discovery also uses the latest technologies to reduce fuel consumption, treat wastewater, and support Princess' environmental compliance efforts.

She will be formally named in Los Angeles on 29 Apr.

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Chimu launches charity charters

MEDIA personalities Adam Spencer, Jennifer Byrne and Andrew Denton will help Chimu Adventures give back via two exclusive Antarctica charters.

The first cruise to depart will be the Complete Antarctica voyage in Nov, featuring Spencer.

This 14-day cruise, departing Ushuaia, will provide a deeper exploration than the average Antarctic Peninsula cruise, Chimu said, with travellers to explore further and experience more of the region.

In Jan 2023, Chimu will partner with Jennifer Byrne and Andrew Denton (**pictured**) for an exclusive Antarctica charter, Antarctica Unveiled.

This voyage, aboard *Ocean Endeavour*, will see the media power couple share their passion for this destination with around 200 other passengers.

Travelling alongside Byrne



and Denton on the trip will be documentary photographer Stephen DuPont, who will be capturing the human side of travelling to Antarctica.

The exclusive charters build on Chimu's commitment to make a positive contribution by

raising funds for The Polar Citizen Science Collective and Lifeline.

Both fundraising charters will feature an emphasis on onboard citizen science programs, and are currently on sale during the Great Chimu Sale.

CLICK HERE for more details.

Attention, gardeners!

MURRAY River Paddlesteamers has partnered with Botanica World Discoveries for a Murray River & Gardens eight-day cruisetour.

The small group itinerary, which travels from Melbourne return, will see guests cruise the Murray aboard *Emmylou*, where they will visit historic sights, as well as private gardens, including the opportunity to meet their owner, such as well-known gardener Simon Rickard.

Cruisers will then continue to Victoria's northeast region and enjoy the colours of the bright Mid-Autumn Festival.

Escorting the tour are expert botanical guides Teena Crawford and Talei Kenyon.

The 23 Apr departure is priced from \$6,495 per person - **CLICK HERE** for more.

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THE cruise industry is stepping up to help the beleaguered populace of Ukraine as they continue to flee the country's outrageous attacks by Russia.

As well as a huge USD\$3 million donation from the family foundation of Carnival Corp Chair Micky Arison (**CW** 21 Mar), the company's Costa Cruises brand is also helping out by offering to host refugees aboard its *Costa Magica*.

The company confirmed it had "offered one of our ships to the Italian Government to be integrated into the National Civil Protection's plans as a potential temporary hub for Ukrainian refugees in case of growing numbers of arrivals in Italy in the coming weeks," Costa spokesperson Roger Frizzell confirmed last week.

Other Carnival brands have also promised aid, including a \$50,000 gift from Carnival Cruise Line as well as German offshoot AIDA which has donated medical supplies and medicine, with Group Chief Executive Officer Arnold Donald saying "we stand for peace and our hearts go out to everyone whose lives have been upended by the invasion of Ukraine".

"We have crew members from 145 countries and we sail with guests from nations around the globe, so we feel deeply the human impact of this humanitarian crisis and we join many others in supporting relief efforts," he said.

Sensation heads for scrapyards

CARNIVAL Cruise Line's *Carnival Sensation* is currently en route to a scrapyards in Turkey, crossing the Atlantic Ocean for the last time before she crosses the rainbow bridge.

The cruise line has confirmed that rather than its previously planned program of voyages out of Mobile starting this month, *Sensation* has been sold for scrap.

She is scheduled to arrive at the Aliaga ship-breaking facility on 04 Apr.

The 2,052 passenger ship, which first entered service in 1993, has not sailed with passengers since the onset of the pandemic.

Silversea wellness

SILVERSEA Cruises has unveiled details of its new "Otium" wellness program as well as the reimaged, larger spa aboard its new *Silver Dawn* which is this month conducting shakedown voyages out of Lisbon (**CW** yesterday).

Dawn is a sister ship to *Silver Muse* and *Silver Moon* and is the 10th vessel in the Silversea Cruises fleet.

Otium is "grounded in the philosophy and traditions of the ancient Roman lifestyle," according to Silversea Chief Commercial Officer, Barbara Muckermann, with the overall concept encouraging balanced indulgence, pampering and pleasure.

For more info [CLICK HERE](#).

A mer-mazing reveal



VIRGIN Voyages has revealed the mermaid (**pictured**) for its third ship, *Resilient Lady*.

Designed by oil painter Jodie Herrera, the mermaid symbolically serves as both an emblem for, and guardian of *Resilient*, which is set to sail from Greece in Aug.

Inspired by the images painted on the American aircraft of World War II, Virgin's mermaids are a symbol of "individuality and rebellion".

Resilient's mermaid celebrates the culture and history of the regions she will visit including San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Reminiscent of Rosie the Riveter, the mermaid will set off on her "MerMaiden" voyage from Athens on a series of seven- and nine-night voyages.

Among the ports of call are

Santorini, Rhodes, Mykonos, Catania, Palma, and Lisbon.

Virgin also last week launched its second ship *Valiant Lady*, with the cruise line's founder Richard Branson watching on (**CW** 21 Mar).

FCCA USVA deal

THE Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) has announced a new partnership with the US Virgin Islands on a strategic development agreement, which focuses on increasing the destination's overall economic impact from cruise tourism.

The pact includes increased cruise calls, new experiences and products, more staffing and purchasing opportunities, travel agent outreach, and more.



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