



Cruise Weekly today

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

CDC un.masks cruise

THE Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has eliminated its pandemic-related Cruise Travel Health Notices for cruise passengers, and has also eliminated all risk warnings.

Among loosened protocols, masks are now optional aboard cruise ships, although individual lines may commit to different protocols.

Virgin Voyages Chief Executive Officer Tom McAlpin said: "we're absolutely thrilled to see that the CDC recognises that it's time to remove the Travel Health Notice website.

McAlpin said Virgin believed the ruling was "a long time coming".

CCL Transpacific cruise

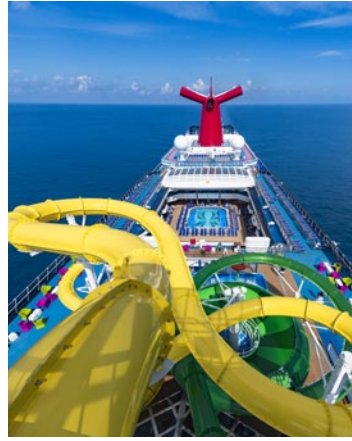
CARNIVAL Cruise Line (CCL) is saying "aloha" to fun, with a new bucket-list Transpacific Journeys Cruise.

The line's *Carnival Splendor* (pictured) will return home to Sydney in Sep for her first local season since the start of the pandemic, and on the way, she will visit four destinations in Hawai'i, on a 23-night sailing from Seattle.

Departing 06 Sep, the cruise starts from \$1,799, and visits Maui, Honolulu, Kona, Hilo, and Fiji, before returning to Australia.

Splendor's arrival in Sydney will also kick-start Carnival's birthday celebrations early, with the cruise line commemorating 10 years in Australia in Oct.

"We are thrilled to release our 2022 Transpacific Journeys Cruise and give guests the chance to tick off a major bucket list item," said Vice President Australia Kara



Glamore.

"From the stunning Hawaiian Islands, to Carnival's signature onboard fun at-sea experiences, there's no doubt that guests will create life-long memories onboard.

"*Splendor's* return home to Sydney will be the cherry-on-top, a momentous occasion we can't wait to share with guests."

NCL's Great Cruise Comeback session

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) will participate in an exclusive *Travel Daily* Event next week, in a webinar featuring the company's Vice President International Business, Eamonn Ferrin.

He'll take part alongside local NCL executives Ben Angell, Angela Middleton and Damian Borg, discussing exactly what cruising looks like now and what is in the brand's pipeline, including its new Prima-class ships.

The NCL team will also discuss how travel advisors can capitalise on post-COVID cruising, particularly now that local cruising is back on the agenda.

The event is being conducted in partnership with The Travel Community Hub - register for free by [CLICKING HERE](#).

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Travel & Cruise Weekly



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Ponant packages

PONANT'S new polar exploration ship *Le Commandant Charcot* will forge new routes in Antarctica next year, with Australian small ship specialist, Cruise Traveller, releasing exclusive, new packages for the season.

Cruisers can score complimentary flights and hotel stays, as well as savings of at least \$54,140 per couple, with solos able to sail for less than half-price.

The special offers are available for earlybird bookings made by 30 Apr.

Jewel sailing from Panama



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's *Norwegian Jewel* has returned to service, sailing from Panama City (pictured).

The ship has become Norwegian's first to sail from

Panama City (**CW** 16 Dec), and has become the 13th vessel in the cruise line's 17-strong fleet to return to service.

Jewel's first voyage from Panama City is a 12-day adventure sailing up the South American coast to San Diego, visiting nine ports.

Itinerary highlights include a journey to Puerto Quetzal, where guests can go on a safari through one of the largest animal parks in Guatemala; as well as Las Caletas, where visitors can spend the afternoon swimming with sea lions.

Other destinations in the itinerary include Puntarenas in Costa Rica, where travellers can stroll the quaint seaport town with its multi-coloured cottages and local markets; and Carara Tropical Rainforest, to explore exotic flora and fauna with a naturalist guide.

This cruise departed from Panama City yesterday, and disembarks on 10 Apr.

Jewel will return to Panama City later in the year, when she homeports in the destination again from 24 Nov.

Between stints in Panama City, *Jewel* will offer immersive itineraries to Alaska from May through Sep.



A MAN has been charged after driving his boat at a pod of dolphins.

The man was charged with intentionally and recklessly disturbing the pod of dolphins when he drove his boat through the pod.

Bizarrely, it is part of a disturbing trend, with conservationists last year warning dolphins were increasingly being disrupted following COVID lockdowns.

Police Scotland said the alleged incident happened in the Moray area of the country.



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Oceania solo rooms

OCEANIA Cruises has announced the addition of dozens more dedicated staterooms for solo travellers.

Each of Oceania's four ships will feature 14 Solo Oceanview staterooms, which will debut aboard *Regatta* on 24 Sep; *Nautica* on 26 Sep; and *Insignia* & *Sirena* on 01 Oct.

The addition of these 56 staterooms join those already debuted aboard *Vista* earlier this year.

Centrally located on deck 6, each stateroom provides guests with a welcoming space to relax.

All solo staterooms are equipped with a Tranquility Bed, a refrigerated minibar, a cozy seating area, and abundant storage space.

