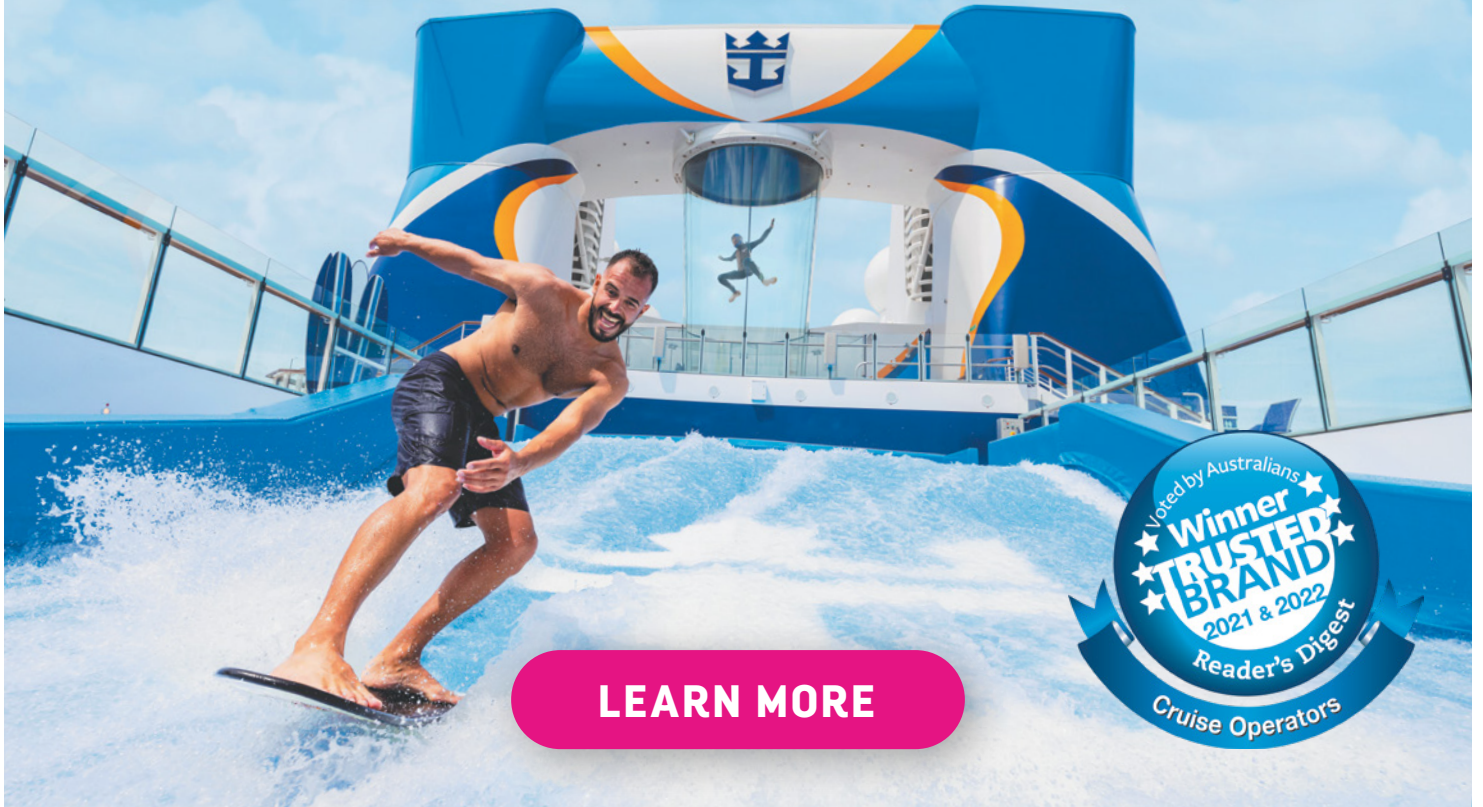




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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a cover page from **Royal Caribbean International**.

Royal savings

ROYAL Caribbean International is building excitement towards the imminent arrival of two of its Quantum-class ships in Australia later this month.

Quantum of the Seas and *Ovation of the Seas* will operate out of Sydney and Brisbane in a triumphant two-city return to sailing in Australasian waters.

The company is now offering savings of up to 30% and free balcony upgrades available on 2023 sailings.

For more details see the **cover page** of today's *CW*.

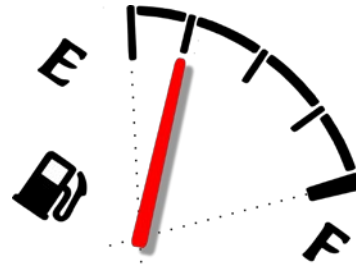
Antarctic cruises to submit fuel data

MEMBERS of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) have agreed to provide fuel consumption data for each season to the organisation, as part of a unanimous pledge to "create a climate change strategy for Antarctic tourism".

Fuel data submissions will include vessels of all sizes as well as aircraft and accessory vehicles, and will be used by IAATO to understand the greenhouse gas footprint of its members' operations in Antarctica.

"The results will then be used internally as the basis to monitor and refine emission reduction targets the IAATO membership has collectively agreed to make," according to a media release issued yesterday.

IAATO operators have also unanimously pledged to track the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) target of at



least halving reductions by 2050 versus a 2008 baseline, as well as pursuing global goals of net zero before 2050.

"This, accompanied by an agreement by each member to build their own climate strategy and set their own emission reduction targets, is the start of a collective push to account for and reduce IAATO operator emissions," the Association said.

"Ultimately, we seek to go much further towards net positive impact," said Pam Le Noury, who is Chair of the IAATO Climate

Change Committee.

"But the current challenge in shipping and aviation is that we don't yet know what future fuels and technologies will be available to us," she said.

"This latest commitment by our operators to submit their fuel data to the IAATO Secretariat for analysis, means that once we have acceleration in the development of sustainable fuels and other technologies, we will be in a strong position to act to reduce emissions further."

The 2022/23 Antarctic season will be the first in which IAATO will aggregate operator fuel data, with the body's members agreeing to the move back in Apr at the IAATO annual meeting held in Providence, Rhode Island and then shared with the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Jun, where IAATO is an "invited expert" organisation.



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Carnival hails vaccination rule change

CARNIVAL Australia has welcomed action by authorities in NSW and Qld to accelerate a planned easing of COVID-19 vaccination rules for children.

The change will enable more families to cruise under the new protocols that have supported the restart of cruising in Australia over the last few months.

Problems with the existing arrangements emerged recently following strong demand from families wanting to cruise over the recent school holiday period, with cruise lines unable to accept some family bookings or even in some cases forced to cancel cruise holidays.

The protocols required all passengers 12 years and older to be "fully vaccinated" with a TGA-approved vaccine, and applied a 95% minimum threshold for all passengers to be vaccinated, including children and



unvaccinated adult guests with medical exemptions.

Even families with infants who are unable to be vaccinated under current guidelines were impacted, despite them having no choice as to whether their kids had been immunised or not.

"The last thing we want to do is disappoint our guests, so we are pleased that the Governments are showing empathy for families in the vaccination arrangements

that apply to children," said Carnival Australia VP of Sales, Ryan Taibel.

"The Governments reacted quickly to the problem, but unfortunately the rule change couldn't be in place for the recent school holiday period when there was such high demand from families wanting to cruise.

"However it is good to know that the easing of vaccination requirements for children means that families will be able to book their summer cruise holidays with confidence," Taibel added.

"Our onboard teams can't wait to welcome our young guests on our ships," he said.

The rule change is currently limited to NSW and Qld, but is expected to soon become the model for an update to the Eastern Seaboard Cruise Protocols that have been adopted across the nation.



On location aboard
Valiant Lady

Today's issue of CW is coming to you from the Mediterranean aboard Virgin Voyage's **Valiant Lady**.

THE final port of call for **Cruise Weekly's** voyage aboard **Valiant Lady** is an overnight in Ibiza, which may surprise some passengers with its variety.

The destination certainly lives up to its club-based reputation, but outside of its amazing nightlife, there are a wide variety of goings-on in port.

Quad-biking, wine-tasting, boat touring, and swim-jetting are just some of the other activities on offer in Ibiza, and Virgin allows pax to experience it all, with our cruise including an overnight and full day here.

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Harry gets stepping

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's 2022 Walk for Wellness appears to have gone global, with NCL CEO Harry Sommer joining the initiative from the deck of *Norwegian Prima* as she sailed into New York earlier this week.

According to a LinkedIn post, Sommer is using the Walk for Wellness to participate in Mental Health Awareness Month, undertaking to report weekly on his progress and "highlight the importance of wellness for mind, body and spirit as I run the path *Norwegian Spirit* will be taking from Hawaii to Auckland, NZ when it returns to the region after three long years".

Atlas delivery

ATLAS Ocean Voyages has taken delivery of its new 200-passenger *World Traveller*, the second ship in its fleet and a sister to *World Navigator*.

Both newbuild expedition vessels will be officially named in a unique dual christening at Chile's Garibaldi Glacier, with the ships operating voyages to Antarctica out of Ushuaia over the upcoming season.

After her southern continent sojourn *World Traveller* will then reposition to the Canary Islands for 7-10 day voyages in the Mediterranean, homeporting out of Seville, Lisbon, Barcelona, Nice and Civitavecchia, while in Aug 2023 she will operate three Arctic expeditions.

Hurtigruten funds

HURTIGRUTEN Cruises' charitable arm is seeking application for new projects, with the aim of supporting work that "creates a lasting positive impact and which allows coming generations to have the same unique travel experiences as Hurtigruten's guests enjoy today".

The Hurtigruten Foundation supported 26 projects in 12 countries over the last year, with funding for the grants coming from various initiatives on board such as the Green Stay Programme and the sale of merchandise made from abandoned fishing gear.

Applications must be made by 01 Nov - more info [HERE](#).

Oceania Gourmet Traveller pact

OCEANIA Cruises has partnered with *Gourmet Traveller Magazine*, targeting the title's epicurean readership by highlighting Oceania's promise of "The Finest Cuisine at Sea".

Messages to subscribers highlight the Toscana, Red Ginger, Jacques and Polo Grill eateries on board Oceania's vessels, offering prospective cruisers a free bottle of Dom Perignon with all bookings confirmed before 31 Dec with the code OCEANIAGT22.



CRUISE operators made the most of the opportunity to showcase their wares to delegates at this week's Australian Travel Agents Cooperative (ATAC) conference in Melbourne, with the group seeing non-air suppliers as an important way for agents to continue to maintain remuneration.

Key ATAC partners include small ship specialist wholesaler Cruise Traveller, whose Laura Stone and Julie Donaldson are **pictured above** with David Wright from SA agency Travel Prospects during yesterday's trade exhibition.

Other cruise participants included Celebrity Cruises' Rob Patane, **pictured top right** with ATAC Board Member Nicole King from Ballarat Travel & Cruise; Royal Caribbean's Hannah Taylor giving one of the ATAC members a cruising edge **middle**, and CruiseCo Sales Manager Greg Wilson, at **right** with Viva Holiday's Darren Evans and Kristy Moore from TravelMoore.



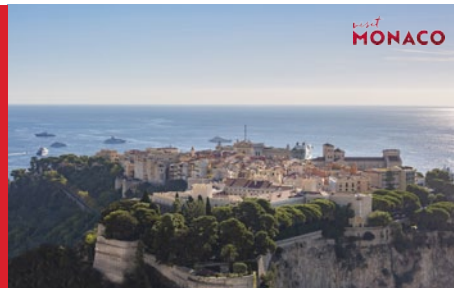
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FORGET sharks, piranha fish or box jellyfish - something much more dangerous is washing up on beaches in the USA.

Authorities in Delaware have issued a formal warning for locals to keep their distance from so-called "mantis shrimp" which are appearing on the sand after some major storms.

"Also known as 'thumb splitters', these aggressive crustaceans can easily injure a human or pet," according to a report in *USA Today*.

The west Atlantic mantis shrimp (pictured courtesy of @delseashorestatepark on Instagram) has "a pair of long, jackknife claws that resemble a praying mantis which they use to spear or slice through prey with a quick, slashing motion".

Striking fear into the heart of even the most intrepid beachgoers, the report cited the Chesapeake Bay Project noting that "the strike velocity of a mantis shrimp's large, powerful claws is one of the fastest movements of any animal on earth...it takes less than 8 milliseconds to strike, which is about 50 times faster than the blink of a human eye".



P&O returns to PNG



YET another Pacific cruise market has opened up, with the official resumption of passenger shipping in Papua New Guinea when P&O Cruises Australia's *Pacific Encounter* (pictured being welcomed by locals in the Conflict Islands) made her maiden call there last week.

The ship, which only recently became part of the P&O fleet (*CW* 03 Aug), made her inaugural visit to Alotau in PNG last Fri, followed by calls at Kiriwina, Rabaul and the Conflict Islands.

P&O Cruises Australia and Carnival Australia President, Marguerite Fitzgerald, thanked the Papua New Guinea community and Government as well as the Milne Bay Province for their support of cruising.

"P&O Cruises first started operating dedicated cruises to Papua New Guinea in 2013 so we are thrilled our guests can once again enjoy the nation's beautiful scenery and vibrant culture," Fitzgerald said.

"Cruise tourism makes a

valuable economic contribution to Papua New Guinea, and we're excited to be working with our partners there as we recommence our cruises to Alotau, Rabaul, Kiriwina and the Conflict Islands," she added.

The reopening of PNG will also see Princess Cruises and Holland America Line visit the destination, with Carnival brands to make a total of 14 port calls there over the remainder of 2022.

Fitzgerald said the itineraries would include longer calls and some overnight stays in Rabaul, offering even greater benefits to the PNG economy.

The final piece of the Pacific puzzle is Vanuatu, where P&O's *Pacific Explorer* will conduct some test visits next month (*CW* 19 Sep) in the lead up to a wider reopening of the destination.

"Once cruising to Vanuatu resumes, our Pacific cruise network will be up and running again, which is wonderful news for our guests and the cruise community," Fitzgerald said.

NCL promotion

TARA Clifford has been named as Senior Manager Consumer Marketing at Norwegian Cruise Line Asia Pacific, a promotion from her former role as the group's Marketing Manager Asia.

Clifford, who joined NCLH just over 12 months ago, has held former roles with Trip.com and UK-based retail travel network Travelbag.

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