



CRUISE

WEEKLY

delivered daily!



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Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus full pages from:

- Norwegian Cruise Line
- MSC Cruises

Industry mourns Patrick Hutcheon

THE cruise sector is today grieving the death of Patrick Hutcheon, the perennial companion of his wife Helen Hutcheon, one of Australia's top cruise writers.

The much-loved Patrick was always by Helen's side as she reported from various conferences and events, as well as on board the many cruises they enjoyed together.

His funeral service will be held at St Mark's Church, Darling Point in Sydney at 11am on Fri.

COVID measures removed

THE Premier of New South Wales Chris Minns has confirmed the removal of cruise COVID measures, effective immediately, following advice from Australia's Chief Medical Officer Paul Kelly on Fri.

The withdrawal of cruise-specific measures was confirmed following a decision by the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC).

"This brings Australia into line with other countries internationally and gives clarity to cruise passengers ahead of the coming summer cruise season," Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Managing Director Joel Katz said.

"As the last major cruise destination to maintain cruise-specific measures, Australia's ongoing testing and vaccination requirements had been causing increasing confusion among

travellers, particularly as measures on land and at airports had been removed."

Katz said Minns had written to CLIA confirming the move, adding other states are expected to make similar adjustments in line with the AHPPC announcement.

"The cruise industry's top priority will continue to be the health and safety of guests, crew and the communities we visit," Katz said.

"Cruise lines will continue to abide by their own robust health and safety measures and hygiene standards, and the industry will work closely with health authorities into the future."

Minns revealed to *The Daily Telegraph* last week New South Wales' outdated COVID-19 cruise ship restrictions were set to be axed (**CW** 23 Aug).

More on the removal of COVID measures on **page three**.

NCL up in lights

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) would love your vote for Most Popular Ocean Cruise Operator at the 2023 National Travel Industry Awards.

The cruise line said it is honoured to be a nominee, as are two of its Business Development Managers - Craig McLaurin and Chris Catanzariti. Voting for the Awards closes on 15 Sep.

Head to **page four** for more.

MSC proud as punch

MSC Cruises would really love your vote for Most Popular Ocean Cruise Operator at the 2023 National Travel Industry Awards.

The cruise line paid tribute to its travel partners, saying "your unwavering support has brought us this far" - head to **page five**.

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Cruise heavily anchors HLO results

HELLOWORLD Travel's cruise wholesale and retail booking volumes grew "very significantly" as capacity returned throughout the year, the company noted in its Annual Report.

Despite growth increasing off a low base, cruise had almost returned to pre-COVID levels by the end of the fiscal year, Helloworld revealed.

The company observed most major cruise lines were at or nearing their pre-COVID capacity, with a number of Australian-based ships offering a greatly expanded range of departures for the 2024 fiscal year and beyond.

Many of these departures were already sold out by the end of FY23, Helloworld noted.

The company also considered the effect the acquisition of Express Travel Group (**CW 22 Jun**) will have on its business through additional travel operations,



including its wholesale operation Creative Cruising.

"Our FY22 annual report stated: 'The demand for domestic cruises is strong, however, customers are looking to cruise further afield with international cruises to Europe and the United States now bouncing back'...this turned out to be something of an understatement," Helloworld wrote in its FY23 report.

The company announced this morning it has surged back into profit in FY23, with TTV and revenue both leaping, as HLO declared a 6c per share dividend.

Results for the 12 months to 30 Jun confirm an after-tax net profit of \$19.2 million - a turnaround from last year's \$28.8 million full year loss.

More from Helloworld's results in today's issue of **Travel Daily**.

NTIA votes open

THE Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA) has unveiled its National Travel Industry Award (NTIA) nominees for this year, and opened the voting process.

There is a total of 11 categories designated for voting, encompassing a diverse range of segments within the travel industry, with two cruise industry-specific categories.

The Most Popular Ocean Cruise Operator and Most Popular River Cruise Operator are both being recognised, with voting to close on 15 Sep.

"ATIA would like to congratulate all the nominees for this year's NTIAs and all the hard work they do," Chief Executive Officer Dean Long enthused.

Detailed information about the voting process is available on the ATIA website **HERE**.



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The Chat with Jenny Travel Daily



A Conversation with Anne Rogers
Tour Designer and Consultant

[CLICK HERE to listen](#)



CUNARD Line is making waves in the art world this week, partnering with street artist Mr. Brainwash for a unique mural on board *Queen Elizabeth*.

Mr. Brainwash joined guests and VIPs aboard *Queen Elizabeth* in Los Angeles last week for an exclusive ceremony in which he officially unveiled a new mural in the ship's Garden Lounge.

The mural is an intricate patchwork of iconic Cunard marketing posters from the 1920s, with Mr. Brainwash spray-painting a unique finishing touch, in his signature graffiti style.

Cruise AA-OK in NSW



ACCOMMODATION Australia (AA) has welcomed the removal of cruise restrictions by the Government of New South Wales (**CW** 23 Aug) in the lead-up to the state's bumper cruise season.

More than one million domestic and international passengers are expected to sail on a cruise ship in Australia this summer, but lingering pandemic restrictions in New South Wales, which are set to be scrapped, had the potential to severely impact bookings, AA communicated.

The industry group's New South Wales Manager Stacey McBride (**pictured**) noted the discrepancy which exists between the information provided on the Australian Government website, which states there are no cruising restrictions, and regulations in NSW, which require guests to wear a mask, and have COVID vaccination checks when boarding.

"The situation was extremely confusing for guests and had the potential to place a handbrake

on what is looking like one of the best year's forecast for cruising since COVID decimated the industry," she said.

"The removal of restrictions on cruising in NSW could not come at a better time as we move ever closer to the start of the summer cruising season.

"At the moment we are expecting an increase in cruise bookings of around 26% compared to the 2017/18 season before COVID enforced a two-year ban on the industry."

Legendary voyage

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has launched a new 28-day cruise for its Legendary Voyages collection exploring Greenland, Iceland, and the Arctic Circle.

Departing 29 Jun 2025 from Rotterdam, *Nieuw Statendam* will call at 15 ports across five countries.

The cruise includes a passage through the Arctic Circle, an overnight stop in Reykjavik, a scenic trip past Iceland, and a tour through Greenland's fjords, which will include four maiden calls in the North American territory.

New ports include Nuuk, Ittoqqortoormiit, Sisimiut, and Ilulissat.

Chief Commercial Officer Beth Bodensteiner said the longer itinerary enabled a far deeper dive into the region.

"At 28 days, it's the perfect length to showcase this area and give our guests an experience that goes beyond a brief introduction to the countries," she said.

Bookings are open now.

Time to strike gold

CHIMU Adventures is inviting travel advisors to find the golden ticket and discover Antarctica with the cruise line.

The prize will be included in a two of Chimu's new brochures, which are fresh off the press.

The two winners will be joining Chimu on the Sporting Legends in the Antarctic voyage, aboard *Ocean Endeavour*, departing 27 Jan.

They'll be joined on board by Australian freestyle champion Dawn Fraser and former rugby player John Eales - [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on the itinerary, and [CLICK HERE](#) to access the brochure online.

URBAN AIR MOBILITY IS NO FLY-BY-NIGHT FAD

The once-fanciful aerial transport is now within reach, and aerospace manufacturers are furiously working on getting the concept of Urban Air Mobility off the ground.



[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)

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WE'D REALLY LOVE YOUR VOTE!

MSC Cruises is delighted and deeply honoured to be nominated in the NTIA 2023 Most Popular Ocean Cruise Category.

[VOTE NOW](#)



Your unwavering support has brought us this far,
and we couldn't be more grateful!

Voting closes Friday 15 September 2023