



CRUISE

WEEKLY

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Cruise Weekly today

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

Ponant to Croatia

PONANT'S *Le Champlain* arrived in Dubrovnik last month, where she will offer weekly cruises around the Adriatic Sea.

Le Champlain, which was originally scheduled to homeport in Reykjavik, will now visit locations such as Komiza, Korcula, Mljet and Vis.

The ship is scheduled to depart each Fri, wrapping up with a final cruise on 25 Sep.

The operations have been authorised by a multitude of authorities, such as customs, police, the port authority and the Croatian Institute of Public Health.

Two more Carnival Corp cancellations

CARNIVAL Corporation brands Holland America Line and P&O Cruises UK have joined Seabourn Cruise Line (**CW** yesterday) in cancelling a range of future voyages.

P&O Cruises UK has extended its pause until 12 Nov, while also cancelling two long itineraries departing in Jan, while Holland America will not sail until at least 15 Dec.

Holland America (HAL) cited "the continuation of travel and port restrictions due to global health concerns," as the reason for the extension, with P&O UK citing the country's Foreign & Commonwealth Office's updated guidance (**CW** 20 Jul).

HAL's cancellation will affect cruises in Antarctica, Australia, Asia, the Caribbean, Hawaii, Mexico, the Panama Canal, South America and the South Pacific.



Those with impacted cruises will automatically receive a future cruise credit per person (FCC), with 125% for those who had paid the base cruise fare in full, and those who had not receiving a FCC of double the amount of the deposit paid.

P&O UK President Paul Ludlow acknowledged the complexity and length of the now-cancelled long-haul itineraries made them too difficult to operate in this

climate.

"As well as cancelling all cruises up until 12 Nov, we will, sadly also be cancelling *Aurora's* (pictured) Caribbean & South America Adventure and *Arcadia's* World Cruise," he said.

Guests booked on the cancelled P&O UK cruises will also automatically receive a 125% future cruise credit, or can fill in a form on the cruise line's website for a 100% refund.

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Read about how plans for cruising in local waters are progressing in the August issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read

travelBulletin



IT SEEMS Melbourne has become so quiet the city seals are taking over.

A happy pinniped was seen splashing around enjoying a fish in the Maribyrnong River in the city's north-western suburbs - pictured.



Lindblad bookings up



CRUISE bookings are surging for Lindblad Expeditions despite the cruise line's ongoing pause.

The company's Chief Financial Officer Craig Felenstein delivered the good news on Lindblad's second quarter earnings call, saying bookings for 2021 were trending 6% ahead of 2020 at the same point last year.

"The demand for future expedition travel remains very strong and we are well-positioned for 2021 and beyond," he said.

"A portion of that growth is certainly from guests on

cancelled voyages that have opted to reschedule, but we have also generated over US\$30 million in bookings since 01 Mar from guests not utilising future travel credits."

Lindblad has implemented significant cost reduction measures, such as lowering its expected annual maintenance capital expenditures by over US\$10 million to further increase its liquidity profile.

The cruise line said cash usage is approximately US\$10-15 million monthly excluding the impact of guest payments and refunds.

Other operating expense reductions include reducing general and administrative expenses through employee furloughs, payroll reductions, the elimination of all non-essential travel, office expenses & discretionary spending and suspending the majority of planned advertising & marketing spend.

Pictured: *National Geographic Endeavour*.

Viking digital brox

VIKING has launched a new digital brochure for its 2021-22 World Cruises (**CW** 24 Jul).

Also detailed in the online publication is Viking's 18-day Panama Canal & Coastal Holiday sailing (**CW** 10 Aug).

The 136-day 2021-2022 World Cruise and 119-day 2022 Viking World Horizons voyage will both sail aboard *Viking Star* - **CLICK HERE**.

Italy resuming

ITALY will allow cruise ships to return next week to help boost the country's tourism industry.

Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte announced late last week the country would be reopening to ships this Sat.

The move means AIDA Cruises has finally received the approval it has been waiting for to resume cruise operations (**CW** 05 Aug).

AIDA's first itinerary will depart from Kiel, all ships will sail from German ports, with cruises aboard *AIDAperla* to the Norwegian fjords to commence from Hamburg on 12 Sep.

Costa Cruises has also been waiting for the approval, recently introducing its safety protocols (**CW** 06 Aug).



CLIA UPDATE

with Joel Katz
MD, CLIA Australasia

Luxury cruise showcase
A KEY focus for CLIA throughout the cruise suspension is on continuing to provide excellent education opportunities for its members travel agents.

Our latest initiative focuses on one of the most dynamic and innovative areas of the global cruise industry, the luxury cruise sector, where major advances in ship design and on-shore experiences have made a big impression on travellers in recent years.

In many ways, luxury operators have redefined cruising, and in the process have created enormous opportunities for travel agents.

To help support our members' understanding of this market, CLIA will next month hold an online luxury cruise showcase, providing a chance to hear from the leaders of some of the most respected brands and gain insight into how they're confronting current challenges and looking to the future.

From 14-17 Sep, CLIA will host daily online interviews with global heads Tom Wolber (Crystal), Jason Montague (Regent Seven Seas), Roberto Martinoli (Silversea) and Josh Leibowitz (Seabourn).

This will be followed by a live panel session with Australasian regional directors who will provide a local perspective on how travel agents can move forward with confidence and keep selling the luxury cruise experience - register via the members' hub.

