

CDC delivers framework for restart

THE United States' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the weekend lifted its "no sail" order on American cruise ships, and set out a framework for how cruising could restart (**CW** breaking news).

The concept says cruise lines must demonstrate adherence to stringent health and safety protocols including extensive testing, quarantine measures and social distancing.

Cruise lines must meet these standards on a series of crew-only test sailings before they will be allowed to resume passenger sailings.

The CDC said the benefits of the new framework outweigh the costs of not allowing ships to sail, as it would provide flexibility for lines that have taken necessary precautions to mitigate risk, while continuing to prohibit sailings for those that fail to do so.

The framework will require cruise lines to provide rapid laboratory testing of all passengers and crew members on both the day of embarkation and disembarkation, with travellers who test positive not permitted to board.

Onboard testing capabilities will be developed to test anyone who may appear symptomatic, with those who test positive to be isolated and transferred to a dedicated facility on shore.

All remaining passengers and nonessential crew members will also be required to go into quarantine upon the return of a positive test.

Cruise lines must also meet standards for hand hygiene, face coverings, ship sanitation, and social distancing for passengers and crew members.

The wearing of masks "may be required by CDC technical

instructions or orders," but the framework does not lay out where and when they might be mandated.

Meal services and entertainment venues will also be modified to ensure that social distancing can be implemented.

The move comes after the CDC last week advised Americans to "defer all cruise travel" (**CW** 27 Oct), with the public health institute earlier in Oct extending its no sail order for the remainder of that month (**CW** 02 Oct).

Cruise Lines International Association Managing Director Australasia Joel Katz welcomed the news, telling **Cruise Weekly** that just as in the United States, the Association was "advocating for a similar measured and carefully managed resumption of local cruise itineraries in Australia and NZ that work within our international border restrictions".

Cruise Weekly today

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

RCG still losing \$\$\$

ROYAL Caribbean Group (RCG) lost US\$1.3 billion in the third quarter of 2020, and is burning through almost US\$300 million a month.

RCG said it is working to "prioritise and bolster its liquidity," and is "working to ensure it is well positioned for recovery", which it has done so recently through the sale of common stock, senior guaranteed notes and a convertible bond issue.

However, RCG's cumulative booked position for sailings in the second half of 2021 is "within historical ranges", with prices that are down slightly year-over-year.



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Silversea sees trade-focused recovery

SILVERSEA Senior Vice President & Managing Director Asia Pacific Adam Radwanski (pictured) has noted an improvement in demand, despite the cruise line last week announcing the extension of its global suspension of voyages until at least the end of next month (*CW* 29 Oct).



Speaking to *Cruise Weekly* last Thu, the newly appointed local Silversea Senior Vice President said last month was the cruise line's best-selling, when compared to other pandemic-affected months.

"2021 is likely to be more close-to-home and this is where we see most of our demand...Kimberley is flying off the shelf, it's selling extremely well...which gives you the indication that as we get closer to a vaccine development there is more confidence," he said.

"Our expedition product to Antarctica, the Arctic, Galapagos, is doing very well, because the customer base missed out on 2020 and now they're booking for 2021 or 2022.

"It indicates there is a very strong future for luxury cruising."

The travel trade will also have an important role to play in

the rebuild of cruise demand, Radwanski said, with the industry to soon be more important than ever, owing to the current changeable travel climate.

"Relationships with travel agents will be really important and they will play an important part of the rebuild of demand in the cruise industry.

"Because of the nature of the changing environment, you won't have the highly liberalised travel environment we've seen for at least a year.

"Some countries will have restrictions, some will require a permit, some borders will be closed.

"The travel industry will transform themselves into experts in where customers can go, where the opportunities are, and cruise lines will certainly rely on trade distribution."

More from Silversea on **page 4**.

New industry training option

VIKING is the launch partner for the *Travel Daily* Training Academy's new hub option.

The enhancement can see travel suppliers access more options for keeping the trade updated about products, services and destinations, with Viking's new Warriors of Wisdom module going live last Fri.

The hub allows suppliers to have their content housed and promoted under the **TD** Training Academy banner at training.traveldaily.com.au.

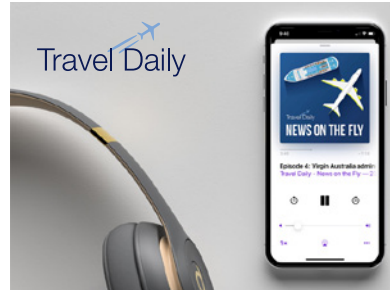
Following a friendly welcome from National Sales Manager Keira Smith, Viking's training provides the opportunity to learn about the line's full range of river, ocean and expedition products, and to be "inducted into the elite clan of Mimir, the Norse god of knowledge".



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New Emerald Mekong savings

EMERALD Waterways is offering savings of up to \$3,000 per couple on Mekong River voyages in 2021 and 2022.

Travellers will also receive a bonus \$1,000 credit per couple and earlybird savings of up to \$2,000 per couple for bookings made this month.

Voyages will travel through Cambodia and Vietnam aboard new Star-Ship *Emerald Harmony* (CW 06 Sep).

The offer is only available on cruise-tours of at least 13 days in length, with Emerald offering itineraries of up to 21 days.

Emerald's 2022 European river cruise collection is also on sale now (CW 22 Sep).

For bookings or more information please call 1300 383 747 or [CLICK HERE](#).

True North plots Fremantle

TRUE North has announced a series of domestic voyages ex Fremantle for the first time, giving WA cruisers the option of close-to-home departures within the state's COVID-free bubble.

Itineraries now available include a five-night Rottneest Island Escape, as well as a voyage to Cape Naturalist and Geographe Bay in the state's south west.

A week-long roundtrip from Fremantle to Injidup Beach will allow Western Australians to celebrate the New Year with True North - a contrast to the vessel's annual migration east to watch the New Years Eve fireworks in Sydney Harbour.

Other options also include a seven-night Perth-Esperance or vv voyage which includes a one-way flight, while *True North* is also offering a voyage up the west coast from Perth to Dampier.

The local season kicks off on



05 Dec with the first South West Escape, and then runs through until Mar 2021 when *True North* will relocate back to Broome for its usual Kimberley season.

The Fremantle departures offer a "safe and carefree opportunity to escape the madness," the company said, with itineraries featuring swims with dolphins, gala dining at the exclusive Cape Lodge in Margaret River and orca watching in Bremer Bay. See truenorth.com.au.

Canada cans cruise

TRANSPORT Canada has extended its ban on cruises until Mar 2021.

The ban, which has been in place since this Mar, will continue to restrict passenger vessels carrying more than 100 people from operating in Canadian waters, or calling the country's ports, until 28 Feb.

Vessels over 12 people are prohibited from entering Canada's Far North.

The restrictions only apply to cruise ships and pleasure craft, with ferries exempt.

This plunges into doubt the 2021 Alaska cruise season which is poised to start in Apr, with calls to the Maritimes, including Nova Scotia and New Brunswick hoped to follow.

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, in collaboration with other ports around the country, has called for a cruise resumption timeline.

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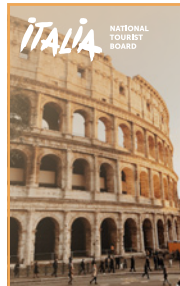
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Suite Ponant deal

PONANT has announced an Australian suite sale, offering savings of \$2,000 per person.

Available on four coastal Aussie voyages, the sale is available in any suite until 19 Nov.

The savings are applicable to the Australia's Iconic Kimberley and Highlights of Southern Australia voyages, as well as joint National Geographic departures Highlights of Southern Australia and The Essential Kimberley.

Ponant noted the release of its 2021 close-to-home voyages has seen an enthusiastic response from cruisers.

For more, call 1300 737 178.

Silver Moon rises



SILVERSEA Cruises took delivery of its new ship *Silver Moon* (pictured) last week.

The vessel is the third to be built by Fincantieri for Silversea, with

the fourth, *Silver Dawn* (TD 16 Oct 2019), scheduled for 2021.

Silver Moon is the ninth vessel in Silversea's fleet, with an intimate celebration held at Fincantieri's shipyard in Ancona to celebrate the delivery.

Executives from Fincantieri, Silversea and the Royal Caribbean Group (RCG) expressed their gratitude to all involved in the build, with RCG's Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Richard Fain, and Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer Jason Liberty delivering live speeches via video feed.

Present in Ancona to speak and sign off on *Silver Moon's* delivery were Fincantieri General Manager Merchant Ships Luigi Matarazzo and Silversea President & Chief Executive Officer Roberto Martinoli.

"I have long said that Silversea Cruises is the jewel in the crown of the Royal Caribbean Group and I am today reminded of the cruise line's quality," Fain gushed.

"*Silver Moon* represents the pinnacle of luxury travel."



CHINESE video-sharing service Tiktok is making celebrities out of almost anyone, and the latest user to skyrocket in popularity is Kallie from Minnesota, known by her username 'stopdoingmath'.

Although you don't always need a claim to fame to score social media notoriety, Kallie boasts that she grew up on a houseboat - but not the kind you're thinking of.

Kallie's parents purchased the boat, a private ship built in 1930 to travel the Mississippi River, which had already been converted into a makeshift house.

The family then converted it into a full-blown home in the 1990s.

They moved into the boat when Kallie was in her mother's womb, with her family quickly sealing every hatch closed to baby-proof it.

Its hallways are narrow at less than a metre wide, while its ceilings are so low they can be touched at every point.

Other features include boat uses ladders instead of stairs and a decorative (but real) anchor at the end of the driveway.

Most covetable about the boat is its several decks, one of which is almost 10 metres high, and overlooks the state's autumn foliage.

Kallie discussed some of her favourite parts about the house in a viral video which can be viewed **HERE**.

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