



Cruise Weekly today

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

Oceania Connect

OCEANIA Cruises has launched a "one-stop shop" of online resources for trade partners called Oceania Trade Connect.

Offering agent support initiatives, tools, insights, and information, Oceania Trade Connect also helps the trade learn about, promote and sell Oceania successfully.

Trade Connect can be accessed via a unique landing page, which houses all of the ecosystem's resources.

It has also been launched with an explainer video featuring Oceania Vice President Australia & New Zealand Jason Worth - [CLICK HERE](#) to view.

Spirit out until Jun 2021

CARNIVAL Cruise Line yesterday advised travel agents of a further extension of its Australian cruising pause, including the cancellation of all *Carnival Spirit* cruises from Brisbane until late Jun next year.

The company said it had "made the difficult decision to delay the return to service of certain ships until after required dry dock maintenance and upgrades can be completed in the first half of 2021," and has also cancelled all *Carnival Splendor* sailings out of Sydney between 19 Dec 2020 and 07 Jan 2021.

Carnival said given the limited international air service currently available, it is likely it may need *Carnival Splendor* to support crew movements related to refurbishment activities that were suspended due to the pandemic, as well as the wider return to operation plans for the fleet.

"Carnival will resume cruising in Australia when the time is right, and will do so with enhanced health measures developed in conjunction with government authorities, public health experts, and the Cruise Lines International Association," Carnival said.

The cruise line is protecting travel agent commission on all bookings paid in full, as well as on final fully paid rebookings when a future cruise credit is redeemed on an active sailing.

MEANWHILE an update on the website of sister Carnival Corporation brand, P&O Cruises Australia, now indicates the company's local pause in operations has also been further extended to 17 Dec, in line with the Australian Government's biosecurity order.

Previously P&O had flagged a resumption of local cruising after 02 Dec (**CW** 27 Aug).

Florida cruise push

POLITICIANS in Florida have introduced legislation which would establish a Maritime Task Force to "address the health, safety, security and logistical changes needed to allow cruise lines and ports to resume operations".

The proposed Set Sail Safely Act requires various Federal Agencies to collaborate with the private sector to develop a plan for the safe resumption of cruise line operations.

AIDA restart in Oct

GERMAN cruise line AIDA Cruises is set to resume sailing earlier than previously planned, with a new Italy program debuting on 17 Oct.

The weekly *AIDAblu* voyages will be followed by the already announced return of Canary Island *AIDAPERla* trips in Nov.

New E-Brochure!

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Discover the details of AFTA's Budget submission and how you can get involved in lobbying for funding in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read



CARNIVAL *Imagination* has become the third Carnival Cruise Line ship to end up on a beach in Turkey, with a graphic video posted overnight of the sad end of the vessel which is now in the process of being scrapped.

Crew on board filmed the ship being driven into the sand, as it pulled up alongside *Carnival Fantasy* in the breaking yard.

The three Fantasy-class ships join Pullmantur's *Monarch* and *Sovereign* in the graveyard, with more ships expected to follow - for those with a strong stomach, view [HERE](#).

Inaugural *Borealis* trips



FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines' second new ship *Borealis* (pictured) went on sale yesterday, with the inaugural program featuring a number of new

itineraries setting sail from Liverpool, UK in 2021-22.

Sailing from the Merseyside city almost exclusively in its first two seasons, *Borealis'* first cruise will be a six-night Scottish Lochs & Isles sailing, departing 23 Apr 2021, which will be followed by a five-night Irish Capitals & Scottish Scenery cruise.

The ship will then venture to the Mediterranean, Norway, Iceland and more, with *Borealis* having taken on the now-retired *Black Watch's* itineraries (**CW** 26 Aug).

Highlights of *Borealis'* first program include seeking out the aurora, a 2021 pre-Christmas "Spanish city break", navigating the fjords of Greenland & Norway and viewing the midnight sun in the Arctic.

Guests who book onto any of *Borealis'* sailings for 2021 or 2022 this month will enjoy included tips, and up to £100 per person to spend on board.

Borealis and *Bolette* were purchased from Holland America Line, where they previously sailed as *Amsterdam* and *Rotterdam*.

MSC crew strike

MAURITIAN crew members aboard MSC Cruises' *Musica* and *Poesia* went on strike last week to demand repatriation.

The two vessels have been stranded near Santos in Brazil since late Mar, with a group of 25 of the 101 Mauritians on board the ships taking part in the protest.

An MSC spokesperson said the biggest obstacle to the repatriation of the crew members was often the Government of Mauritius, with previous plans earlier this month cancelled due to overbooked flights and the quarantine facility restrictions.

"As flight options remain extremely limited and all needs to be coordinated with the local authorities, we now can only wait for the next available option, which has in the meantime already been secured," the spokesperson said.

Catch up on the news of the week



Travel Daily

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A-rosy Christmas

A-ROSA is inviting travellers to celebrate the Christmas season on its ships in 2021 with super-early booking discounts for selected departures.

Savings of up to 20% apply to over 25 sailings between Nov and Dec 2021, with itineraries visiting one of the oldest and largest German Christmas markets in Frankfurt, and two days in the Austrian capital of Vienna.

Cruises lead in at just €399 (A\$650) - [CLICK HERE](#).