



Cruise Weekly today

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

48 hours now 72

THE timeframe for Ponant's mandatory PCR test has been changed to 72 hours instead of the 48 hours as originally required (CW yesterday).

"Australia is still rolling out the vaccine program, and we understand it may not be possible for guests to have had the COVID vaccine prior to sailing and/or they may experience difficulties in order to receive their PCR test," Ponant explained.

"We are also aware that some guests may have made pre-cruise travel arrangements in remote areas where undertaking a PCR test may not be possible."

Beyond to fulfil Celebrity ambitions

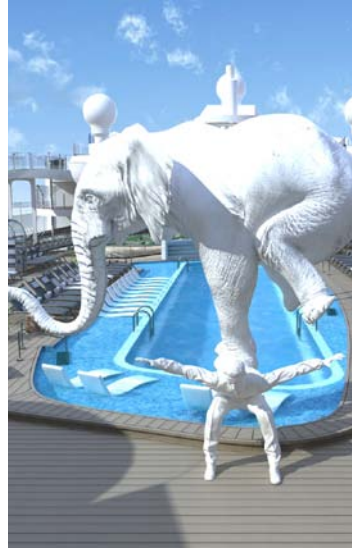
EXCLUSIVE

CELEBRITY Cruises' newest ship *Celebrity Beyond* (CW yesterday) is geared toward the cruise line's ambitions to occupy the "new luxury" segment of the market, believes Vice President & Managing Director Australia, New Zealand & Asia Pacific Tim Jones.

With 22 more suites than her Edge Series sister ships, *Beyond's* suite size is almost doubled, and there is also more room dedicated to The Retreat, with a 40% larger sundeck now occupying two storeys.

Jones said *Celebrity's* shift toward "modern luxury" has occurred organically, and is reflected in recent booking patterns, which strongly represent the upper classes of the cruise line's product.

"It's happened naturally... the business we're seeing is coming from that affluent luxury



audience, and it's coming from the top end of the ship," he said.

"There's such a dynamic market that's so destabilised by world events such as the pandemic, it's people who have a greater confidence around

travel we're seeing booking, more predisposed to travel internationally, more predisposed to book the upper end of the ship."

However, Jones noted as the curtain was further pulled back on *Beyond*, the longer, taller ship's new spaces would not just be accessible to Retreat guests.

"That's the great thing about *Beyond* – we haven't had to sacrifice that space elsewhere because we've made that part of the ship bigger, and we've added an extra deck," he said.

"One of the things you'll see over the coming months also as we reveal more, you'll see more of those spaces that aren't just available to Retreat guests, those spaces have been opened and expanded as well."

Pictured: A render of *Beyond's* Resort Deck, and its quirky elephant statue.

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PORTHOLE

BOAT carvings found in Norway (pictured) almost 15 years ago are now thought to be the oldest in Europe, according to a new study published in the *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*.

The life-size examples of rock art could have served as signposts when early Scandinavians populated the Mesolithic seascape, the research suggests, while also proposing the two images are thought to have been made around 10,000 to 11,000 years ago.

First identified in 2017, the boats appear as white outlines carved into the grey rock surface, and can only be seen clearly under the right weather conditions.

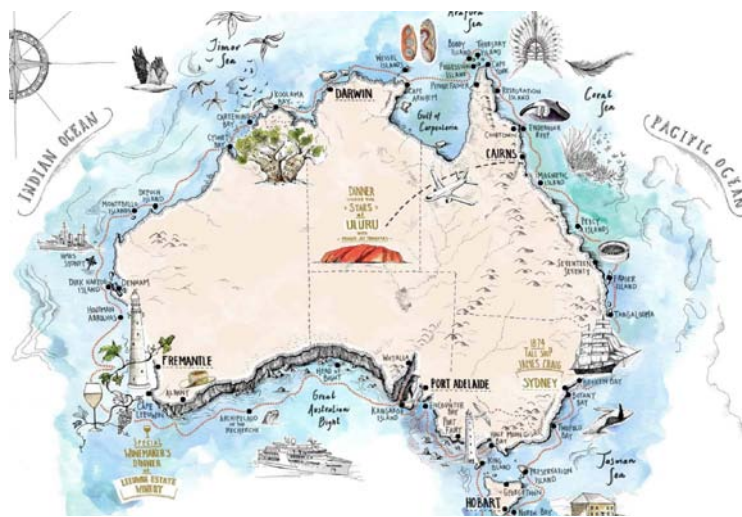


Fred. Olsen sailing

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has detailed its maiden journey on *Bolette* and *Borealis* as the cruise line prepares to return to sailing in Jul.

Borealis' inaugural voyage will cruise through Scotland's lochs and remote islands, departing Liverpool on 05 Jul, while *Bolette* will sail around the Channel Islands and the Isles of Scilly departing Dover on 16 Aug - [CLICK HERE](#).

Coral 35th anniversary



CORAL Expeditions is inviting travellers to join it on a 35th anniversary Circumnavigation of Australia later this year.

Sailing over 59 nights roundtrip from Darwin, the cruise departs 30 Oct, and to mark Coral's 35th anniversary, it will be visiting 35 places that shaped Australia.

Coral Adventurer will navigate counter-clockwise around the country, with highlights including a visit to Careening Bay for a service celebrating 200 years since the voyages of Phillip Parker King, paying tribute at sea to Sydney at her resting place in the Indian Ocean, discovering fossils at Denham, exploring World War II sites in the Torres Strait Islands, and shore excursions in destinations such as Albany, and Kangaroo & King islands.

Other special events include a winemaker's dinner at Leeuwin Estate in Margaret River, visiting the three-masted, iron-hulled *James Craig*, and a Sound of Silence Dinner under the stars at Uluru with private jet transfers.

Fares lead in at \$38,860, and for more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Pictured: A map of Coral's Circumnavigation of Australia.

Return to Barbados

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) will call Barbados home for a second season, with *Rhapsody of the Seas* to offer seven- and 14-night adventures departing Bridgetown in 2022-2023.

The new cruises have opened for bookings, with the news coming hot on the heels of the announcement of Bridgetown as RCI's newest homeport, beginning Dec (**CW** 19 Jan).

Guests will discover a centuries-old fort in Port of Spain, the world's first underwater sculpture park in St. George's, some of the globe's oldest botanical gardens in Kingstown, and enjoy late-night visits to the ABC Islands.

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