



Norwegian flags Feb Sydney restart

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line looks increasingly confident about the recommencement of local cruising early next year, with Chief Executive Officer Harry Sommer (pictured) saying he's encouraged by the Government's staged plan to reopen depending on vaccination targets.

Speaking at a special Great Cruise Comeback panel in Seattle on the weekend to celebrate Norwegian's inaugural post-pandemic voyage from the United States (TD 06 Aug), Sommer noted the current cruise ban, but said Australia "seem to be making some progress on the vaccination front".

He said comments by PM Morrison indicating it will be possible for all Australian adults to be vaccinated by the end of the year, as well as the 80% target which will allow "a return to some sense of normality".

"If you triangulate around that, we hope we can start cruising in



the Australia and New Zealand bubble in early Feb of next year," Sommer said.

"We currently have *Norwegian Spirit*, our beautifully refurbished ship, on sale for voyages from 09 Feb forward."

The event, which was live-streamed from Pier 66 at the Port of Seattle, also featured Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) Chief Executive Officer Frank Del Rio as part of a panel discussion moderated by Visit Seattle Chief Executive Officer

Tom Norwalk, who highlighted the economic impact of cruising on the city, which more than 1.3 million passengers visit annually.

The event saw Norwegian's SailSAFE Global Health & Wellness Council Chairman, former Food & Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, describe the extensive health and safety measures in place, with *Norwegian Encore* setting off on Sat on a series of week-long Alaska cruises.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Princess AK 2023

PRINCESS Cruises has unveiled its 2023 Alaska cruises & cruisetours program.

The schedule features six ships, including Princess' newest vessel *Discovery Princess*, which will spend her second season in Alaska.

The fleet will sail from four departure ports on 145 cruises across 14 itineraries, which will include five glacier viewings.

Highlights of the program include Voyage of the Glaciers from Vancouver or Anchorage aboard *Majestic Princess*, *Sapphire Princess* and *Grand Princess*, sailing a seven-day itinerary featuring two glacier viewing experiences, including Glacier Bay National Park.

Building upon this will be Voyage of the Glaciers Grand Adventure from Vancouver aboard *Majestic*, *Sapphire* and *Grand* - a 14-day itinerary featuring four glacier viewings, including Hubbard Glacier and Glacier Bay National Park.

Meanwhile, *Discovery* will sail an Inside Passage cruise from Seattle return, as will *Crown Princess*.

Guests can also add a cruisetour pre- or post-cruise visiting one of Princess' five wilderness lodges.

Golden Horizon Australian season canx

TRADEWIND Voyages has cancelled the upcoming 2021/22 Australian summer season of *Golden Horizon* due to continued uncertainty about the resumption of cruising.

The cruise line's local representative, Cruise Traveller, has already contacted all impacted Australian guests and travel agents, advising them

the voyages will be replicated in 2022/23, and giving them the opportunity to shift the bookings to the same cabin at the same price a year later.

Tradewind Voyages Head of Sales Mark Schmitt said the line was working as fast as possible to reframe the 2022/23 deployment, with itineraries to be confirmed by the end of Oct.

Excursion tragedy

FIVE passengers aboard the first post-pandemic Holland America voyage to Alaska have died in a floatplane which crashed during a shore excursion while the ship was docked in Ketchikan.

The plane's pilot also died, with Holland America noting it was an independent tour not sold by the cruise line.



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THERE are few fanbases in sports more notorious and *non compos mentis* than that of the Buffalo Bills, and come next year, the team's fans will be taking over a Carnival Cruise Line sailing.

The six-day voyage is the brainchild of lifelong Bills fan Victoria Pascuzzi, who missed the camaraderie of 'Bills Mafia' last year, with New York disallowing spectators at sports events.

"We missed a year of tailgating, so we're going to make up for it now," Pascuzzi told Buffalo's ABC affiliate.

She floated the idea of Bills Mafia at Sea on Twitter, almost as a fanciful joke, but Bills fans rarely need to be asked twice to have a good time.

From 02-07 May, the group will hit the high seas for the Cayman Islands from Miami, the city which is home to the Dolphins - the Buffalo Bills' hated rivals.

Emerald Asia 2022-23



EMERALD Cruises has released its Asia river cruising collection for 2022 and 2023.

Travelling into the heart of Vietnam and Cambodia, the new brochure features four itineraries based on the popular eight-day Majestic Mekong River Cruise which starts from just \$2,365 per person twin share.

On board *Emerald Harmony*, (render **pictured**) the journey cruises between Prek Kdam and Ho Chi Minh City.

For a more in-depth experience,

the immersive 13-day Wonders of Vietnam, Cambodia & the Mekong sails between Ho Chi Minh City and Siem Reap, with time on land to explore.

These longer itineraries feature more time touring before and after the cruise, with the 17-day Treasures & Temples of Vietnam & Cambodia cruisetour also encompassing Hanoi and Ha Long Bay in the north, and the 21-day Grand Tour of Vietnam & Cambodia river cruisetour including stops at Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, Hoi An, Hue and Siem Reap.

All Emerald cruises include meals while cruising, complimentary wine or beer with lunch and dinner while cruising, all tips and gratuities, return airport transfers, port charges & taxes, daily guided tours with special EmeraldPLUS cultural inclusions, and more.

Emerald is also currently offering a range of Super Earlybird, Earlybird and Solo Traveller offers, on all new bookings made by 31 Jan 2022 - **CLICK HERE.**

New vax mandate

AMAWATERWAYS will now require vaccination for all guests, following recent changes in certain European countries, the cruise line said.

Some nations in the continent are now requiring up to 10 days of quarantine for unvaccinated travellers, with access to some venues restricted for those who are not vaccinated or who have not returned a negative coronavirus test in the last 24 hours.

AmaWaterways guests will need to be fully vaccinated at least 14 days prior to boarding if they have received the AstraZeneca, Moderna or Pfizer vaccines, or at least 28 days prior to boarding if they have received Johnson & Johnson.

The cruise line is also recommending all guests take a PCR test within 72 hours prior to departure and bring documentation of a negative result with them "as a precautionary measure".

Those who are scheduled to sail and aren't vaccinated can contact their travel advisor for options to reschedule.

Seabourn money

BONUS spending money is being offered on next year's Seabourn Cruise Line sailings.

Travellers can receive up to USD\$2,000 on board spending money when they book a voyage next year to Alaska, Canada, Europe, or New England.

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