



# NCLH may mandate vaccinations

**ACCORDING** to American trade media, vaccination of guests and crews may be part of a restart to cruising, Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has said.

President & Chief Executive Officer Frank Del Rio remarked NCLH was looking into whether or not it has the legal standing to mandate vaccinations for guests, with a company spokesperson adding crew members will "begin their duties" with a jab.

NCLH has an ally in Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), which has said it is also "actively exploring" whether or not vaccination of passengers and crews can be mandated.

"Even once the vaccine is widely distributed, we are really going to need to get the advice of health authorities as to what measures we could begin to scale back on," a CLIA spokesperson said.

"The measures are not an on



and off switch as it relates to the vaccine and will be with us for quite some time".

While it is not incorporated into the Framework for Conditional Sailing, a United States Centers for Disease Control &

Prevention Spokesperson added vaccinations, along with other preventative measures, would be an effective strategy for reducing coronavirus transmission associated with travel.

**Pictured:** Norwegian Bliss.

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## AIDA cancellations

**AIDA** Cruises has postponed sailings until 06 Mar, in light of Germany's latest lockdown.

The country is expected to be locked down until the end of the month, which has forced AIDA to cancel *AIDamar* and *AIDAperla's* seven-day sailings in the Canary Islands.

*AIDAprima's* winter sailings from Dubai have also been cancelled, while *AIDastella's* first Mediterranean cruise has been pushed back to 06 Mar.

*AIDASol's* Feb voyage from Palma to Hamburg has also been cancelled, as well as Feb & Mar cruises aboard *AIDAaura* and *AIDacara* to Norway.

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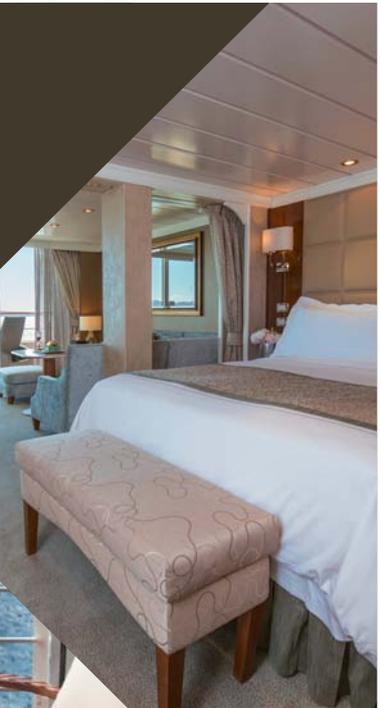
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## Key West reforms at risk



A **FLORIDA** bill could overturn Key West's cruise ship restrictions passed in Nov (**CW** 05 Nov).

The ship traffic reductions are the target of a new bill tabled in Florida's (**pictured**) state legislature, which would see authority over the region's ports taken away from local govts.

The bill was introduced by Republican Senator Jim Boyd, and if it passes, it could nullify the referendum vote in Key West which agreed to a number of cruise ship limitations relating to

vessel size, pax numbers, and the environmental history of lines.

The bill contends the economic impact of a seaport extends far beyond the boundaries of the local jurisdiction in which the port is located, materially contributing to the economies of multiple cities and counties within the region, and to the economy of Florida as a whole.

It also suggests local law changes could disrupt the flow of goods in and out of Florida.

Crucially, the bill includes a preemption clause that could cancel any previous local regulations, such as those passed in Key West.

The amendments, adopted during last year's United States Presidential election, were approved by wide margins.

In prohibiting cruise ships with a capacity of 1,300 or more persons, 81% voted yes; in limiting daily disembarkations to 1,500 people, 63% voted yes; and in prioritising cruise lines with the best environmental & health records, 61% voted yes.

## Murray savings

### MURRAY River

Paddlesteamers has introduced complimentary drinks on its cruises.

All two- to six-night river cruises from Echuca aboard *Emmylou* will include complimentary wine and beer with dinner.

Savings of up to \$530 per couple are also on offer for new bookings on overnight Winter Sun cruises made this month.

Through Cruise Traveller, Murray River Paddlesteamers is offering a 10% discount and free undercover carparking for all three and four-night Winter Sun bookings made this month.

The itineraries are now available from \$1,395 per person, twin-share - a saving of \$310 per couple plus free parking worth \$75.

To book, call small ship cruise specialist, Cruise Traveller, on 1800 507 777, or **CLICK HERE** for more information.

## Tech acquisition

**MARITIME** solutions provider Schulte Group has invested in digital technology for the cruise sector through the acquisition of reservations solution Rescompany.

Schulte said the two companies will be able to offer a comprehensive range of maritime solutions and state-of-the-art shipboard and office-based management systems on cloud and data analytics to the cruise sector.

**WHILE** peer pressure is often not positive, in an era of coronavirus, it can be.

American rapper Bow Wow recently took some young women, all presumably good friends of his, out on his boat, and decided to document the experience on social media.

Unfortunately for Bow Wow, his followers were quick to point out just how many people were packed onto his relatively modestly sized boat, and the kind of danger that could pose in the COVID-19 pandemic era.

Bow Wow listened, and promptly went out and bought himself a bigger boat - Martin Brody eat your heart out.

However, some internet users were not convinced, suspecting Bow Wow may have simply used creative photography to pass off the initial boat as a larger vessel.

Whatever the story, the incident shows he's definitely a big dog in a small pond.



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