



WORLD CRUISE
NAVIGATE
THE WORLD

20
24

Moments in Time

6 JANUARY 2024
SEVEN SEAS MARINER
132 NIGHTS | 31 COUNTRIES

Regent

SEVEN SEAS CRUISES

AN UNRIVALLED EXPERIENCE™

RESERVATIONS OPEN 15 JULY 2021

Our 2023 World Cruise sold out within 48 hours. Pre-register your clients to secure their preferred suite.
Call 1300 455 200 or email res.apac@rssc.com



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover page from **Regent Seven Seas Cruises**.

RSSC World Cruise

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has today announced its 2024 World Cruise aboard *Seven Seas Mariner*.

Travelling across 132 nights and visiting 31 countries, reservations open next Thu - visit the **cover page** for more information.

CDC fights back

THE Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has warned lifting coronavirus rules for cruise lines could put travellers at risk.

In an appeal to a federal judge's decision to end its Conditional Sailing Order (**CW** 21 Jun) the agency called its terminology "an important tool in ensuring cruise ship operations do not exacerbate the spread of dangerous variants during this inflection point in the pandemic".

"It does not shut down the cruise industry but instead provides a sensible, flexible framework for reopening, based on the best available scientific evidence," the CDC said.

Viking cancels Asia 2021

VIKING this morning advised travel partners that its Asia 2021 ocean cruise departures will not operate, with an extension of the cruise line's temporary fleet-wide suspension on these itineraries.

The company also confirmed due to the Australian Government's extension of the Human Biosecurity Emergency Period until 17 Sep (**CW** 11 Jun) all bookings held by Australian guests are being cancelled up until the time they are able to travel again.

The Asia cancellations mean it is unlikely *Viking Orion* will make her annual sojourn Down Under, with a fully-sold program of trans-Tasman voyages planned from Dec - although Viking has not yet confirmed any Australia season suspensions at this stage.

Orion had been scheduled to travel to Australia via Asia, a transit which includes a popular itinerary from Vancouver to Japan next month followed by cruises visiting Hong Kong, Tokyo, Bangkok, Singapore and Bali.

"Travel restrictions and complications due to COVID-19 continue to make cruise ship travel complicated, especially itineraries that visit multiple countries," said Viking Managing Director for Australia & New Zealand Michelle Black.

"We know that this is a difficult time for all of us in the travel industry," she said.

"We hope that as your clients

prepare to return to travel they know that Viking will be there, ready to resume operations and, as always, committed to their safety and wellbeing."

Impacted clients have the option of a future cruise voucher valued at 110% of all monies paid to Viking, redeemable on any ocean, river or expedition product and fully transferrable for sailings by Dec 2023.

Alternatively customers can request a refund equal to the amount paid, with a lodgement deadline of 16 Jul.

Commission is protected on all paid-in-full cancelled cruises where guests opt for the future cruise voucher.

For deposited bookings where guests opt for the voucher, it will be commissionable, but if clients opt for a refund, commission will not be paid.

Viking also noted that if travellers chose to cancel their booking prior to an announced suspension of voyages, then the policy in place at the time of their cancellation will prevail.

"We will not be making any exceptions to the policies enforced on previously cancelled bookings and appreciate your understanding in this regard."

Viking thanked agents for their support, with Black saying "we appreciate your efforts and the kindness and support you are providing your clients during this uncertain time".

Singapore extended

SINGAPORE residents are set to enjoy an extended season of Royal Caribbean International (RCI) cruises, as the beneficiary of Brisbane's cancelled *Quantum of the Seas* season (**CW** yesterday).

The ship's Singapore deployment has been extended through to Feb 2022, and in Dec, will mark a year since she returned to sailing in the destination (**CW** 04 Dec 2020).

To date, more than 82,000 guests have safely sailed, with zero occurrences of coronavirus on board.

Other schedule changes for RCI include the delay of the start of Hong Kong cruises due to strict vaccination and quarantine protocols imposed by the government.

New ship *Spectrum of the Seas* was due to start cruises to nowhere from Hong Kong at the end of the month, but will now begin on 05 Oct.

Meanwhile, RCI's chat feature is now available aboard every ship.

Royal Caribbean Group Chief Product Innovation Officer Jay Schneider confirmed the news, with the company having been working on rolling out chat across the entire RCI fleet during the pandemic.

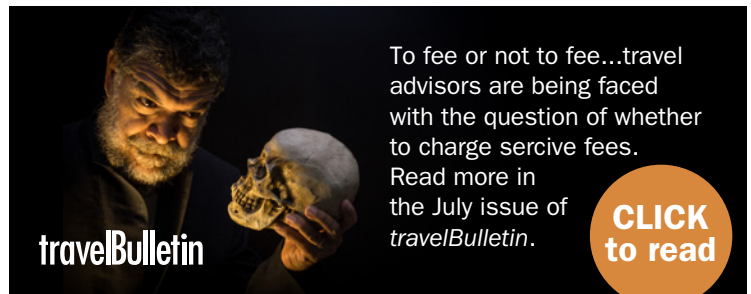
Chat costs US\$1.99 per day per guest, however, you do not need to purchase internet.

WORLD CRUISE
NAVIGATE
THE WORLD
Moments in Time
RESERVATIONS
OPEN 15 JULY 2021

20
24

Regent
SEVEN SEAS CRUISES

DOWNLOAD
TOOLKIT



To fee or not to fee...travel advisors are being faced with the question of whether to charge service fees. Read more in the July issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read



PORTHOLE

YOU'VE heard of passengers missing embarkation before, but this is ridiculous!

A North Carolina fisherman fell overboard while fishing almost 60 kilometres from the shore - and his boat drove off without him, leaving him treading water for about an hour.

The man was by himself when he fell overboard while trolling, meaning the boat was moving forward and dragging lures behind it.

He was discovered when his soon-to-be-rescuers, another duo fishing the nearby waters, were almost run into by the man's runaway boat.

Not only was the man not wearing a life jacket, but he was also not wearing his engine cut-off switch lanyard, also known as a "kill switch," which would have prevented the boat from driving off without him.

Fortunately, his rescuers saved his boat also - it's safe to say they're owed a beer or two.

Fred gets in on the fun



FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has resumed sailing with its maiden voyage aboard its new ship *Borealis* (pictured).

The cruise line restarted sailing on Tue, when the ship departed Liverpool, marking the beginning of the Welcome Back program of United Kingdom-based northern summer voyages.

While *Borealis* will sail at 50% capacity initially, she will always carry less than her 1,400-guest volume, allowing for the small ship experience Fred. Olsen promises.

Borealis introduces a number

of new venues and facilities to Fred. Olsen, including a two-tier theatre and main restaurant, an all-weather pool with a retractable roof, a large spa and thermal suite, and new venue, The Auditorium, which offers culinary demonstrations and more.

Guests will also have the chance to savour new flavours in *Borealis'* specialty dining restaurants, such as Vasco, which offers a fresh and modern take on Indian food, and Colours & Tastes, which provides modern Asian fusion dishes.

Windstar package

CRUISE Traveller is offering Business Class flights and complimentary bonuses on a Windstar Cruises Tasmania and New Zealand cruise in 2023.

Bookings made by the end of the month with the wholesaler will receive an onboard spending credit of US\$100 per person, as well as free laundry during the voyage aboard *Star Breeze*.

The 16-night Tasmania and Tasman Sea Temptations package begins on 09 Jan 2023 with a one-night stay in Auckland, before guests embark on a 15-night cruise to Melbourne, taking in Tauranga, Picton, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Stewart Island and Fiordland, before heading across the Tasman to Tasmania, for visits to Hobart, Freycinet National Park, Burnie, and Phillip Island.

Business class flights to and from embarkation and disembarkation will be provided, with fares for the 16-night package available from \$11,395 per person, twin-share - **CLICK HERE**.



DISCOVER ANTARCTICA

*T&Cs apply

Flights included
ex Australia

**All-Inclusive
Cruises**

FROM ONLY **\$11,999***

Book Now



cruiseweekly.com.au
cruiseweekly.co.nz

Cruise Weekly is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Cruise Weekly is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

EDITORIAL
Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
Associate Editors – Myles Stedman, Adam Bishop
Contributors – Nicholas O'Donoghue
info@cruiseweekly.com.au
info@cruiseweekly.co.nz

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING
Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au
advertising@cruiseweekly.co.nz

BUSINESS MANAGER
Jenny Piper
accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
Tel: (AU) +61 2 8213 6350 or (NZ) 0800 799 220
Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220

Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter - *Travel & Cruise Weekly* - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.

Travel Daily
travelBulletin
business events news

**Pharmacy
Daily**

Cruise Weekly is a publication of Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.