



Cruise Weekly today

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

Sun sets on Horizon saga

TRADEWIND Voyages'

Golden Horizon is sailing again, after it was detained in Dover on Thu (CW 16 Jul).

Golden Horizon was involved in a complex financial dispute with Brodosplit Shipyard in Croatia, where the vessel was originally built for Star Clippers (CW 03 Jan 2020).

"In Jul 2019, Brodosplit Shipyard first offered a "buyers supply" payment, followed by several offers more, but each time it was declined," Tradewind said.

"Finally, on 14 Jul 2021, at the request of the ship owner, the Courts allowed the establishment of a Court Deposit to pay buyers supply after the mortgage was taken out.

"This meant that a mortgage ceased to exist (the reported proceedings commenced a day after the opening of a Court Deposit)."

Tradewind said the payment was offered voluntarily, as evidenced by the opening of a Court Deposit.

Golden Horizon has since continued her voyage, "free of mortgage", Tradewind said.

Australia now coming last

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) has pointed out Australia is now isolated as the only major cruise market in the world not making progress toward revival, after Canada recently joined the global cruise comeback (CW 16 Jul).

Ottawa last week announced it had brought forward the end of its cruise suspension to Nov, after it was initially set at Feb (CW 05 Feb), a move CLIA Managing Director Australasia Joel Katz said highlighted the lack of progress in Australia.

The decision was made based partly on progress in Canada's rollout of its national coronavirus vaccination program, which is now open to everyone over the age of 12.

Katz called for a similar detailed plan for cruising's revival domestically, as Canada joined other destinations including the United States, Europe and parts of Asia where cruising has already resumed under stringent new health protocols and testing regimes.

"Like Australia, Canada has taken a very conservative and risk-averse approach to cruising, but they've worked hard with industry to develop a detailed pathway towards resumption and economic recovery," Katz said.

"By contrast, the Australian Government has made no progress towards establishing a framework for future cruise

operations, despite the availability of comprehensive new health protocols at the international level."

"As Canada has recognised, it will take months of careful planning to revive cruise tourism."

Katz said Australia needs its governments to progress urgent discussions now on how the country's cruise industry can achieve similar success when the time is right, and restore economic opportunities for communities around the country.

Clean Cruising General Manager Dan Russell, who last month helped lead a group of industry suppliers to Canberra to advocate for a restart plan (CW 18 Jun), said Canada's move to rescind its cruise ship ban should be a model for local cruising.

"Canada is a comparable maritime nation to Australia and its decision to allow cruising from 01 Nov subject to its public health orders is a glimmer of hope that businesses and jobs that depend on cruising here can be saved," a statement he said on Fri.

"The planned restart of cruising in Canada and its resumption already underway in numerous other international markets underlines the urgent need for federal and state governments here to engage and agree to a restart plan for domestic cruising in Australia," the group added in its statement.

NCLH titans bow out

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has paid tribute to two long-serving senior executives who resigned last week.

Regent Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) Executive Vice President Sales & Marketing Randall Soy announced he will be leaving at the end of the month, after 30 years with the cruise line.

Soy started with the brand in 1990, when it was known as Seven Seas Cruise Line.

He initiated RSSC's first Business Development Manager team, launched the top producer program and expanded resources for national and key accounts.

Also departing is Oceania Cruises Executive Vice President Sales & Marketing James Rodriguez, an almost 20-year veteran with the cruise line.

Rodriguez was one of Oceania's founding team members, with the cruise line's President & Chief Exec Bob Binder saying it would not be what it is today without him.

"James has always been a champion for our travel partners and his passion for the industry is second to none," Binder described.

RSSC's North American sales team will now report into SVP Sales Shawn Tubman, while Oceania's will answer to SVP Nikki Upshaw.

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WE HAD finally mapped the world by the end of the 19th century, but by the end of this decade, we may have mapped the ocean floor.

Scientists for The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO and its Seabed 2030 project aim to build a detailed seafloor map within the next nine years to reveal some of the ocean's unknowns.

Only about 20% of the seafloor has been directly mapped so far, and before the 2017 launch of Seabed 2030, only about 6% of the ocean floor had been adequately mapped.

In just five years, that number has more than tripled.

Genting ready to cruise



THE officers and crew members of Genting Hong Kong's *Genting Dream* have completed their coronavirus vaccinations in Hong Kong.

Dream Cruises will begin sailings on 30 Jul with two- and three-night Super Summer Seacation voyages for Hong Kong residents.

Genting's employees were delivered two doses of the BioNTech vaccine, as part of the guidelines set forth by the Government of Hong Kong.

The crew received its first dose of the vaccine on 23 Jun.

"We are extremely excited to be the first cruise ship to return to Hong Kong – a historically important home port for Dream Cruises and one of the most stunning skylines in the world," said Captain Jukka Silvennoinen.

"After being away for nearly a year and a half, we truly miss Hong Kong and we can't wait to welcome our guests back onboard."

Genting arrived in Hong Kong on

09 Jun and has been anchoring off Lamma Island, where the crew has been preparing for her re-launch.

Pictured are Staff Captain Johan Bohman and Silvennoinen.

Embark episode 3

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has announced the next episode of Embark, which will live stream on Fri week.

All Hands on Deck, the third episode of the five-part docuseries, provides a behind-the-scenes look at how onboard and shoreside team members are coming together to prepare for NCL's restart.

The episode showcases how Norwegian is preparing for its comeback with contactless technologies designed to enhance the guest experience and support elevated health and safety protocols as well as highlight new product offerings and experiences.

MD & VP APAC Ben Angell said NCL is still committed to bringing *Norwegian Spirit* to Australia next year.

P&O extra proud

P&O Cruises Australia has announced its second Pride Cruise, prompted by the popularity of next year's gay pride sailing (*CW* 25 Mar).

The second cruise will set sail from Melbourne on 09 Dec next year, just a month after the first, with the three-night getaway to feature plenty of fun and flair, including an entertainment line-up starring renowned drag artists Etcetera Etcetera and Coco Jumbo, stars of *RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under*.

Fares for the three-night Pride Cruise aboard *Pacific Explorer* start from \$699 per person for a quad-share cabin.

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