



# CRUISE

WEEKLY

*delivered daily!*



cruiseweekly.com.au  
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Thursday 22nd July 2021

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## Promo extended

MSC Cruises' Ready to Sail on board credit promotion has been extended until the end of Sep.

Cruisers can enjoy on board credit of up to \$600 per cabin - call 1300 028 502 for more.



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## Princess domestic pivot

PRINCESS Cruises has announced a number of itinerary changes for its Australian season in early 2022, with the cruise line admitting it's likely ongoing travel restrictions will prevent it from visiting some destinations in the region.

*Royal Princess'* 02 Jan 2022 cruise from Sydney to Fiji will now visit New Zealand instead, as will her 18 & 30 Jan 2022 voyages, which will now both round-trip from Sydney, having originally been slated to travel Sydney-Auckland and Auckland-Sydney respectively.

*Two Sapphire Princess* cruises, departing 28 Feb 2022 and 02 Mar 2022, which were set to depart Adelaide and Melbourne respectively on a New Caledonia

& Vanuatu itinerary, will instead explore Queensland.

*Coral Princess'* 27 Jan 2022 voyage from Brisbane to Papua New Guinea will instead explore Tasmania.

Guests will retain their original booking and will receive an updated confirmation by tomorrow, Princess said.

Shore excursions for cancelled ports will be refunded to the original form of payment, and any other related booking items, such as transfers and EZair flights, will remain unchanged.

Guests can also cancel their booking and receive a refund.

For voyages that fall within 180 days of departure cancellation, fees will not apply, if the guest opts to cancel by 21 Aug.

## Singapore cuts

CRUISES currently operating in Singapore have had their guest capacity reduced to 25% under new restrictions introduced as the country returns to Phase 2 Heightened Alert COVID-19 measures.

In place until mid-Aug, the move has seen Royal Caribbean and Dream Cruises both advise guests of changes, including smaller group sizes in public areas, reduced capacity for on-board activities and no sit-down dining.

Restaurant food offerings will be available via room service for in-cabin dining only, and booked passengers who are linked to recent COVID-19 hotspots in Singapore are being prohibited from cruising.

## ACA update

THE Australian Cruise Association (ACA) has confirmed it's closely monitoring the ongoing lockdowns across the country, as it makes contingency plans around its upcoming 2021 conference.

Scheduled for Townsville 08-10 Sep, the event features senior cruise executives as key presenters, many of whom are Sydney-based.

ACA Chief Executive Officer Jill Abel said the Association's committee planned to make a decision on timing by 30 Jul, when the next NSW lockdown update is scheduled.

Abel said ACA was committed to holding the conference this year, with an alternate date of 10-12 Nov under consideration.

## Free Jazz!

AMERICAN Cruise Lines' *American Jazz* has been freed, having ran aground 10 days ago.

*Jazz* was freed from a sandbar in Lake Barkley, Kentucky, having been carrying 120 passengers and 54 crew members.

It was on an eight-day Music Cities cruise between Memphis and Nashville.



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## Windstar return

**WINDSTAR** Cruises has resumed operations in Tahiti with vaccinated crew members and guests.

Half of Windstar's six-ship fleet is now back cruising, with *Wind Spirit* offering an Air + Hotel package from Los Angeles International Airport that includes round trip flights from Los Angeles, pre-cruise accommodation, a post-cruise day room, ground transfers in Tahiti, and a seven-, 10- or 11-night boutique cruise in French Polynesia.

Windstar is returning to operations in a phased manner, with *Wind Surf* coming back on 08 Aug in the Mediterranean, *Star Legend* returning on 04 Sep in Northern Europe, and *Star Pride* on 03 Nov in the Caribbean - see [windstarcruises.com](http://windstarcruises.com).

## Seabourn Europe 2023

**SEABOURN** Cruise Line's 2023 Europe season opened for sale yesterday.

Visiting nearly 170 destinations from late Mar to early Dec 2023, four Seabourn ships will explore the continent during the season.

*Seabourn Encore*, *Seabourn Ovation*, *Seabourn Quest*, and *Seabourn Sojourn* will offer almost 200 individual departures on cruises of seven to 38 days.

The 2023 Europe season will also feature 16 new destinations, including, Agadir, Alicante, Bermuda, Bornholm, Gdansk, Kavala, Livadi, Marmaris, Marbella, Milos, Naousa, Penzance, Pionersky, Poros, Riga, Ronne and Ystad.

Ventures by Seabourn expedition-style excursions will feature on three North Cape & Majestic Fjords cruises on *Ovation*, and will explore the Aurlandsfjord and its surrounding

islands via kayak, visiting the Arctic-Alpine Botanic Garden in Tromso; and explore Nordfjord by Zodiac with a cable car ride to the viewpoint at Loen Skylift.

The Route of the Vikings cruise on *Quest* will feature a Zodiac tour of Heimaey in Iceland, followed by transfer and a walking tour of the Hvalsey Church in Qaqortoq, and a Calve Island kayak tour in Tobermory in Scotland's Isle of Mull.

"Every year, Seabourn's season in Europe gets more and more exciting, and 2023 will be no different with a wide selection of ultra-luxury cruises for guests who really want to explore," said Seabourn President Josh Leibowitz.

"Seabourn was the first ultra-luxury cruise brand and we are the experts in European luxury travel, and with each season we provide more access to

## Third Mystery Cruise

**UNIWORLD** Boutique River Cruises has announced an additional Mystery Cruise.

The 02 Oct 2022 sailing is the follow-up to Uniworld's two first-ever Mystery Cruises, which sold out within 24 hours, mostly to American and British passengers.

The third cruise is only being marketed in the Asia Pacific region, and in the weeks prior to departure, guests will receive a series of clues, as well as a packing list to prepare.

The Mystery Cruise starts at \$9,399 per person.

"We were astounded by the interest for the Uniworld Mystery Cruise and were disappointed we didn't get a chance to truly share this with the Australian market when it sold out so fast," said Uniworld General Manager Alice Ager.

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## PORTHOLE

A GROUP of treasure hunters have found a bottle of liquid gold that sank into a Canadian lake almost 60 years ago.

The neighbour of a Barrie, Ontario, man crashed his boat into a dock on Otter Lake back in 1964, in an incident which saw several bottles of whiskey lost.

At the time, the man found them while swimming, but he was unable to reach them.

He returned to the lake last week, bringing with him a diving expert.

It took almost the entire day, with the group getting ready to pack up, until they found three of the bottles, with one still sealed and intact.

The group then spotted more bottles buried under debris at the bottom of the lake, and is planning to return to see if it can find more that remain sealed.

The whiskey was produced by the Gooderham & Worts company, as part of a cut that was discontinued in the 1990s.

## Fuelling up for cruising



**CAIRNS'** Hummers & Harleys limousine hire has taken a 70% hit to business from the suspension of cruising, with proprietors Rory and Tina Murphy (**pictured**) calling for a safe restart plan.

When cruising in Far North Queensland was on a growth trajectory, the Murphys bought a second luxury stretch Hummer limousine specifically to cater for the cruise market.

Barely three months after the second limousine went into service, the pandemic hit, with

cruising suspended, international borders closed and interstate borders constantly changing, leaving the popular tour business in a difficult position.

"We can't see the difference between having nightclubs open or going to the football and being on a cruise ship," Tina said.

"We would never have bought the second stretch Hummer had we known what was going to happen.

"We bought it solely to look after the cruise ships."

## Doing it for the kids

**MSC Cruises'** family area will reach new heights aboard *MSC Seashore*, which will boast a larger-than-ever kids area with futuristic, space-themed rooms.

The family experience has been redesigned with brand new activities, specially created to amaze children of all ages, and almost 100 hours of kids and family entertainment.

The Kids' Clubs are available for the youngest guests through to teens, and activities are organised according to age group, such as a Baby Club for toddlers up to three years, with qualified crew members, a Mini Club & Juniors Club (3 – 11 years), and a Young Club & Teen Club (12 – 17 years), including the brand-new TEENS LAB, an immersive, tech-filled, modern room just for teenagers.

"Our goal is to make sure our younger guests have the time of their life during their holiday vacation," said MSC Children's Entertainment Manager Matteo Mancini.



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