



Cruise Weekly today

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

Eclipse resumes

SCENIC'S *Scenic Eclipse* will recommence her Antarctica expedition voyages from 08 Jan.

This decision to operate the Antarctica 2022 season has been made possible due to the resumption of international travel for residents of many countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Scenic's dedicated Health & Safety Steering Committee protocols include: all guests and crew members must be fully vaccinated, all guests are given a rapid antigen test on embarkation at no additional cost, temperature checks are ongoing throughout the duration of the voyage, social distancing and use of face masks when moving around public indoor areas, and more.

Scenic said it is continuing to closely monitor the vaccination progress and the potential easing of travel restrictions for Australian pax.

Scenic Chief Operating Officer Rob Voss said the cruise line was excited to showcase several enhancements made to *Eclipse* in time for this season.

A glimmer of hope in Qld?

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australia has welcomed yesterday's comments from Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk on future cruise operations, saying the industry is looking forward to detailed discussions on a resumption.

Speaking at the new Brisbane International Cruise Terminal, Palaszczuk said plans are underway for a number of "Queensland-based small cruises" to begin sailing "up and down the Qld coast" from next year.

The trial, which will be explored when vaccination rates hit 80%, would encompass fully vaccinated Qlders only, with Palaszczuk labelling it a "great option".

She said she would propose the idea at National Cabinet today, but admitted "we are still some months away from this".

CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz said it was encouraging Palaszczuk had acknowledged the need to discuss a revival of cruising in Queensland, and noted there was potential for the state to be a leader in rebuilding the Australian cruise industry.

"Premier Palaszczuk is the latest political leader to acknowledge the work needed to revive cruising in Australia, and this is a clear sign that our industry's call is being heard," he said.

"CLIA and our cruise line members have been persistently

driving the message that Australia needs a clear and detailed framework for the resumption of cruising, to help revive an industry worth \$5 billion a year to our economy.

"This has been backed by the incredible support we've had from travel agents and other industry stakeholders as part of our Ready, Set, Sail campaign, and it's clear our efforts are changing the way political leaders talk about cruising."

Katz said the cruise industry need to maintain the small amount of momentum it has built, and urged every Australian cruise supporter to send a "clear message" to Members of Parliament through the online tool at www.readysailsail.com.au.

"The industry has presented extensive new health protocols for cruising to the Queensland Government and other govts around Australia, and we look forward to having more detailed discussions on how to implement them and revive cruising in our region."

Tahiti to limit calls

TAHITI is repositioning its cruise industry in favour of ships of small and medium capacity.

In accordance with French Polynesia's mission to preserve the beauty of Tahiti's lagoons, new directives to apply from next year include the favouring of year-round turnaround ships of a maximum of 700 passengers, allowing other turnaround ships of up to 2,500 pax, limiting the capacity of trans-Pacific ships to 3,500 travellers, and the refusal of stopovers by ships of over 3,500 guests.

These directives are the result of a shared vision of sustainable and inclusive development integrated into the 2021-2023 recovery plan for French Polynesia, as well as in the country's tourism development strategy.

Authorities are developing a framework for managing call requests for its waters via a single portal, which is still under development.

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Travel Daily



CATO is forging its own future with a new constitution, accreditation scheme and other reforms. Read more in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

Uniworld Nights Out

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruises has announced its new Nights Out evening experiences from next year.

Available in Europe's top cities, the five excursions are private offerings solely for Uniworld guests, and will be implemented into the cruise line's all-inclusive itineraries.

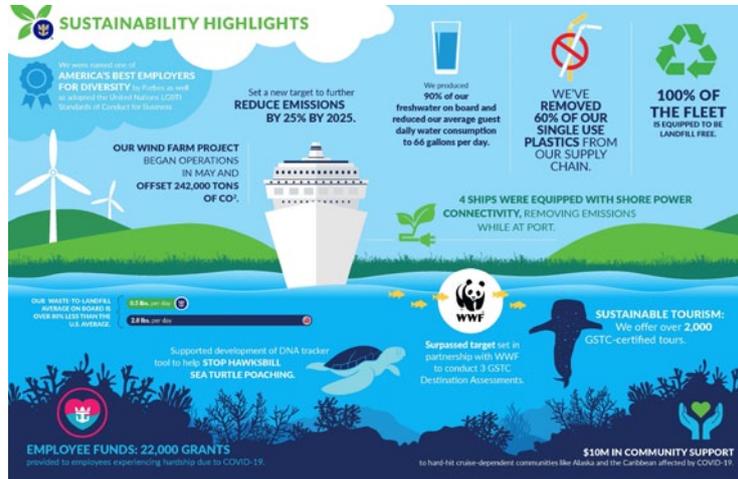
They have been specially curated by the Uniworld team and the brand's extensive local connections on the ground.

The 2022 Nights Out excursions include: a private Mozart & Strauss concert in Vienna, an after-hours visit to St Mark's Basilica in Venice, a tour & tasting at Feldschlosschen Brewery in Basel, an evening canal cruise in Amsterdam, and an evening at Cochem Castle in Cochem.

From 2023, Nights Out will be included on all itineraries.

Uniworld President & Chief Exec Ellen Bettridge said the portfolio had been built after wonderful guest feedback from nighttime excursions in Venice and Vienna.

Sustainability targets met



ROYAL Caribbean Group has released its 2020 Seastainability report, which documents the company has met or exceeded nearly all of its sustainability targets from last year.

The company set the objectives in 2016 in partnership with World Wildlife Fund for Nature, and as of this year, it has met or exceeded all of its 2020 goals, with the exception of the sustainable seafood sourcing target, which was impacted by global suspension of service from

the COVID-19 pandemic.

The report, in its 13th year, reveals three-quarters of farmed seafood served on Royal Caribbean Group ships now comes from certified sustainable sources, which is a first for the cruise industry.

Other highlights include Royal Caribbean achieving its carbon reduction target of 35%, and committing to further reduce emissions by a quarter by 2025.

Royal Caribbean's wind farm project in Kansas, developed in partnership with Southern Power, began operations last year, and generated approximately 242,000 tons of carbon offsets.

It is expected the wind farm will offset up to 12% of the company's global emissions each year.

Almost all (90%) of Royal Caribbean's fresh water is produced on board its ships, in order to not deplete local resources, and it has currently removed 60% of single-use plastics from its supply chain.

Royal Caribbean is now working to develop a new set of targets.

PORTHOLE

MICROSOFT may have lost the gadget "coolness" war with Apple, but the company's latest utensil is sure to get fans squeaking.

The company has made a mouse (**pictured**) using recycled ocean plastic.

The gadget is 20% sourced from the ocean, and 100% of its packaging is recyclable.

Microsoft also offers a free mail-in program so you can send your old mouse in to be recycled.

The Ocean Plastic Mouse connects via Bluetooth and has a wireless range of 10 metres.

It can last up to 12 months on a single AA battery and will initially only be available in one colour - "seashell".



SH + Vikand p'ship

VIKAND has been selected by Swan Hellenic (SH) for the cruise line's first multi-year fleet medical management.

SH Chief Executive Officer Andrea Zito said having VIKAND manage all the medical operations aboard its vessels meant the cruise line can be sure to provide medical protection and care of the highest standards in any eventuality.



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