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Cruise cut short

CUNARD Line's *Queen Elizabeth* has been forced to cut short one of its ex-Sydney cruises due to COVID-19 cases on board.

The line has cancelled *Queen Elizabeth's* Bali leg of its voyage, which has seen the final leg of the itinerary curtailed.

Queen Elizabeth is now heading straight to Fremantle, where she will arrive on Wed, after having visited Airlie Beach, Port Douglas, and Darwin.

Ninety-five per cent of guests over the age of 12 need to be vaccinated to board each Cunard ship, and every passenger requires a negative test before boarding the ship.

A spokesperson for the Western Australia Department of Health said it is in close contact with Cunard.

TC One sets sail for cruise

CRUISE bookings are set to become a major driver of the Travellers Choice TC One online booking platform, with Managing Director Christian Hunter revealing that by the end of Jun next year, the company will introduce fully-integrated live cruise bookings for the first time (**CW** breaking news).

The "game-changing" update was relayed to members over the weekend at Travellers Choice's Annual General Meeting in Melbourne, alongside the revelation touring will also be incorporated into the platform by the end of this year.

When the updated cruise inventory goes live, Hunter said its members will have access to a B2C channel with more content than most established OTAs.

"This is the next phase and move to a fully-integrated online, offline solution - this is where the

future is going to be," he said.

Speaking to **CW** on the sidelines of the event, Hunter added cruise was a particularly "big ticket item" that will "transform the usage of the TC One platform".

"Our members will be able to make the bookings directly through their own discrete channel but every member will also have that content live for their customers to book through their own website," he enthused.

"This will be full, live bookable inventory for all major cruise lines, it is going to be insane the power that our members will have...it will enable travellers to talk to a member in the store, they can get sent the quote but then can go online and book it themselves - so there's nothing like it in the marketplace."

In May, Travellers Choice also expanded TC One's access to car rentals, attractions & activities.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news, and a cover page from **Royal Caribbean International**.

Save with RCI

IT IS your last chance to save on a Royal Caribbean International cruise, as part of the brand's Black Fri and Cyber Mon sale.

Savings offer up to \$600 off, while kids can sail for up to 50% off, and up to 30% off the first and second guest is available.

Half-price deposits are also on offer, with *Quantum of the Seas* sailing into Airlie Beach for the first time earlier this month.

For more information, head to the **cover page** of today's **Cruise Weekly**.

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THE Australian Antarctic Division is experiencing a need for double redundancy, after a ship chartered to replace its broken down icebreaker has also had to return to port after experiencing mechanical issues.

The organisation's \$528 million *Nuyina* entered service a year ago, replacing the 30-year-old *Aurora Australis*, which is now decommissioned.

The new ship is used to ferry scientists and supplies to the Casey, Davis and Mawson stations to conduct research on the white continent.

However the *Nuyina* has developed some issues with hydraulic leaks, leading the Division to charter another ship, the *Happy Diamond*, to conduct a cargo mission.

Unfortunately that ship also broke down and was forced to limp back to Hobart last week, according to an ABC report.

After electrical repairs the *Happy Diamond* is expected to be able to visit Antarctica over the next couple of months, with the Division issuing a statement confirming it's not fazed by the breakdowns, as is its resiliency.

"The Australian Antarctic Division is highly experienced in implementing contingency plans and adapting to the challenges posed by operating in the Antarctic environment," the organisation said.

CSSC reveals Adora Cruises

THE joint venture between Carnival Corporation and China State Shipbuilding Corp (CSSC) has announced Adora Cruises as the name of its new brand created to serve the Chinese source market.

CSSC Carnival Cruise Shipping has two newbuilds on order, with the first scheduled for delivery by Shanghai Waigaoqiao Shipbuilding late next year.

The 4,250 passenger vessel (pictured) will carry Chinese passengers on both domestic and international itineraries, including destinations focused on China's Belt and Road Initiative which seeks to connect Asia with Africa and Europe.

CSSC Carnival Chief Executive Officer Roger Chen said Adora will integrate a "classical cruising experience and newly-emerging culture and tourism resources".

"Adora Cruises will develop more products tailor-made for Chinese passengers combining global and domestic cruise market highlights," he said.

Adora Cruises ships will homeport from Wusong in



Shanghai, and "operate on long routes along the Maritime Silk Road, while serving as a carrier spreading Chinese culture and enhancing exchanges between China and other countries," according to a report from Chinese new agency *Xinhua*.

A second, slightly larger ship is also under construction, as part of plans to develop the largest cruise fleet in Asia, offering cruises year-round from a range of Chinese homeports.

CSSC Carnival already has two ships in its fleet - the *Costa Atlantica* and *Costa Mediterranea*.

Cruising from ports in China currently remains paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fred's triple deal

A NEW triple-cruise package with Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines in Northern Europe is available, with savings released for couples and solos through Cruise Traveller.

Voyaging to the Baltics, Scotland, and Norway, travellers must book by the end of the year to access the savings.

Call 1800 507 777 for more.

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