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### Cruise Weekly today

**CRUISE Weekly** today features three pages of all the latest cruise news, plus a front cover wrap from **Regent Seven Seas Cruises**.

### This is Legendary!

**REGENT Seven Seas Cruises** is today promoting its 2025 and 2026 **Legendary Journeys** and **Grand Voyages**. Reservations open tomorrow for the collection, which cruises to Greenland, Iceland, Scandinavia, and more. Grand Voyages for the season include the **Grand Cultural Quest**, which will take cruisers across the northern seas and into the Mediterranean; and the **Grand Asia Exploration**, which reveals ports across Australia, as well as South East Asia, Japan, and New Zealand. For more information, head to today's **cover page**.

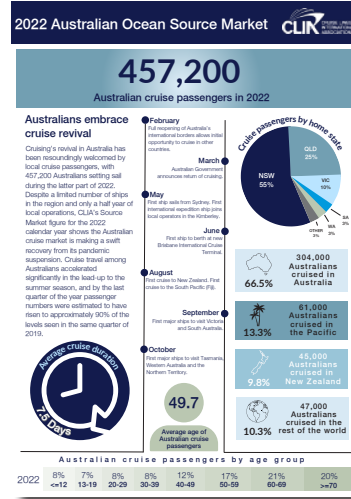
## CLIA figures show rapid recovery

**CRUISE** Lines International Association (CLIA) has released its first post-pandemic report on the performance of the local market, indicating that cruising's revival in the region has been "resoundingly welcomed by cruise fans".

CLIA's 2022 *Australian Ocean Source Market* report shows a total of 457,200 Aussies setting sail in the latter part of the year after the cruise ban was lifted.

The strong result comes despite a limited number of ships in the region and effectively just six months of local operations, according to Managing Director Joel Katz.

"Cruise travel among Australians accelerated significantly in the lead-up to the summer season, and we estimate that by the last quarter of the year passenger numbers had reached approximately 90% of the levels seen in the same quarter of



90% choosing close to home departures - compared to 75%-80% in previous years.

CLIA Chair Ben Angell from Norwegian Cruise Line said while just a handful of vessels had participated in the initial stages of the restart, by the end of summer more than 40 international ships had arrived.

"By next summer we expect to welcome around 60 international cruise ships to local waters, which is similar to 2019 levels," he said.

Angell said CLIA forecasts cruise passenger volumes will return to pre-pandemic levels by the end of the year, adding "cruiser sentiment is going from strength to strength".

"Travel agents are reporting strong demand for cruises well into the future, and the Australian cruise industry is on track to catch up to the rest of the world quite swiftly," he added.

View a report summary [HERE](#).

2019," he noted.

"All the indicators suggest Australia's cruise recovery is progressing faster than other parts of the world where operations resumed much earlier," Katz enthused.

The report highlights a clear preference among Aussie cruisers for local sailings last year, with

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## Celestyal debuts new agent portal

### EXCLUSIVE

A NEW travel advisor portal has been launched by Celestyal Cruises, with the newly developed platform featuring training, as well as downloadable PDF brochures, images, special offers, agent rates, and more.

The portal, the first of its kind for Celestyal, will act as a “one-stop-shop” for travel agents selling the brand.

The concept is rolling out globally, with each market, including Australia, to have its own specific version.

“There’s so many travel agents that know who we are, but they don’t know the ins and outs of who Celestyal Cruises is, our all-inclusive rates and shore excursions,” Business Development Manager Mary Williams told *Cruise Weekly*.

The portal’s training aspect will also serve to educate agents



about Celestyal’s new vessel, *Celestyal Journey* (pictured), which is scheduled to debut in Sep this year (*CW* 24 Mar).

With *Journey* geared toward Australian tastes, Williams said now is the time for agents to educate themselves about the new ship before its launch.

“(1980-built ship) *Crystal* only has about 50-odd balcony cabins,

but *Celestyal Journey* has over 150,” she explained.

“It’s opened up a lot more options for the Australian market...it’ll be catered toward the Aussie market.”

Those who complete the new Celestyal Cruises training by the end of next month will go into the running to win a \$50 voucher.

Register at [celestyalstars.com](https://celestyalstars.com).

### Aurora offers

AURORA Expeditions is offering limited-edition savings for this year’s Arctic sailings.

Three strictly limited offers are available until the end of next month, with Aurora also offering a \$100 cash voucher for each new booking.

The first of Aurora’s offers is flight credits of \$1,000 per person for the Arctic sailings.

Solo travellers can also cruise without paying the regular single supplement on a range of departures - a saving of 50% on full fares.

For those who are not travelling solo, enjoy up to 20% off all of Aurora’s Arctic voyages this year.

All three offers must be booked and deposited before 30 Jun, and the solo offer is not combinable with the other two offers - [auroraexpeditions.com.au](https://auroraexpeditions.com.au).

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**EXPEDITION** cruisers across the globe are going wild at a series of photos taken by a drone photographer off the coast of Newfoundland.

Ken Pretty captured the images of the so-called “dickie berg” (pictured) last week, and said he immediately saw the images had “online potential”.

Appropriately, the photos were taken in an area of the Canadian province known as Conception Bay.

“I’m gettin’ a lot of response, a lot of reaction to the photo because of a resemblance to... part of the male anatomy,” he quipped, according to CBC.

Pictures posted on Facebook were shared more than 3,000 times within a few hours, along with many fairly predictable comments such as “frozen stiff”, “talk about Northern exposure” and “we’ll know who to blame if a bunch of baby icebergs start popping up in the Atlantic”.

Pretty himself also now has a new online nickname as “Dildo man”.



## Hurtigruten invests €66m in ESG

**HURTIGRUTEN** Group has released its 2022 *Environmental Social & Governance Report*, which prioritises emission elimination over carbon offsets, backed by its €66 million fleet investment.

The report focuses on four key areas: emissions, nature, people, and communities.

Key sustainability milestones achieved last year include the launch of *Kong Harald*, the second hybrid-powered ship in the Hurtigruten Norway fleet, bringing the total of hybrid vessels to five across the Group.

*Kong Harald* is being introduced as part of a €100 million upgrade of the Norway Coastal Express fleet (**CW** 23 Sep 2022).

Hurtigruten Expeditions also developed new electric tender boats in partnership with electric motor company Evoy.

The first will be introduced on expedition cruises aboard *Otto Sverdrup* along the Norwegian coast this season.

Other highlights include an investment focus on hybridisation, fuel optimisation,

shore power connectivity, and research & development

Approximately 60% of guests participated in Hurtigruten’s Citizen Science programs across the year, with 2,350kg of litter collected shoreside during ship operations by guests.

Spend on local food and beverage suppliers reached 41% across the two Hurtigruten Norway and Hurtigruten Expeditions divisions.

“Adventure travel creates advocates for the people, places and wildlife impacted by climate change, and our responsibility is to ensure that experience is done as sustainably as possible,” Group Chief Exec Daniel Skjeldam said.

“We operate in a carbon-intensive industry and will be most effective by ensuring emissions don’t make it into the atmosphere in the first place.

“Our priority is investing in the technology that enables us to become Net Zero by 2050 and the launch of our fifth hybrid powered ship as well as the introduction of electric tenders reinforces this commitment.”



## CLIA UPDATE

with Joel Katz  
MD, CLIA Australasia

### Cruise docks at ATE

**AUSTRALIA** has put its cruise credentials on show this week at the Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE) on the Gold Coast, where holidays at sea are getting plenty of attention.

This year marks the first time CLIA has partnered with the Australian Cruise Association (ACA) for a joint presence at ATE, and the response from international delegates has been fantastic.

The event is an opportunity to remind the world travel industry that Australia is not only an incredible destination to visit, it’s also ideal to visit by sea.

In a packed schedule of appointments, ACA’s Jill Abel and I have had a chance to highlight the huge potential Australia offers when it comes to combining land and sea experiences.

With more than 30,000km of coastline, Australia is perfect to explore by cruise, but the visitor should also plan land-based travel before or after sailing.

Destinations like the Kimberley are getting plenty of attention and stand to benefit enormously from cruise.

Through events like this, CLIA and the ACA are showing that cruise is not only an incredible way to travel, but also an opportunity for cruise lines and destinations to work together for mutual benefit.



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