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cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Wednesday 5th February 2020

Sale of the decade

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is currently running its Biggest Sale of the Decade, offering a host of bonuses during the promotion period. Rewards for booking now include US\$200 of onboard spending money, complimentary open bar, wi-fi & excursions - see front cover.

Feel Vienna's vibe

U RIVER Cruises has introduced a new eightday Vienna Vibe cruise in 2020, sailing from Vienna to Buremberg.

The cruise will take place aboard *The A* along the Danube River, with prices leading in from \$3,199ppts.

Highlights of the trip include a bike ride in Austria's Wachau Valley and a hike to the country's Aggstein Castle.

Diamond Princess into quarantine

THE coronavirus crisis has seen Princess Cruises' *Diamond Princess* placed into quarantine off the coast of Yokohama, Japan after a previous passenger was diagnosed with the disease.

More than 3,600 people are aboard the ship, all of whom are undergoing formal medical checks conducted by the Japanese Ministry of Health.

Princess said the turnaround of *Diamond Princess* would be delayed for about 24 hours while officials review the health status of all guests and crew.

"On the previous voyage, a guest from Hong Kong embarked in Yokohama on 20 Jan, sailed one segment of the itinerary, and then disembarked in Hong Kong on 25 Jan.

"He visited a local Hong Kong hospital six days after leaving the ship, where he later tested positive for coronavirus on 01



Feb," the company said.

Princess said that while aboard the ship, the man did not visit the vessel's medical centre to report any symptoms or illness, and the 80-year-old patient is reported to be in a stable condition while family members travelling with him remain symptom-free.

"The safety, security and wellbeing of all guests and crew is our absolute priority," the cruise line added, noting that the review of arriving guests and crew by Japanese health authorities is standard practice.

Unfortunately the following Diamond Princess voyage, M004, has been cancelled, with all guests to receive a full refund as well as a 100% future cruise credit.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, a cover wrap from NCL plus a full page from Tauck.



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Wednesday 5th February 2020



On location in Livorno, Italy

Today's issue of CW is coming to you from aboard the brand new Seven Seas Splendor as she cruises between Rome & Barcelona.

SPLENDOR has spent the day in port, with pax on our special preview cruise given a taste of Regent Seven Seas Cruises' unlimited all-inclusive shore excursion offering.

Groups have dispersed as far afield as Florence and Cinque Terre, while others have enjoyed cycling in Lucca as well as several wine tastings at nearby vineyards.

Tomorrow is a day at sea, during which Regent CEO Jason Montague will provide further updates on the brand.

Pepe mixes it with the best



P&O Cruises' bartender Antonio Pepe has been recognised as one of the world's top cocktail makers after being awarded a silver medal at the 2020 Bacardi Legacy Cruise finals held in Puerto Rico. He picked up the accolade for

his own special creation, the Ron Passion8, a delightful summer mixture of Bacardi Reserva Ocho

Rum, Martini Riserva Speciale Bitter, lemon juice, Monin Passionfruit Syrup, Cinnamon Powder and apple juice.

In honour of the high praise, P&O Cruises is now offering the special concoction to guests to try across its entire fleet.

Pictured: Pepe very carefully prepares to skull two cocktails.

Silversea diverts

SILVERSEA Cruises has confirmed the revision of three Asian itineraries in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

Cruise number 5003 aboard Silver Spirit, which departed 01 Feb, disembarked in Manila instead of Hong Kong, while cruise number 5004 on Silver Spirit, due to leave 15 Feb, will now embark in Manila instead of Hong Kong.

Another modification will extend to cruise number 6008 on Silver Muse, which will now call into Puerto Princesa and Coron, Philippines instead of Shanghai and Hong Kong.

"The safety and security of our guests and crew is our primary concern," said the line's MD Adam Armstrong, with Silversea characterising the changes as "preventative health measures".

Call 1300 306 872 for info.

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Wednesday 5th February 2020



INNOVATION in the cruise industry never ceases to amaze, what with ice skating rinks, rock climbing, go-karts and even laser-tag at sea.

However Regent Seven Seas Cruises - perhaps in a reflection of its more refined target audience - has taken a different approach, with the new *Seven Seas Splendor* featuring an 18hole golf course at sea.

Unfortunately, deck space hasn't allowed for particularly long fairways, but being on board the ship this week in the Mediterranean, *Cruise Weekly* can attest that there are indeed 18 holes in the on-board putting course (**pictured**).

Naturally in keeping with Regent's all-inclusive policy there are no green fees, and a full set of clubs is available to negotiate the tricky course.

Sporting aficionados aboard Splendor can also enjoy shuffleboard, bocce, croquet, miniature tennis and even a golf driving range - where balls are safely slammed into a net.





LINDBLAD Expeditions has announced the implementation of a new cleaning system called Premium Purity, which will aim to create cleaner ships for the cruise line and reduce their impact on the marine environment.

Surfaces of all vessels fleetwide will be treated with ACT CleanCoat, a disruptive technology that is specifically engineered to fight harmful microbes and is chemical-free.

"We are very conscious of the waste we produce, and how the cleanliness of our ship and protection of our guests on board is vital to a healthy environment," said the cruise line's Vice President, Hotel Operations Bruce Tschampel.

"Our ships are truly pristine and healthy, and we already have measurable results to prove it from our initial pilot program on one ship.

"We reduced guest reported illness by 50%, eliminated over 1,000 plastic bottles of cleaning products, and dramatically reduced water usage by 1.1 million gallons per year," he added.

The news follows Lindblad's transition to become a carbon neutral company during 2019, offsetting 100% of its ships' emmisions, all land-based operations, staff travel, and for its offices in New York and Seattle.

For more information on sustainability issues in the travel industry, book your ticket to the *Travel Daily* Sustainability Summit in Sydney on 22 Apr. Purchase tickets **HERE**.

Pictured: *National Geographic Orion* while sailing in Antarctica.

Windy wellness

WINDSTAR Cruises has launched a new spa concept called World Spa by Windstar, featuring regional spa treatments and destinationthemed therapies.

The new wellness concept will be available on the line's three Star Class ships that will be refreshed and re-launched to the market from May.



WA welcome!

WESTERN Australia is rolling out the cruise welcome mat, unveiling exciting new onshore initiatives. Most of the ports offer a local musical performance – Albany is taking that one step further with the Albany Shantymen performing a range of seafaring songs and a group of young indigenous dancers – the Kwongkan Middars – meaning sand dancers - now welcoming incoming passengers. In Fremantle, a new crew quide

has been launched which includes a list of local businesses and crew discounts.

While in Bunbury, flyers have been produced for local businesses which update them on upcoming cruise calls including essential advice on dates, passenger numbers and times onshore, along with tips on how to make the most of the visits. Broome and Busselton pride themselves on being cruise-ready, with easy transportation services available via hop on/hop off bus tours and signage for those on foot. Seventy volunteers form the meet and greet team in Busselton and the local community also get engaged with the Vintage Car Club wheeling out their classic vehicles. Geraldton's regional cruise ship markets continue in 2020 offering local goods, and "selfie snappers" get exactly that with the chance for a photo with a local crayfish!



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Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter - *Travel & Cruise Weekly* - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.



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Cruise onboard ms Andorinha

A riverboat built to sail exclusively along the Douro River, carrying just 84 guests.

Villages & Vintages: Cruising the Douro River Valley

8 days from Porto return 17 Apr; 8 & 29 May; 19 Jun; 24 Jul; 14 Aug; 4 & 25 Sep; 16 Oct 2021 onboard ms Andorinha

Secure your place for 2021 with a fully refundable deposit!

TAUCK VALUE INCLUDES

- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE Private dinner with wine . pairings at Quinta do Poral, a Douro Valley wine estate
- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE Port wine cocktail-making . workshop
- . All private Tauck shore excursions -AUD \$1,620 Value!
- Guided walking tour of Porto's colourful historic centre
- Guided tour of 18th-century Mateus Palace in Vila . Real or a bicycle tour through Vinho Verde country

Exploring the Douro, plus Lisbon and Madrid

12 days from Madrid to Lisbon (or reverse) Departing 22 & 29 Apr; 20 May; 3, 10 & 24 Jun; 8 & 29 Jul; 5, 19, & 26 Aug; 9, 16 & 30 Sep, 7, 21 & 28 Oct; 4 Nov 2021 onboard ms Andorinha

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TAUCK VALUE INCLUDES

- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE Tour and private dinner in Queluz National Palace in Lisbon
- A choice of excursions that include active hikes. a port cocktail-making class, a tour of wine caves, bicycle rides and more valued at AUD \$4,208!
- In-depth exploration of 7 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Spain and Portugal
- Private wine tastings in guintas along the Douro River
- Two-night stays at premier hotels in Madrid and . Lisbon with a choice of city sightseeing

Douro Discovery: A Family **River Cruise In Portugal**

8 days from Lisbon to Porto Departing 29 Jun; 4 & 9 Jul 2020 onboard ms Andorinha

Starting from **\$6,520***pp twin share 2021 dates available!

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- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE Dinner at the National Palace of Queluz
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- Vintage tram ride and guided walking tour of Lisbon's colourful historic centre
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Prices are per person and in AUD correct as at 3 February 2020. Prices are subject to availability and seasonal surcharges. Price for Douro Discovery: A Family River Cruise in Portugal based on 29 Jun 2020 departure in category 2 cabin. To reserve a place on a 2021 departure, a fully refundable deposit will secure your place. This deposit is fully refundable up until 2021 prices are released. Guest may accept of decline the booking within one week. Deposit Protection Plan (DPP) amount, if selected, is also refundable if guest chooses not to accept and the 2021 prices are released. Guest may accept of decline the booking within one week. Deposit Protection Plan (DPP) amount, if selected, is also refundable if guest chooses not to accept and conclustor on the subject of the 2021 prices are released. Once to 2020 and a second and a second and accept and and will be advised at the time of booking. Control conditions apoly. Lice 2020 prices are released. Once to 2020 and a second and accept and and will be advised at the time of booking. Control conditions apoly. Lice 2020 prices are released at the time of booking. Control conditions apoly. Lice 2020 prices are released and accept and and will be advised at the time of booking. Control conditions apoly. Lice 2020 prices are released and accept and and will be advised at the time of booking. Control control conditions apoly. Lice 2020 prices are released and accept and and and and accept and and will be advised at the time of booking. Control contr