



Cruise Weekly today

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

ATG restructure

APT Travel Group (ATG) has integrated its sales and customer service team to create the Customer Experience, Sales and Service team.

The restructure will see Susan Haberle head up the new division as ATG's General Manager Sales, while National Sales Manager Scott Ellis has had his responsibilities increased to include heading up the groups division, as well as having overall responsibility for the New Zealand sales team.

Haberle will continue reporting in to CCO Debra Fox.

Royal Caribbean supports the trade

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises (RCL) has launched a new travel agent support program, RCL Cares.

The initiative is available to support the Australian travel industry during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing the latest industry guidance, webinars, messages from leaders, and more.

The company has partnered with the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) for the program, which is housed within RCL's online trade portal HomePort.

"This is one of the most challenging periods our industry has seen, and we want to do all we can to support those who have supported us," said Royal Caribbean International Managing Director Australia & New Zealand Gavin Smith.



"RCL Cares is just one way of helping our valued travel partners get the assistance they need during this time, because we know we are stronger together".

Celebrity Cruises Vice President & Managing Director Australia

and APAC Susan Bonner added: "we understand the context demands extra care and attention, so we're right here aiding our trade partners every step of the way."

Access the program **HERE**.

We can't wait TO WELCOME YOU ON BOARD AGAIN

Just like you, we're dreaming of seeing new shorelines on the horizon. Experiencing new cultures and savouring new flavors. Meeting people far and wide and realizing we aren't so different after all. And the moment these dreams can become reality, we'll be ready to welcome you back. Until then, the world is changing, and we're changing with it. We're taking every step to ensure you and our crew stay healthy and safe when we set sail. That's our top priority—so that enjoying your holiday can be yours.

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Tripadvisor Cruise Critic shuffle

LOUISE Goldsbury, long-time Australian/New Zealand Managing Editor for *Cruise Critic*, has left the business.

Cruise Critic is a division of Tripadvisor, which last week laid off more than 900 staff across the globe.

Goldsbury, who was also *Cruise Weekly* editor prior to becoming Tripadvisor's first and only editorial staffer in the southern hemisphere, launched the *Cruise Critic* brand locally, and has undertaken more than 80 voyages across seven continents.

It's understood *Cruise Critic's* local sales staff have also been placed on indefinite leave.

Ruby log was updated



INFORMATION confirmed to the Senate Select Committee on COVID-19 attests *Ruby Princess'* (pictured) health log was regularly updated.

The information certifies the federal human health reporting system was continually updated into the evening prior to the ship's arrival in Sydney on 19 Mar.

The information supplied by the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment shows the ship updated the Maritime Arrival Reporting System (MARS) at 7.21pm the night before arrival, seven hours prior to the berthing at the Overseas Passenger Terminal at 2.29am 19 Mar, reporting 128 people on board with illness.

A MARS submission was lodged earlier in the day also, and twice on 16 Mar.



THE COVID-19 pandemic is reducing ocean noise due to severely curtailed shipping activity - to the benefit of marine wildlife.

The quieter oceanic times will allow scientists to study the effects of more peaceful waters on those who inhabit them, namely, whales.

The drop in underwater noise pollution is similar, but assuredly greater, than that which was observed following the Sep 11 attacks.

A landmark study in 2012 proved ship noise was associated with chronic stress in baleen whales, with marine acoustician Michelle Fournet's work also showing whales alter their calling behaviour in response to a noisy ocean.

The beginning of the cruise season in Alaska usually coincides with less calling from whales, which could mean it's going to get a lot noisier this year - underwater, that is.



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CMV out until Jul

CRUISE & Maritime Voyages (CMV) has announced further suspension of its cruise operations until the end of Jun.

CMV cruises have now been suspended for nearly three-and-a-half months.

Disney shutdown

DISNEY Chief Executive Officer Bob Chapek has admitted Disney Cruise Line will likely be the last of the company's divisions to resume operations.

Cruises are currently canx through to early Jul, with all of Disney's COVID-19 shutdowns costing the company US\$1 billion for the quarter.