



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Norway visitor ban

**NORWAY** has extended its entry ban for all foreign visitors for seven months, with the border clampdown likely to inhibit attempts to restart cruising in the North Sea.

The Norwegian Ministry of Justice & Public Security said the second coronavirus wave and warnings of a "hard, long winter" by epidemiologists across Europe had led to the decision to ban entry to non-Norwegians until 01 Jun 2021.

Previously the ban had been set to expire this month, with officials saying they would make continuous assessments of the situation in the hope of relaxing restrictions sooner.

## Global Port Medical Network planned

**INTERCRUISES** Shoreside & Port Services has announced the development of a Global Port Medical Network to help support the safe return to service of the cruise and maritime industry.

The initiative is a partnership with global maritime medical operations and healthcare solutions provider Vikand Solutions, according to Intercruises MD Olga Piqueras, who is **pictured** to the right of Vikand CEO Peter Hult.

"We are proud to have already played a role in the safe return to cruising, but we must continue to take actions that will support this process," she said.

"By working with Vikand on this initiative we are using Intercruises' local presence and relationships to better support our cruise line clients and the communities in which we work."

The new network will help



cruise businesses adhere to protocols set forth by official bodies, such as the EU Health Gateways Commission which requires cruise operators to have agreements in place with local health agencies and/or health providers in each port to ensure that medical care and ambulance transport can be provided for coronavirus cases.

Hult said the Intercruises partnership would provide a comprehensive system of destination medical services and

providers that have existing port agency working relationships.

"With this tool, we can ensure there are medical facilities prepared to assist if needed, further strengthening our clients' safe return to service, and giving them and their guests peace of mind," he said.

"The initiative with Intercruises means we can truly say that we are ready to provide support in situations where there are potential shipboard COVID-19 cases," Hult added.

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## Key West says yes

**ALL** three cruise charter amendments voted on in the City of Key West yesterday (*CW* yesterday) have passed by wide margins.

In prohibiting cruise ships with a capacity of 1,300 or more persons, 81% voted yes; in limiting daily disembarkations to 1,500 people, 63% voted yes; and in prioritising cruise lines with the best environmental & health records, 61% voted yes.

Last year, Key West took around 400 ship calls and more than 1.2 million pax.

Disney Cruise Line looks to be heavily affected, having just announced a series of calls in Key West by *Disney Wonder* and *Disney Magic*.

Other cruise ships that would no longer be able to visit include Virgin's *Scarlet Lady* and MSC's *MSC Armonia*.

## A-ROSA donates food



**A-ROSA** River Cruises has donated masses of fresh food aboard its ships to local Cologne-based charity Kolner Tafel (pictured).

With a government decree pausing all organised leisure travel within Germany for one month, A-ROSA has suspended

its sailings until the end of Nov, meaning the food would've otherwise gone to waste.

"We are very pleased that we could support a good cause and help people in need, especially during these trying times", said Regional Director Australia & New Zealand Birgit Eisbrenner.

## Dream seacations

**DREAM** Cruises has introduced "super seacations" aboard *World Dream*.

As the ship begins her Singapore program tomorrow (*CW* 09 Oct), the super seacations will combine various leisure and recreation facilities on board *World Dream*.

Activities will be organised in accordance with permitted group sizes in line with Singaporean policy.

Included among the experiences are the Esc EXPERIENCE LAB immersive gaming experience, live production shows, outdoor ropes courses, a zipline, and a laser show.

Also available will be wellness options, Dream Cruises' Vitamin Sea & Dream, and Christmas-themed sailings.

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Travel Daily



**CRUISING** may be shut down, but there's still plenty of other water-borne activity - including shipping drugs.

Police in Spain last week seized over 1.2 tonnes of cocaine from a ship carrying corn from Brazil.

Clearly there were multiple hiding places on board, because Brazilian officials also confiscated another 1.5 tonnes of the drug from the same ship two weeks earlier when it departed from Sao Paulo.

Spanish customs agents intercepted the *Unispirit* about 50 nautical miles off Gran Canaria, and then escorted it into port for a painstaking five day search of its cargo.

Clearly the Atlantic Ocean is a key way drugs are smuggled into Europe, with police also last year intercepting a so-called "narco-submarine" off the coast of Galicia in a joint operation with officers from the UK, USA, Portugal and Brazil.

## Oceania 2022 season out

**OCEANIA** Cruises overnight released its 2022 Europe & North America collection of itineraries, in a preview leading up to the opening of sales later this month.

The program features 110 itineraries including 77 brand new trips and 10 ports new to the brand such as Norway's Lofoten Islands, Aarhus in Denmark and Killybegs in Ireland.

"As travellers continue seeking inspiration and bright new adventures ahead, we've never been more delighted to introduce a new collection of voyages," said Oceania President Bob Binder.

There are 56 voyages ranging from one to two weeks, along with 54 longer cruises up to 46 days which blend multiple continents and cultures into "singularly grand adventures," Oceania said.

There are 16 Eastern Mediterranean cruises taking in Israel, Turkey and Egypt along with six unique itineraries focusing on western Europe's wine countries.

A 46-day roundtrip voyage from New York aboard *Insignia*



will take in New England, the Canadian Maritimes, Greenland, Iceland, the Norwegian Fjords, Baltic capitals, France, Spain and Portugal plus the Azores.

*Nautica* will undertake a 22-day cruise right across the Mediterranean from Jerusalem to Barcelona featuring 18 ports, while *Sirena* will make a unique voyage to the far north visiting the North Cape, Murmansk and Archangel in Russia.

For more info contact Oceania on 1300 355 200 (Australia) or 0800 625 691 (New Zealand).



## Cruising again

THE election is over in New Zealand and a Labour government has been returned. So what does this mean for the resumption of cruising?

It means we no longer have to wait for an election outcome to re-start talks with government to work out details on domestic cruising, and those talks began earlier this week.

We have a new Tourism Minister Stuart Nash – a senior cabinet minister who also holds portfolios in regional development, and small business, which dovetails nicely into tourism, especially cruise, that brings considerable economic benefit to our many regional small and medium sized businesses.

We are now seeing some light on the horizon - Heritage Expeditions has been granted a permit to operate cruises around New Zealand and to the sub-Antarctic Islands, beginning this month.

Ponant has applied to operate from Dec, which will bring many guests to our regions.

Wintertime cruises from Auckland to the Pacific Islands are planned too, and this will add to the phased start-up of cruise.

Bookings for port calls next season are looking good, and give considerable hope for a new beginning for New Zealand cruise in 2021-22.

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## Satoshi auction

**OCEAN** Builders will today open bidding for cabins aboard its new Panama-based bitcoin-friendly *Satoshi* which is believed to be a reborn P&O *Pacific Dawn* (CW 14 Oct).

Pre-registration for the purchase of a "condo" is open now, and the auction will run from 11pm AEDT tonight until 28 Nov - more info at [oceanbuilders.com/cruiseship](http://oceanbuilders.com/cruiseship).