

Cruise ruling amended

THE Australian Government has updated the formal determination which prohibits cruise ships from operating in local waters, with the latest revision ominously removing any mention of a "cessation time" for the ban.

It's a mouthful, but the updated *Biosecurity (Human Biosecurity Emergency) (Human Coronavirus with Pandemic Potential) (Emergency Requirements for Cruise Ships) Determination 2020* is now in its third revision, with the latest update following last week's Australia's Biosecurity Emergency declaration extension until 17 Dec by Minister for Health Greg Hunt (**CW** 04 Sep).

The first version, registered on 02 Apr, explicitly spelt out "requirements for cruise ships not to enter Australian territory or Australian ports before 15 Jun," while the subsequent edition

from 25 May explicitly stipulated the updated cessation time for the ban as 17 Sep.

Last week's update from the Government extending the cruise and travel ban by a further three months has necessitated the third version of the declaration, but rather than including a date it simply specifies the formal "requirement for cruise ships not to enter Australian territory or Australian ports".

Some exceptions are permitted, including the "right of innocent passage," if the entry is necessary for ship safety or saving life at sea, or if a voyage started in Australia and is being conducted for the sole purpose of performing necessary maintenance on the ship.

Under the declaration authorities are also able to give permission for ships to enter Australian territory or ports.

Enough is enough

CRUISE industry leaders have called for a return to service in the United States, highlighting progress in Europe alongside non-stop work with governments, health officials, medical experts and scientists across the globe to develop COVID-19 protocols.

In a meeting with tourism and ports officials in Miami overnight, Carnival Corporation CEO Arnold Donald highlighted the successful return to service of the Costa brand in Italy, while MSC Cruises USA Chair Rick Sasso said protocols in place aboard *MSC Grandiosa* had so far proved efficacious.

Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings CEO Frank Del Rio said "enough is enough...it's been more than six months.

"We as an industry we as a society, have learned a lot on how to live alongside COVID".

Carnival return?

CARNIVAL Cruise Line Senior Cruise Director John Heald has teased a possible Nov return to cruising in the US.

Heald expressed Carnival's excitement at the successful relaunch in Europe, adding "the latest news is we are extremely hopeful that we will cruise in Nov, and possibly before, on shorter, modified cruises".

Cruiseco Oceania

CRUISECO is today highlighting Oceania Cruises deals on Asia and Australia voyages.

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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a full page from **Cruiseco**.



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Norwegian "Peace of Mind"

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) Vice President and MD APAC Ben Angell has detailed a range of core "Peace of Mind" initiatives which aim to "deliver the safest sailing experience, both at sea and ashore, when the time is right to cruise again".

He said the measures were the result of significant investments in recent months, building on Norwegian's already robust health and safety protocols.

As well as participation in the joint "Healthy Sail Panel" with Royal Caribbean (*CW* 07 Jul), NCL has also created its own Sail Safe program, which will build upon six key areas of health and safety to be implemented fleetwide.

Sail Safe will include upgraded medical-grade air filters, enhanced screening protocols, increased sanitation measures, social distancing, improved medical resources and extended ship-to-shore safety.

Angell said the Healthy Sail Panel was expected to offer its initial recommendations soon, with the "open-source" outcomes to be shared with the entire industry and regulators.

MEANWHILE Norwegian has also extended its Peace of Mind cancellation policy, with guests sailing on cruises embarking from 01 Jan 2021 to 31 Oct 2021, and booked by 30 Sep 2020, now having the flexibility to cancel their cruise 15 days prior to departure and receive a future

cruise credit, which may be applied to any sailing through to 31 Dec 2022.

Guests also have the flexibility of a full refund when they cancel up to 120 days before their cruise.

In addition, for all voyages through to 31 Mar 2021, guests can provide final payment 30 days prior to embarkation, rather than the standard 120 days.

The policies apply to the cruise line's recently unveiled 2021-2023 itineraries, which feature voyages to more than 20 new destinations including the release of Australasian itineraries aboard the recently refurbished *Norwegian Spirit* which will offer a series of 10 and 12-day voyages between Sydney and Auckland from Dec 2021.

The *Spirit* upgrade includes a doubled-in-size Mandara Spa and the second Onda by Scarpatta restaurant at sea.

"Norwegian Cruise Line remains committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of our guests, crew and the communities we visit around the world," Angell said.

"As an innovator in global cruise travel, we want to ensure that valued NCL guests sail with steel-clad Peace of Mind - whether through our ongoing work with a council of leading health and safety experts, through our collaborative work with local operators at each and every port of call, or through the provision of flexible booking policies."

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Cunard's 2021 world cruise fit for a Queen

CUNARD Line's *Queen Mary 2* (pictured) will sail a 118-night world cruise in 2022, departing New York on 03 Jan 2022.

The cruise will visit destinations such as Australia, as well as Greece, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Vietnam, Bali, Abu Dhabi, Oman, Italy and Portugal.

There will also be a number of overnights, in Haifa, Dubai, Hong Kong, Sydney and Singapore, as well as a late-night departure from Colombo, and outbound and return trips through the Suez Canal.



The itinerary is also available as a shorter, 104-night sailing from Southampton starting 10 Jan, or can be split into six sectors and booked individually.

The program spans 16 countries.



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WANT to smell like you're on a luxury cruise?

You're in luck - British fragrance and body care supplier Molton Brown is now selling its range of Seabourn Signature Scents online and in select stores in the UK and US.

Normally available only on board Seabourn's five ships, some items in the exclusive collection have been created from "four unique ingredients sourced from the coastlines that Seabourn ships explore".

They include Immersive Samphire and Eucalyptus, with an olfactory profile described as "refreshing, clean and aromatic with green nuances".

Inspiring Basil and Velvet also aims to mirror the "relaxing, sanctuary-like ambience of The Spa at Seabourn," and British illustrator Angela McKay has also hand drawn the fragrances' botanical ingredients on the bottles - so stink it up, cruisers!

See moltonbrown.com.

Got a spare few mill?



A TOTAL of five former Cruise & Maritime Voyages (CMV) ships have been put up for sale at auction.

Coming just two months after Cruise & Maritime Voyages entered administration (**CW** 21 Jul), the auction will be brokered by CW Kellock & Co.

Astor, Columbus, Magellan, Marco Polo and Vasco Da Gama (pictured) will each be sold under a separate deal, with only *Astoria* escaping the auction, as it was not owned by CMV.

Also not up for sale are *Amy Johnson* and *Ida Pfeiffer*, as they had been purchased from P&O

Cruises Australia and had not yet been received by Cruise & Maritime Voyages.

The auction will occur between 08 and 22 Oct, with other details around the sale not yet known.

Four of the ships are currently docked in Cruise & Maritime Voyages' former homeport of Tilbury, with another in Bristol.

Although it is not known whether they will participate in the auction, Cruise & Maritime Voyages' United Kingdom-based assets were recently sold to CVI Group, a business established by CMV's former CEO Christian Verhounig (**CW** 04 Sep).

Singapore changes

SINGAPORE has established a crew facilitation centre, and a safe crew change fund, to ensure safe port operations.

The initiatives have been devised by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, with the floating centre located at Tanjong Pagar Terminal, to aid seafarers of all nationalities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The self-contained facility includes an on-site medical centre, and testing and holding facilities.

It will house crew members for up to 48 hours prior to boarding their ships.

Disney changes

PORT of Galveston Port Director & Chief Executive Officer Rodger Rees has revealed Disney Cruise Line's restart will involve limited capacity and enforced embarkation and arrival times.

Overall capacity will reportedly be limited to 70% aboard Disney's four ships upon its return to service.

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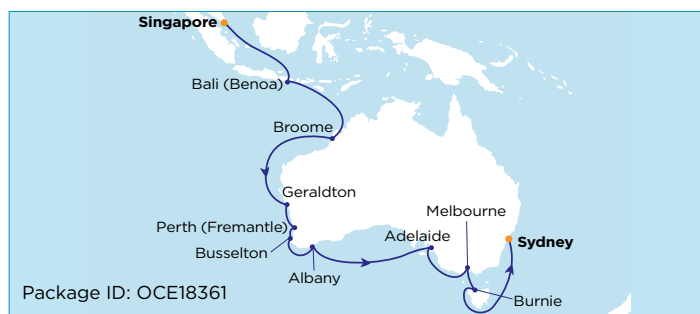
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