

## P&O extends pause until Jun

**P&O Cruises Australia** is extending its pause to itineraries on or before 18 Jun.

Guests with bookings affected by the pause extension are being contacted, either directly or via their travel advisor, to let them know, and inform them of the options available.

"While we are becoming increasingly confident in the restart of cruising in Australia, we are continuing with the realistic and pragmatic approach we have adopted previously," P&O Cruises Australia President Sture Myrmell said.

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## Crystal vax for pax, but not crews?

**CRYSTAL** Cruises clients must now provide proof of "full inoculation" against COVID-19 at least 14 days prior to departure, and has extended its ongoing cruise pause to allow time for passengers to get vaccinated.

"We are encouraged by the recent development of multiple vaccines and optimistic about what this means for the wellbeing of the Crystal family and their loved ones around the world," the company said in a statement.

"With this in mind, and according to the latest scientific data and expert guidance, we have made the decision that guests must be fully inoculated with a COVID-19 vaccine with both doses if recommended by the manufacturer," Crystal said.

The new requirement is in addition to existing Crystal Clean+ 4.0 measures, including negative COVID-19 tests and health



screening questionnaires.

While Crystal expects all crews to be vaccinated, the cruise line said it understands at present this may not be a viable option for all crew members, given their age and/or the availability of vaccines in their home countries.

Existing requirements for crews to present a negative COVID-19 test before leaving their home country to join the ship will remain in place, along with a test

upon boarding the ship, seven days of quarantine aboard the vessel, and another negative test before starting duty.

Crystal's European river cruises are currently paused through to May, while the cruise line's two ocean ships are on hiatus until Jun.

*Crystal Esprit* is scheduled to resume sailing in early Aug, followed shortly by the debut season of *Endeavour* (pictured).



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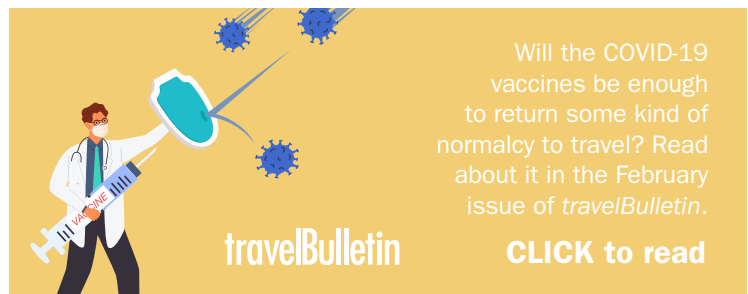
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Will the COVID-19 vaccines be enough to return some kind of normalcy to travel? Read about it in the February issue of *travelBulletin*.

**CLICK to read**

## Green shoots at Norwegian

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) has added a new BDM in NSW/ACT, Vanessa Green.

With a strong travel industry background, which has seen her work with Flight Centre and Expedia, Green's most recent role was with The Travel Corporation as Insight Vacations Sales Manager for NSW South/ACT.

She was previously a finalist at the NTIA Awards for the Best Sales Executive, Land category in 2019.

"I'm delighted to join the Norwegian team, and look forward to continuing NCL's tradition of developing strong relationships with our valued travel partners," Green said.

Director of Sales, Australia & New Zealand Damian Borg enthusiastically welcomed Green's appointment.

## PortMiami shore power

A **LETTER** of intent has been signed to bring shore power to PortMiami, according to *The Miami Herald*.

The county's Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and Florida Power & Light Chief Executive Officer Eric Silagy signed the letter, along with the chief executives of six cruise companies - Carnival Corporation, Disney Cruise Line, MSC Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings, Royal Caribbean Group, and Virgin Voyages.

Florida Power & Light, the cruise companies, and representatives from Miami-Dade will form a task force to work through the logistical and funding challenges of installing shore power.

The letter does not include any timeline for the installation, with a spokesperson for Levine Cava saying the goal is to have at least one hookup installed within a year or two.

Levine Cava announced the letter during the Miami-Dade board of commissioners' discussion of a new terminal for MSC, which was also approved, in unanimous fashion.

Port Director Juan Kuryla said the terminal would be outfitted with shore power, to be installed at the same time as the new terminals are being built.

According to a 2018 report from Port Everglades, in 2008, Florida Power & Light estimated it would cost US\$7.5 million to equip a single cruise berth with shore power, with the recently developed hookup in Brooklyn costing \$20 million.

Including the new MSC terminal, PortMiami has been moving forward with a number of its major cruise line expansion projects despite the current pause in sailing in the United States (**CW** 03 Sep 2020).

## Swan Hellenic GSA

**SWAN** Hellenic has partnered with another Australian general sales agent, Cruise Online, to provide trade support across Australia and the Pacific.

A division of Aviation Online, Cruise Online has offices in Sydney and Auckland, with Swan Hellenic CEO Andrea Zito speaking of his line's ecstasy at the partnership.

"We're delighted to partner with Cruise Online, who truly understand the region's passion for authentic expedition travel and a high-end vacation experience," he said.

"Thanks to Cruise Online's extensive professional travel and airline experience, trade partners will be able to offer these exacting guests the benefits of full sea-sky integration."

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**THREE** Cubans have been saved from a deserted island after living on coconuts and rats for a month.

The trio was found on a deserted island in the Bahamas after 33 days, and was airlifted to safety by the United States Coast Guard on Tue after being spotted waving flags.

Various local media reports suggest the group had lived on conches, rats and coconuts while struggling to find fresh water.

The two men and a woman told rescuers their boat had capsized in rough waters between Cuba and the Florida Keys, leaving them stranded on Anguilla Cay.

The trio was uninjured and in "surprisingly good shape".

## Pandaw updates



**HAVING** seen a rise in demand over the past two months, Pandaw is inviting travel advisors to get their clients dreaming with a branded one-minute video.

The clip can be shared on the advisor's website or social media pages, and all Pandaw destinations are included, such as Halong Bay & Red River and Myanmar, as well as *Mekong Pandaw*.

Interested parties are encouraged to send a high-resolution company logo to [sven@pandaw.com](mailto:sven@pandaw.com) and mention their preferred language, and which video you would like to receive.

Pandaw also said it was monitoring the situation in Myanmar, and is in contact with its team for regular updates.

"Regardless of how this settles, we are confident that the political situation will have little impact on tourism and guest experience," Pandaw said.

"We have been operating in Myanmar for over 25 years now,

under differing government types and military regimes and we have not had politics affect our guests whilst in-country."

## New RSSC campaign

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has unveiled its The Heart of What We Do campaign, featuring a range of different crew members.

The social media campaign has been developed for guests to discover more about the diverse and vibrant backgrounds of Regent Seven Seas' team members through a series of short films.

Profiling the history and deep roots that connect the "Regent family", the campaign will run across RSSC social channels including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

Each inspired story depicts how both onboard and shoreside team members bring RSSC to life - **CLICK HERE**.

## A whale of a time

**INTREPID** Travel is offering 25% off its WWF Giants of Antarctica trip, in celebration of World Whale Day this Sun.

The offer for the 11-day voyage, now priced from \$13,350 per person, is available for bookings made until the end of next month.

Travellers will join a team of ecologists carrying out a non-invasive whale research project on-board, searching for humpback whales with Dr Ari Friedlaender and a specialised team of researchers.

For more information, **CLICK HERE**.



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