



Cruise Weekly today

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

Cunard new cruises

CUNARD Line has announced new itineraries on *Queen Elizabeth* for next year.

Going on sale in Nov, all sailings will depart from Southampton and will include a voyage in search of the Northern Lights, journeys to the Canary Islands and the Mediterranean, as well as a grand voyage across the Atlantic, through the Panama Canal and on to Vancouver, replacing the existing published Japanese schedule.

Elizabeth's existing schedule and all departures from 20 Feb to 17 May inclusive are now cancelled.

"We hope our guests will be inspired to find a little adventure with these new itineraries," said President Simon Palethorpe.

"In a single short programme, they offer fantastic variety from the opportunity to experience the wondrous Northern Lights, to sun kissed Mediterranean shores, to a transit of the Panama Canal.

"To all guests affected by the cancelled voyages we are sorry for the disappointment this will cause, and we hope to welcome many back on board".

RCG cruising to net zero

ROYAL Caribbean Group (RCG) has announced its Destination Net Zero program to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

The comprehensive decarbonisation strategy includes pledging to establish science-based targets to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Destination Net Zero's four-pronged approach includes the modernisation of its global fleet through the introduction of 13 new and alternatively fuelled vessels; continued investment in energy efficiency programs for the fleet; development of alternative fuel and alternative power solutions; and optimised deployment and integration of strategic shore-based supply chains.

Over 18 to 24 months, RCG will develop goals to be validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTI), the first such pledge for the cruise industry, work which will begin following the publication of SBTI's marine transport methodology.

Along the journey to net zero, key milestones will be critical to making progress, of which one of the most ambitious is the delivery of a net zero cruise ship by 2035.

Other plans include Silversea Cruises' 'Project Evolution' – RCG's first hybrid-powered ship, set to debut in the northern summer of 2023, as well as a wind farm in Kansas, which will offset up to 12% of the company's



scope 1 and 2 emissions per year.

"Decades ago, we set out on a course to advance sustainability; our vision now is to realise carbon-free cruising over the next two decades," explained Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Richard Fain (pictured).

"Today we are announcing the most important destination of all in our company's history – Destination Net Zero – an ambitious strategy to cut emissions, protect our oceans, and ensure the viability of the hundreds of destinations that our guests and crew members care deeply about."

Destination Net Zero also builds on RCG's deep sense of responsibility to embed sustainability throughout the company (CW 24 Sep).

Ruler of *The World*

FORMER Crystal Cruises Chief Executive Officer Tom Wolber has been named CEO at *The World*.

Effective 03 Jan 2022, Wolber will succeed the retiring Pamela Conover as the residential cruise ship's Chief Executive Officer.

"We are very fortunate to have recruited such an accomplished senior executive to serve as our next CEO," said Chair Craig Smith.

"He is highly respected in the cruise industry for his leadership at Disney Cruise Line and Crystal Cruises.

"He brings a highly effective management style, a wealth of technical knowledge, and a keen appreciation of luxury hospitality standards to the task of operating our ship and leading our community."

Design *Euribia's* hull

MSC Cruises is inviting artists to design the hull of *MSC Euribia* to the theme of "respect for the marine environment".

The entries will be judged by a panel of international judges, including sand artist Jben, known for his large-scale ephemeral sand frescoes that wash away with the tide, and architect Martin Francis.

The design contest is now open - [CLICK HERE](#) to enter.

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NCLH Worldpay

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has selected Worldpay from FIS as a preferred payments partner.

NCLH made the selection because of Worldpay's global reach for acquiring and payments acceptance in more than 100 countries around the world.

The company will improve authorisation rates, and will use Worldpay value-added services including customer authentication and advanced data analytics.

For transactions affected by PSD2, NCLH will utilise FIS' 3DS Flex, which is an innovative solution to increase issuer approvals and minimise friction at checkout.

Ponant pioneers rescue



PONANT recently organised the world's first international rescue exercise in a remote polar zone (pictured), during a trial voyage to the North Pole aboard *Le*

Commandant Charcot.

The one-off on-site scenario was live, and coordinated between Ponant's on-board and head office teams, as well as teams from Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, and the United States.

American and Canadian coastguards, as well as Norwegian Arctic rescue experts were also present as observers.

The exercise took place over a 24-hour period on the ice, during which the 67 participants had to set up a polar survival camp, among other tasks.

The objectives of the simulated rescue exercise were to optimise the coordination between the region's international rescue centres, & conduct medical research and behavioural studies on participants to understand the impact of spending long periods of time on the ice.

Conclusions are being shared with polar environment experts and will help the expedition cruise industry and rescue centres across the world.



HOLLAND America Line's *Rotterdam* made her debut last week with an onboard floating art gallery valued at more than \$4.1 million.

More than 2,500 pieces from dozens of global artists are included in the world-class gallery, such as historical works and memorabilia from previous Holland America ships.

Rotterdam's art collection was curated by Oslo-based YSA Design and London-based ArtLink, which collaborated with acclaimed hospitality design atelier Tihany Design.

The result is a museum of diverse works ranging in value from \$500 to \$620,000, which spans the decks, public rooms and staterooms.



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Celebrity research

CELEBRITY Cruises research has revealed Australians are ready to spend big on their post-pandemic holiday, with almost a third (31%) to consider a cruise.

Leisure travelling next year is now a top priority for nearly half of Australian adults (45%), with more than a third planning longer and more expensive trips abroad to multiple destinations.