



Singapore int'l cruising by year end

SINGAPORE has flagged its intention to make Southeast Asia "the world's next cruising playground," as authorities there continue to negotiate with other governments around protocols which will enable international voyages from the Lion City to recommence by the end of 2022.

The country will next week be able to welcome its first international cruise passengers since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic on "cruises to nowhere," with Royal Caribbean's *Spectrum of the Seas* arriving in Singapore this week.

Royal Caribbean International has confirmed the Singapore season of the Quantum Ultra class ship will see her there until Apr 2023.

The cruise line's Vice President and Managing Director Asia Pacific, Angie Stephen said "extending *Spectrum's*

Singapore season to a full year demonstrates Royal Caribbean's commitment to the market and underscores the growth potential for cruising in the region".

Under Singapore's recently eased COVID-19 restrictions, Aussies are now able to travel to Singapore to cruise aboard *Spectrum*, but at this stage it will continue to operate three- and four-night cruises to nowhere, billed as "Ocean Getaways".

Royal Caribbean is also now taking bookings for international departures out of Singapore to Malaysia, Vietnam, and Thailand aboard *Spectrum* from Oct this year, but the proposed voyages will only operate if given the tick by officials.

"The long-awaited comeback of cruising to destinations is subject to approval by the Singapore authorities based on the prevailing health situation

and border measures," Royal Caribbean said, according to a *Channel News Asia* report.

The report cited Singapore Tourism Board (STB) Director of Cruise, Annie Chang, saying "we hope to be able to offer cruises out of Singapore with international destinations by the end of this year".

"We are in discussions with various governments of Southeast Asian countries to align on a set of safe cruise standards.

"Some possible destinations include Bali, Penang, Port Klang and Phuket," Chang said.

She said the STB would "continue to work with Royal Caribbean and other industry partners to steer cruising in the region towards greater heights".

Almost 500,000 people have sailed out of Singapore since cruising restarted there in Nov 2020 (*CW* 09 Oct 2020).

Cruise Weekly today

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

Cunard campaign

CUNARD'S 'Grandest Destinations' campaign invites travellers to take advantage of reduced fares on selected 2022/23 sailings when booking before the end of Jun.

Guests can select from a range of iconic sailings, including the 11-night Alaska sailing departing Vancouver on board *Queen Elizabeth* on 27 Jul 2023, starting from \$2,199 - a saving of 24% per person; or a 13-night New Zealand sailing departing Sydney on board *Queen Elizabeth* on 07 Jan 2023, starting from \$2,949 - a saving of 34% per person.

All fares are based on a per person twin share Inside Stateroom - more info **HERE**.

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Hurtigruten 2023-24 launch

HURTIGRUTEN Expeditions has launched its record-breaking 2023-24 season, spanning five continents and more than 150 different itineraries.

The season includes the widest-ever selection of Galapagos, Antarctica, Arctic and West Africa expeditions, along with more sustainable off-the-beaten-path Alaska small-ship explorations.

Highlights of the 2023-24 season include year-round expedition cruises to Norway and the Arctic in line with the growing popularity of closer-to-home departures from Hamburg and Dover, aboard *Otto Sverdrup* and *Maud*.

There will also be 34 different Antarctica departures, Hurtigruten's largest-ever offering on the continent, with three dedicated ships.

Oceania Cruises tastes the stars

OCEANIA Cruises yesterday brought one of its signature dining experiences ashore, in a special Dom Perignon Experience hosted at the Shangri-La Sydney's Altitude restaurant.

Normally available on Oceania Cruises's *Riviera* and *Marina*, the six-course degustation is paired with specially selected vintages of Dom Perignon champagne, with the cruise line's Vice President & Managing Director Asia Pacific Steve Odell highlighting the constant innovations of the line's gastronomic team to offer "the finest cuisine at sea".

Odell is **pictured** with Shangri-La Sydney General Manager Philippe Kronberg, whose team worked closely with Oceania Cruises to bring the experience to life, in partnership with Peter 'The Wine Man' Bourne who gave guests a deep insight into the Dom Perignon vintages on offer.



MEANWHILE, Oceania Cruises is inviting its guests to 'Go Local', as Australian travellers agree on the importance of their trip benefitting their destination's local community.

Travellers planning their next overseas adventures are increasingly looking for immersive experiences which give back, and go beyond traditional tourism to provide opportunities to make genuine connections with local cultures and people.

Oceania Cruises's exclusive Go Local tours have been designed to tap into evolving guest preferences and embed travellers into the lives and homes of local families for an authentic taste of diverse communities.

The shore excursion collection connects guests with vendors in local markets, opens the door for shared meals with local families, and invites travellers to explore farms and vineyards alongside local workers.

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Azamara offer

AZAMARA'S new limited time offer this month sees guests receive free wi-fi and a USD\$500 shore excursion credit.

The offer is on sale now, as the countdown to the inaugural sailing of *Azamara Onward* is officially on.

It is available on select sailings this year, and is offered on top of inclusive amenities such as gratuities, select beverages, exclusive cultural events and more.

Book by 29th Apr to take advantage of the offer.

Sales open for *Euribia*



SALES have opened for MSC Cruises' *MSC Euribia's* (render **pictured**) inaugural season itineraries in Europe.

In the northern summer of 2023, *Euribia* will become the most environmentally advanced ship in MSC's fleet, and its second liquified natural gas vessel.

Euribia will start sailing from Kiel in June 2023, with sales now open for her seven-night itineraries sailing to the Norwegian fjords.

Departing weekly, calls include Copenhagen, Hellsøylt, Alesund and Flam, among others.

MSC has also revealed the winning artwork of the competition to design the hull of *Euribia*, which is currently under construction at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in France.

The cruise line held an international design competition through Talent House to create a unique artwork for *Euribia's* hull, inspired by the sea and its marine ecosystem, with the winner, German artist Alex Flaemig.



HAVE you ever wanted a job in Antarctica; how does "counting penguins" sound?

The United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust is hiring staff for its museum, conservation site, and its post office, where believe it or not, among your roles will be counting penguins, as well as cleaning up their guano.

Port Lockroy post office on Goudier Island in the Antarctic Peninsula is where you will be stationed.

Your monthly salary on Goudier Island is between £1,250 and £1,800.



PRESENTS AN EXECUTIVE INTERVIEW

with publisher Bruce Piper and Joel Katz, Managing Director, Cruise Lines International (CLIA) Australasia and Jill Abel, CEO, Australian Cruise Association.

The Tide Turns For Cruise

After more than two years of international cruise ships being banned from Australian waters, the local cruise sector has finally received a green light to recommence operations. Join us at this special event as we chat with Joel Katz and Jill Abel. They will discuss all things cruise including their journey during the pandemic, the current state of the start-up, protocols, destinations and much more.



WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL, 1.00pm (AEST)

REGISTER

Electric ship sails

THE world's largest electric cruise ship has set sail in China.

The *Yangtze River Three Gorges 1*, powered purely by electricity, made its maiden voyage in Yichang, offering sightseeing trips to the scenic Three Gorges.

Three Gorges 1, which is 100 metres long, can carry up to 1,300 passengers, and is powered by a massive 7,500-kilowatt-hour marine battery, the equivalent to the total battery capacity of more than 100 electric vehicles.

The ship is also equipped with advanced technologies such as facial recognition, & AI intelligent analysis, and can travel 100 kilometres on a single charge.