

A SPOTLIGHT ON CRUISING

ISSUE SEVEN

# NAVIGATE

## Coast to coast

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EX-UK

# This summer's best UK cruises

It's been a long, long year for those of us who love life on the ocean wave. A blanket ban on cruise holidays – bolstered by FCO advice – left us in a position that few would have thought possible: cruises were illegal. However, we are hopefully (hopefully) on the verge of sailing out of this mess. Last month, a raft of cruise lines announced their plans to embark on a short mini-season from the UK. Over the next few pages, we've rounded up all of the launch dates, vaccination policies and itinerary information.





## Celebrity Cruises

Celebrity Cruises has confirmed a series of staycations on board *Celebrity Silhouette* this summer. The ship has recently undergone an extensive renovation and now boasts new staterooms, public areas and a Retreat for suite guests.

The programme of six to eight-night cruises will begin on July 3, with calls at destinations including Portland, Liverpool and Glasgow. All cruises will also benefit from Celebrity's new Always Included policy – with tips, drinks and wi-fi included within the cruise fare. Prices start from £1,099 per person.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests aged 18 and over must be

vaccinated against Covid-19, and those under the age of 18 must have a negative PCR test result.

**Restart date:** July 3

## Cunard

Cunard is to offer ex-UK voyages this summer on board *Queen Elizabeth*. The cruises, which will sail from July to October, will feature scenic itineraries, sailings with ports of call and “sun voyages” to “wherever the sun shines brightest”.

Four of the voyages will make various port calls, including Liverpool, Greenock, Invergordon, Belfast and Newcastle, as well as a maiden call for Cunard's fleet at the Welsh port of Holyhead.

Four-night scenic British Isles Voyages are priced from £599 per person for a Balcony Stateroom, while a 10-night British Isles Voyage will start at £1,299 per person for a Balcony Stateroom. Seven-night Sun Voyages are priced from £899 per person for a Balcony Stateroom.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests must be vaccinated

**Restart date:** July 19

## Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines

Fred. Olsen has unveiled a Welcome Back programme of British Isles cruises that include both scenic voyages and those calling at ports. The programme is made up of 11 cruises, including regional departures from Dover and

Liverpool. Prices from £399pp for three nights.

**Vaccination policy:** Not mandatory, but still developing its Safe Sailing Charter

**Restart date:** July 5

## MSC Cruises

MSC Cruises has announced a new programme of British Isles cruises that will be available to both families and non-vaccinated guests on board its new flagship, *MSC Virtuosa*. The cruises, which begin on May 20, will depart from MSC's new terminal in Southampton and are available to British guests only. A series of short sailings will be followed by a seven-night British Isles cruise. Prices from £499pp for four nights.

**Vaccination policy:** No vaccination necessary, but guests will need to have had a negative test 72 hours before boarding

**Restart date:** May 20

## P&O Cruises

P&O Cruises will offer a series of short break and week-long UK cruises this summer. The sailings, which are on sale now, will be on board *Britannia* and new ship *Iona*, including the latter's maiden call at her namesake island.

*Britannia* will offer three and four-night breaks and one six-night holiday running from June 27 to September 19. *Iona* will offer seven-night itineraries running from August 7 to September 18. Prices start from £449 per person for a three night break on *Britannia*. *Iona's* seven-night maiden voyage starts from £1,199pp.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests must be vaccinated

**Restart date:** June 27

## Princess Cruises

Princess Cruises is to offer 'Seacations' from Southampton this summer. The cruises, which will be on board MedallionClass ships, *Regal Princess* and *Sky*

*Princess*, will sail from July through to late September. *Regal Princess* will offer 14 UK voyages running from July 31 to September 23. *Sky Princess* will offer eight UK cruises, running from August 30 to September 28.

All guests will have the opportunity to make their cruise all-inclusive by selecting the Princess Plus fare, which includes the line's premium drinks package, unlimited MedallionNet wi-fi and gratuities for £30 per person per day.

All-inclusive fares for a balcony stateroom start from £539pp for a three-night scenic voyage; £599pp for a four-night cruise with up to one port; and £999pp for a seven-night cruise with up to three ports-of-call. Guests can book with a £50 deposit if booked before May 3.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests must be vaccinated

**Restart date:** July 31







## Royal Caribbean International

Royal Caribbean International has revealed that *Anthem of the Seas* will be sailing out of Southampton this summer, with a season of cruises planned from July 7. The cruise line will be running four-night Ocean Getaway cruises in early July, followed by five and eight-night British Isles cruises from July 15. Prices from £699pp for four nights.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests aged 18 and over must be vaccinated against Covid-19, and those under the age of 18 must have a negative PCR test result

**Restart date:** July 7

## Saga

Saga Cruises has launched a series of four summer ex-UK

itineraries on board *Spirit of Discovery* and new ship *Spirit of Adventure*. The cruises include British Isles sailings – including a 14-night departure on July 11 – and a voyage to the Norwegian fjords. Prices from £1,154pp for six nights.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests must be vaccinated

**Restart date:** June 27

## Tradewind Voyages

Tradewind has announced an Eastern Coastal Contrasts sailing up the east coast of the UK, from Harwich to Leith. The five-night sailing, the inaugural voyage of new ship *Golden Horizon* – the world's largest square-rigged sailing vessel – begins on July 1 and includes stops in Whitby, Newcastle and Berwick-upon-Tweed. Prices from £849pp for five nights.

**Vaccination policy:** Not mandatory, but yet to make a formal decision

**Restart date:** July 1

## Virgin Voyages

Virgin Voyages will embark on a short mini-season of cruises from Portsmouth this August. The Summer Soiree Series will consist of two-, three- and four-night sailings from August 6, giving UK passengers the chance to be among the first to get on board the new vessel. Prices from £499pp for three nights, and £599pp for four. Guests who book before April 30 and receive up to \$400 onboard credit per cabin, plus \$100 Bar Tab bonus when they buy a \$300 Bar Tab.

**Vaccination policy:** All guests must be vaccinated

**Restart date:** August 6

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