

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 15 March 2022

AUSTRALIAN HOTELS SET TO SAIL WITH RETURN OF CRUISES

Tourism Accommodation Australia (TAA) welcomes today's announcement by the Federal Government that the ban on international cruise ships in to and out of Australia will be lifted by mid-April.

TAA CEO Michael Johnson said after two years of large international cruise vessels being barred from Australia, accommodation providers can look forward to the return of tens of thousands of cruise passengers who will soon disembark in ports around the country.

"The cruise industry is a critical component of Australia's tourism and accommodation sector and its return sends a very strong signal that Australia is nearing the end of the pandemic and the immense damage it has caused," Mr Johnson said.

"The cruise ship industry contributes billions of dollars each year to the Australian economy and supports thousands of jobs through the accommodation sector, hospitality venues, suppliers and a range of associated sectors."

"While we will see an immediate return of cruise ship passengers who are eager to visit Australia, we know we have a long road to recovery ahead before we see pre-pandemic levels of visitation."

"The 17th April will be a truly exciting day and one that marks the end of a challenging two years for the cruise ship industry, so Australia's accommodation hotels will be ready to warmly welcome back passengers from across the world."

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