



THE FUTURE OF THE CRUISE INDUSTRY

by Andreas Orth



SYNOPSIS

Cruise trips are as popular now as they were pre-pandemic. But there is a dark side to the industry with its glossy brochures and dream destinations. Environmental impacts and lesser-known safety risks can become a serious threat.

Cruises are enjoying huge popularity again. More ocean-liners are docked in European ports today than before the pandemic. But there are dark sides to the cruise industry – environmental impacts, health issues caused by exhaust gases, and lesser-known safety risks sometimes make cruise travel a hazard. The bigger the ships become, the greater the number of people who cannot be rescued in an emergency. International regulations were changed after the Costa Concordia capsized in 2012, but it wasn't long before the next marine disaster showed just how difficult a rescue operation can be. In 2019, the cruise ship Viking Sky ran into trouble with over 1300 passengers on board. Rough seas meant it was unsafe to use lifeboats. But even when everything goes to...

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