

Norway cruise ship passengers with coronavirus reach 43

August 4 2020



Norwegian cruise ship MS Roald Amundsen moored in Tromsø, Norway, Monday Aug. 3, 2020. After 40 people, including four passengers and 26 crew members on the Norwegian cruise ship have been tested positive for the coronavirus, the operator says it was stopping for all cruises with its three vessels. The 40 people were admitted to the University Hospital of North Norway in Tromsø, north of the Arctic Circle, where the empty ship has docked. (Terje Pedersen/NTB Scanpix via AP)

The number of passengers on a Norwegian cruise ship who have tested positive for the coronavirus has reached 43, authorities said Tuesday.

The outbreak on the MS Roald Amundsen raised new questions about safety on cruise ships during the pandemic even as the industry is pressing to resume sailings after shutting down in March.

The ship's owner on Monday halted all trips and Norway closed its ports to [cruise ships](#) for two weeks.

The city of Trondheim reported the two new cases—a man in his 70s with light symptoms and a child under age 10 with no symptoms—saying both had been passengers on the ship. They were not identified.

A third [passenger](#) will be tested Tuesday, the city said. Trondheim sits about halfway to Tromsø, north of the Arctic Circle, where the empty ship is docked.

But since the cruise line often acts like a local ferry, traveling from port to port along Norway's [west coast](#), some passengers disembarked along the route and may have spread the virus to [local communities](#).

A total of 69 municipalities in Norway could have been affected, Norwegian news agency NTB reported on Monday.

The Hurtigruten cruise line was one of the first companies to resume sailing during the pandemic, starting cruises to Norway out of northern Germany in June with a single ship, then adding cruises in July to the Arctic archipelago of Svalbard that is part of the Scandinavian country.



Crew members clean on board Hurtigruten's vessel MS Roald Amundsen, docked in Tromso, Norway, Sunday, Aug. 2, 2020. Over 30 crew members and an unconfirmed number of passengers have so far tested positive for the coronavirus after two international cruises which resumed operation recently, since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. (Terje Pedersen/NTB scanpix via AP)



A view of the Hurtigruten's vessel MS Roald Amundsen, docked in Tromsø, Norway, Sunday, Aug. 2, 2020. Over 30 crew members and an unconfirmed number of passengers have so far tested positive for the coronavirus after two international cruises which resumed operation recently, since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. (Terje Pedersen/NTB scanpix via AP)

In Tromsø, 41 passengers who had tested positive have been admitted to a hospital. The cruise line said it suspended the ship and two others—the MS Fridtjof Nansen and the MS Spitsbergen—from operating for an indefinite period.

It's not clear how the MS Roald Amundsen outbreak began. NTB reported that 33 of the infected crew members came from the Philippines and the others were from Norway, France and Germany. The

passengers were from all over the world.

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