



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

Quark Antarctic season begins

QUARK Expeditions has kicked off its Antarctic 2022-2023 season with an immersive trip to the continent's Peninsula.

The cruise line embarked on its first voyage of the season on Tue with the 11-day Antarctic Explorer: Discovering the 7th Continent voyage.

Guests on this much-awaited polar adventure sailed from Ushuaia on Quark's new ship *Ultramarine*.

"Our Expedition Team is especially excited to welcome guests back to the Antarctic region," said Vice President of Marketing Wendy Batchelor.

NCL to pay commission on NCFs

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) will pay travel advisor partners commission on non-commissionable fares (NCFs), becoming the "first major contemporary brand" to compensate agents on this kind of cost.

Effective from 01 Jan, NCL will recompense advisors on NCFs for reservations booked outside of the 120-day window prior to sailing for cruises departing from 01 May.

To qualify for the NCF commission, advisors will need to submit a marketing plan to their NCL Sales Support Team by the end of the year.

"Our Partners First philosophy remains top of mind, and our decision to pay commission on NCFs is further proof of our commitment to this community," said President & Chief Executive Officer Harry Sommer.



"We want our partners to thrive; we want to see their businesses grow."

Norwegian hopes the move will further help travel partners establish a stronger relationship with their clients, in addition to increasing brand loyalty, resulting in repeat business and higher earning potential.

"Our travel partners are incredibly important to us and our business; it is a true partnership," said local Director of Sales Damian Borg.

"We see this value and we wanted to reward our travel advisors like never before."

Pictured: A render of *Norwegian Prima*.



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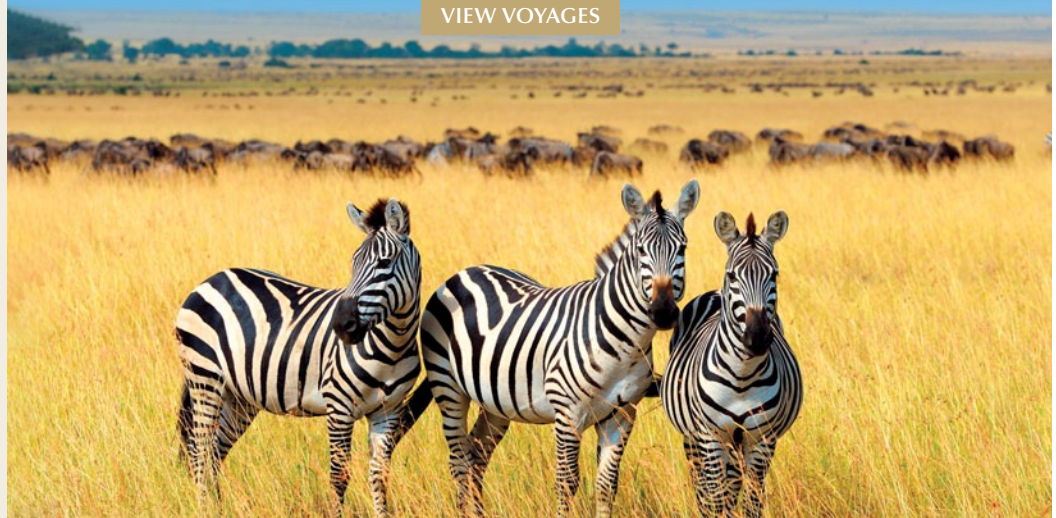
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Travel Daily



THEY'RE not quite laser beams, but perhaps the next best thing - tiger sharks in the Bahamas have been fitted with special cameras on their backs to map the "world's biggest seagrass meadow".

A research report published this month in the *Nature Communications* scientific journal details the project which saw seven of the denizens of the deep captured, equipped with the special swivelling devices on their dorsal fins, and then released. Radio beacons transmitted the results to the scientists from non-profit environmental group Beneath The Waves, who said proof of the massive undersea growth gathered by the swimming sharks "should give us hope for the future of our oceans" because of its potential to store carbon.

Celebration arrives

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has taken delivery of its new *Carnival Celebration*, with the next generation LNG-fuelled vessel leaving the Meyer Turku shipyard and now en route to Southampton in the UK.

A sister ship to *Mardi Gras*, *Carnival Celebration* commemorates the cruise line's 50th anniversary, and will depart on her first commercial voyage on 06 Nov.

Azamara '25 World Cruise

AZAMARA has unveiled a 155-night World Voyage for 2025 with 46 late nights and overnights.

Departing from San Diego (pictured) and visiting 37 countries before concluding in Southampton, the 2025 World Cruise takes place aboard the cruise line's latest ship *Azamara Onward*.

Sydney will be highlighted on the itinerary, with an overnight stay offering guests the chance to dive deeper into the city's beaches, iconic Opera House, and vibrant food, arts & entertainment scene.

The cruise will also visit Eden, Melbourne, Adelaide, Esperance, Albany, the Margaret River, Perth, and Geraldton.

Other destinations that will be focused on include Honolulu, to which Azamara will make its long-awaited return with a late stay; Samoa & Tonga, where guests can experience famed whale swimming experiences and rich culture; and New Zealand's southernmost point Stewart Island, a tranquil and unspoilt destination offering coastal rainforests, sand dunes, mountain ranges, and native wildlife.

Azamara's 2025 World Cruise will also feature 13 complimentary land events, beginning with a kickoff gala in San Diego, and additional events in Benoa, Bangkok, and Semarang.

Due to the high demand for Azamara's 2024 World Voyage,



which is currently sold out with a waitlist, the line is giving loyalty guests and past and current world-cruisers the exclusive opportunity to book first.

Bookings will open to the general public next Thu.

Beam me up!

PONANT has turned to Airbus' satellite imagery to optimise its navigation in the Arctic for *Le Commandant Charcot*.

Airbus provides its satellite images to various organisations for needs related to shipping, defence, and safety at sea, and will now send them to Ponant also.

Images are delivered by Airbus in near real-time, and provide valuable information on ice conditions along the ship's route, allowing her crew to then adjust the itinerary accordingly to better account for the updated environmental conditions, ensuring the ship's safety and epitomising comfort for guests.



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