



Cruise Weekly today

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



on location aboard
Seven Seas Grandeur

Today's issue of CW is coming to you from aboard the all-new *Seven Seas Grandeur*.

THE moment has arrived!

Last night saw *Seven Seas Grandeur* officially christened by godmother Sarah Faberge in a dazzling ceremony which featured a performance from famed Broadway legend Kristen Chenoweth.

Today guests can attend a Faberge masterclass, learning about the piece de resistance of *Grandeur's* 1,600-item curated art collection, 'Journey in Jewels' - the only Faberge egg to reside permanently at sea.

Tomorrow, *Grandeur* will call at Freeport in the Bahamas.

Record Miami year

MIAMI Mayor Daniella Levine Cava has announced the busiest year in the history of the port, which reached a record 7.3 million passengers.

The port experienced a 6.97% increase in pax totals.

Seven Seas Grandeur's grand night

THE contribution of travel advisors was at the forefront of last night's christening of *Seven Seas Grandeur*, as Regent Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) welcomed its newest ship and recognised its valuable partnerships with the global travel trade.

"Of particular importance to me is the trade community," enthused Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) President and Chief Executive Harry Sommer.

"We have a special relationship that continues to grow, and as our fleet expands there are more opportunities for your clients to enjoy the offerings of our unique brands - we grow and prosper together, and we thank you for your unwavering support."

RSSC President Andrea de Marco also expressed her thanks to travel partners "who support us every step of the way".

"Thank you for entrusting us with your clients and allowing us to welcome them into the Regent family," de Marco shared.

Seven Seas Grandeur's christening marked the introduction of the first NCLH vessel to be welcomed under a female President.

Currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer, de Marco explained the value of a RSSC holiday is now more clear to her than ever.

"Every day matters and every moment you should live to its



fullest, and that's what RSSC does for our guests each and every day," de Marco explained.

"I'm here to tell you the future is beyond bright.

"*Seven Seas Grandeur* is building upon our heritage of perfection, it's forever elevating the pinnacle of luxury travel, and as I look at life now with a whole new perspective, I urge you to live life to its fullest and [in] unrivalled luxury."

The glittering event featured the unveiling of the highly anticipated 'Journey in Jewels', a custom Faberge egg designed as a representation of the cruise line's 'Heritage of Perfection' adage (CW 27 Oct 2022).

Seven Seas Grandeur was officially christened by godmother Sarah Faberge, great-

grandaughter of jeweller Peter Carl Faberge.

The evening's formalities concluded with a performance from actress and singer, Emmy- and Tony-award-winner Kristin Chenoweth, before guests danced the night away across *Seven Seas Grandeur's* three lounges.

The new ship is a sister ship to *Seven Seas Splendor* and *Seven Seas Explorer*, maintaining the luxurious design present across all RSSC ships.

Her inaugural season will take place in the Caribbean, with Mediterranean sailings to begin in Apr. AP

Pictured: Godmother Sarah Faberge christening *Grandeur* alongside Sommer, NCLH Chair Russel Galbut, de Marco, and ship Captain Luciano Montesanto.

The Chat

with Jenny

Travel Daily

A conversation with
Lisa Pile
Regent Seven Seas Cruises

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Silversea extends groups price protection

SILVERSEA Cruises has enhanced its groups program, including an extended price protection guarantee valid for 120 days from group opening.

No deposits are required to open group shells, and the group booking deal is combinable with other offers including door-to-door, port-to-port, extended voyages savings and onboard savings programs.

A new "Super Advantage" groups tier allows advisors to book seven full-paying passengers with an eighth sailing for free, along with US\$300 shipboard credit per suite and a minimum 15% commission payable.

That's on top of Silversea's existing Advantage, Standard and Reserve programs - for more details **CLICK HERE**.



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EXPERTS have created a 3D model to solve the puzzle of a sunken German U-boat from World War I.

The Scottish experts have found submarine *UC-71* is likely to have been sunk deliberately rather than being handed to the Allies.

The Dundee University team said the submarine was apparently scuttled off the small German archipelago of Heligoland in Feb 1919.

The official reason for the sinking is bad weather and high waves, although theories abound she was sunk by her own crew, as the hatches had been opened.

During four-hour-long dives, the team took thousands of photographs using state-of-the-art cameras and high-intensity lighting, and have concluded the 3D map created from the images prove the boat was scuttled by its own crew.

Viking opens 2026

VIKING has opened reservations for its 2026 European river cruise program, with the early release following strong demand.

Many 2024 dates are already sold out, and the 2025 season is selling well, with all 2026 departures now available for booking across the current 80-strong river ship fleet.

Princess' Star is born

PRINCESS Cruises' new *Star Princess* has begun the countdown to her debut in the Mediterranean in summer 2025, with the traditional keel laying ceremony recently taking place at the Fincantieri shipyard.

The cruise line's second Sphere-class ship was then traditionally blessed, beginning the first of the more than two million man hours which will go into building her.

The ceremony saw executives from the cruise line and Fincantieri weld a Princess Medallion into *Star* which is believed to bring good luck to the ship and all who sail on her.

"Our multi-decade shipbuilding collaboration continues to progress as we build spectacular ships that are enabled by the most advanced technology available while infusing magnificent Italian craftsmanship and respecting beautiful Princess design heritage," the cruise line's President John Padgett said.

Star joins her sister ship *Sun Princess* as the largest ships ever built for the cruise line, carrying 4,300 guests.

Almost 300 cruises, which will go on sale on 20 Dec, will depart from seven home ports to the Caribbean, the Panama Canal, Mexico, Hawaii, Tahiti, and Coastal California.

The season will also see *Sky Princess* become the first Royal-class ship to home port in Port Canaveral, offering six-to-eight-day Caribbean cruises.

There will also be a celebratory Mexican Riviera cruise aboard *Royal Princess*, a nostalgic throwback marking the 60th anniversary of the very first Princess sailing, which voyaged on *Princess Patricia* in Dec 1965.

"*Sun Princess* and *Star Princess* will deliver epic vacations and magnify the beauty of the Caribbean by offering guests the most celebrated views and vantage points available of the islands' crystal blue waters and exotic charm," Chief Commercial Officer Terry Thornton said. *MS*

The new ship will be the second in the Princess fleet to be powered by LNG fuel technology and also is being built with the most advanced sustainable innovations available.

MEANWHILE, Princess also announced *Star* will join *Sun* in the Caribbean in 2025-26, as part of the cruise line's largest Americas season ever.

Princess' two newest ships will sail from Fort Lauderdale, offering a range of eastern and western Caribbean itineraries.



CRUISE WEEKLY
on location aboard *Celebrity Edge*

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of *Celebrity Cruises*, aboard *Celebrity Edge* as she makes her first-ever journey from Australia to NZ.

THIS morning *Celebrity Edge* arrived in NZ, the Land of the Long White Cloud, entering Auckland after crossing the Tasman from Sydney.

While many are staying on board for the full 12-night itinerary, some of the trade guests will disembark to make way for their Kiwi colleagues, who will experience *Edge* as she cruises on to Christchurch.

The early afternoon arrival into Auckland provided a spectacle for the locals, who will host *Edge* until she departs tomorrow evening.



CRUISE WEEKLY On board: *Seven Seas Grandeur*

Observation Lounge

Located on Deck 11, the Observation Lounge is the perfect place to watch the sea pass by. Inspired by the glamour of the Rockefeller Centre, the lounge is decorated in a refined Art Nouvea style, complemented by a magnificent glass chandelier. Guests can relax in a quiet alcove by the window, sip champagne with friends, and enjoy the live music of the talented pianists on board.

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