



Cruise Weekly today

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

RCI's new program

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) has announced a new trade loyalty program, offering cash back on every booking (**CW** breaking news yesterday).

Club Royal Rewards will see any new booking deposited enable travel partners to earn up to \$25, in addition to their standard commission.

Available from yesterday, Club Royal Rewards will see the cash back transferred directly to the travel advisor, into their own RCI Visa card.

Club Royal Rewards program will also give advisors access to exclusive competitions, events, and experiences.

Aman the latest hotelier to launch ship

ITALIAN shipyard T. Mariotti and Neptune Co, a joint venture of Aman Group and Cruise Saudi, have signed a contract to launch 'Project Sama', the first vessel (**pictured**) for Aman Resorts.

The 183-metre ship will host guests in 50 suites, featuring exceptional luxury, roomy public spaces, and a range of entertainment facilities.

Project Sama is expected to launch in 2026, with her official name to be announced soon.

The exterior profile and guest accommodations are designed by renowned yacht designer SINOT, while De Wave will be responsible for luxury interior finishings.

"It's a privilege to have the opportunity to work with Aman, the pinnacle player in high-end hospitality," T. Mariotti Managing Director Marco Ghiglione said.

"We are proud to offer our luxury shipbuilding experience



to this challenging new venture offering a unique combination of luxury, safety, and versatility which will innovate the art of travelling at sea."

Project Sama is the second "ultra-luxury resort at sea" concept to be announced this month, after Accor made public its under-construction *Orient Express Silenseas*, which will also set sail in 2026 under the company's new Orient Express

Cruises brand (**CW** 12 Jan).

Both Aman and Accor are following in the footsteps of The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, which last year launched *Evrima*, its first entrant into the cruise sector (**CW** 13 Oct 2022).

Project Sama also marks the latest development for Cruise Saudi, as the Public Investment Fund-backed division attempts to frame the country as a cruise destination.

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NZ Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in New Zealand.

CHRISTCHURCH	
<i>Viking Orion</i>	24 Jan
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	25 Jan
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	25 Jan
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	25 Jan
WELLINGTON	
<i>ms Noordam</i>	24 Jan
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	25 Jan
<i>Europaz</i>	25 Jan
AKAROA	
<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	24 Jan
<i>Silver Muse</i>	24 Jan
BAY OF ISLANDS	
<i>Silver Shadow</i>	25 Jan
DUNEDIN	
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	24 Jan
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	24 Jan
<i>Viking Orion</i>	25 Jan
GISBORNE	
<i>Europaz</i>	24 Jan
KAIKOURA	
<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	25 Jan
NAPIER	
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	24 Jan
<i>Norwegian Spirit</i>	24 Jan
<i>ms Noordam</i>	25 Jan
NELSON	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	25 Jan
PICTON	
<i>Silver Muse</i>	25 Jan
TAURANGA	
<i>Norwegian Spirit</i>	25 Jan
TIMARU	
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	24 Jan

New Tasmania vessel

A NEW Australian expedition vessel, On Board's *Odalisque III*, is set to "redefine Tasmanian luxury", according to the cruise line (**CW** 26 Jul 2022).

Odalisque III was launched today in Hobart in a ceremony which celebrated Tasmania's rich maritime history, its World Heritage wilderness areas, and the local artisans and suppliers involved in the ship's design and build, which was overseen by the state's renowned shipbuilder Richardson Devine Marine.

The 24-metre, three-deck catamaran, catering for just 12 guests, will "merge indulgence with adventure", featuring exclusive access to remote locations during the day, and fine fare at night.

Next week, *Odalisque III* will head to South West Tasmania for her inaugural expedition cruise, which starts 30 Jan.

The first guests aboard will enjoy On Board's signature five-day Port Davey expedition sailing, which explores the rivers and coastlines of Port Davey, Bathurst Harbour, and Melaleuca.

Odalisque III has been designed to create a very low environmental impact, with tinted windows to reduce the reliance on air conditioning, and a large lithium-ion battery bank to minimise the use of generators.

She will feature an all-Tasmanian crew of acclaimed chefs, guides, and more.

Guests will soon be able to fly direct from Hobart's waterfront to *Odalisque III*'s exclusive mooring via On Board's new Cessna Caravan seaplane, operated in partnership with Above & Beyond.

"Today shows what those of us in the Tasmanian tourism industry really can do to care for and share our precious place in a responsible way for future generations," On Board founder and *Odalisque III* Captain Pieter van der Woude said.

"We want not only to showcase our incredible environment to guests but inspire and excite them to conserve the wild places that we love – and be absolutely sure that in 40 years' time, when I am long gone, On Board will still be able to share the same wilderness with our guests."

Present at the launch ceremony was Australian entrepreneur Dick Smith, who named Port Davey as one of the most precious places in the world.

"Businesses like On Board, who immerse guests in this incredible wilderness, providing luxury but with a care and passion for the place, are pioneering the future of Tasmania's tourism," he added.

On Board's Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour expeditions run between Jan and May, and its East Coast Expeditions run from Jun to Nov.

Private charters are also available - **CLICK HERE** for more.

Quantum savings!

LAST-MINUTE Royal Caribbean International (RCI) sailings are available from just \$699 per person.

Cruisers can board *Quantum of the Seas* for eight nights at the reduced rate - **CLICK HERE**.

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PORTHOLE

DID you leave your boat (pictured) on a Port Adelaide beach?

A grounded boat has been left stranded at North Haven Beach for days, leaving Adelaide swimmers perplexed.

Three passengers were allegedly seen struggling with the boat on Thu, before they managed to ground and abandon her.

The boat's motor has failed, and North Haven lifeguards have taken possession of the valuables, but as of yet, the skippers and passengers are yet to refloat the vessel.

If you've ever considered yourself an amateur salvager, now may be your opportunity.



JLo premieres movie at sea



immersive theatre, The Red Room.

As an added perk, sailors also received a complimentary Amazon Prime membership, alongside a hand-crafted "just say yes" cocktail.

Shotgun Wedding screens globally on Amazon Prime on Fri.

Lopez joined Virgin as an investor last year (CW 11 Mar 2022),

which also saw the singer take up her exorbitant new role with the cruise line.

AMERICAN actress and Virgin Voyages Chief Entertainment & Lifestyle Officer Jennifer Lopez's upcoming flick *Shotgun Wedding* is now showing in an advanced screening at sea aboard the cruise line's *Valiant Lady*.

Shotgun Wedding follows the hijacking of a couple's extravagant destination wedding, with Lopez starring alongside *Transformers* star Josh Duhamel.

Valiant's "sailors" were the first to "sea" the movie at the special onboard event in the ship's

RCG Cyprus office

ROYAL Caribbean Group (RCG) is planning to open a new office in Cyprus.

The workplace will be based in Limassol, and will support ship operations as Royal Caribbean looks to develop its Eastern Mediterranean business.

AU Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia.

SYDNEY	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	24 Jan
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	24 Jan
<i>Viking Mars</i>	24 Jan
<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	25 Jan

MELBOURNE	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	24 Jan
<i>Star Breeze</i>	25 Jan

GEELONG	
<i>Seven Seas Explorer</i>	24 Jan

PHILLIP ISLAND	
<i>Star Breeze</i>	24 Jan

PORT ADELAIDE	
<i>Grand Princess</i>	24 Jan

KANGAROO ISLAND	
<i>Grand Princess</i>	25 Jan

BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	24 Jan

BURNIE	
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	25 Jan

PORT ARTHUR	
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	25 Jan

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