



Cruise Weekly today

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

Kimberley changes

PONANT has confirmed to **Cruise Weekly** *Le Ponant* and *Le Soleal* will be repositioned from the Kimberley next year in answer to “unprecedented international attention” in other parts of the world.

The cruise line confirmed *Le Ponant* has also been subject to growing demand for charter opportunities in various European destinations, meaning she will spend just one season in Australia.

Le Ponant will be repositioned to Europe in time for next year’s summer, while *Le Soleal* will cruise in Alaska.

Le Jacques Cartier will cruise alongside *Le Laperouse* in the Kimberley in 2024.

CLIA sustainability survey

TRAVEL advisors across Australia and New Zealand will be able to have their say on sustainability through an industry survey launched this week by Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA).

Advisors will be able to share their views on sustainability and responsible travel as part of a worldwide initiative to harness the insight of the front line of the industry.

Agents’ input will help shape future trade resources and training materials, with the survey to include questions gauging how well-informed respondents feel on a variety of sustainability issues.

The survey will also look at what areas are of interest to advisors’ clients, and what tools they need to raise their understanding of sustainability issues.

It is being sent to all CLIA

advisors this week through the Association’s weekly e-newsletter.

Responses from advisors will be collated alongside those of CLIA agents from across Asia, Europe, and North America.

CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz said these matters will become increasingly important for advisors as cruise lines head toward net zero.

“An enormous amount of work is underway to shape the cruise industry of the future, and we need to include travel agents on the path forward,” he said.

“We are encouraging all our agent members to fill in this survey, tell us what’s important to their clients, and let us know how we can better support them.”

CLIA recently partnered with Flight Centre Travel Group to provide all of its travel consultants in Australia with access to its training (**CW** 05 Jul).

Back to Canada, eh

AZAMARA will return to Canada for the first time since 2017, and debut double night stays, as the cruise line releases its itineraries for the 2025 season.

Marking Azamara’s return to Canada for the first time in eight years, the cruise line’s new sailings will stop in six of the country’s ports, including Cap-aux-Meules, L’Anse aux Meadows, and Havre-Saint-Pierre, all of which are maiden ports for the brand.

Meanwhile, two-night stays will be offered in select European ports, such as Bordeaux, while an extended call will also be offered in Seville.

Azamara said its signature Country Intensive sailings continue to see high demand, making up more than half of the new 2025 itineraries.



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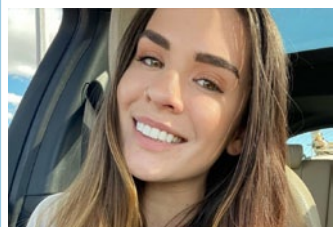


THERE are few worse feelings than encountering an ex-boyfriend in public - so imagine being trapped on a cruise ship with one.

Influencer Lucy Banks (**pictured**) recently detailed this exact situation on TikTok, where she found out she was sharing a cruise with her ex, his new wife, and their child.

However, many are calling into question the genuineness of the story, with Banks making claims such as pleas from her ex to take him back.

With three million views and counting, we're at least hoping Banks' cruise line of choice got their dues for playing their part in her internet stardom.



Kids free with MSC

MSC Cruises is celebrating its 15-year anniversary in Japan with a kids cruise free offer.

Passengers 17 and under can sail free on board *MSC Bellissima* in Japan, and enjoy included drinks packages for adults and kids, and wi-fi.

The range of itineraries on offer spans from Nov 2023 to Apr 2024 - book [HERE](#).

RCG to transform waste

ROYAL Caribbean Group (RCG) is helping protect the oceans by "transforming" its waste management practices.

Two of RCG's newest ships will convert waste to energy on board, expand their Green Hubs programs, and use technology such as food waste applications.

Microwave-Assisted Pyrolysis (MAP) and Micro Auto Gasification (MAG) will debut respectively on Royal Caribbean International's *Icon of the Seas* (**pictured**) and Silversea Cruises' *Silver Nova* when they debut later this year.

The processes take waste on board and converts it into synthesis gas which the ship can directly use as energy, repurposing garbage in an efficient and sustainable way.

RCG plans to reduce food waste across the fleet by 50% by 2025 as it modifies its processes from start to finish.

To do so, the cruise company is developing a proprietary platform to monitor food supply and accurately estimate how much food should be produced, prepped and ordered on a given day; using artificial intelligence to adjust food production in real time; and introducing a dedicated onboard food waste role to monitor and train crew members.

RCG will also track guest demand for specific menu items, adjusting food preparation and ordering accordingly, and will partner with the World Wildlife Fund to introduce a food waste awareness campaign in the crew dining areas fleetwide.

To date, RCG has achieved a



24% reduction in food waste by focusing on the front end of the food system, which prevents and addresses many of the main causes of food waste, including inventory management and over-preparing.

Meanwhile, joining RCG's Green Hub program will be the Galapagos Islands, where Silversea became the first operator to gain certification in environmental management by diverting all waste from landfill.

RCG developed Green Hub, a capacity-building program to identify waste vendors in strategic destinations, in 2014.

It has thus far helped divert 92% of its waste from landfills since it began, growing to 33 ports worldwide.

Windstar moves

WINDSTAR Cruises Chief Commercial Officer Betsy O'Rourke will move into a consultancy role with the line's parent company Xanterra Travel Collection.

Stepping into her shoes as Windstar CCO will be Janet Bava, who was previously AmaWaterways Chief Marketing Officer.

Bava will be responsible for driving strategic growth initiatives, leading marketing, sales, reservations, and deployment teams to further elevate Windstar's position in the global market.

"This is a very comforting and energising evolution for all of us at Windstar," President Christopher Prelog said.

"We couldn't be happier for Betsy and her success, and to still have access to her wisdom and counsel, while at the same time enthusiastically welcoming cruise industry veteran Janet Bava onboard, who previously worked with Betsy at Royal Caribbean," Prelog added.

The Chat

with Jenny



Conversations with Women in Travel

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