







cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 29th Apr 2024

Cruise Weekly today

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

NCL Europe 2024

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has launched its 2024 Europe season, with new home ports including New York City, Le Havre, and Oslo.

The season includes 38 round trips and 63 open-jaw sailings, calling to 140 ports including overnight stays in Istanbul, Florence, and Reykjavik.

In addition, the line will launch its first-ever summer of sailings between New York and Iceland from Jul, which will visit Greenland and Canada.

Plus, Norwegian is offering Cruisetours in 10 European destinations, such as Istanbul, Paris, Barcelona, Reykjavik, Rome, Venice, and more.

Oceania has Med covered

OCEANIA Cruises has unveiled its 2025 Mediterranean season, with cruises ranging from nine to 56 days highlighting cities, holiday islands, and lesser-known ports.

Two ships - Marina and Nautica - will sail enticing voyages taking in the Mediterranean, Aegean and Adriatic, major European hotspots, and lesser-known ports.

Cities including Athens, Barcelona, Istanbul, Rome and Lisbon frame the season, with the fleet to visit resort towns such as Monte Carlo, Cannes, Positano, and Sorrento and hidden gems including Tirana, Sarande, Trapani Calvi, Propriano and Sibenik.

Shore excursions include a tour of Santorini's active volcanoes and an exploration of Boka, Europe's southernmost fjord.

"Oceania Cruises is rightly renowned for its inventive and captivating itineraries, and our array of 2025 Mediterranean sailings is the perfect way to spotlight one of the most popular and exciting cruise regions of the world," said Oceania Cruises President Frank Del Rio.

"With shore excursions to inspire everyone, from active adventurous types to history buffs to foodies, our small, luxurious ships are the perfect way to discover this majestic region of the world."

Marina will also undergo an extensive refurbishment ahead of the season (CW 22 Nov 2023), which will see all penthouse suites and bathrooms reinspired, and public areas refreshed.

The renovation will include the addition of two new dining options: Aquamar Kitchen, the new wellness-inspired dining venue which debuted on *Vista* this year; and an al fresco evening Pizzeria, serving Italian dishes including pizzas and burrata. *MS*



On location in **Ecuador**

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of HX, which is hosting us aboard Santa Cruz II this week on a cruise around the Galapagos Islands.

WE HAVE arrived in Ecuador today, courtesy of HX, as we prepare to join *Santa Cruz II* for a cruise around the Galapagos Islands this week.

Our itinerary starts in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, which is located in the valley of an active Andean volcano.

Later this week we will be immersed in Quito, with a precruise city tour to warm us up.

Quito is thought to be the highest-elevation national capital of the world - although Bolivia may disagree with this.



3 small ships

brand new small ship,

new itineraries

including the Ross Sea

departing from

departures with

a 'Fly the Drake'

all-Inclusive activity



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What an Odyssey

SEABOURN Cruise Line is planning special entertainment and activities to commemorate *Seabourn Odyssey's* farewell voyage, a 22-day cruise from Seattle to Yokohama.

Guests will be treated to appearances from the original crew and performing cast, stagings from local artists, and exclusive keepsakes on *Odyssey's* final voyage before she is handed over to Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (*CW* 13 Oct).

Odyssey's former Cruise
Directors John Barron and
Handre Potgieter will reprise
their roles for the ship's
farewell journey, while
President Natalya Leahy will be
present in Seattle to personally
bid farewell to guests and the
onboard team as they embark.

The ship will visit 11 ports during its swansong journey including five in Japan, as her 15 years of service for Seabourn come to a close.

Odyssey welcomed 180,454 guests on board, and travelled nearly 860,000 nautical miles to 426 different ports - equal to almost 40 circumnavigations of the globe.

Avalon says 'oui' to France



AVALON Waterways is saying "oui" to more France next year, with two new rivers, six new cruises, and 33% more capacity to meet demand.

The cruise line will voyage on five French rivers from next year, as heightened demand comes on the heels of the excitement surrounding the 2024 Olympics.

Avalon is adding another 'Suite Ship' to its France program for next year in anticipation of its first voyages on the Garonne and Dordogne rivers.

Coming from Avalon next year is 'Bonjour Bordeaux: Chateaux, Wineries & Charming Villages', an eight-day cruise which sails round trip from Bordeaux.

The voyage visits Cadillac-sur-

Garonne, Cussac Fort Medoc, Blaye, Bourg, and Libourne.

The new itinerary can be extended with two- and three-week add-ons including; the 'French Masterpiece: Paris, Normandy & Bordeaux'; 'France, Uncorked: The Rhone, the Seine & Bordeaux' or the 'Vineyards, Chateaux & Bordeaux'.

Avalon's full menu of French cruises for next year features 50 itineraries on three Suite Ships: Avalon Artistry II; Avalon Poetry II, and Avalon Tapestry II.

A new Avalon survey revealed France is on top of cruisers' wish lists, with 37% of 16,600 people polled choosing it as their most desired destination to enjoy on a river cruise. *MS*



CRUISERS have claimed they were "degraded" for sneaking a washing machine on board a Carnival Cruise Line ship.

Brand Ambassador John Heald was forced to take to Facebook to respond to an inquiry from a previous guest on *Carnival Valor*, who claimed the ship's crew "humiliated" them for sneaking the appliance on board the ship.

"Mom and me were on [Carnival] *Valor* back in Mar," the complaint read.

"We were called to the naughty room because we had a Kuppet portable washing machine in our big bag.

"We were treated like criminals...I hope Carnival will be more sympathetic to people and do away with this humiliating experience."

Portable washing machines were not prohibited on board at the time of the sailing, but for the record, ships always have laundering available.





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