



On location on board
Silver Nova

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Silversea, aboard *Silver Nova*, as part of a her first season in Australia.

TODAY we embark on Silversea's *Silver Nova*, one of the cruise line's newest ships, which Australia has the luxury of hosting in its waters during the summer.

Nova, which is barely 12 months old, is the biggest ship built by Silversea, and includes an asymmetrical design, unlike most other ships.

Cruise hot with HLO



HELLOWORLD Travel Chief Operating Officer & Executive Director Cinzia Burnes (pictured) has announced a new partnership with The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection, delivering the new cruise line to the company's retail and wholesale channels.

The news was announced at the recent Helloworld Frontliners Forum, which wrapped up on Mon in Singapore, with Burnes declaring luxury cruising as one of the company's hottest sellers.

More than 500 delegates attended the three-day conference at Marina Bay Sands Singapore, where they heard a range of cruise and travel updates from Helloworld.

Burnes also confirmed the details for next year's Cruise Stars reward program, which will see attendees join a seven-night Princess Cruises sailing along the West Coast of the United States from Los Angeles in late 2025, on board *Royal Princess*.

She also outlined the work Helloworld is undertaking on new cruise packaging, including its

marketing activity to promote the sector far and wide.

This includes exclusive packaged offers through Cruiseco and Creative Cruising, combining river cruising on AmaWaterways and land touring with Collette.

"We are always working on new cruise content for our agents," Burnes said.

"We know that Australian travellers like to stay longer - delivering combined offers like this is a way for us to help agents meet that need.

"We know packages are more popular than ever, so we are hard at work creating highly desirable programs that include cruise." *MS*

Join CLIA today

NEXT year's memberships for Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) are now open, helping travel advisors boost their sales.

Agents can join CLIA to expand their cruise knowledge and skills through hundreds of online courses and by attending live and virtual events; earn CLIA certification through the globally recognised training platform; and access valuable tools and downloadable resources in the CLIA Members Hub - see **page 5** for more info.

Vela good news

VIKING has taken delivery of its newest ocean ship, Viking *Vela*, which took place this morning at Fincantieri's shipyard in Italy.

Vela can host 998 guests, and will spend her inaugural season sailing itineraries in the Mediterranean and in Northern Europe.

"We are proud to welcome the newest sister ship to our award-winning ocean fleet," Chair & Chief Executive Officer Torstein Hagen said.

"Together with Fincantieri we have built the world's most elegant small ocean ships."

Vela is considered hydrogen-ready and can be retrofitted for future propulsion systems.



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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise news, a photo page from **Silversea**, plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.

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UNI^{WORLD}
BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISES

On the Fourth Day of Christmas,
Uniwold Sent to Me...

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On location in
Potsdam

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Viking, aboard *Viking Astrild* as part of a 'Christmas Along the Elbe' itinerary in Europe.

AS OUR European Christmas Markets cruise comes to an end, we will today arrive in Berlin for a two-night post-voyage stay hosted by Viking at the InterContinental.

En route from *Viking Astrild* we visit the neighbouring city of Potsdam, to experience its unique mix of historic architecture from the Communist era and Germany's romantic royal past such as palaces, churches, and gardens.

Potsdam is also famous for being the location of the post-war conference where the Allies divided Europe.

No excursion on this trip would be complete without a Christmas Market experience, and Potsdam's city centre is bedecked with sparkling stalls serving local delicacies, hot Gluhwein and with an array of ornaments to purchase.

Tomorrow our final full day with Viking includes a city tour taking in the highlights of the German capital, followed by a host of optional add-ons such as musical performances, dinners and museum visits.

Brisbane in CCL's future



CARNIVAL Cruise Line (CCL) recently partnered with *The Courier-Mail* for the News Corp newspaper's 'Future Brisbane' series, as the cruise line prepares for an exciting 2025 in the Sunshine State.

The Future Brisbane series focused on how to create a tourism legacy for the city, as it prepares to host the 2032 Olympic Games.

The series comes at a time when the cruise line is expanding in Queensland, with the Brisbane-based P&O Australia ship *Pacific Encounter* to be rebranded *Carnival Encounter*, as part of CCL's takeover of the brand in Mar (**CW** 04 Jun).

Encounter will continue to be based in Brisbane all year, with sister ship *Carnival Luminosa* joining her over the summer.

Members of the CCL sales team

also recently travelled to Texas to meet 100 local travel advisors, hoping to entice more Americans to fly to Queensland for a cruise.

"The Brisbane International Cruise Terminal is world class and data shows the Queensland cruise economy is booming," CCL Vice President Kara Glamore said.

"Carnival will contribute \$800 million to the Queensland economy over the next year, and we are so excited for [2025]."

The Future Brisbane series culminated in a lunch at The Star Brisbane on Fri, where *The Courier-Mail* hosted lively discussions on the planning for the Olympics, in front of a crowd of around 400 people. **MS**

Pictured are *The Courier-Mail* Editor Chris Jones, Brisbane Mayor Adrian Shrinner, Minister for Aged Care Anika Wells, and Premier David Crisafulli.

Crystal adds to '26

CRYSTAL has unveiled its itineraries for the second half of 2026, including voyages through the Adriatic, Ionian, and Alaska.

The cruise line's *Crystal Serenity* and *Crystal Symphony* will visit five continents from Jul through Dec, dropping in on a range of new ports.

Symphony will explore 32 countries and 79 ports, marking her return to North America for the first time since 2019, while *Serenity* will host guests on 18 sailings, encompassing 36 countries and 108 ports.

The new itineraries follow recent enhancements on both ships, including the introduction of the first-ever Beefbar at sea (**CW** 26 Feb), in collaboration with restaurateur Riccardo Giraudi, and the debut of the first and only Casino de Monte-Carlo at sea (**CW** 19 Nov).

"With our 2026 itineraries, we're inviting guests to experience the world in an extraordinary way," Vice President of Itinerary Planning and Port & Fuel Operations Mario Parodi said.

"Through exclusive, expertly crafted excursions by Abercrombie & Kent, guests can fully immerse themselves in local cultures and discover each destination through the eyes of renowned guides."

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Wednesday 4th Dec 2024

Silver Nova sets sail across Australia

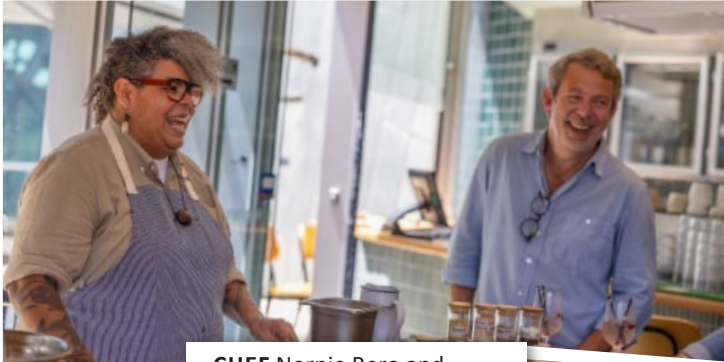
SILVER Nova guests, including travel agents, media, Silversea executives and other industry stakeholders, enjoyed calls to Phillip Island, Melbourne, Adelaide, Kangaroo Island, and Eden before calling into Sydney and docking at White Bay this week.

The call to Phillip Island included a private viewing of the world-famous penguin parade at dawn.

In Adelaide, *Silver Nova* received a warm welcome from South Australia Minister for Tourism Zoe Bettison, the South Australian Tourism Commission, and other industry titans such as Phil Hoffmann.

Guests enjoyed exploring the desirable tourist hotspot Kangaroo Island and were thrilled to see wildlife, including Australian sea lions.

Sea and Land Taste (S.A.L.T.) shore excursions included damper making and dining at Indigenous restaurant Mabu Mabu with Chef Nornie Bero in Melbourne and foraging with Chef Tom Tilbury in the Adelaide Botanical Gardens, followed by a stunning lunch at Chef Tilbury's Restaurant Botanic.



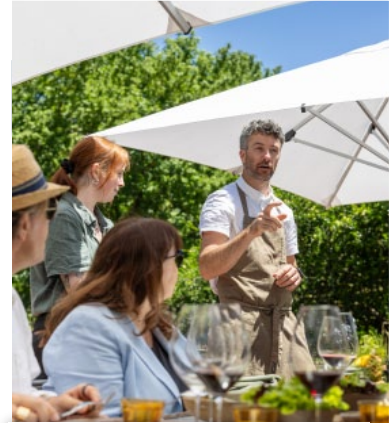
CHEF Nornie Bero and Director of S.A.L.T. Adam Sachs at the S.A.L.T. shore excursion to Mabu Mabu in Melbourne.



GUESTS delight in a special viewing of Phillip Island's world-famous penguin parade.



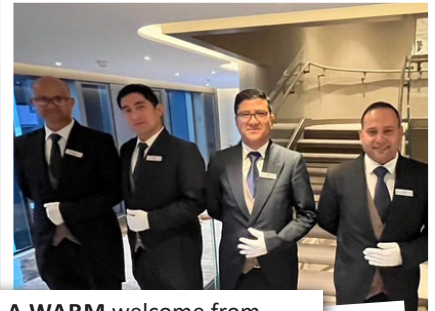
SILVER Nova guests enjoy the views from the aft of the ship.



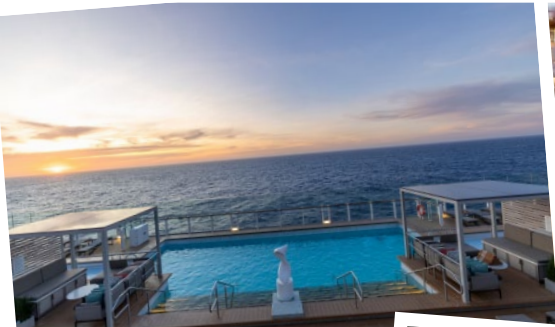
CHEF Tom Tilbury hosts guests during the S.A.L.T. Shore Excursion to Restaurant Botanic in Adelaide.



THE Marquee on Deck 10 at Dusk.



A WARM welcome from Silversea's amazing butlers.



SILVER Nova's stunning pool deck.



AN AUSTRALIAN sea lion at Seal Bay, Kangaroo Island.



ADAM Radwanski, Silversea MD APAC, the SA Minister for Tourism, Zoe Bettison, and Phil Hoffman at a press conference in Adelaide.



SILVER Nova docked at Station Pier with Melbourne's spectacular city skyline setting a vibrant atmosphere.



HOBART'S port is always busy during the summer, receiving a wide range of visits from different cruise ships.

However, a different vessel altogether recently pulled up at Tasmania's biggest port.

The DARWIN200 conservation voyage, sailing aboard Dutch tall ship *Oosterschelde* (pictured), arrived into Hobart on Mon, in its effort to retrace naturalist Charles Darwin's voyage around the globe.

The journey consists of 32 legs, making landfall at key locations where Darwin stepped on shore.

Oosterschelde departed from Plymouth on 15 Aug 2023, almost a year-and-a-half ago.



APT opens new Melb HQ



APT Travel Group has inaugurated its new Melbourne headquarters at a ribbon-cutting event on Mon, attended by more than 150 guests.

The state-of-the-art HQ features modern collaborative workspaces and dedicated areas for hosting travel partners.

Creative zones and meeting spaces highlight APT's global destinations and products, which will aim to inspire both employees and visitors alike.

Chief Executive Officer David Cox, who helped co-owners and

Directors Rob McGeary and Lou Tandy cut the ribbon, described the headquarters as "the old meets the new".

"This new space represents more than just a new office - it's a bold investment in our people.

"It's designed to foster collaboration, spark innovation, and empower our talented team to deliver unparalleled experiences for our guests."

Tandy emphasised the significance of all the innovations from APT.

"We've always been an ambitious company and next year we will see a lot of exciting new things," she enthused.

"We've got new ships, new marketing, new technology, and we kick it all off here with a new office," Tandy said.

"It really is a new dawn and this office heralds in our next phase as a growing and ambitious company - this space sets them up to continue achieving exactly that," she added. *MS*

Pictured are McGeary and Tandy cutting the ribbon.



Membership bonanza

WITH the 2024/25 season well underway, we are delighted to welcome seven new members to ACA - a testament to the work being done by the Association.

Cairns Adventure Group offers guests the opportunity to explore Australia's rainforest landscapes in tropical north Queensland via rafting, tubing, and jet boating.

The family-owned CaPTA group is also located in the same region but has a focus on well-known wildlife experiences, e.g. the Australian Butterfly sanctuary and Cairns Koalas and Creatures.

They also offer transfer services for the cruise lines with a new eco-friendly fleet, which aligns well with the industry's move toward a more sustainable future.

Whitsunday Ferries is offering ship-to-shore transfers, as well as island tours and charters.

Austronesian Expedition Services has a broad geographic remit.

This specialist tour agency not only offers curated land-side tours in Australia but also operates in the Pacific region.

Vanuatu Tourism Office expertly represents this incredible destination now appearing on more cruise itineraries.

Moving to the culinary area, Select Fresh Proveedores works with the cruise lines to deliver locally sourced produce onboard as well as serving many of the local cafes that our guests visit onshore.

Dave's Travel Group showcases Australia's vibrant food and drinks scene offering behind-the-scenes tours in several major locations around the country.



CRUISE WEEKLY

On Board: *Silver Nova* S.A.L.T. Kitchen

Eat your way through the destinations you visit on your cruise with *Silver Nova's* S.A.L.T. Kitchen. This restaurant's destination-inspired options offer a Terrain menu, featuring recipes and flavours specific to the port visited; and the Voyage menu, which draws inspiration from the best flavours of the cruise.



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