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Which means MORE for you and MORE for your guests



MORE VALUE

NCL's Free at Sea offers the best value at sea. With more included in our fare your clients get exceptional value and you get more commission.



MORE EARNINGS

At NCL we focus on Europe, Hawaii, Alaska & beyond. So our guests spend more, stay longer and add on flights and land. Which means more earnings for you.



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EARN MORE TODAY, TOMORROW & BEYOND.



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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a cover page from **Norwegian Cruise Line** and a full page from **Windstar Cruises**.

NCL offers more

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) offers the best value at sea, which means more for you and more for your guests. The cruise line offers more value, more earnings, and more rewards - **cover page**.

New ship in Tahiti

WINDSTAR Cruises has a new ship in Tahiti, *Star Breeze*. The cruise line is currently offering a 10-night air credit, accommodation, and cruise package - see **page 5**.

Australia “very promising” to HLC

EXCLUSIVE

HAPAG-LLOYD Cruises (HLC) has identified the Australian market as “very promising” for its product, in its quest to increase its rate of international guests.

The German line, which recently appointed Luxury Travel Marketing to represent it in Australia (**CW 24 Jan**), told **Cruise Weekly** it believes its “European touch” could prove to be a point of contrast to help it differentiate itself in the luxury cruise market.

Head of Sales Michael Steffl said HLC will be targeting both travellers who have and haven’t cruised before.

“On the one hand existing cruise customers from the luxury and expedition segment and on the other hand luxury clients who have not cruised before and spend their holidays in luxurious boutique hotel resorts,” he told **Cruise Weekly**.



“The European touch of the HLC product could be very appealing to the Australian guests.”

German-speaking countries such as Germany, Austria, and Switzerland are HLC’s main markets, but the line is attempting to increase its number of international guests, and will do so through local activity.

“Hapag-Lloyd will introduce some offers/specials which are only valid on the Australian market throughout the coming months,” Steffl said.

He believes the cruise line’s two bilingual ships, **EUROPA 2** (pictured) and **HANSEATIC inspiration**, will prove attractive to Australians due to their unique itinerary concepts.

EUROPA 2, which is cruising to Australia next month, will visit locales such as K’gari, Percy Isles National Park, and Airlie Beach, before heading for New Caledonia and Fiji.

Meanwhile, **HANSEATIC inspiration** will cruise from Ushuaia to Christchurch on a semi-circumnavigation of Antarctica next year, calling at the South Shetland Islands, the Antarctic Peninsula, Ross Island, and more.

Steffl said Hapag-Lloyd’s plan to develop the market involves working with local tour operators and travel advisors, as the cruise line ramps up its Australian sales partners. **MS**

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On location on board
Silver Muse

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Silversea Cruises, who are this week hosting us aboard *Silver Muse*.

WE ARE spending the day sailing, with the day-at-sea the perfect excuse to make the most of *Silver Muse's* public areas and dining venues.

Guests can watch the water pass by from the Panorama Lounge, Observation Library, Dolce Vita, or from the comfort of their suite - if we're lucky a dolphin or two might be frolicking outside.

For those wanting to soak up the sunshine, live music by the pool with a drink in hand, or a game of shuffleboard are great ways to spend the day.

First Carnival ship order in five years

A **FOURTH** Excel-class ship has been ordered for Carnival Cruise Line, which will be built by Meyer Werft in Germany.

The new ship is scheduled for delivery in 2027, and will join other Carnival Excel-class vessels (**pictured**) *Mardi Gras*, *Carnival Celebration* and *Carnival Jubilee*.

The ship will carry more than 6,400 guests, which will make it by far Carnival's largest vessel, able to carry around 1,200 more passengers than *Mardi Gras*.

Carnival's first new ship order in five years will be powered on a liquefied natural gas technology platform, with President Christine Duffy saying the Excel-class has proved exceptionally popular with its guests.

"As the world's most popular cruise line, this new ship enables us to continue the growth of our incredible fleet as we welcome our loyal guests back to cruise

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE'S EXCEL CLASS SHIPS



more frequently and attract new-to-cruise guests to experience all that a Carnival cruise has to offer," she said.

Carnival Corporation Chief Executive Officer Josh Weinstein said the company is excited to resume its new ship program and further enhance its global fleet.

"With one new build scheduled for delivery in 2025, none for

2026, and this order being our only expected new build in 2027, our responsible capital approach will support utilising our substantial free cash flow over the next several years to strategically improve our balance sheet, significantly reduce our leverage levels and continue to transfer value from debt holders to shareholders," he said. *MS*

Hailing a cab in NYC

Soaring over the Greenland Ice sheet

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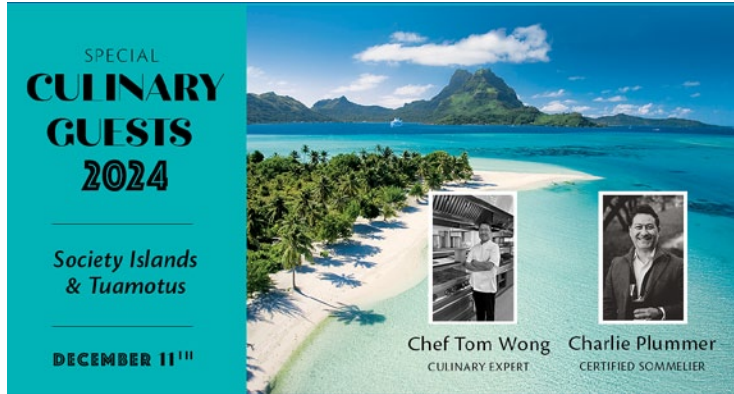
Paul Gauguin's new culinary cruise

PAUL Gauguin Cruises is welcoming two renowned food and wine experts aboard its new 10-night culinary cruise in Dec.

The Society Islands & Tuamotus voyage aboard *Paul Gauguin* will see Hawaiian cuisine culinary expert Tom Wong and celebrated sommelier Charlie Plummer (**pictured**) work alongside the ship's team to offer complimentary tasting and culinary demonstrations, mixology workshops, wine seminars, and more.

The cruise will also feature signature dishes and cocktails throughout the 10-night journey.

"We are thrilled to welcome Chef Tom Wong back on board... his Hawaiian-inspired cuisine has been a treat for our guests in the past, and our own culinary team enjoys learning new techniques from him," *Paul Gauguin* Executive Chef Paul Ellis said.



"The addition of expert sommelier Charlie Plummer on our Dec culinary cruise will add to the uniquely delicious and complimentary experience for our guests."

"Beyond its legendary lagoons, Tahiti is paradise for foodies and [*Paul Gauguin's*] culinary mission is to serve the freshest, most authentic cuisine in the islands."

All-inclusive fares for the voyage

start at \$5,500.

This week is also the last chance for passengers to score Paul Gauguin's "Take Your Sweetie To Tahiti" promotion, which offers US\$500 shipboard credit.

The offer is available on bookings made until Fri 16 Feb, and applies to a wide range of seven-, 10-, 11- and 14-night all-inclusive luxury voyages throughout the year. *MS*

Uniworld flash sale

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruises is celebrating the leap year with a two-for-one flash sale, which offers last-minute value on the line's all-inclusive luxury river voyages.

Savings of 50% are available on popular European itineraries from today until Leap Day (29 Feb).

The sale will see batches of 10 cruises released at a two-for-one discount, with the second and third batch of sailings released on 20 and 26 Feb respectively.

Guests have until Leap Day to book, unless sold out prior.

Beyond the Leap Year flash sale savings, Uniworld River Cruises is also currently offering solo traveller savings, waiving the single supplement on select itineraries.

CLICK HERE to learn more about the flash sale.



VIKING

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For a limited time, you can take advantage of Viking's new Explorer Sale offers across river, ocean and expedition voyages.

EXPLORER SALE OFFERS



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Secure **included return economy flights to Europe** when you book a 2025 or 2026 Europe river journey



INCLUDED FLIGHTS
TO SOUTHEAST ASIA

Secure **included return economy flights to Southeast Asia** when you book a 15-day river voyage



RECEIVE UP TO \$3,000
FLIGHT CREDIT

Receive up to **\$3,000 flight credit per couple** when you book a 2025 or 2026 ocean voyage



SAVE UP TO \$4,000
PER COUPLE

Save up to **\$4,000 per couple** when you book a 2025 or 2026 expedition voyage

See website for T&Cs



A NORWEGIAN Cruise Line poll has spotlighted Valentine's Day's platonic cousin 'Galentine's Day', with almost two-thirds (62%) of women taking or intending to take an all-girls trip this year.

More than 80% of women see girls' trips as a worthwhile way to foster meaningful connections, with some of the most popular destinations including Europe (50%) and Hawaii (33%).

The benefits of a girls' trip are clear, according to the poll, with it leading to around two-thirds (65%) of Australian women feeling refreshed, and more than half (54%) feeling closer to their friends.

Fifty-one percent of women also feel they struggle to find the time to nurture relationships - as good a reason for a cruise as any.

Viking finds its tune



VIKING has announced a new sponsorship of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra (**pictured**), one of the leading voices in the cultural landscape.

The sponsorship, which commenced last month, establishes a strong alliance between Viking and the Orchestra, and provides the opportunity to create a new shared audience within Australia's culturally rich and artistic communities.

Viking will co-sponsor six concert series providing an opportunity to host and reward loyal guests and travel partners in Melbourne and Sydney.

"We are delighted to be a major sponsor of the orchestra in 2024 and help bring its curated program of Baroque classics to audiences around Australia," MD Michelle Black said.

"The sponsorship aligns our businesses through a shared sense of community that we know loves new culturally immersive experiences and to discover something new about themselves or the world around them," she added.

The Orchestra's season begins with its concert series, *Notre-Dame*, which will treat guests to music which has been performed within the iconic Parisian cathedral across eight centuries.

Notre-Dame opens on 22 Feb at Melbourne Recital Centre and on 27 Feb at City Recital Hall in Sydney. *MS*



Valentine's Day love

IT'S only appropriate on Valentine's Day to share the love for our amazing Australian cruise industry working double time right now to showcase our spectacular destinations during a month where we see our highest level of international cruise visitors.

Our team at ACA is also busy continuing to support these efforts behind the scenes at a range of important trade shows and workshops.

The 2024 travel calendar kicks off this month with a trip to Brisbane for our first board meeting and cruise workshop for the year partnering with BEDA and TEQ.

This will be followed by a sustainability themed tour onboard *Quantum of the Seas* hosted by RCI.

It's off to Sydney after that for a Minister's round table.

ACA has been very impactful in our discussions with state and federal government bodies advising on key issues that represent our members' interests.

Tourism Australia's Destination Australia follows in Mar and then our focus turns to the biggest international opportunity, attending Seatrade Cruise Global in Florida with a record delegation.

There is no doubt there will be a lot of discussion surrounding the geopolitical unrest which is having a major impact on our industry, both abroad and at home.

We are hopeful that this comes to a peaceful conclusion soon.



On Board: *Silver Muse*

The Panorama Lounge

Located on deck 9, it will come as no surprise that the Panorama Lounge offers, as the name suggests, panoramic views. The perfect place to relax at the end of the day, the Panorama Lounge offers a peaceful retreat or a social place to meet friends, enjoy a cocktail or a glass of bubbles, and watch the ocean pass by.

MOOREA, TAHITI

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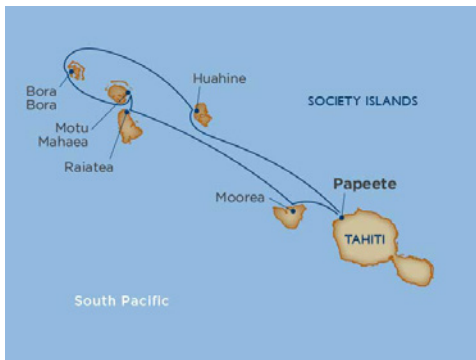


STAR BREEZE

A graceful yacht is the perfect way to experience the true wonder of Tahiti. Hop aboard Windstar's *Star Breeze* as it takes you to visit one legendary island after another, with plenty of casual time to swim and snorkel in crystal-clear lagoons, meander through lush rainforests, and experience the fascinating Polynesian culture from tikis to tiare flowers.

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- Local performances onboard
- Signature Onboard Barbeque and the beloved crew show
- Champagne welcome reception
- Signature Sail Away event



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- Air credit*
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- Seven nights Windstar Cruise onboard *Star Breeze*, roundtrip from Papeete
- Two-nights' Five-star hotel in Papeete including breakfast

Cruise departure dates 15 February 2024 - 31 March 2025



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