



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Nova christened

SILVERSEA Cruises officially named *Silver Nova* in Fort Lauderdale earlier this week, announcing chef Nina Compton as godmother.

Esteemed guests embarked *Nova* yesterday, honouring the milestone during the ship's maiden call in Florida.

Reverend Sanford Sears and Rabbi Adam Watstein blessed *Nova*, while President Barbara Muckermann, and Jason Liberty, President & Chief Executive Officer of Royal Caribbean Group, addressed the ceremony.

"We are all incredibly proud to officially welcome *Silver Nova* into Royal Caribbean Group's fleet," Liberty said.

## Aussie cruise set for a bumper year

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Managing Director Joel Katz (pictured) said this year was likely to be one of Australia's busiest for cruise tourism, with lines making significant capacity increases in deployments for 2024.

He said cruise lines have boosted their Australian presence, offering more local ships, more sailings, and more staterooms than ever before.

This year will see 81 cruise ships operating in Australian waters, which is 14% more than last year.

The result is a wealth of options for cruise fans and enormous economic potential for communities around the coast.

"Many of these ships will be staying longer and offering more local sailings, which means Australia will welcome more than 3,700 port calls around the country - an 18% increase over



last year," Katz said.

"The total cruise passenger capacity in Australia this year will be up by 42% over 2023, which reflects the huge passion Australians have for cruising and the strong overseas interest in sailing Down Under.

"Cruising delivered a record economic impact worth \$5.6

billion to the national economy last financial year, and all signs suggest cruise tourism will continue to be enormously valuable to Australia throughout 2024 and well beyond."

CLIA cruise lines are preparing to welcome nine ships over the year ahead, having launched 13 in 2023.

"The incoming fleet of new ocean ships illustrates the huge diversity of cruising styles available to today's traveller around the world," Katz added.

"This year's launches include a mix of contemporary ships, luxury ships and expedition ships, from an equally broad range of cruise lines...together these ships will be among the most advanced and energy-efficient ships to have ever sailed, and the choices they offer demonstrate why there is a cruising style to suit almost any taste." MS



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## PORThOLE

**THIS** trick will be added to survival textbooks all over the world after this!

A fisherman who spent 24 hours floating in the ocean has been saved - by the reflection of his watch!

The New Zealander survived in an "absolute miracle" by using the watch to signal for help, *NBC News* reported.

The angler's ordeal began after he fell into the water off the country's east coast on Tue, while trying to reel in a marlin.

Strong currents thwarted his attempts to reunite with his boat and to swim to nearby islands, leading him to spend the night in the freezing water, fending off sharks.

After almost 24 hours in the water, the man said three fishermen noticed an "unusual reflection" in the distance - the man's watch.

## Atlas savings event

**ATLAS** Ocean Voyages has announced its Jan 2023 wave offer with additional free shore excursions on select 2024 cultural expeditions.

Bookings made between 03 Jan and 03 Feb will benefit from exclusive savings of up to \$2,000 per stateroom.

The Jan savings event is also combinable with the Second Guest Sails Free promotion - [CLICK HERE](#).

## Roux you believe this?



**CUNARD** Line is set to bring back its exclusive Le Gavroche at Sea series in an extended partnership with Michelin chef Michel Albert Roux (pictured).

The English chef will bring Le Gavroche to guests on *Queen Anne* and *Queen Mary 2* from Jun, following the closure of his iconic London restaurant later this month.

Roux will oversee four Le Gavroche residencies across four Cunard voyages to the fjords of Norway, starting in Jun aboard *Queen Mary 2*.

The first five-night residency, which will be an additional charge for guests, will cater to 60 diners each evening, showcasing a variety of Roux's signature seafood specialties and elevated culinary classics in a five-course tasting menu.

Aug will see Roux host a second residency aboard *Queen Mary 2*, before he delivers another five-night takeover at Sir Samuel's on board Cunard's newest ship *Queen Anne*.

Roux will complete his quartet of takeovers with another residency on *Queen Anne* in Sep. He will also appear as an

Insights Speaker in the Royal Court Theatre during these voyages, regaling guests with stories from his illustrious 40-plus-year career in the hospitality industry.

"It is an absolute privilege to bring Le Gavroche to Cunard's Queens, reuniting with their hugely talented and passionate culinary development chefs as we strive to create menus inspired by the treasures of Norwegian cuisine," Roux enthused.

"The culinary heritage of Norway is a tapestry of flavors, and together with Cunard, I look forward to weaving these elements into an extraordinary dining experience at Sir Samuel's and The Verandah.

"My ongoing partnership with the Norwegian Seafood Council allows us to ensure every dish tells a story of the nation's natural beauty," he added.

Cunard last year announced Roux will also be creating an exclusive gala menu for *Queen Anne's* Queens Grill and Princess Grill restaurants, as well as a new Golden Lion menu full of refined pub favourites for the cruise line's newest ship. *MS*

## Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

| SYDNEY                   |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <i>Majestic Princess</i> | 05 Jan |
| <i>Disney Wonder</i>     | 05 Jan |
| <i>Azamara Journey</i>   | 06 Jan |
| <i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>  | 07 Jan |
| <i>Carnival Splendor</i> | 07 Jan |

| MELBOURNE              |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> | 05 Jan |
| <i>Europa</i>          | 07 Jan |

| PORT ADELAIDE          |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| <i>Grand Princess</i>  | 05 Jan |
| <i>Aidasol</i>         | 06 Jan |
| <i>True North</i>      | 06 Jan |
| <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> | 07 Jan |
| <i>Noordam</i>         | 07 Jan |

| PENNESHAW             |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| <i>Grand Princess</i> | 05 Jan |
| <i>Aidasol</i>        | 07 Jan |

| BRISBANE                   |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| <i>Quantum of the Seas</i> | 05 Jan |
| <i>Pacific Encounter</i>   | 06 Jan |
| <i>Carnival Luminosa</i>   | 07 Jan |

| AIRLIE BEACH                |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| <i>Carnival Luminosa</i>    | 05 Jan |
| <i>Seven Seas Navigator</i> | 06 Jan |

| BROOME         |        |
|----------------|--------|
| <i>Regatta</i> | 06 Jan |

| BURNIE                  |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <i>Crystal Symphony</i> | 06 Jan |

| HOBART                  |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <i>Viking Orion</i>     | 07 Jan |
| <i>Crystal Symphony</i> | 07 Jan |

| AUCKLAND                    |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| <i>Sevens Seas Explorer</i> | 05 Jan |
| <i>Star Breeze</i>          | 05 Jan |
| <i>Royal Princess</i>       | 06 Jan |
| <i>Coral Princess</i>       | 07 Jan |

| WELLINGTON              |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| <i>Pacific Explorer</i> | 05 Jan |
| <i>Norwegian Spirit</i> | 07 Jan |