



Cruise Weekly today

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

Quark updates

TENILLE Hunt has been appointed as Quark Expeditions' Regional Sales Director APAC.

She will take the role previously held by Robert Halfpenny, who *Cruise Weekly* exclusively revealed would be joining Heritage Expeditions (*CW* 17 Nov).

Hunt is one of seven staffers in a new position this year, which includes appointments in China and the Americas.

MEANWHILE, Quark is kicking off the new year with its Arctic Escape sale, offering select voyages this year in Spitsbergen and Greenland at 30% off, while 10% off other voyages is also available.

Oceania's Asia and Africa adventures

OCEANIA Cruises has announced new voyages on board *Riveira* (pictured) to Africa and Asia, where the ship will explore at the end of 2024 and into 2025.

There will be three brand new itineraries between 27 and 59 days in duration, with the jewel the Grand Voyage of almost 60 days, which offers guests the opportunity to discover off-the-beaten path ports, such as Antsiranana, Hambantota, Sao Tome, and Lome.

Riviera will sail from Barcelona and call at the Canary Islands, before heading down West Africa, with days at sea punctuating calls in Senegal, Gambia, Ghana, and an overnight stay in Walvis Bay and Cape Town, the journey's southernmost point.

The ship will then head up East Africa via Madagascar, for an overnight stay in Dar Es Salaam,



and then across to the Seychelles, the Maldives, Thailand, and Malaysia, before the journey culminates with two nights in port in Singapore.

"These longer, destination-immersive voyages offer curious, well-travelled guests the chance to explore some of the most off-the-beaten-path ports in the world, all from the elegant surroundings of *Riviera*," the cruise line's President Frank Del

Rio Jr explained.

All guests sailing on these itineraries benefit from Oceania's 'simply MORE' offering (*CW* 30 Jun), which includes a generous shore excursion credit of up to \$1,400 per stateroom, in addition to free champagne, wine, and more during lunch and dinner; free soft drinks, and speciality teas and coffees; free gourmet speciality dining, and free unlimited wi-fi. *MS*

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50% OFF

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PLUS

simply MORE™

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- FREE Shore Excursions
- FREE Champagne, Wine & More
- FREE Gourmet Speciality Dining
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DISNEY Cruise Line has instituted a new mandate which seems to discourage the hiding of rubber ducks on board its ships.

For the uninitiated, the fad of hiding a rubber duck aboard a ship began on board Carnival Cruise Line in 2018, and has since spread to most brands.

Disney's new mandate however seems to discouraging the practice.

"According to our policy, guests are allowed to bring rubber ducks onboard," a Disney statement has said.

"It's important to note that pool toys, including rubber ducks, are not permitted to be used in the pools."

It continued: "Additionally, we kindly request that guests are not allowed to hide items such as rubber ducks in public areas or staterooms."

Shoot for the stars

THE Seabourn Cruise Line (SCL) fleet is now equipped with SpaceX's Starlink wi-fi technology, which offers enhanced internet capabilities and elevated connectivity.

SCL received positive feedback from its guests aboard its Starlink-equipped expedition ships, which led to the cruise line rolling the technology out across its entire fleet.

The hottest new duet



ROYAL Caribbean International and the Eurovision Song Contest are set to take the stage together in a new partnership, which will debut in time for the 68th hosting of the competition.

This year's Eurovision in Malmo in May will coincide with the start of Royal Caribbean's European season, which will feature six ships sailing from eight cities across the continent, visiting a landmark line-up of destinations.

"As two world-renowned brands that are known for delivering memorable moments to millions across the globe, the combination of Royal Caribbean International and Eurovision Song Contest makes the ultimate partnership that will bring to life the very best of world-class live entertainment and a fusion of cultures from all over," the cruise line's Vice President Europe, Middle East &

Africa Ben Bouldin said.

"With more than 60 historic years of the Eurovision Song Contest, we're proud to partner with an iconic brand that has a global audience, which only continues to grow with the popularity of an event that has become a cultural moment for so many around the world."

Eurovision Executive Supervisor Marin Osterdahl said the Contest is thrilled to announce its new partnership with the cruise line.

"The Eurovision Song Contest and Royal Caribbean share a passion for creating unforgettable experiences that unite people from all around the world," Osterdahl added.

"We look forward to making new memories for our fans and guests alike and can't wait to set sail together on this new adventure." *MS*

RSSC sale on now

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has announced its Upgrade Your Horizon offer on more than 400 voyages through 2026.

The offer is available across all destinations and all ships, (excluding the World Cruises and Grand Voyages).

Guests can enjoy a free two-category suite upgrade and reduced 7.5% deposit across voyages from Feb 2024 through to Jun 2026, plus savings of up to 50% on more than 80 select itineraries.

Travel partners in Australia can also win a Faberge pendant worth over \$14,000 - for more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Cruise rape claim

TWO passengers on board a Margaritaville at Sea cruise have claimed they were raped by an onboard bartender, according to reports.

One of the women, known in a lawsuit from last month as 'Jane Doe', alleges she became pregnant as a result of the assault, and "was forced to terminate the pregnancy, from which she then suffered serious complications."

Doe and her cabinmate, identified in a separate lawsuit as HB, allege the bartender pocketed one of their room keys while serving them drinks, and used it to enter their stateroom after both women fell asleep.

The bartender has pleaded guilty to one count of abusive sexual contact.