



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Ponant roadshows

PONANT'S first wave of roadshows has been a success, with new offerings including next year's Europe Grand Voyages, and exclusive insights into new product Paspaley Pearl by Ponant, which is set to launch in 2025.

Three successful events were held in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, with strong trade support and significant consumer engagement evident across all cities.

Director of Expeditions Mick Fogg addressed attendees in Sydney and Melbourne, and Expedition Leaders Jamie Van-Jones and Sebastian Jones took the lead in Brisbane.

## "Concern" in Horizontal Falls

CORAL Expeditions Commercial Director Jeff Gillies said his cruise line will still be able to deliver a great product going forward, despite the phase-out of crossing through the Kimberley's Horizontal Falls from 2026.

The move, which was announced earlier this month by the Government of Western Australia, will see new tourism experiences developed for the Horizontal Falls (pictured), as the state, tourism operators, and the land's traditional owners work to "strike a balance between promoting tourism and protecting the environment".

Traversing through the Falls will be phased out by Mar 2028 on the understanding new experiences are developed to continue showcasing the iconic tourism attraction.

Gillies said the decision was largely driven by the interests



of the traditional owners, with a renewed push for changes at the Falls following a boat crash almost two years ago, which injured dozens of tourists.

He revealed tour operators in the region have been concerned with the influx of new foreign vessels, which create a higher safety risk, and "have not been very diligent" in getting permits or paying fees.

Gillies said Coral represented its point of view that credible

Australian-flagged vessels with a proven track record should be allowed to continue, but that the government had little appetite to create different levels of rules.

The move will now allow the government to reset visitation to the region and the commercial model around it.

The Falls, located at the mouth of Talbot Bay, are a key natural phenomena popular with cruise lines and passengers on Kimberley voyages. MS



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# Princess launches new website

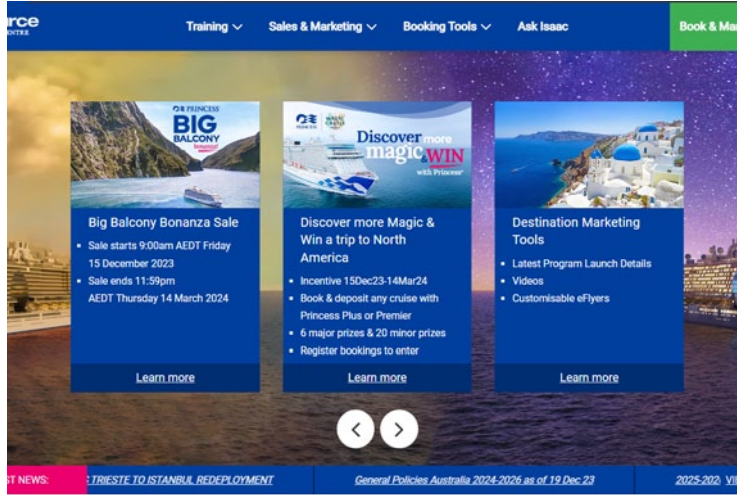
**PRINCESS** Cruises has launched its new and improved travel advisor website, OneSource.

The site has been redesigned to make navigation more seamless, enabling advisors to find information on Princess and manage bookings quickly.

Advisors can expect to see the same much-loved features, including Ask Isaac, the chat function which allows direct communication with Princess' reservation team, through the all-new home page (pictured).

Other improved features which are more easily accessible include the learning modules for new advisors, new Princess Plus flyers which outline how agents can double their commission, and the latest cruise news and information, which is displayed on an easy-to-read banner.

The home page also allows advisors to immediately see



current Princess campaigns and access associated marketing collateral, digital assets, and fare tables with just one click.

Senior Director Sales Marketing & Customer Service Nick Ferguson said the launch of the improved website is part of Princess' commitment to building

and enhancing its relationships with agents.

"We have spent many hours developing new features and improving the site's functionality, and we are excited for our travel agents to experience it," he said.

**CLICK HERE** to visit the new website. *MS*

## A new Heritage

**HERITAGE** Line has launched a completely overhauled Lower Mekong cruise program, introducing new ports and new excursions.

The cruise line's Vietnam and Cambodia program now includes calls at Tan Phong Island, Kampong Leaeng, and Prek Bangkok.

Heritage also has enhanced many of its excursions in its existing ports, including meeting a local priest at Cao Dai temple in Tan Chau.

Passengers can also discover the local religion of Caodaism, discover local artwork and handicraft outlets in the trading hub of Krong Kampong Cham, visit Koh Chen's silversmith community, and enjoy a walking tour of the Phnom Penh's French Quarter and SOSORO - Preah Srey Icanavarman Museum.

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## Cozumel set for next RCI Beach Club

**ROYAL** Caribbean International (RCI) has announced a new Royal Beach Club in Mexico (render pictured) in Cozumel.

The new Royal Beach Club will open in 2026, and will be set along the western coast of the island, featuring “striking beaches, views, and pools for every vibe”.

Chief Executive Officer Michael Bayley revealed the plans for the next Beach Club, alongside Quintana Roo State Secretary of Tourism Bernardo Cueto Riestra and the Mayor of Cozumel Juanita Alonso.

Experiences will span from kicking back at swim-up bars, dedicated pools for relaxation enthusiasts and families, private cabanas, snorkelling, kayaking, and more.

There will also be a variety of dining spots, like a restaurant, bar, a lounge with views, a



street market, as well as hands-on experiences such as tequila tastings and cooking classes.

“We are delighted to build on our long-standing partnership with the local community and government to continue bringing our guests to Mexico,” Royal Caribbean Group President &

Chief Executive Jason Liberty said.

“The expansion of our destination offerings aligns with the growing global demand for the ultimate vacation experiences and enables our guests to connect with the beauty of local cultures and people in the places they visit.” *MS*

## RCG win in Barca

**ROYAL** Caribbean Group’s (RCG) joint venture has won the bid to operate Barcelona’s Terminal G (*CW* 02 Feb), according to a number of reports, which will be the seventh and last terminal at the pier.

The Port of Barcelona’s management board granted the approval to Catalonia Cruise Terminal G to a JV between RCG and Cruise Terminals International, after it emerged as the sole bidder last month.

Another JV between Norwegian Cruise Line, Viking, and Virgin Voyages also expressed interest in tendering for Terminal G last year, it was previously reported.

The new facility is set to be up and running for the 2027 season, following an anticipated investment of more than €85 million.

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**CRUISE** lines do a lot for ocean conservation, but this is a novel idea they could use to further their contribution.

Actresses Kate Winslet, Sigourney Weaver, and Zoe Saldana have been captured in an underwater photo shoot for ocean conservation charity The Nature Conservancy.

The trio starred in an aqua-themed movie together, *Avatar: The Way of Water*, two years ago, and were snapped underwater in blue dresses.

The photo shoot took eight hours, with the finished products to be sold to raise money for ocean conservation.

The images are the work of one of the world's most celebrated underwater photographers, Christy Lee Rogers, who teamed up with the film's director and famed ocean conservationist James Cameron, who commissioned the shoot.

## Seabourn unveils 25-26

**SEABOURN** Cruise Line has unveiled its 2025-2026 northern autumn, winter, and spring seasons, featuring new itineraries exploring Japan, the Caribbean, and more.

The season, taking place from Sep 2025 to Mar 2026, will be the first time Seabourn offers a series of Japan voyages in autumn, allowing guests to enjoy the country's iconic fall colours.

*Seabourn Quest* will explore Japan between Sep and Nov 2025, visiting all four main islands, and will also make four maiden calls at Akita, Ishinomaki, Niigata, and Wakayama.

The season will also see travellers embark on journeys to explore the islands of the Caribbean, immerse themselves in the enigmatic cultures of Southeast Asia and Arabia, and indulge in the tropical beauty of the Hawaiian Islands.

Joining *Quest* will be *Seabourn Ovation* and *Seabourn Sojourn*, embarking on new Caribbean itineraries from San Juan, St. Maarten, Miami, and Barbados.

The cruise line's *Seabourn Encore* will return to Southeast

Asia on curated 14-day itineraries which include an overnight stay in Saigon.

*Seabourn Sojourn* will sail on a 'Hawaiian Holiday Overnight' to celebrate the holidays with a special Christmas Eve overnight stay in Honolulu.

The cruise line will offer a total of 72 itineraries over the course of the season, covering more than 105 destinations across more than 40 countries.

Itineraries range from seven to 22 days, with options to combine voyages for longer, more immersive journeys.

Guests can extend their experiences with pre- and post-cruise Seabourn Journeys to UNESCO World Heritage sites and immerse themselves in the cruise line's ultra-luxury "signature moments" like Caviar in the Surf, Shopping with the Chef, and Marina Day.

"This collection of extraordinary voyages invites guests to become immersed in an ocean of ultra-luxury, personalised service, and discovery, exploring hidden gems," the cruise line's President Natalya Leahy said. *MS*

## Ambassador 25/26

**AMBASSADOR** Cruise Line has launched its 25/26 season, which will see *Ambience* and *Ambition* set sail to 37 countries and call at more than 130 ports.

The range of experiences include round-Britain itineraries, with Ambassador to offer more United Kingdom regional departures, from seven ports, than any other cruise line.

Ambassador will cruise from London, Newcastle, Dundee, Liverpool, Belfast, Bristol, and Falmouth, offering voyages to Scandinavia, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, and more.

The season also features popular festive sailings during Dec, including three- and six-night Festive Cruises, a 17-night 'European Coastal Christmas Cruise', and an 18-night 'Christmas in the Canaries' cruise.

The longest itinerary of the season is the 40-night 'Jewels of the Caribbean', departing in Jan 2026 on Ambassador's flagship *Ambience*.



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