



CRUISE

WEEKLY

delivered daily!



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Thursday 23rd May 2024

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **MSC Cruises**.

MSC flash sale

MSC Cruises has launched a 10-day flash sale, allowing passengers to save up to 34% on cruise-only sailings.

The sale applies to voyages from Jul to Nov, in destinations including the Mediterranean, Northern Europe, and the Caribbean, for a limited time.

Cruises available as part of the sale include a Mediterranean voyage aboard *MSC Sinfonia*, departing 28 Jul for seven nights, embarking from Venice to Marghera from \$1,435 per person.

Also on sale is a Northern Europe cruise on board *MSC Virtuosa*, departing 28 Sep - head to **page 4** for more.

Norwegian expands APAC 2024-26

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has expanded its presence in the Asia-Pacific region for 2024-26, unveiling almost 90 new voyages across 15 departure ports.

NCL will deploy three ships - *Norwegian Sky*, *Norwegian Sun* (**pictured**) and *Norwegian Spirit* - to the region to offer 24 sailings across Asia, including its first summer cruises in the continent.

The expanded deployment is in response to a 20% jump in interest for cruising in Asia among Australian and New Zealand travellers, particularly in Japan.

Over the 18-month span, NCL will operate a variety of sailings ranging from nine to 19 days, offering guests an average of 10 hours in port in 60 locations.

Departures are scheduled from Bali, Bangkok, Manila, Seoul, Taipei, Yokohama, and Singapore, plus Papeete in Tahiti.

These include Osaka, Himeji,



Matsuyama, Tokushima and Niigata in Japan; Aitutaki, Cook Islands and closer to home, debut visits to Port Douglas and Cairns.

The expanded season provides more detail on a heavily revised 2024/25 presence for NCL in Australia, with one ship - *Norwegian Sun* - sailing five one-way voyages to New Zealand between Dec 2024 and Mar 2025, with only a single visit to Sydney.

The abridged local presence also confirms NCL will not base a ship in Sydney for the first time since debuting in local waters in 2017, as reported in **Cruise Weekly (CW)**

30 Apr), with *Spirit* booked on charter business for the season.

NCL instead will explore various other parts of Australia for the first time, with a trio of one-way voyages planned next year between Cairns and Lautoka in Fiji - the first time either destination has been used as a turnaround port by the line.

Three maiden visits to Western Australia's ports of Fremantle, Busselton and Albany will also feature in a repositioning voyage for *Spirit*, as the ship makes its way back to Sydney to its regular 2025/26 home port. **ML**

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Norwegian Spirit*, Hong Kong

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10-DAY ASIA:
KOBE, JEJU, NAGOYA & MT. FUJI
FROM TOKYO
NORWEGIAN SPIRIT | MAY & AUG 2025

NEW ITINERARY - JUST RELEASED



Mt. Fuji, Japan

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NORWEGIAN SPIRIT | JUL & SEP 2025

NEW ITINERARY - JUST RELEASED



Tokyo, Japan

14-DAY SOUTH PACIFIC:
FIJI, VANUATU & GREAT BARRIER REEF
FROM CAIRNS
NORWEGIAN SUN | APR & AUG 2025



Dravuni Island, Fiji

19-DAY INDONESIA & AUSTRALIA:
SURABAYA, FREMANTLE & MELBOURNE
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NORWEGIAN SPIRIT | 2 DEC 2025

NEW ITINERARY - JUST RELEASED



Singapore

CALL 1300 255 200 TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

*Offers are valid until 3 June 2024. Valid on select sailings. Conditions apply. ©2024 NCL Corporation Ltd. NCL Australia Pty. Ltd. ABN 80 607 578 781. Ships' Registry: Bahamas and USA. 1707488 05/2024



Lifetime cruise

VILLA Vie Residences is offering passengers a "lifetime ticket" for a flat fee, launching its 'Endless Horizons' program.

The program offers a chance to experience a 1,301-day adventure on board Villa Vie Odyssey from \$299,999.

Travel24 on sale now

EARLY bird tickets are now on sale for Travel24 - a new industry conference event hosted by CW sister title *Travel Daily*, which will explore the next 24 months in the travel industry.

More speakers have been revealed after it was announced one of the world's leading DEI experts (who is also Grammy-considered, a TED speaker and appeared on *Grey's Anatomy*), Azure Antoinette, will share how the travel and tourism industry can be better when it comes to diversity, equity, and inclusivity.

Australian Travel Industry Association Chief Executive Officer Dean Long will moderate a key panel of travel advisors discussing what they see as the challenges and opportunities over the next 24 months, and how they would like to work with suppliers during that time.

Joining Long will be TravelManagers Personal Travel Manager Louise McCarthy, with three more agents to be announced very soon.

In addition, consumer behaviour expert Dan Monheit, Chief Executive Officer of Hardhat agency, will fly up from Melbourne to share how the travel and tourism industry should navigate a time of recovery mixed in with a cost-of-

living crisis.

Monheit has worked with clients including Visit Victoria, Destination Phillip Island, and Melbourne Airport, and spoken at international events including South by Southwest in Texas.

CVFR's Group Chief Executive Ram Chhabra is also confirmed to speak, taking an in-depth look at the near future of air travel, including airline capacity/network, airfares and NDC.

CVFR has five independent business divisions, giving Chhabra a unique and detailed view of what is going on in multiple facets of travel and tourism.

Travel24 will take place in Sydney at the Sofitel Darling Harbour over 08 Aug, and promises to give travel and tourism a new take on the industry conference.

Early bird tickets are available for a limited time **HERE** before regular pricing kicks in.

More key sessions will be announced soon looking at topics including AI, data and statistics, and much more. *DF*

TRAVEL

24

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REGENT Seven Seas Cruises and the Aston Martin Aramco Formula One team have unveiled a new voyage, which will be joined by Spanish former F1 driver Pedro de la Rosa, which will feature multi-day shoreside experiences.



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ONE of the world's most infamous cruise ships *Titanic* is being profiled in an upcoming event in Australia.

'Titanic: The Human Story' is coming to Brisbane, following its success across the United States and the UK.

The event will take place at Level Q of Brisbane's Uptown complex on Queen Street.

The exhibit shares the gripping tales of the pax and crew aboard *Titanic*, including a selection of 200 original artifacts, such as photographs, handwritten letters, keepsakes, and other never-before-seen personal belongings.

Visitors will also experience life-size recreations of some of *Titanic's* interiors, and learn more about the history of the vessel through dynamic audio guides and passenger testimonies collated by prestigious expert on the ship, Claes-Goran Wetterholm.

CCL shoots for the Star

CARNIVAL Cruise Line (CCL) has shared its plans for family fun at Celebration Key, its new destination on the south side of Grand Bahama, with the reveal of Starfish Lagoon.

The new family friendly portal's many amenities include a beach, a freshwater lagoon, floating cabanas, water slides, a sports court, and a game pavilion.

Starfish Lagoon is centred around one of the largest freshwater lagoons in the Caribbean, and will open with Celebration Key in Jul 2025.

One of the highlights will be the pink Flash Flamingo and blue Mach III Marlin water slides, each more than 100 metres long, inviting guests to weave through and around the 10-storey-high Suncastle in a speedy race with exciting turns and flashes of light and colour.

Starfish Lagoon will feature AquaBananas, comfortable floating cabanas allowing guests to relax under the shady canopy with a refreshing beverage and their feet in the water.

AquaBananas come with seating space for eight, a solid table for

drinks and other essentials, non-slip surfaces and steps for easy access into the lagoon.

These 12 floating "private islands" are grouped around a peninsula with a dedicated swim-up bar, while a variety of traditional cabanas and daybeds will also be available.

The Guppy Grotto splash pad, located at the entrance to Starfish Lagoon, is a colourful, coral-reef themed water play area for toddlers and small children, featuring a two-foot-deep wading pool, fun water toys, a dump bucket, and interactive features, as well as plenty of shaded seating for parents with a nearby ice cream shop.

Other highlights will include a number of hammocks next to the Suncastle that let guests kick back and relax as they swing over the water and take in the views of Starfish Lagoon.

There's also a stretch of beach and crystal blue water with kayak and paddleboard rentals, along with sun loungers, umbrellas, and beachside cabanas.

Starfish Lagoon will be one of Celebration Key's five portals. *MS*

Jacques of all trades

PONANT'S *Le Jacques Cartier* set sail yesterday on the first of 13 Kimberley departures from May to Sep.

"*Le Jacques-Cartier's* arrival in Darwin marks the beginning of an exciting Kimberley season, having a new ship in the region," General Manager Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific Deb Corbett said.

"We are thrilled to bring our guests closer to the natural wonders of Australia's Kimberley whilst upholding our commitment to environmental preservation and sustainability."

Le Jacques-Cartier (pictured) is one of six Ponant Explorer ships which are purpose-built for expeditions, with a capacity for just 184 guests across 92 staterooms and suites.



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Our exclusive FLASH SALE features **savings of up to 34%** on cruise-only sailings from **July to November 2024**. This is a golden opportunity for your clients to explore the **Mediterranean, Northern Europe** and the **Caribbean**, all at jaw-dropping prices. For a limited time only, you can offer your clients exceptional deals on a variety of incredible cruises. Don't let this opportunity sail past - **book now!**

MEDITERRANEAN

MSC SINFONIA

28 July 2024

7 Nights | 8 Days

Embarking from Venice-Marghera

Italy, Greece, Croatia

OCEAN VIEW BELLA

\$1,435 p.p.*

MEDITERRANEAN

MSC GRANDIOSA

22 September 2024

7 Nights | 8 Days

Embarking from Livorno (Florence)

Italy, France, Spain, Tunisia

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(Decks 8 - 10)

\$2,095 p.p.*

NORTHERN EUROPE

MSC VIRTUOSA

28 September 2024

14 Nights | 15 Days

Embarking from Southampton

United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal

INTERIOR BELLA

\$1,771 p.p.*

CARIBBEAN & ANTILLES

MSC SEASCAPE

23 November 2024

7 Nights | 8 Days

Embarking from Miami

United States, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Bahamas

INTERIOR BELLA

\$980 p.p.*

NORTHERN EUROPE

MSC EURIBIA

06 October 2024

7 Nights | 8 Days

Embarking from Copenhagen

Denmark, Norway, Germany

INTERIOR BELLA

\$1,105 p.p.*

CARIBBEAN & ANTILLES

MSC SEASCAPE

19 October 2024

7 Nights | 8 Days

Embarking from Miami

United States, Jamaica, Cayman Islands, Mexico, Bahamas

BALCONY BELLA

\$1,750 p.p.*