



Cruise Weekly today

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

Cruise Month hits

CLIA Australasia recorded a 51% year-on-year increase in visits to its 'Find a CLIA travel agent' function during Cruise Month this year, results show. The Association said this year's month-long cruise campaign delivered its "best ever results", with traffic to the CLIA website up 47%. The number of agents who participated in CLIA initiatives also spiked, with more than 2,000 engaging with its Cruise Month toolkit and 3,400 signing up to a webinar. CLIA Australasia Managing Director, Joel Katz, said the results show "there's a lot of enthusiasm for cruising".

Investors acquire Hurti

HURTIGRUTEN has announced it has been acquired by a consortium of existing investors, who will contribute hundreds of millions of dollars into the brand (**CW** breaking news).

The funding will underpin Hurtigruten's next chapter, completing the brand's split from its expedition-focused sister marque HX (**CW** 23 Oct 2020).

The new investment of approximately €110 million in long-term funding will support the business' future growth, with the transaction expected to close in Jan.

The ownership group will include existing investors Arini Capital Management, AlbaCore Capital, and Barings.

The move will also significantly reduce the outstanding debt of Hurtigruten by more than €1 billion, to €400 million, and extend their maturities until at

least 2030.

"This is an important milestone for Hurtigruten," Chief Executive Officer Hedda Felin emphasised.

"The transaction allows us to continue to deliver our long-term goals, enable sustainable growth, and enhance our customer experience," she said.

"We look forward to working alongside the new investor group," Felin added.

The investment was led by Arini's Torben Geisler, who added; "Hurtigruten is a strong, storied brand that has made a name for itself for over a century as a world-class operator.

"Our investor group looks forward to backing the Hurtigruten management team and its employees to help the company achieve its significant potential while continuing to deliver exceptional travel experiences to its customers." *MS*



On location in
Czechia

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Viking, aboard *Viking Beyla* as part of a 'Christmas Along the Elbe' itinerary in Europe.

AFTER experiencing the delights of Prague on a series of Viking-led tours, we have today been transferred to the port of Decin on the Elbe River. Our ultimate destination is Berlin, and along the way we will experience some of Europe's gorgeous Christmas markets, most of which open tonight to mark the start of the Christian season of Advent. Over the weekend we head north-west into Germany, with plenty of scenic sailing through Switzerland ahead.

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New MSC webinar

MSC Cruises is hosting a new 'Insider' webinar, offering a look at last-minute deals, new horizons, and milestones.

The webinar, hosted by Bronwyn Knight, is scheduled for 04 Dec, over two sessions (8:30am and 12:30pm).

The 20-minute webinar will be followed by a five-minute interactive Q&A session, and is designed to provide travel partners with comprehensive knowledge - [CLICK HERE](#).

MEANWHILE, MSC's 2025/2026 Mediterranean & Northern Europe brochure is out now.

The publication features west and east Mediterranean cruises, with MSC sailing 14 ships in the region.

The brochure also includes Northern Europe itineraries, sailing aboard *MSC Preziosa* and *MSC Poesia* - [CLICK HERE](#).

Nova makes first visit to South Aus

SILVERSEA'S *Silver Nova* has visited South Australia for the first time, docking in Adelaide's Outer Harbour this morning.

Nova is set to deliver economic benefits across the state's tourism regions, with passengers to take part in onshore tours and experiences across the Adelaide Hills, the Barossa Valley, and Kangaroo Island, where the ship will visit tomorrow.

The vessel is scheduled to make her second voyage to South Australia in Feb, returning to Adelaide ahead of her inaugural visit to Port Lincoln.

Silversea has scheduled 30 calls to South Australian ports across 2024-2027, including the expedition anchorage of Robe.

This morning's call is one of 20 scheduled maiden visits to South Australian ports in the 2024-25 cruise season, which will include MSC Cruises, Norwegian Cruise



Line, and Ponant.

"It is an exciting day to welcome Silversea's new luxury cruise ship, *Silver Nova*, to South Australia for the first time," Minister for Tourism Zoe Bettison said.

"Silversea's commitment to including South Australia on its international itineraries is a direct result of the ongoing work we are doing to attract luxury cruise lines




and their high-yield visitors to our state," she added.

"We continue to see how cruise delivers important economic benefits to local communities across our tourism regions, both during our cruise season, and into the future as passengers are inspired to return and discover more of South Australia," she added. *MS*

DISCOVER DREAMS OF TAHITI & BEYOND NEW 2026 ITINERARIES JUST RELEASED

Windstar Cruises is delighted to present their latest 2026 South Pacific itineraries, designed to immerse travellers in Polynesian beauty, culture, and adventure. This collection covers both iconic destinations and hidden gems, blending Tahiti and Bora Bora with new stops in the Cook Islands, Tonga, and Fiji.

2026 HIGHLIGHT ITINERARIES INCLUDE:

		
<p>FLOWERS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC: FIJI, THE COOK ISLANDS & FRENCH POLYNESIA 14 - 15 nights</p> <p>Exploring Rarotonga and Aitutaki in the Cook Islands provides an opportunity to experience stunning turquoise lagoons, soft white-sand beaches, and lively coral reefs.</p>	<p>MAORI STORYTELLERS & FRENCH POLYNESIA TREASURES 10 Nights</p> <p>Unwind on Rarotonga's secluded beaches, then head to Aitutaki for tropical fruit smoothies, tuna poke, and fish curry. Experience Māori culture as you meet locals, enjoy sunset cruises or stay in romantic beachfront bungalows at top island resorts.</p>	<p>FAR FLUNG FRENCH POLYNESIA AND MARQUESAS MAGIC 11 Nights</p> <p>Spot seabirds and snorkel with harmless blacktip reef sharks in Fakarava's renowned blue lagoon, a UNESCO biosphere reserve. Discover Polynesian culture in Omoa, Fatu-Hiva, one of the world's most remote Marquesas Islands villages.</p>

Scan the QR code for more information and the latest offers or contact 1300 749 875 or email reservations@windstar.com.au



DISNEY can be described as larger than life in some instances, and so for the fourth consecutive year, Disney Cruise Line took part in the 96th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Tens of thousands of people lined the streets in Manhattan as the line brought its new 'Magic Meets the Sea' float along Central Park West.

Crowds saw a cast of familiar Disney characters performing on board as the ship-shaped float 'pulled into port' in front of Macy's 34th Street store, including a typically giant Captain Minnie Mouse balloon.



Princess Black Fri

PRINCESS Cruises' Black Fri sale will see those who book a stateroom on select cruises within Australia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific get a third and fourth guest sail free.

The offer will only last until 03 Dec, and is available on a selection of 2025/26 cruises from a low \$99 deposit.

CLICK HERE for more information on the sale.

Cruise says 'Bon Voyage'



THE annual, industry-wide 'Bon Voyage' Christmas party was hosted last night by **Cruise Weekly's** sister title, **Travel Daily**, with nearly 200 members of the travel industry coming together to see off 2024 and look forward to 2025.

Representatives from many local cruise line offices were in attendance, with Viking, Norwegian Cruise Line, MSC Cruises, Royal Caribbean, Carnival, and many more letting their hair down at the event.

Emceeding proceedings were conducted by Sydney radio star and comedian, Tim 'Rosso' Ross (**pictured**), whose recounting of holidays in circa-1980s Australia had the room laughing along.

Rosso's stories were capped off with a prize draw, with Mary Williams from Celestyal Cruises set to swap her familiar large cruise ships for something much smaller, winning the major prize at the event.

Williams' name was the lucky winner selected from the

evening's business card draw, with tickets to a serene Sydney Harbour lunch or dinner cruise in her future, courtesy of prize sponsor, Journey Beyond.

Copies of Rosso's nostalgic holiday almanac *Motel*, which trawls through Australia's National Archives for an amusing look at road trips and accommodation standards of a long-bygone era, were also given away to a lucky few.

The evening even delivered an inadvertent highlight in the form of a colourful drone performance hosted by the nearby Crown Sydney and overlooking White Bay Cruise Terminal behind.

Rosso is also no stranger to cruising, having memorably set sail with Royal Caribbean as part of a one-hour 2015 TV special.

Tom, Rachael and Rosso Go Cruising saw Rosso joined by fellow celebrities Tom Williams and Rachael Finch as they documented their 10-night South Pacific journey on board *Voyager of the Seas*. ML

Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Viking Orion</i>	29 Nov
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	29 Nov
<i>Royal Princess</i>	30 Nov
<i>Celebrity Edge</i>	01 Dec
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	02 Dec
<i>Regatta</i>	02 Dec
<i>Crown Princess</i>	03 Dec
<i>Silver Nova</i>	03 Dec
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	04 Dec
<i>Silver Nova</i>	04 Dec
<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	05 Dec
EDEN	
<i>Silver Nova</i>	03 Dec
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	30 Nov
<i>Quantum of the Seas</i>	01 Dec
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	03 Dec
<i>Carnival Luminosa</i>	05 Dec
TOWNSVILLE	
<i>Regatta</i>	29 Nov
BROOME	
<i>Westerdam</i>	03 Dec
ADELAIDE	
<i>Silver Nova</i>	29 Nov
<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	30 Nov
<i>Europa 2</i>	30 Nov
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	01 Dec
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	03 Dec
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	05 Dec
HOBART	
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	29 Nov
<i>Royal Princess</i>	02 Dec
<i>Celebrity Edge</i>	03 Dec
<i>Viking Orion</i>	04 Dec
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	04 Dec
<i>Europa 2</i>	05 Dec
MELBOURNE	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	29 Nov
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	30 Nov
<i>Viking Orion</i>	02 Dec
<i>Europa 2</i>	03 Dec
<i>Royal Princess</i>	05 Dec