



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from Uniworld Boutique River Cruises.

Tix still up for grabs

THERE is still time to invite your clients to Uniworld Boutique River Cruises' Aperitivo at the Pictures event.

There will be nine dates across the country over Oct and Nov.

Events will be held in Fremantle, Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Gold Coast, Melbourne, and Sydney, as well as Canberra.

The annual event, Uniworld's "best selling tool of the year", is the perfect opportunity to boost your bookings.

Head to **page 4** for more information about Aperitivo at the Pictures.

NCL set to deliver 'More at Sea'

CRUISERS will be able to experience 'More at Sea' with Norwegian Cruise Line's (NCL) new brand positioning, which will replace the much-loved 'Free at Sea' platform.

The new fully commissionable More at Sea package elevates the guest experience with three key pillars: an expanded selection of upgraded premium beverage offerings, more specialty dining meals, and fleetwide access to Starlink wi-fi.

Guests can take advantage of the package from today, for voyages from 01 Jan, offering a more extensive variety of premium beverage brands and more than 100 specialty cocktails, and wi-fi logins for 150 minutes.

Additional specialty dining will also be available for sailings of seven days or longer, and NCL is also replacing its a la carte pricing with a flat charge.

The cruise line's Director of Sales Strategy & Operations Damian Borg told CW the timing is right for the cruise line to extend its 'Free at Sea' platform into the more wholly encompassing 'More at Sea' brand pillar, which he hoped would be an easier sales pitch.

"It's really an evolution of that value proposition that we did have in place with Free at Sea... it served us really well for a long time, and we just felt that the time was right to be more bold about our offering on board, and the word 'more' was more fitting with what we give to customers," Borg explained.

"More is what we do, more is what we want to be seen for, and more is more easily communicated by us to our partners and our partners to our customers," he added.

More at Sea will also see

NCL redefine its onboard entertainment offerings to deliver a greater variety of programming, particularly outside the theatre.

NCL is also introducing a completely revamped mobile app, which will be rolled out by the end of the year.

The greater amount of inclusions will result in a slight increase in fares, Borg said, with adjustments to come this month.

The NCL sales chief put out the call for the cruise line's partners to "get behind" the move.

"This is the DNA of our business, this is what we're known for," Borg enthused.

NCL is now bringing to life the creative associated with the new platform, which will see the marketing team replace old assets, and the sales team hit the road in the coming days.

CLICK HERE for further information on More at Sea. *MS*

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Celebrity announces 2026-27 season

CELEBRITY Cruises has announced its 2026-27 deployment, which will see the debut of *Celebrity Xcel*, among a number of other firsts.

The cruise line will offer more than 600 sailings to almost 300 destinations in 74 countries, including Australia, which will see *Celebrity Edge* and *Celebrity Solstice* return.

The two ships will visit 35 destinations during their Australian home port season, including a return of Luganville for the first time since 2019.

Among the deployment is the inaugural European season of *Xcel*, the highly anticipated fifth ship in Celebrity's Edge series.

The vessel will debut in Nov 2025, with her inaugural European season to be highlighted by Celebrity's first overnights in Madeira.

Celebrity will also set a record



new itinerary length with its Grand Voyage, which will journey to 55 destinations across 110 nights, aboard the newly refurbished *Solstice*.

The cruise line will sail its largest season from Iceland with *Celebrity Silhouette*, offering a once-in-a-lifetime chance to watch the solar eclipse at sea.

The Caribbean will also be visited by two Celebrity ships, with *Xcel* to reposition to Miami following her European debut.

The ship will be joined by *Celebrity Beyond*, which will offer year-round Caribbean sailings departing from both Miami and Fort Lauderdale.

Celebrity Millennium (pictured) will sail out of the brand-new Narita terminal, situated closer to downtown Tokyo, from where she will offer more overnights.

The cruise line will also return to South America, with new sailings visiting Patagonia and Antarctica on *Celebrity Equinox. MS*

Eclipse to dry dock

SCENIC Luxury Tours & Cruises' *Scenic Eclipse* has experienced a technical issue, which will see her dry dock to carry out the maintenance from 28 Oct, the cruise line has said in a statement.

The issue, affecting one of *Eclipse's* two Azipod propulsion units, was identified while she was sailing in the Arctic on 12 Sep.

It is expected to be fixed by early next month.

The work will require the cancellation of three upcoming voyages in the Caribbean and Brazil, with *Eclipse* scheduled to return to full operation for the Antarctica season, which begins in late Nov.

Eclipse has been operating safely at a reduced propulsion capacity since the issue was identified, and continues to navigate at lower speeds.

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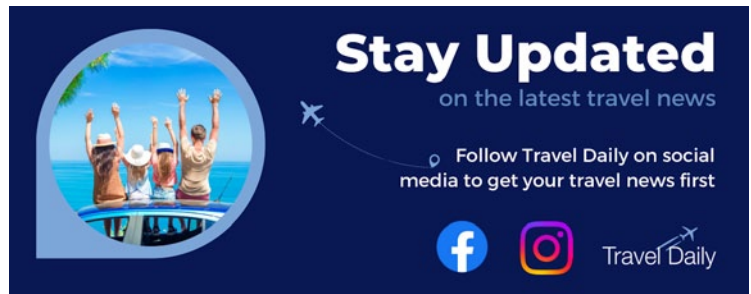


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BOOKING
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*Valid on deposited bookings made between 1 September - 31 October 2024. ©2024 NCL Corporation Ltd. NCL Australia Pty. Ltd. ABN 80 607 578 781. Ships' Registry: Bahamas and USA. 1902223 09/2024.



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CARNIVAL Cruise Line is “jazzed up” about the news it recently welcomed its seven millionth guest in New Orleans.

The cruise line began sailing year round from New Orleans in 1994.

“Sharing this landmark embarkation in New Orleans with loyal guests, a family that clearly loves the fun they find when they sail with us, makes this moment truly special,” President Christine Duffy said.

“Seven million guests cruising with us from Port NOLA signifies our unwavering commitment,” she said.

HAL on Standby

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has introduced its innovative new Standby Program (**CW** 24 Apr) in Aus.

The new option offers cruises at a fraction of the cost, allowing flexible passengers to sail from just \$89 per day.

The program, which was launched in the United States earlier this year, offers passengers the opportunity to book a spot on a waiting list for selected sailings at a significant discount if they are able to fill a vacated stateroom at short notice.

Passengers can join a waiting list for both an Inside/Ocean View stateroom or a Verandah stateroom - more info [HERE](#).

Aldi into cruise & travel



ALDI has launched Aldi Holidays, offering shoppers cruise and travel deals from just \$449 per person.

The supermarket chain has partnered with Flight Centre Travel Group’s Ignite Travel Group for the new online holiday portal, which will offer a limited number of exclusive holiday deals bi-weekly, similar to Aldi’s retail ‘Special Buys’.

Aldi’s first drop of packages, available until sold out, include a nine-night Royal Caribbean International cruise through the Pacific Islands from \$1,499ppts.

There is also a 14-night Celebrity Cruises itinerary through Japan from \$4,990ppts.

Aldi Holidays will also offer customisable options from preferred airlines and airports, as well as adjustable lengths of stay and room upgrades.

Cruise packages can be booked through a person-to-person customer service.

“We are excited to be taking off in a new direction to make planning and booking a holiday

a more enjoyable experience for Australians, and in our signature, ‘Good Different’ way, with Aldi Holidays,” Aldi Group Director Rodney Balech said.

“This service, in partnership with Ignite, will unlock incredible value and help all types of travellers create truly unforgettable experiences.”

Ignite Chief Executive Officer Ryan Thomas said his company is excited to be partnering with Aldi, at a time when record numbers are set to cruise.

“Aldi Holiday customers can expect incredible savings with these exclusively curated holiday packages including flights, local experiences and more, covering some of the most popular destinations around the world, that can conveniently be booked online or via the dedicated Aldi Holidays sales centre.

“The collaboration also aligns to our goal to support and grow our supplier channels to deliver an unparalleled distribution network for our partners where everyone wins,” Thomas added. *MS*



Sydney to switch on

SYDNEY is set to become the first port in the Southern Hemisphere to provide sustainable onshore power supplies for cruise ship - an important leap forward.

This week’s news that contracts have been signed for power facilities at the White Bay Cruise Terminal means Sydney will soon be able to meet the needs of an increasing number of cruise ships that can switch off their engines and run on renewable energy while berthed.

CLIA has been championing onshore power infrastructure for many years and it’s a key part of our pathway to net-zero emissions by 2050.

Cruise lines have been investing heavily to prepare their ships, and the number of vessels equipped to connect to onshore power has more than doubled since 2018.

Already, 147 ships are shore-power ready, or 52% of CLIA ships worldwide, and by 2028, this is forecast to rise to 239 ships as new vessels come online and others are retrofitted.

However on land, fewer than 3% per cent of cruise ports worldwide offer onshore power.

Sydney has taken the lead in our region, but we need further investment in other ports to match the progress being made by cruise lines.



STILL TIME
TO INVITE
YOUR CLIENTS!



Your Invitation to APERITIVO AT THE PICTURES

Don't miss out on our best-selling tool of the year – **Aperitivo at the Pictures!** Whether you join your clients or simply encourage them to attend, this is the perfect opportunity to boost your bookings.

WHY YOU SHOULD GET BEHIND THESE EVENTS

- **Drive Sales for You:** Bookings made during Aperitivo events go straight back to their travel agents.
- **We Share Client Insights:** We provide you with your clients' details who attend – working together to ensure your success.
- **Fun and Engaging:** Your clients will love it, and you'll love the results!

FREMANTLE	Wednesday, 9 October	Hoyts Millenium
PERTH	Thursday, 10 October	Palace Cinema Raine Square
ADELAIDE	Monday, 14 October	Piccadilly, North Adelaide
BRISBANE	Tuesday, 15 October	Palace Cinema Barracks
TOOWOOMBA	Wednesday, 16 October	BCC Cinemas Toowoomba Strand
GOLD COAST	Thursday, 17 October	HOTA, Surfers Paradise
MELBOURNE	Monday, 21 October	Palace Cinema Como, South Yarra
SYDNEY	Wednesday, 6 November	Hayden Orpheum, Cremorne
CANBERRA	Tuesday, 12 November	Palace Electric Cinemas Canberra

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Uniworld Boutique River Cruises, Travel House, 35 Grafton Street, Bondi Junction, NSW 2022