



Cruise Weekly today

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

Regent is enticing

TRAVELLERS can save 20% on a luxury Regent Seven Seas Cruises itinerary in Europe as part of a new special offer now in market from the brand.

The 'European Edition' offer applies to 45 sailings departing across the continent in 2025 covering the Mediterranean, Northern Europe and Iceland.

Many eligible itineraries are consecutive, allowing travellers to extend their holiday.

Highlighted itineraries include a 14-night sailing on 23 Jun 2025 from London to Reykjavik, via Greenland on board *Seven Seas Grandeur*.

The 20% discount is open for voyages booked by 31 Aug.

Explorer's Sydney sunset

ONE of P&O Cruises Australia's three ships has made its final ever call in Sydney ahead of the brand itself taking its final bow early next year (CW 04 Jun).

After 16 years sailing in Australia under two different Carnival Corp brands, *Pacific Explorer* sailed out of Sydney Heads for the last time earlier this month.

The 1,998-passenger vessel left on a four-night repositioning cruise to Auckland, its first of four home ports before it signs off for good from the Carnival Corp fleet.

Explorer is now offering round-trip cruises of between three-13 days to the New Zealand market, taking Kiwis to the South Pacific, as well as to Australia.

According to future scheduled itineraries, *Explorer* will be based in Melbourne, Adelaide, and Fremantle before an 11-night one-way sailing to Singapore via Indonesia and Malaysia brings



down the curtain for good.

At one point in time under her former guise as *Dawn Princess*, the ship was due to become the largest ship sailing from Australia before being replaced by *Sun Princess*, in a testament to just how far the local market has evolved since.

P&O Australia is now in the process of notifying guests impacted by changes to bookings as a result of cancelled itineraries.

Cruises V515, V516, V517, V518 on *Pacific Adventure* have now been cancelled, along with I512, I513, I514 from *Pacific Encounter*, with both ships set to transition to the Carnival fleet. ML



On location on board
Utopia of the Seas

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Royal Caribbean International, aboard *Utopia of the Seas*.

WE'RE about to board a shakedown cruise on Royal Caribbean International's magnificent *Utopia of the Seas*.

This afternoon, there will be sample tastings at the ship's dining venues, followed by the naming party at the Aqua Theatre, before we set sail.

The last few days have literally been a roller coaster, as *Cruise Weekly* landed in Orlando, and fitted in a visit to both Universal Studios and Disney World in quick succession - follow *Utopia's* inaugural cruise all this week.

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CARNIVAL Cruise Line Brand Ambassador John Heald has opened a can of worms on social media, addressing what has become one of the flashpoints of the industry over the past few years.

Heald, responding to one of his many social media followers, weighed in on the craze of cruise passengers hiding rubber ducks during their voyage.

An e-mailer suggested ducks which are hidden by passengers should not be touched by crew members.

However Heald set the record straight, saying seafarers enjoy finding the ducks just as much as passengers do.

Adding to the conversation was another of Heald's followers, who said they too hide ducks on board ships, and that crew members are most welcome to recover theirs, just as their fellow passengers are.

NCL supports Cruiseabout



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line recently supported Cruiseabout at its annual conference at Flight Centre Travel Group's head office in Brisbane.

The conference, which took place last week, was attended by 37 travel advisors from across Australia, and saw them hear from Norwegian, as well as the cruise line's partner Visit Seattle.

The destination management organisation promoted sailings from Seattle and pre-cruise tours.

Norwegian departs from Seattle between Apr and Oct with a choice of ships including

Norwegian Bliss, Norwegian Encore, and the recently refreshed Norwegian Joy.

A three-day pre-cruise tour is also available in Seattle, which includes an exploration of the city's highlights, hotel accommodation, and transfers.

Pictured: Cruiseabout agents enjoying lunch at Mucho Mexicano sponsored by Norwegian and Visit Seattle.

MEANWHILE, trade partners can earn 'Double Dollars' on any Americas booking with Norwegian in Jul and Aug - call 1300 255 200 to book. *MS*

Avalon gets bookish

AVALON Waterways has announced its next Storyteller cruise with author Christopher Moore, a partnership now entering its fourth year.

The new celebrity-hosted itinerary 'Illuminations on the Danube: A Storyteller Cruise with Christopher Moore' will set sail in Oct 2025, from Vilshofen to Budapest.

This 10-day departure sails through the legendary setting of the Danube, a waterway which has inspired Moore's newest novel, *Anima Rising*, which will debut in 2025.

Moore's fans are invited to celebrate his new book while exploring some of its most dramatic chapters in person.

Earlybirds on Ama

SOLO travellers eager to take a European river cruise with AmaWaterways in early 2025 can enjoy no single supplements or up to 25% off.

The river cruise brand is celebrating its 22nd year in 2025 with stateroom savings of up to AU\$6,000 and on board credit up to US\$100.

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