



Cruise Weekly today

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

Patriotic Carnival

TO CELEBRATE America's 250th birthday next year, Carnival Cruise Line is releasing 10 special itineraries, ranging from three to eight days and departing from six homeports.

On 04 Jul 26, seven ships will meet near Celebration Key to take part in patriotic festivities and, while three others will meet near Ensenada.

"We're America's cruise line, and we're commemorating this milestone in a big way," said CCL President Christine Duffy.

Save up to 30% off select Australia & New Zealand sailings!



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World America unlocked

NINETEEN different stateroom categories offering options for parties of all sizes will be available on MSC Cruises' forthcoming ship *MSC World America*.

In addition to interior, ocean view and balcony cabins, the new ship features adaptations of these and others to suit demographics ranging from solo travellers to multi-generation families and large groups.

At the upper end of the spectrum sit the two 150m² Owner's Suites (**pictured**), part of the MSC Yacht Club.

These suites boast a double bedroom with walk-in wardrobe, bathroom with bathtub and separate living and dining rooms.

Outside on the balcony sits a private whirlpool spa, a fresco dining area and private terrace and sun loungers.

Also in the MSC Yacht Club will be Duplex Suites which span two decks, with a dining and living area and guest bathroom on the lower level, while upstairs will be the main bedroom with a larger bathroom and bathtub.

Some Duplex Suites even feature a two-deck private terrace with an individual whirlpool.

Guests staying in the MSC Yacht Club 'ship within a ship' zone enjoy private keycard access, a dedicated restaurant, lounge, swimming pool and sun deck along with 24-hour butler service.

Balcony staterooms will be available overlooking both the ocean and the promenade, a feature guests can also enjoy on World Class sister ship, *MSC World Europa*.

Other design features include the Infinite Ocean View cabins, which offer a glass sliding window which can convert to a balustrade to bring the cabin right to the edge of the ship.

A range of interconnecting cabin options will allow families to select from different staterooms to suit individual needs.



For example, selected suites will be able to connect to standard balcony staterooms to offer an extra bedroom with a separate living room and two bathrooms.

MSC World America is the second of four World Class ships currently on order for the line from the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard and will set sail from its homeport in Miami in Apr 2025.

The ship will also be the first in the MSC fleet to feature seven independent onboard 'districts' allowing guests to tailor their holiday and enjoy facilities located closer to each other. *ML*

Nominations close

TRAVEL agents have until COB on Fri 29 Nov to get their nominations in for 10 award categories for the 22nd CLIA Awards gala ceremony.

Winners will be spotlighted at the association's annual soiree on 08 Mar 2025, taking place at The Star in Sydney.

Categories are open to all current CLIA travel agent members in Australia and NZ.

CLIA Australasia Managing Director, Joel Katz, said the awards are a salute to travel agents in both countries.

"A CLIA Award is a fantastic way to gain recognition among industry peers and provides an enormous boost to the profile and reputation of winners.

"Agents can nominate themselves or nominate a colleague who deserves recognition, but they need to act this week," Katz said.

CLICK HERE for more details.

Change in the wind?

WINDSTAR Cruises has unveiled plans in overseas markets to launch a new booking platform to make it easier for travel advisors to lock in dates, destinations, excursions and hotels.

While it is not known when the MyWindstar platform will roll out in Australia, the booking engine allows advisors to add on inclusive packages, accommodation at partner hotels, special requests and a range of land tours to bookings on any device.

The move will expand the online booking options for sellers, who in Australia only have access to the TravelAdvisor Hub.

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JB invests in Whitsundays

JOURNEY Beyond will pump \$30 million into its Cruise Whitsundays division over the next four years to enhance the guest experience and maintain a strong growth trajectory.

Extra funding will be channelled towards upgrading its fleet and facilities, with sustainable growth a high priority for the future plan.

The announcement was made today by Journey Beyond COO Sture Myrmell, who confirmed Cruise Whitsundays has extended its contract with Hamilton Island to provide resort connections and island transfers through to 2034.

The business currently connects the dots between Airlie Beach, Hamilton Island Marina, Hamilton Island Airport, Daydream Island and Whitsunday Coast Airport.

"[Cruise Whitsundays] makes it easier for holidaymakers to explore the stunning natural beauty of the remarkable region,"



Myrmell observed.

"With increased ease, frequency and flexibility, we have proudly served as the largest...marine operator for the past 20 years."

Cruise Whitsundays ferries 700,000 residents and visitors in the region annually, facilitating Great Barrier Reef tours, overnight stays, and visits to popular destinations such as Whitehaven Beach.

Commenting on the contract extension, Hamilton Island CCO David Boyd (pictured with Cruise Whitsundays GM Renee Branton-Brown) said he looks forward to strengthening the collaboration with Journey Beyond to take Whitsundays visitation forward.

Explora sips and tips



CRUISE package holiday brand MyCruises invited more than 100 of its loyal customers to enjoy a taste of what life is like onboard an Explora Journeys ship at The Boathouse in Rose Bay.

Invited guests indulged in French champagne and canapes as they learned about Explora Journeys and offers from MyCruises in 2025 and 2026.

Guests enjoyed presentations from MyCruises BDM Sam Riches and Samantha Langton from Explora Journeys, sharing details of combined packages available.

One lucky attendee walked away with a \$1,000 voucher to put towards their next MyCruises package with Explora Journeys.

The MyCruises team is pictured above at the event. *ML*



22ND
CLIA
CRUISE INDUSTRY
Awards

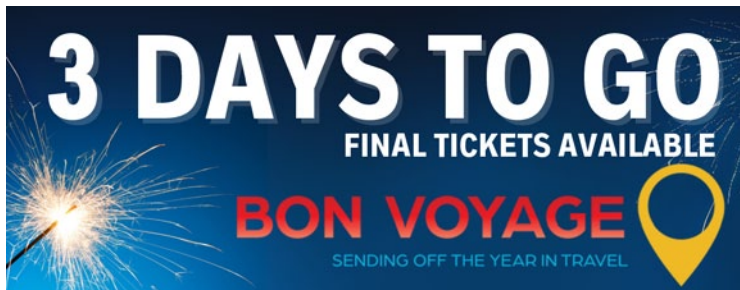
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LAST CHANCE TO NOMINATE

Nominations for the 22nd Cruise Industry Awards close this Friday 29 November.

Nominate yourself or a colleague today

For more information on Award Criteria and how to nominate, please visit cruising.org.au.
Nominations are open to all CLIA Travel Agent members and close Friday, 29 November 2024.



DESIGNING a menu on a Disney Cruise Line ship must be a proverbial piece of cake, with countless classic movie titles and references to draw from.

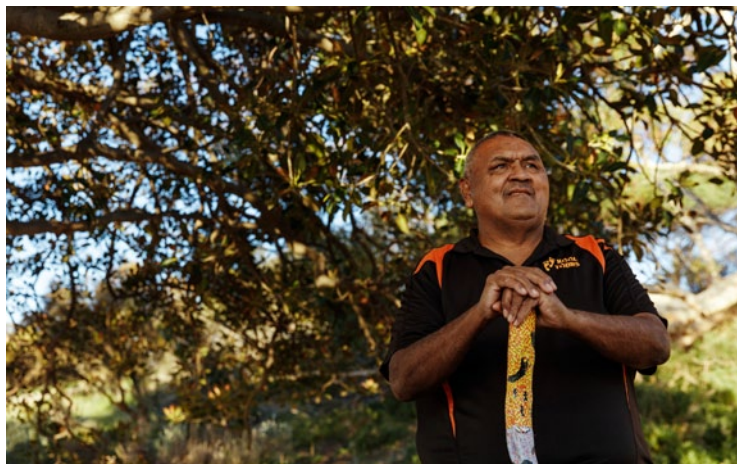
Ahead of *Disney Treasure* debuting from Port Canaveral next month, two of the menus at its onboard bars reveal some truly great and memorable names for food and beverages.

Take Sarabi, an African savannah bar named after Simba's mother from *The Lion King*, where travellers can sip on clever concoctions such as Mr Banana Beak and Asante Sana, the latter of which, of course, has squashed banana.

Admit it, you just sang it.

Fans of *The Aristocats* can head over to the Scat Cat Lounge where they can indulge in The Cat's Meow in an embossed cat shaped glass, a Feline Brew beer or something from the Whiskers and Paws luxury wine list.

Sealink adds native tour



TRAVELLERS to Kangaroo Island can now engage in the region's indigenous history and culture via a new tour introduced by Sealink South Australia.

The unique experience has been created in partnership with Kool Tours founder and Ngarrindjeri elder, Mark Koolmatrie, (pictured) this year inducted into the South Australian Tourism Hall of Fame.

Accompanied by Koolmatrie, visitors can learn about the island's native Ngarrindjeri people while paying homage to more recent history, including the devastating 2019-20 bushfires and its recovery.

The tour begins with a welcome to country smoking ceremony before visitors are taken to some of the island's sacred sights, including Seal Bay, Admirals Arch and Remarkable Rocks to learn about its pre-settlement history.

"Each site we visit holds a significance in the Ngarrindjeri creation story, not just of the land, but of our people and our relationship to it," Koolmatrie said.

The new Sealink adventure begins next month and operates on selected dates through to Mar 2025, with ferry transfers from Adelaide, a two-course lunch and light dinner included. *ML*

Hannah's love boat

SUN Princess godmother and musical theatre star Hannah Waddingham, perhaps better known as Rebecca Welton from *Ted Lasso*, is now fronting a new Princess Cruises ad campaign reintroducing audiences to *The Love Boat*.

The marketing push sees Waddingham recreate the iconic TV show's theme song and reposition it as a catchy anthem showcasing Princess as a modern day Love Boat.

In the commercial, Waddingham enjoys a variety of lavish delights onboard a Princess ship, including sampling gourmet cuisine, lounging by the pool or engaging in a spa massage.

The 'Love Boat by Hannah' campaign will roll out as a series of TV and digital ads in Australia along with the US, Canada and the UK.

Targeted demographics for the campaign include multi-generational families, active seniors, digitally-savvy adults and families with teenagers.

The Love Boat originally aired in the US from 1977 to 1986.



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