



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news, including a photo page from Silversea.

Ponant wraps roadshows

PONANT has completed its third wave of successful Aussie roadshows for the year, themed 'You Are The Destination'.

The cruise line brought its immersive journeys to life across four cities: Sydney, Melbourne, Sorrento, and Brisbane.

The seven sessions attracted almost 900 attendees, marking the first time Ponant has held three rounds of the same roadshow series in a single year, including debut visits to the Mornington Peninsula.

Attendees heard personal travel stories shared by Expedition Leader Jorge Villamarin and State Manager of Victoria & Tasmania Annabelle Brown.

The presentations highlighted Ponant's voyages to the Arctic, Antarctica, the Subantarctic Islands, Papua New Guinea, the Kimberley, French Polynesia, Europe, and the Nordic countries.



#PONANTmoment

Attendees were captivated by new themed cruises, including gastronomic journeys, in partnership with Relais & Chateaux and Chateau Latour, and music voyages featuring performances by the Opera National de Paris.

The Sydney roadshow also saw attendees enjoy a special photo booth, allowing them to capture their "Ponant moment" by donning branded parkas against scenic backdrops of destinations such as the Arctic and Europe. MS



On location in Prague

Today's issue of Cruise Weekly is coming to you from Prague courtesy of Viking.

THIS week we are experiencing a Christmas Markets cruise on the Elbe between Prague and Berlin aboard Viking Beyla.

Our adventure kicks off with two nights in the capital of the Czech Republic (Czechia) prior to joining the ship tomorrow.

Viking brings thousands of guests here each year, with Prague emerging from its dark past to become a sought-after tourist destination.

The days are short and cold but the hospitality is warm, just like the mulled wine and traditional chimney cakes on every street corner.

South Sea Cruises acquires Tivua

SOUTH Sea Cruises Group has acquired Tivua Island in Fiji from Captain Cook Cruises.

The terms will see the current owner operate Tivua Island until 31 May, during which time it will continue operating from the island.

South Sea Cruises will then close Tivua, and undertake a major redevelopment to transform the island into Fiji's newest day trip destination.

More redevelopment plans will be shared in the next several months, with Tivua expected to reopen in 2026.

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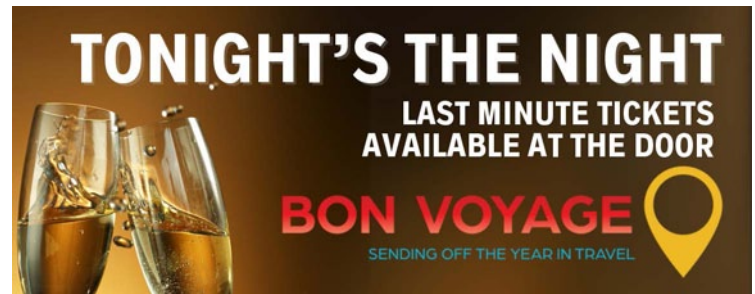
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New Cunard study

IMPROVEMENTS to memory, spatial reasoning, logical thinking and problem solving can be realised through slow travel methods such as cruising, new data from Cunard Line reveals.

The insights come after the UK-based cruise line conducted an international study involving 40 guests on a transatlantic crossing aboard *Queen Mary 2*.

The study found five days spent at sea can increase mental capacity, cognitive function, perceptual ability and emotional wellbeing by an average of 26%.

More in-depth findings included a 14% improvement in attention levels, a 29% jump in short-term memory recall, a 125% spike in complex problem solving and a 158% leap in perceived relaxation.

Participants were also found to have a 35% decrease in physiological stress, which Cunard said reflects the relaxing nature and influence of a voyage.

The study was conducted by Walnut, a human understanding agency, which used biometric tools to study 40 participants before, during and after a five-day crossing from Southampton to New York City last month.

Two tests were performed on participants on the first day and another towards the end, gauging psychophysiological reactions, natural brain electrical activity and a skin response recorder.

Windstar Canada 2026



WINDSTAR Cruises has introduced its autumn 2026 Canada & New England season with new itineraries and ports.

Star Pride (pictured) will sail in the region during the prime fall colour months of Sep and Oct, with the new 14-night Quebec & Newfoundland Adventure sailing round trip from Montreal.

Windstar will navigate the region and its remote and hard-to-reach destinations, including the Magdalen Islands.

The cruise will also offer two brand-new ports for the cruise line in St. Pierre & Miquelon, as well as Trois-Rivieres.

Both ports offer late nights for additional exploration, like hiking through Trois-Rivieres' Batiscan Parc, followed by a guided evening of local favourites.

The itinerary also adds two ports Windstar hasn't visited since 2018: the fishing village of Red Bay in Labrador as well as St. John's in Newfoundland.

There will also be an additional late night in Quebec City, allowing plenty of time for exploring UNESCO sites and wine tasting at Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac.

Windstar's Southeast Canadian Explorations returns for the 2026 season, sailing from Montreal to

Boston and vice versa.

Highlights include an overnight in Quebec City and smaller ports such as Cap-aux-Meules, where guests can join a new lobster fishing tour, along with cheese tasting and brewery visits.

Windstar will also return to Rockland on these sailings for the first time since 2018.

The 14-night 'Greenland: North Atlantic Odyssey' trans-oceanic cruise from Reykjavik to Boston also returns for 2026, with scenic cruising of the Prince Christian Sound and Tasermiut Fjord, as well as chances to learn more about Inuit culture in the remote villages of Nanortalik and Narsaq, and a late night in Halifax.

"Our small ships have an advantage in Canada and New England because we can visit many smaller towns for a more relaxed, intimate style of exploration," President Christopher Prelog said.

"We're very happy we can continue accessing many of these tiny ports along with expanding upon what our guests can experience by adding new tours, seaports, and an entirely new itinerary for 2026 – all paired with the magic of fall colour splendour that this region is known for." *MS*

Chell-ed out

MSC Cruises PR & Communications Manager Leisa Chell has retired from her role at the line.

The long-time travel communications professional will be swapping business meetings for beach siestas, she told her LinkedIn followers.

Her career in the travel industry has taken her to stops at MSC as well as Scenic.

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Thursday 28th Nov 2024

Silver Nova continues her debut in Australia

SILVER Nova, the first of two innovative Nova-class ships from the leading experiential luxury travel brand Silversea, has debuted in Australia this month, and to celebrate, the line welcomed valued travel agency partners on *Silver Nova* to experience the luxurious ship.

On board, travel agents immersed themselves in unique culinary and mixology experiences during their voyage from Cairns to Brisbane.

The S.A.L.T. (Sea and Land Taste) Lab offered hands-on cookery classes, with participants crafting dishes inspired by local flavours, with Cass Kerr enjoying the interactive approach to culinary exploration.

Evenings featured sophisticated gatherings at restaurants like La Dame and Silver Note, where agents connected over fine dining and live music with Sara Puglia from Silversea. At sunset, they savoured cocktails at the Dusk Bar and explored mixology classes at S.A.L.T. Bar.

The voyage included calls to Airlie Beach and the Whitsundays, showcasing Australia's stunning beauty. *Silver Nova* continues to sail in Australia on her inaugural season and is currently in Melbourne, with upcoming visits to Adelaide and Sydney.



INGRID Boucaut, Susanne Modistach, and Cass Kerr from Silversea enjoy a S.A.L.T. Lab cooking class.



IN FRONT of beautiful *Silver Nova* with Tina Killeen, Spencer Travel; Lisa Wright, Luxury Travel Collection; Anoushka Kudav, Silversea and Melanie Grigoratos, Bridge the World Travel and Cruise Centre.



BERNADETTE Holmes and Kelly Pearse from Cruise Traveller with Sara Puglia from Silversea at Silver Note.



AMELIA Dyke & Ashleigh Paschke from Gregor & Lewis Bespoke Travel participating in the S.A.L.T. Lab class.



TRAVEL agents savour sunset cocktails at the Dusk Bar.

TRAVEL agents enjoy a S.A.L.T. Lab cooking class on their voyage from Cairns to Brisbane.



JENNY Mason from New Farm Travel at Silver Note with Sara Puglia from Silversea.



ENJOYING the sunset on *Silver Nova* with Lisa Wright, Luxury Travel Collection and Anoushka Kudav, Silversea.



TRAVEL agents enjoy a mixology class at the S.A.L.T. Bar.



TRAVEL agents immerse themselves in a S.A.L.T. Lab cooking class experience.



PORTRHOLE

AUSTRALIAN

circumnavigations are all the rage in the cruise sector now, but a rare account of the first-ever voyage of this kind is about to hit sale.

The account of British naval officer Matthew Flinders' first Australian circumnavigation is about to go to auction, detailing the *Investigator's* inaugural trip around the country, during which he mapped the continent.

The 200-year-old copy of *A Voyage to Terra Australis* is complete with handwritten annotations, detailing Flinders' 1801 sailing from the United Kingdom, during which he surveyed the entire south coast of Australia.

The auction will be held by Christie's on 11 Dec, for those looking for a slice of the action, but beware - the piece is expected to attract bids of more than six figures.

Princess Crowns agents



PRINCESS Cruises recently hosted a mega famil aboard *Crown Princess*, with more than 90 travel advisors in attendance.

The sailing from Brisbane to Sydney allowed travel advisors to experience the line's onboard innovations in guest experience.

The fam proved to be an invaluable opportunity for advisors to build connections with the Princess team, while gaining a deeper understanding of the product.

Advisors received an insightful Princess product update,

which highlighted the current campaigns, short sales, trade incentives, and new program releases including the Australian 2026/2027 program (**CW** 05 Nov).

Guests also had the opportunity to experience Princess' MedallionClass technology, and explore the extensive offerings of Princess Plus & Premier bundles.

These all-inclusive packages combine a range of premium amenities such as beverage packages, wi-fi, fitness classes, casual dining, and more, included within Princess Plus. *MS*

Royal Black Fri

ROYAL Caribbean's official Black Friday and Cyber Monday sale kicks off today, available on select 2024 and 2025 holidays.

The cruise line is offering savings of up to \$1,000 off, including BOGO 60% off second guests.

The deal applies to adventures visiting destinations along Queensland's coast, the South Pacific, and New Zealand, as well as Asia and the Caribbean.

Kids can also join all local holidays on both *Quantum of the Seas* and *Ovation of the Seas* over six nights from \$29 per day - visit www.royalcaribbean.com for more.

Bon Voyage tonight

LAST-MINUTE tickets are still available for Bon Voyage, the end-of-year celebration hosted by **Cruise Weekly's** sister title **Travel Daily**.

CLICK HERE to purchase a ticket for the event, held at 12-Micron, with tickets also available at the door.



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