



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Imagine Holidays**.

Remembrance Tour

IMAGINE Holidays has launched a special tour to honour the legacy of Anzac Day in 2026.

The 28-day itinerary includes a stay in Gallipoli and an 11-day cruise through the Mediterranean - see **page four** for all the details.

CW is back on Tue

CRUISE Weekly is taking a break to enjoy the Easter long weekend, and will return on Tue 22 Apr with all the latest cruise news.

We wish our readers a safe and happy break.

NCLH luxury brands to revamp their fleets

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has unveiled multi-million-dollar transformation plans for its fleet, with extensive renovations for *Seven Seas Mariner* and *Seven Seas Voyager* scheduled for completion by May next year.

The investment will transform the two ships' suites and public spaces, including their Pool Grill, which will feature a new wood-fired al fresco pizzeria concept.

Refurbishments for *Mariner* will begin later this year, when she enters a three-week dry dock on 03 Nov.

Voyager will follow with her own month-long refresh, beginning 26 Apr 2026.

Chief Luxury Officer Jason Montague, speaking exclusively to **CW**, said the refurbishments will aim to see the two ships, RSSC's oldest, brought in line with its new Explorer-class vessels, providing guests a consistently elegant look and feel across the fleet.



Montague added these efforts to enhance the RSSC brand will also extend to its sister line, Oceania Cruises, with the latter brand's older, Regatta-class ships *Regatta* and *Insignia* both heading out on previously announced respective charters to Ignite Travel Group (**CW** 03 Oct) and Crescent Seas (**CW** 04 Apr).

The two vessels' sister ships *Nautica* and *Sirena* are also likely to be chartered out in the future, Montague confirmed.

"We're very excited at how the

fleet is shaping up to be a little bit more consistent, where you're not really having that big difference between the Regatta-class and the Oceania-class," he said.

"The Regatta-class vessels are not purpose-built for the Oceania brand, and are not purpose-built for luxury: they have 10% inside staterooms and 20% oceanview, so they're not traditional, true luxury ships." **MS**

Montague is **pictured** right with SVP International & Consumer Sales Steve Odell.

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NCL speaks out

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has said it will consider scrapping Hawaii from its itineraries if the US state goes ahead with proposed new taxes on cruise ships and pax.

The cruise line's VP, Daniel Farkas, said the fees would be "unconstitutional" and would make cruising "unaffordable".

APT christenings

APT Travel Group has held the christening ceremony for its first newbuild European river cruise ship - *MS Estrela* - in the Portuguese city of Porto.

The ship, which made its debut last year, has been designed especially for the Douro River in Portugal.

The ceremony saw guests gather on the sun deck for Portuguese-inspired cocktails, with speeches made by Portugal's Minister for Tourism Ana Mendes Godinho and APT Travel Group CEO, David Cox.

The christening ceremony was the first of three, with two more scheduled in the next two months for *APT Solara* and *APT Ostara*, the company's new vessels set to sail on the Rhine/Main/Danube stretch.

APT Solara will be christened on 21 Apr in Rotterdam, while *APT Ostara* will be christened in Nuremberg in Jun with passengers onboard during her maiden voyage.

World Expeditions out at sea



MORE than 140 curated small-ship itineraries are now available in a new range from World Expeditions Travel Group as part of its move into expedition cruising.

The adventure travel company has introduced On Water Expeditions, a new brand focusing on small-ship adventure cruising, under which it will provide active travellers with "immersive, off the grid experiences".

Central to the brand is a new website - **CLICK HERE** - which showcases the itinerary selection, ranging from Antarctica and Greenland through to the Maldives, Galapagos Islands and Raja Ampat in Indonesia.

Leading the brand will be 25-year company veteran Rachel Imber, who said her vision for the brand is to become the "go-to expert" in small ship adventures.

On Water Expeditions ships will cater to no more than 200 pax, with many carrying less than 50.

World Expeditions CEO Sue Badyari said the new expedition cruise brand was a natural evolution for the company.

"The launch of On Water Expeditions is an exciting evolution of that spirit of discovery," Badyari said.

"On Water Expeditions is designed for travellers who crave authentic, immersive experiences in some of the most spectacular and far-flung corners of the globe.

"With smaller vessels, expertly curated itineraries, and a focus on active exploration, we are redefining what small-ship adventure travel can be."

Badyari added that On Water Expeditions itineraries are designed for travellers who want to be part of the action and not simply watch from the deck.

Shore activities will include kayaking, snorkelling, hiking, diving and even camping in remote environments. *ML*

Vince joins BPG

RESPECTED senior cruise and travel industry leader Matthew Vince has joined Business Publishing Group (BPG), publisher of *Travel Daily* and *Cruise Weekly*, as GM and Publisher.

Vince will lead the business through its next phase of growth as it continues to expand and develop its industry-leading titles.

Previously, he spent over eight years at NCLH, most recently as Director of Marketing & Strategy for Asia Pacific at RSSC.

He has also held senior roles at Experience Co, Lindblad Expeditions and Orion Expedition Cruises.

On joining BPG, Vince said, "I'm excited to be part of the team that is creating the leading trade titles in the travel industry.

"I look forward to collaborating closely with our partners to explore innovative opportunities and deepen our strategic partnerships."

Vince will work alongside Editorial Director Damian Francis, who continues to lead the editorial team.

"Welcoming someone of Matthew's pedigree is a huge vote of confidence for BPG," Francis said.

Matthew Vince can be contacted at matthew.vince@traveldaily.com.au.

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DISNEY Cruise Line's new ship, *Disney Destiny*, is set to make history, with a Marvel superhero starring as its signature stern character for the first time in the brand's history.

Walt Disney Imagineering posted a behind-the-scenes look on Instagram showing the finishing touches being added to the larger-than-life Spider-Man figure, featuring the caption: "With a great ship comes a great stern character".

The 3D figure is in its final stages of completion, and will eventually be installed among the filigree on the back of *Disney Destiny*, ahead of her maiden voyage 20 Nov 2025.

The beloved Marvel superhero will be depicted decorating the stern with help from his Spider-Bots.

The vessel will showcase a heroes and villains theme.

Silversea hotel takes shape



SILVERSEA has revealed new details about its first-ever hotel (**CW** 03 Oct 2024), which it has named The Cormorant at 55 South, designed to offer the most convenient, comfortable and seamless way to visit Antarctica.

Each room features expansive windows offering either forest or water views, with interiors characterised by warm wood tones and earthy elements, as well as handcrafted items created by regional artisans.

Guests will be welcomed by The Cormorant's own dedicated staff, all trained to deliver Silversea's high level of service.

Scheduled to open during the 2025/26 Antarctica season, the 150-room property in Puerto

Williams, Chile is set to be the southernmost hotel in the world (artist render pictured).

"The Cormorant at 55 South is a tribute to the rich culture, breathtaking natural beauty, and storied history of Puerto Williams, immersing guests in their destination before embarking on their journey to Antarctica," shared the cruise line's President, Bert Hernandez. *JM*

CLIA claps for talent

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) has launched its latest #WeAreCruise video campaign on its local social media channels, showcasing the talent of Australia's cruise line entertainers.

CLIA MD in Australasia Joel Katz said Australia has become a rich source of dancers, singers, musicians, comedians, and other artists who perform on ships worldwide.

"Cruise lines have been making a huge investment in their on-board entertainment and the diversity and standard of performances available today is incredible," Katz said.

"Entertainers provide an essential part of the cruise experience," he added.

Watch the video **HERE**.



On Board: *Norwegian Aqua*

Vibe Beach Club

Vibe Beach Club, located at the aft of the ship, is the 18+ haven almost all cruisers are looking for on their holiday. Sit back and toast to *Norwegian Aqua's* incredible views with a drink in hand, before melting into one of the Club's infinity hot tubs. There are also sunloungers, shaded cabanas, and everything else needed to relax.

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Cruise Weekly is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Cruise Weekly is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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Gallipoli to the Mediterranean: Anzac Day Remembrance Tour

28 Nights | 19 April 2026 | Prices fr \$11,499pp

Imagine Holidays proudly presents a profoundly moving cruise and tour holiday, thoughtfully created to honour the legacy of Anzac Day.

This unforgettable journey offers a rare opportunity to stand in solemn remembrance at Gallipoli, the site of one of the most poignant battles in Australian and New Zealand military history. Here, you'll unite with fellow comrades in remembrance at a dawn service that pays tribute to the courage, sacrifice, and resilience of those who served. Feel the powerful sense of national pride and shared history as you take part in a commemorative experience that will stay with you for a lifetime.

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İstanbul city tour including the Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square, Hagia Sophia and Grand Bazaar; Gallipoli Memorial, Anzac Cove and the Lone Pine Cemetery visit; Troy ancient city & Trojan Horse photo stop; Anzac Day Dawn Service*; ancient city of Pergamon tour with cable car to the Acropolis of Pergamon; Hierapolis, Cotton Castle, Thermal Baths & Amphitheatre; Cappadocia tour including Pigeon Valley, Uçhisar Fort, Paşabağ Valley and Avanos Valley; and more

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Contact trade@imagineholidays.com.au
for more information and product/marketing support.