



CRUISE

WEEKLY

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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.

Join CLIA in 2025

JOIN Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) to access exclusive benefits and the support you need to make the most of the sector's success.

Members can also earn rewards on their cruise bookings, with bonus commission and other offers with more than \$2,000 in combined indicative value on this year's bookings.

CLIA also supports your interests, provides professional development and training, industry recognition, resources and tools, and much more - see **page four**.

AmaWaterways appoints new President

AMAWATERWAYS has announced its appointment of a President for the first time, Catherine Powell (**pictured**), who will take up her position from next week.

Powell will work alongside co-founders Rudi Schreiner and Kristin Karst, complementing the existing leadership team.

Powell has an impressive track record in the tourism industry, having most recently served as Airbnb Global Head of Hosting for the past four years.

She also spent 15 years with The Walt Disney Company, as an exec in the company's parks division.

Powell will report directly into Schreiner, who will continue his role as Chief Executive Officer, while Karst will continue her roles as co-founder and co-owner, and will also take on the position of Chief Brand Ambassador.

"I am thrilled and honored to



join AmaWaterways as its new President," Powell said.

"The company's commitment to exceptional guest experiences, innovation, and sustainability

aligns perfectly with my own values and vision for the future of travel.

"Having spent my career in entertainment and hospitality, I'm excited to bring my passion for creating unforgettable moments to the world of luxury river cruising," she added.

Schreiner expressed his enthusiasm for the appointment, stating: "Catherine's vision aligns perfectly with our ethos of exceptional guest experiences and innovation."

"Her leadership will be instrumental in propelling AmaWaterways to new heights.

"As we move into this new chapter of growth, we are confident that Catherine's expertise and vision will be instrumental in exploring new opportunities within the luxury river cruise market, while staying true to our core values." *MS*



MAJESTIC COASTS

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Princess catches more Alaska tours

PRINCESS Cruises has expanded its Alaska national parks cruisetours program in 2025 and 2026, following the successful launch of its 'National Parks Expedition' last year.

The line is now offering new variations, which visit anywhere from three to five national parks, combined with its 'Voyage of the Glaciers' seven-day cruise.

The voyage is paired with scenic rail travel and multiple wilderness lodge stays.

Among the new offerings are the 'National Parks Explorer', which will visit four parks in 14 days, in addition to the cruise.

This extension features two nights at Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge, two nights at Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge, two nights in Fairbanks, and one night at Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge.

National parks visited include



Denali, Kenai Fjords, Glacier Bay, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, and Skagway.

There is also a new 'Katmai National Park' itinerary, visiting two parks in nine days.

This extension features two nights in Anchorage, in addition to the cruise, visiting Katami National Park and Glacier Bay.

Next year, this extension will be replaced by the 'National Parks

Adventurer', which visits three parks in 14 days.

This includes two nights in Fairbanks, two nights at Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge, two nights at Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge, and one night at Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge.

National parks visited on this extension include Denali, Kenai Fjords, and Glacier Bay. *MS*

Crystal early payout

CRYSTAL Cruises will now make commission payments as many as 90 days before departure, instead of the standard 30 days.

The new offer is available to Australian travel advisors, Crystal confirmed.

The new payment schedule is dictated by the length or type of booking made, with longer sailings paying sooner.

The changes are effective immediately, including retroactively to all existing, qualifying standard bookings that have been paid in full.

The cruise line recently revealed the complete first half of its 2027 itineraries aboard *Crystal Serenity* and *Crystal Symphony*, which span six continents and more than 170 destinations (**CW** 06 Feb), including French Polynesia, the Amazon River, and the Med.

RIVERS OF REWARDS

— Trade Incentive —

You're invited to take part in *Rivers of Rewards* offering gift cards for all 2025 bookings!

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- \$500 for a Rivers of the World 2026 booking
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MORE INFORMATION

SAIL INTO SAVINGS

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*T&Cs apply. Only applicable to new bookings until 28 February 2025.



A BALLERINA has performed on the bow of Ponant's *Le Boreal*, almost as if to show how smooth her Antarctica cruises are.

An Instagram post shows the ballerina dancing on the bulbous bow of the ship, perilously close to the icy Antarctic water.

"We knew the conditions would be challenging, but we also knew that if we could pull it off, it would be spectacular," the photographer said

The ballerina trained for the performance in South Georgia, before recording the video during a stop in Antarctica, *Bored Panda* reports.

It goes without saying, guests should definitely not try this on their own Antarctic cruise - however, the ship's bulbous bow is fortunately off limits to most passengers.



Coral's 10 years in Tas



CORAL Expeditions will kick off its 10th season exploring Tasmania in thrilling fashion by shadowing the Sydney to Hobart yacht race on Boxing Day.

Departing Sydney on 26 Dec, a new seven-night itinerary will trace the east coast and spend New Year's Eve sailing along the Derwent to Constellation Docks.

The season will feature several new itineraries and an amended schedule exploring the state on the 72-pax *Coral Discoverer*.

Itineraries ranging from four to 14 nights will offer opportunities to go ashore on Maria Island, Bruny Island and the Freycinet headland, along with activities including kayaking and hikes.

Two complete circumnavigations of Tasmania are on sale now, departing on 13 Jan and 26 Feb, with the 14-night itinerary including visits to Wineglass Bay and Strezlecki Park on Flinders Island in the Bass Strait.

Guests will also enjoy an overnight stay in Port Davey and

the Bathurst Harbour World Heritage area, along with a visit to Launceston, Port Arthur and the Maria Island settlement.

"Tasmania is a unique and pristine island at the edge of the world and a landscape that lends itself to expedition cruising," said Coral Expeditions Chief Operating Officer Jeff Gillies.

"We have pioneered expedition cruising in Tasmania 10 years ago and proudly showcase this magnificent destination to a small and lucky cohort of explorers spread across our eight departures," he added. *ML*

Chidsey onboard

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has announced the return of former Subway and Burger King CEO, John Chidsey, to its Board of Directors.

Chidsey first served on the NCLH Board from 2013-2022.



Backing cruise in NZ

HAVING started the year with a major cabinet reshuffle, the New Zealand Government has put a fresh focus on economic development in 2025 - for CLIA, that means a chance to ensure cruise tourism is on the table.

CLIA and our cruise lines have made New Zealand a top priority for advocacy efforts, and this year will involve further work to raise awareness of cruising's significance and achieve better settings for cruise operations.

Working with the New Zealand Cruise Association, our industry is already engaged with the new Tourism Minister Louise Upston to discuss the importance of cruise tourism in generating economic opportunities.

We are also working to gain greater recognition from other stakeholders, including government figures, business leaders, local governments and coastal communities, backed by a comprehensive social media campaign in NZ to demonstrate why cruising is hugely beneficial.

Cruise tourism generated NZ\$1.37 billion for the national economy and supported more than 9,700 jobs in 2023-24.

Through concerted advocacy efforts, we are working to protect the economic value of cruising in New Zealand and show what's needed to achieve stronger levels of cruise tourism in the future.





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