

## New Pearl website

**PEARL** Expeditions has launched its new website, providing a comprehensive overview of the cruise line's voyages in 2025 and 2026.

The site will be regularly updated to include additional information, guest and crew perspectives, reviews and highlights, destination images, and ship details - visit [pearlexpeditions.com](http://pearlexpeditions.com).

## NCL adds 500 voyages

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) has unveiled more than 500 new voyages for its 2027 northern spring/summer season, departing from nearly 30 different ports.

The line's *Norwegian Spirit* will continue to home port in Australia, offering a range of open-jaw South Pacific itineraries from Sydney, as well as Lautoka and Papeete.

Norwegian will deploy eight ships in Europe for the season, including the new *Norwegian Prima* and *Norwegian Viva*.

Passengers will be able to embark from 10 European ports during the season, which will also include multiple overnight stays and late-night departures.

Norwegian will make overnight calls in destinations like Istanbul, Copenhagen, and Hamburg, as well as late-night departures from Santorini, Dubrovnik, and Ibiza.

These port-intensive cruises spend more than 90% of their time in destination, with an average stay of nearly 11 hours.

Norwegian will strategically deploy its mid-size ships to Europe to deliver more intimate,

destination-focused cruises, allowing guests to explore lesser-known ports.

Another focus for the season will be seven-day sailings, as the line creates more opportunities for guests to combine sea and land exploration.

This emphasis was called out earlier this year by Chief Sales & Marketing Officer International Jason Krimmel at the launch of *Norwegian Aqua*, as the cruise line attempts to better target passengers outside of the United States (**CW** 24 Apr).

Norwegian will also continue to deploy its ships built for Alaska to the northwestern extremity.

The cruise line will sail from Seattle, Whittier, and Vancouver from late Apr 2027, aboard *Norwegian Encore*, *Norwegian Bliss*, and *Norwegian Joy*, all of which feature purpose-built outdoor and indoor spaces. **MS**

### Cruise Weekly today


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

## Paint the town blue

**SHOREX** Australia has partnered with Bluey World in Brisbane to create a tour for guests disembarking from Carnival Cruise Line ships.

The fully guided tour is now on offer on all of the brand's vessels disembarking Brisbane until Mar.

The experience will also allow guests to take their luggage with them on the bus.






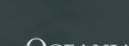
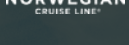


## CruiseHQ

# EOFY SALE

Earn your EOFY bonus with select cruise line partners. Enjoy **bonus commission** and **\$50 rewards** exclusively through CruiseHQ.

Book and deposit before 31 July, 2025\*

\*T&Cs apply



## I halved my work hours with the support of TravelManagers


— Carla Vassallo, Personal Travel Manager, NSW





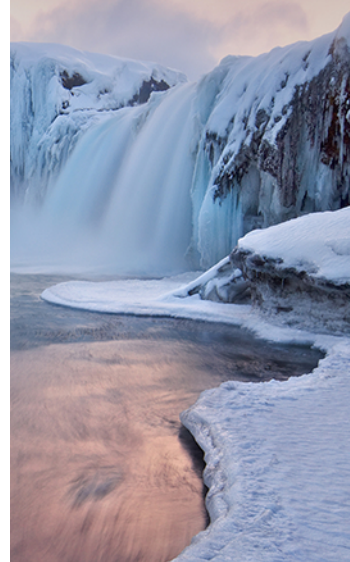


TravelManagers  
As individual as you are  
[join.travelmanagers.com.au](http://join.travelmanagers.com.au)



## FULL CIRCLE ICELAND

### ARCTIC 2026



## BOOK YOUR CLIENTS NOW

## RIVER of REWARDS

*Your Passport to the Danube*

## WIN A PLACE ON OUR MEGA FAMIL

ENDS 28 FEBRUARY 2026

\*Conditions apply






## New MSC ship to offer *World* of entertainment

MSC Cruises' upcoming new flagship *MSC World Asia* will boast the line's widest range of entertainment venues when she begins sailing in Dec 2026.

The World-class ship will introduce a new venue, The Clubhouse (**pictured**), described as a "vibrant, retro-inspired space" for "high-energy fun".

The Clubhouse will feature classic table games, a Lego Family Zone, bumper cars, basketball, and roller skating.

Guests on board *World Asia* will also get to enjoy the brand's popular Luna Park venue, now boasting a newly designed bar.

Spanning two decks, the entertainment space will feature immersive digital displays, ceiling projections, and dynamic lighting and sound, hosting youth activities by day before transforming into a nightclub with DJ sets and party experiences.



Also returning is The Harbour, an outdoor park now sporting an elegant Asian-inspired redesign.

The expansive space features Cliffhanger, an over-water swing ride sending guests up to 50 metres above the ocean, making *MSC World Asia* the only ship in Europe to offer the attraction.

Families can also enjoy the longest dry slide at sea, a high ropes course, water slides, a dedicated children's playground, and a complimentary snack at

The Harbour Bar & Bites.

Other entertainment offerings on board *World Asia* include the Panaroma Lounge, with sea views, live music, and a large dance floor; World Theatre, which will deliver stage shows every evening; and the World Promenade, an open-air boardwalk with dining, lounges, and entertainment offerings.

The vessel will sail seven-night itineraries to Spain, France, Italy, and more in winter 2026/27. *JM*

## Celestyal revs up

**CELESTYAL** Cruises has launched an Abu Dhabi Formula 1-inspired itinerary, which will be joined by British former driver David Coulthard.

The one-off sailing features the opportunity to attend the 2025 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix in Dec, and the chance to hear from Coulthard, who will appear on board the 1,260-guest *Celestyal Journey*.

Coulthard will be joined by sports presenter and F1 expert Laura Winter.

The 'Desert Days & Abu Dhabi Grand Prix' itinerary will kick off *Journey's* second season in the Arabian Gulf, offering two itineraries.

One will be a seven-night 'sail and stay', departing 04 Dec, and including two nights in an Abu Dhabi hotel; while the other will be a five-night option without the stay.



**CYBER SALE**

UP TO **50% OFF**  
**PRE-CRUISE PURCHASES\***



BEVERAGE  
PACKAGES



SPECIALTY  
DINING



INTERNET  
PACKAGES

**FIND OUT MORE**



\*T&C's Apply



**CRUISING** takes travellers to some of the world's most stunning places, but some people just can't be pleased.

A new thread on Reddit has cruisers discussing the ports they will never visit again, and top of the list was Colon, on Panama's Caribbean coast.

Many said it felt unsafe, with a disappointing and "empty" shopping centre.

Jamaica in general copped a pasting too, with many cruisers citing aggressive shop vendors and lots of scammers lurking.

Plenty of other Caribbean ports were mentioned on the list such as Belize City, Costa Maya, Cabo San Lucas and Nassau in the Bahamas.

Santorini was also mentioned for being overcrowded - a problem Greece is attempting to fix through taxation - with "sad-looking donkeys" taking people up and down the cliff.

## Aurora spices up

**PEPR** Agency has set sail with Aurora Expeditions as its full-time communications partner for Australia, following a number of months working with the cruise line on a consultancy basis (**CW** 05 Dec).

The partnership comes at an integral time for Aurora, as the cruise line prepares to launch its new ship *Douglas Mawson* in Australia (**CW** 17 Jul).

## SeaDream launches '28

**SEADREAM** Yacht Club has launched its 2028 Caribbean itineraries, with highlights including more visits to the Virgin Islands, more beach parties, more round trips, and more yachting voyages in the Bahamas.

Thirty-two new itineraries will sail aboard *SeaDream I* and *SeaDream II* between Jan and Apr 2028, to complement the recently announced 2027/28 winter season (**CW** 06 Jun).

The majority of the season's voyages are designed as round-trips, with departures from San Juan, St. Thomas, or Palm Beach.

SeaDream will call on Port St. Charles and St. Pierre for the first time in 2028, while there will be more visits to the US, British, and Spanish Virgin Islands, including Jost van Dyke, Norman Island, Prickly Pear, and Vieques, where passengers can visit the bioluminescent Puerto Mosquito. Other signature Yachting Land Adventures will include access to exclusive golf courses and guided snorkelling adventures.

Nearly every voyage includes full days and an overnight stay in St. Barths, giving guests ample time to enjoy the island's dining, shopping, beaches, and nightlife.

Four of the season's cruises align with the iconic Full Moon Party at Trellis Bay on Beef Island - a monthly celebration of local music, fire dancers, and Caribbean cuisine.

SeaDream will also sail farther this season with four new 10-



and 11-day South Caribbean cruises reaching islands farther south, and offering deeper cultural immersion, and exclusive experiences, such as a dinner beach party at Carambola Beach Club in St. Kitts.

The cruise line's popular Bahamas yachting itineraries will also return for their fourth consecutive year in 2028, with seven-day departures directly from Palm Beach. *MS*

## NZ cruise in focus

**THE** New Zealand cruise industry and the country's government have united for discussions on the future of the sector.

Cruise industry representatives joined senior government ministers in Wellington to set the scene for longer-term collaboration on the development of New Zealand's cruise sector.

Executives from Cruise Lines International Association, the New Zealand Cruise Association, Carnival Corporation, Royal Caribbean Group, Ponant Explorations Group, and Heritage Expeditions joined the round table discussions earlier this week, which were convened by New Zealand Tourism Minister Louise Upston.



**PLATINUM PARTNERS**

**CVFR TRAVEL GROUP**

**Expedia TAAP**

**ROYAL CARIBBEAN**

**LIVE NOW**

**HOME EX**  
HOME AGENT  
VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

**SIGN UP FREE HERE**

