



CRUISE

WEEKLY

delivered daily!



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Tuesday 4th Mar 2025

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise news plus a full page from **CLIA Australasia**.

Darwin discussion

THE Port of Darwin may return to Australian hands following recent discussions between Federal and Northern Territory government officials.

According to *Sky News*, the Chinese-owned Landbridge Group may be willing to potentially sell the port back.

Why wait for CLIA?

AGENTS eager to grow their cruise sales are being invited to join CLIA Australasia today.

New members can access hundreds of online courses and resources to grow their cruise knowledge and skills. More details on **page four**.

Three new Super Ships

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruises has ordered three new Super Ships, with the additions due for delivery in 2027.

Designs and names for the three newbuilds will be inspired by prominent local figures, the line said, with each ship boasting a unique look and feel.

The three vessels will complete Uniworld's transition to an all-Super Ship fleet and will be deployed on the Rhine, Main, Danube and Douro rivers.

The company's trademark ships will feature designs emblematic of the destinations they visit and will maintain design standards to feature originally commissioned artworks and custom fabrics.

Making the announcement at the company's 'Kick Off' gathering in Amsterdam, Uniworld President and CEO Ellen Bettridge said 2027 will mark an "extraordinary year" for Uniworld



as it completes its fleet synergy.

"Our focus has never been on simply adding more ships, but on continually raising the bar on the luxury river cruise experience.

"These new vessels will embody our unwavering commitment to innovation and craftsmanship, delivering something truly unparalleled for our valued guests - where no detail is too small."

The new additions will take Uniworld's fleet renewal to six new ships in four years, with *S.S. Victoria* debuting last year.

Uniworld will take delivery of *S.S. Elisabeth* this year, followed by *S.S. Emilie* in 2026, expanding the fleet by 10% since 2020. *ML*



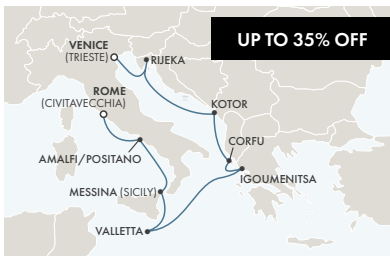
On location on board *Celestyal Journey*

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you from on board *Celestyal Cruises'* newest ship *Celestyal Journey*.

CELESTYAL Journey is today spending her second day in Dubai, which will see passengers embark on exciting shore excursions across the city.

Some passengers will visit the Dubai Global Village, offering a tour of the world through almost 30 themed pavilions showcasing the history, landmarks, and cuisines of more than 90 countries.

Celestyal also caters to those looking for a more thorough exploration of Dubai, with guided walks through the Al Bastakiya neighbourhood.



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Alfred diversions

CUNARD'S *Queen Anne* has arrived in Airlie Beach today after cancelling its planned visit to Brisbane yesterday due to the imminent arrival of Cyclone Alfred.

Carnival Australia told **Cruise Weekly** an onboard marine pilot has enabled P&O Cruises' *Pacific Encounter* to dock in Brisbane today and depart this afternoon on its next scheduled four-day Whitsundays sailing.

The company said *Carnival Luminosa* is in Noumea today and with the expected closure of Brisbane's port on Thu, guests have been advised to disembark and arrange a flight home if urgently needed.

The ship is providing guests with onboard internet to plan and keep in touch with family.

Norwegian Cruise Line has advised passengers on board *Norwegian Sun* that it has cancelled its call in Brisbane tomorrow and will instead sail to Cairns.

The ship will now spend an extra day at sea and arrive in Cairns two days earlier, resuming its normal itinerary from Cooktown on 10 Mar.

Passengers have been informed that planned shore excursions in Brisbane have been cancelled, with full refunds issued.

Royal Caribbean has been contacted for advice on plans for *Quantum of the Seas*, which is due in Brisbane on Fri.

Leader shift at Oceania

OCEANIA Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) chief Jason Montague has unveiled a leadership restructure which will see Vice President of Int'l Sales, Jason Worth, relocate to Florida after 14 years in the Sydney office (**CW** breaking news).

Worth (**pictured**) will take up the new role of Vice President Brand Finance and Strategy for both Oceania Cruises and RSSC.

The restructure will also see current RSSC Senior Vice President and Chief Sales Officer Steve Odell bring Oceania Cruises under his remit as Senior Vice President Int'l and Consumer Sales for both brands.

Announced in a note to trade partners, Montague also introduced two new chief commercial officers, with Nathan Hickman claiming the role for Oceania Cruises, with Wes D'Silva looking after RSSC.

The changes come two weeks after Montague assumed control of Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas in a move which saw long-time Oceania Cruises



President, Frank Del Rio Jr step down after 20 years with the line (**CW** 19 Feb).

Further changes sees VP Guest Services for Regent, Pat Scheer, add similar duties for Oceania Cruises to his existing role.

Oceania Cruises recently announced Brennan Quesnele as its new Senior Vice President Sales and Trade Marketing (**CW** 13 Feb), with Quesnele moving across from Norwegian Cruise Line to his new post.

Montague added that with both brands welcoming a new ship in the next two years, he was excited at the journey ahead. **ML**

Skirmish on Jubilee

CARNIVAL *Jubilee* has suffered a minor scratch on its hull after a small private boat made contact as the ship departed Galveston last week.

The incident has been blamed on mechanical failure, with no injuries reported.

Bali's new Anthem

ROYAL Caribbean's *Anthem of the Seas* docked directly alongside the port in Benoa for the first time following recent upgrades at the facility.

Previous visits have seen pan need to be tendered ashore, with the cruise line celebrating the upgrade as the result of a strong partnership with Pelindo, the port's operator.

New Cunard head

CUNARD Line has appointed Amy Williams to lead the brand's presence in Australia and New Zealand as Sales and Marketing Director (**CW** breaking news).

Effective from 01 May, Williams' appointment follows the departure of long-time Commercial Director Katrina McAlpine at the end of next month (**CW** 07 Jan).

Williams (**pictured**) is already highly experienced with the line, having joined its UK team in 2016 and relocating to Australia three years later.

As part of a restructure, Cunard VP North America and Australasia, Matt Gleaves, will also relocate to the UK, to be replaced by Liz Fettes, into whom Williams will report.

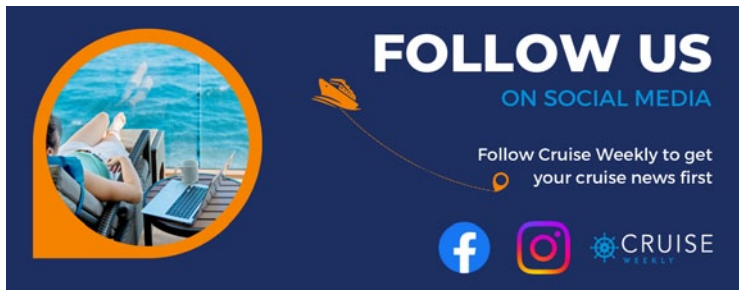
"Amy's deep knowledge of the brand, passion for excellence, and strong rapport with our Australian team make her the ideal choice to lead Cunard in Australia into an exciting future," Gleaves said.



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PORTHOLE

AS MOST agents know, Miami is one of the busiest cruise ports in the world, and anybody who has been there will attest to the gridlocked traffic in and around the port.

These traffic snarls are clearly getting to people, with a new study finding Miami one of the US's top cities for road rage.

According to Texan law firm Angel Ryes and Associates, Miami ranked fifth in the list overall, but highest in Florida, out of a study of 100 cities.

The study examined the most aggravating aspects of a city's traffic, including time wasted sitting in queues, inefficiencies in public transport and the number of violent outbursts to generate a 'road rage score'.

Miami registered a 56.15 out of 100, with high rates of reckless driving and...scarily...a moderate "shooting score".

Carnival efficiency

CARNIVAL Corp has revealed the work it is doing to increase its fuel efficiency for propulsion, off the back of innovative hull designs, new hardware and technology, underwater drone inspection, and cleaning trials.

For example, before choosing a hull design, ship and propeller designers use computer-assisted analysis to run simulations to identify the optimal design for sailing in various conditions.

Meanwhile, trials are being held using various remotely operated vehicle (ROV) 'robot' hull cleaners and over 10% of the company's fleet is using air lubrication systems, which uses air bubbles to reduce the ship's resistance as it moves through the water.

"We're not just tinkering here - we're looking at every available area for improvement for how our cruise ships operate," said Carnival Corporation Chief Maritime Officer, Lars Ljoen.

HAL's man-made marvels



ACCESS to Mayan ruins, Hawaii's volcanoes, and ancient and modern wonders will highlight Holland America Line's 2026-2027 Hawaii and Panama Canal seasons.

The voyages, ranging from 14 to 28 days, will sail aboard six ships, with departures from five home ports in the US and Canada.

Passengers transiting the Panama Canal can choose from 12 voyages, ranging from 14 to 21 days, providing options for those seeking shorter or longer vacations.

Cruises are aboard *Eurodam*, *Nieuw Amsterdam* and *Zuiderdam*, and start or end in Vancouver, Seattle, San Diego, Miami, and Fort Lauderdale.

The extended 21-day Panama Canal sailing from Vancouver to Fort Lauderdale aboard *Nieuw Amsterdam* will take guests to 11 ports in eight countries, visiting multiple UNESCO World Heritage

sites, including the Joya de Ceren archaeological site in El Salvador.

The cruise also includes a call to RelaxAway, Half Moon Cay, Holland America's private island in The Bahamas.

Select Panama Canal itineraries will see guests visit Acapulco, with Holland America calling for the first time in nearly 15 years.

The cruise line is also offering the choice of six Hawaii itineraries ranging from 17 to 28 days.

The cruises sail aboard *Koningsdam*, *Noordam* and *Zaandam*, and start or end in Vancouver, Seattle, or San Diego.

Holland America is also offering a *Zaandam* Thanksgiving cruise, sailing round trip from San Diego on 19 Nov.

Zaandam will embark on an 18-day 'Circle Hawaii Holiday' cruise taking guests to five Hawaiian ports, as well as Ensenada, and arriving in Honolulu on Thanksgiving Day. *MS*




CRUISE WEEKLY

On Board: *Celestyal Journey*

Pink Moon

Lovers of Asian food will feel right at home at Pink Moon.

This Asian-inspired specialty restaurant serves up fresh flavours and aromatic spices, including noodles, ramen, rice, stir-frys and delectable desserts.

It's easy to see why Pink Moon is so popular and one that won't leave diners disappointed.



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