



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### C360 back to NSW

**AGENTS** can now mark Cruise360 Australasia into their calendars for next year, with CLIA confirming the event will return to Sydney in 2026.

Ahead of the event's second visit to Brisbane later this year, the new two-day format will continue in Sydney at the International Convention Centre from 17-18 Sep 2026.

With interest at record levels, CLIA Australasia MD Joel Katz said the association decided to announce next year's event so agents can begin planning, with tickets available in 2026.

Final tickets for the 2025 event in Brisbane are almost sold out, with limited slots available **HERE** at \$420.

## Chinese NT charters for Ponant

**EXCLUSIVE**

**PONANT** is fielding so much interest in the Kimberley from China that it is in negotiations with a number of parties from the market for a charter in the region, Deputy Chief Executive Officer Global Business Belinda Hindmarsh has told **CW**.

International markets like China and New Zealand are some of the fastest growing for Ponant's Kimberley product, she said.

"The two new source markets that are growing for the Kimberley are New Zealand, and the second one is China...we would never have picked that, but it has naturally happened," Hindmarsh revealed.

"We're looking at some charters, potentially...we are in negotiations with two different prospects about charters," the Ponant executive added.

The boom in Kimberley interest



from international markets comes from a concerted effort to push the destination outside of Australia and grow visitation to the region, rather than poach passengers from other operators.

"We really like to partner with the region...we need to bring value, and we know that bringing value isn't just picking up the guests that they're going to get anyway from another provider," Hindmarsh explained.

"We can bring in that international mix that no one else can bring, because a lot of them,

the French [guests] for example, are not going to come and do the Kimberley with a local operator.

"We do a lot of Chinese business and it's customers who have been to the Poles, so they've done other things with us, and now they're looking for something new." **MS**

**Pictured** are Director of Marketing & Communications Charles Boutet; Chief Executive Officer Asia Pacific Deb Corbett; Belinda Hindmarsh; and Director Marine Operations Captain David Marionneau-Chatel.

CANADIAN ARCTIC | GREENLAND | SVALBARD | ICELAND | NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

# SUMMER IN THE ARCTIC

Filled with breathtaking diversity, endless discovery and fun, the Arctic is a summer destination like no other. Experience non-stop thrills every May to September on ship with Quark Expeditions.

From the Canadian Arctic to Greenland to Iceland to Svalbard to Newfoundland and Labrador, this is the new way to summer.

For more information, please contact your preferred Travel Advisor.



**BAR, WI-FI\* AND TWICE-DAILY ZODIAC EXCURSIONS INCLUDED**

\*World Explorer guests will receive a free data card for limited Wi-Fi access, and enjoy complimentary beer and wine.

Have your own brand but need support for your business?

See how we can be your best partner in travel.



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

## More Japan Disney

**THE** Oriental Land Company (OLC), builders of the upcoming Japan-based Disney Cruise Line ship (**CW** 11 Feb), may introduce another vessel as part of an expansion of its cruise business.

OLC, which owns and operates the Tokyo Disney Resort, will launch its first ship in the first half of 2029.

Once the inaugural vessel has launched, it will then assess the introduction of another, the company shared as part of its latest strategy update.

OLC said it is expecting significant revenue growth following its entrance into the cruise market, targeting net sales in the upper 20% range, within the first several years.

The company noted strengths of the cruise sector which are not apparent in its current verticals, such as less weather and land susceptibility, and a largely cheaper, foreign workforce.

## Crystal confidence

**CRYSTAL** has introduced a new peace of mind promise, which will allow cruisers to postpone their voyage up until the day before they sail.

All passengers on all of Crystal's voyages will be able to claim a future cruise credit, with a fee equivalent to 10% of the cruise fare enabling guests to access this perk.

The offer will be available to bookings paid in full, with the credit able to be applied to another sailing booked within 12 months, for travel completed within 24 months.

Passengers are eligible for the program if it is purchased before final payment is due (120 days or 180, depending on voyage length).

**CLICK HERE** for more information on the program.

## Scenic's Polar Eclipse



**SCENIC** Luxury Cruises & Tours has introduced its 2027-28 Worldwide Discoveries Collection, featuring all-inclusive voyages visiting more than 500 ports across 63 countries.

From Oct 2026 through to Mar 2028, *Scenic Eclipse* will take guests to polar regions, from Antarctica to the Arctic Circle, as well as warmer destinations, such as the Mediterranean and the Caribbean.

For the first time, the ship will explore Egypt and Canada's Hudson Bay, as well as offering more Grand Voyages and flexible back-to-back sailings.

"With the new 2027-2028 season, we're taking our journeys further than ever before," said Claudius Docekal, Scenic Group VP Ocean Deployment.

"For the first time, *Scenic Eclipse* will explore Canada's Hudson Bay and the storied landscapes of Egypt, two incredible additions that reveal entirely new worlds for our guests.

"We've also introduced more Grand Voyages and flexible back-to-back sailings, giving travellers the opportunity to see and do more in one seamless experience."

Guests can embark on new itineraries spotlighting Italy's hidden gems; expanded North America voyages; and a fresh selection of themed cruises focusing on culinary, wellness, and entertainment offerings.

Additionally, travellers can spot beluga whales and polar bears on the new 17-day 'Greenland to Hudson Bay & the Canadian

Arctic' itinerary, which includes an overnight stay in Churchill, the 'Polar Bear Capital of the World'. Highlights include a visit to the Inuit communities of Cape Dorset and Iqaluit, and exploration of the remote Lady Franklin Island.

*Eclipse* will also operate a new 12-day Signature Yacht Voyage exploring the Baltic's best cities, and a 14-day Discovery Voyage through Latin America.

The newly released collection also boasts an enhanced Antarctic program, with itineraries offering helicopter access to locations like Snow Hill Island to visit the Emperor penguin colony for unique wildlife encounters.

A range of offers are available on the collection, including an additional 10% saving on top of the super earlybird offer, with bookings paid in full 10 months ahead of the departure date able to secure the highest savings and preferred suites.

Find out more about the *Eclipse* 2027-28 Worldwide Discoveries Collection **HERE**. JM

## APT's Rocky return

**APT'S** Canada & Alaska season for next year is out now, with a number of new cruises available to book.

Returning for next year is the flagship 22-day 'Rockies Odyssey and Alaska Cruise', which delivers an exploration of both regions.

Guests travel aboard the Rocky Mountaineer in GoldLeaf Service, stay at landmark properties including the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise and Fairmont Banff Springs, and enjoy an Alaska cruise with Holland America Line in a guaranteed Verandah stateroom, from \$16,795 per person, twin share.

Also available to book is the 19-day 'Rockies Explorer and Alaska Cruise from Victoria' featuring a seven-night Inside Passage cruise, combined with APT's 12-day 'Rockies Explorer from Victoria' land journeys.

The itinerary starts from \$17,595 per person, with earlybird savings of up to \$2,600 per couple.

Eastern Canada also takes centre stage with the 17-day 'Eastern Canada and USA with New England' journey.

Passengers can enjoy a Thousand Islands cruise and a Holland America sailing through Canada's Maritime provinces from \$17,195 per person, twin share.



**Taiwan** THE HEART OF ASIA

**30** EVA AIR

Travel Daily

LEARN MORE ABOUT TAIWAN AND EVA AIR with Travel Daily Training Academy

[Click here to discover](#)





**THE** wreck of a Dutch ship lost 170 years ago has been discovered off South Australia's south-east coast.

Researchers from the Australian National Maritime Museum recently found components of *Koning Willem de Tweede* - a 140-foot sail ship - protruding from the seabed in Guichen Bay.

The vessel became lost in Jun 1857, just days after transporting more than 400 Chinese migrants to Robe, on their way to the Goldfields.

Of the 25 crew members on board, 16 drowned and were later buried in the dunes of Long Beach, along the bay's eastern shoreline.

The search for the lost ship began prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, after the Dutch Government approached the Australian museum about exploring the countries' shared maritime history.

## Cruiseabout into Vic



**CRUISEABOUT** Australia has announced the opening of its first shopfront in Victoria, marking its seventh store nationwide.

Located in Mornington on Barkly Street, the new store will offer expert, personalised cruise advice to help travellers plan their ideal holiday at sea.

The Flight Centre retail brand is currently recruiting for a team leader to join the new Victorian outlet, with the role calling for

a highly motivated person with a minimum two years' retail or wholesale experience in the cruise or travel industry.

Find out more about the position **HERE**, as well as other Cruiseabout career opportunities around Australia, including at its stores in Sydney, Adelaide, Brisbane, the Gold Coast, and Perth, as well as remote roles. *JM*

**Pictured:** The Cruiseabout Melbourne team.

### Hanseatic trifecta

**HAPAG-LLOYD** Cruises has completed a trifecta, debuting *Hanseatic Nature* on its annual season on the Amazon River.

Following the operations of *Hanseatic Spirit* in 2023 and *Hanseatic Inspiration* in 2024, the third ship in the series is preparing to depart on the 'Expedition Amazon' itinerary.

The 18-day cruise begins on 11 Mar 2026 in the upper river delta in Belem and sails downstream to Iquitos, with the return upstream journey from 29 Mar to 16 Apr 2026.

### CCL goes ticketless

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line (CCL) is launching a ticketless shore excursion platform around the globe, after successfully integrating the solution in Australia earlier this year.

The streamlined digital platform, which is being piloted with select partners, eliminates paper tickets, allowing guests to check in with shore operators using their Sail & Sign card, which will link with CCL's HUB app.

## TAKE A LOOK AT



YOUR WORLD. YOUR WAY.®

**HOME EX**  
HOME AGENT  
VIRTUAL  
EXPERIENCE

**CLICK TO VIEW  
THEIR BOOTH**