



ONE WEEK LEFT TO NOMINATE

CRUISE CONSULTANT
OF THE YEAR

AGENT/AGENCY CRUISE
PROMOTION OF THE YEAR

MOBILE CRUISE CONSULTANT
OF THE YEAR

NETWORK CRUISE
PROMOTION OF THE YEAR

RISING STAR

CRUISE MONTH
PROMOTION OF THE YEAR

NOMINATE YOURSELF OR A COLLEAGUE TODAY

For more information on Award Criteria and how to nominate, please visit cruising.org.au.
Nominations are open to all CLIA Travel Agent members and close Friday, 21 November 2025.

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of industry news, plus a front cover from **Cruise Lines International Association** and a full page from **Celebrity Cruises**.

One week to go

THERE is only one week remaining to nominate yourself or a colleague for a Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) award.

Nominations will close 21 Nov - see the **cover page** for more information.

Celebrity savings

CELEBRITY Cruises' Black Friday sale is now on, offering up to 75% off for the second guest as well as up to \$1,000 savings per room.

Details on the **back page**.

Aurora announces Antarctica 27-28

AURORA Expeditions has announced the launch of its Antarctica 2027-28 season, which features 34 voyages, including 10 special edition sailings and four new itineraries.

The new season offers a collection of experiences across the Antarctic Peninsula, Falkland Islands, Weddell Sea, Antarctic Circle, South Georgia, and Patagonia, sailing on board Aurora's three ships.

New voyages for the season include 'South Georgia & Antarctica: Through the Lens', offering a visual storytelling journey through the region's wildlife and landscapes; and 'Antarctic Feast: Circle in Depth', a culinary-focused expedition celebrating local flavours and the art of exploration.

Also new to the program will be the 'Southern Antarctic Realms: Antarctic Circle & Weddell Sea',



a revived favourite exploring the southern regions and voyages deeper into Antarctica in the optimal late summer season; and 'Across the Antarctic Circle Fly the Drake', which allows passengers to save travel time by soaring over the Drake Passage.

The season will include more 'Fly the Drake' and fly/sail combinations, as demand for

shorter expeditions increases.

There will also be 10 special edition voyages with themes such as photography and culinary exploration.

Photographers on board this season will include Alex Stead (**pictured**), Sean Scott, Alex Kydd, Martin Gregus, and Daisy Gilardini, who will all lead immersive voyages. *MS*

BLACK FRIDAY

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CRUISE WEEKLY

On location on board
Oceania Allura

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Oceania Cruises, which is this week hosting us for the christening voyage of *Oceania Allura*.

OCEANIA Cruises will today christen its newest ship *Oceania Allura*, before she embarks on her christening voyage to Nassau.

The black tie event is expected to welcome thousands to Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings' new terminal in Miami, including trade partners from around Australia.

Before tonight's event, passengers will begin to explore the ship.

Ponant toasts partnerships



PONANT Explorations invited 25 travel partners to their office in North Sydney on Wed to catch up with the company's Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Global Business, Belinda Hindmarsh and Deb Corbett, Chief Executive Officer Asia Pacific.

Corbett provided guests with an update on the line's local partnerships, including its three-year collaboration with Oz Harvest (**CW** 30 Jun).

From Mar to Aug this year, Corbett revealed Ponant donated 7,500kg of food to vulnerable communities in the Northern Territory - enough to feed a family of four for 12 years.

In conjunction with Oz Harvest, Ponant also taught more than 300 Indigenous children in the NT

about sustainability and reducing food waste.

Additionally, the line continues to support the Macquarie Island Conservation Fund, the Maori Island Conservation Foundation, and the Australian Maritime College based in Tasmania, which supports up to 30 cadets across the Ponant's fleet each year.

Guests walked away from the event with gift boxes from Mettle, a WA non-profit organisation that employs and trains survivors of domestic and family violence. **JM**

Pictured: Annabelle Brown, State Manager Vic & Tas, Ponant; Kristina Sambaher, State Manager NSW & ACT, Ponant; Roland Howlett, Frontier Travel; Julie Rogers, Director of Sales Asia Pacific, Ponant; and Corbett.

Cruise pax rescued

FIFTY cruise passengers from TUI Cruises' *Mein Schiff I* were rescued off the coast of the Dominican Republic after an excursion boat sunk late last week - thankfully, no injuries were reported.

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HAL-p has arrived

HOLLAND America Line's (HAL) *Zuiderdam* has brought Ocho Rios in Jamaica some of its first cruise guests since Hurricane Melissa hit the country late last month.

Zuiderdam arrived with almost 2,000 guests, as well as relief supplies and volunteers, as Jamaica's recovery from the storm continues.

The ship offloaded nearly 1,700 boxes of supplies, including food, water, bedding, clothing, and mattresses.

SAILING NEW WATERS

Here's why the cruise industry is setting sail for Southeast Asia.

» **CLICK HERE TO READ**

Travel Daily



AN ESPECIALLY adorable guest made a surprise appearance on board *National Geographic Islander II* during a National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions sailing recently.

Naturalist Paulina Aguirre captured the precious moment when a Galapagos sea lion opted to use one of the line's Zodiacs as a sun bed.



HAL adds a touch of Dutch



HOLLAND America Line (HAL) gave Sydneysiders a touch of Dutch springtime on Sun, transforming the Southern Forecourt of the Overseas Passenger Terminal into the Tall Tulips Garden.

With *Noordam* as a backdrop, the vibrant, larger-than-life tulip installation honoured the cruise line's rich Dutch heritage, while also marking the start of HAL's 2025-26 Australia & New Zealand close-to-home season.

The line will offer 14-day sailings throughout Nov, Feb and

Mar (**CW** 07 Nov).

"Sunday's installation truly captured the spirit of Holland America Line - a celebration of heritage, exploration, and taking time to savour the journey," said HAL Senior Marketing Manager, Hannah Baynes.

"It was great to see guests disembarking from *Noordam* and others preparing to begin their cruise, along with new travellers who engaged with the installation and were inspired to plan their next cruise with Holland America Line," she added. *JM*

FCTG's cruise push

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group (FCTG) continues to pump money into its cruise product, with the Cruiseabout retail network and its newly acquired Cruise Club UK business the recipient of heavy funding (**CW** 30 Oct 2024).

FCTG noted in its annual general meeting this week that investment in the two brands has thus far incurred \$5 million losses, as they ready both businesses for meaningful future contributions.

However the investment appears to be beginning to pay off, with Cruise Club's Oct TTV increasing by 70% year-on-year, and sales for FCTG's 'cruise and tours' vertical (indexed jointly) increasing 20% YOY.

Eden's big milestone

THIS week, Eden is celebrating two decades since the first cruise ship sailed into the NSW port, with the region welcoming more than 195 ships and 400,000 visitors and crew over the years.

Tomorrow, *Celebrity Edge* will call Eden, marking the town's 200th cruise ship visit.

"The 20-year growth of cruising in Eden has been nothing short of remarkable," said Port Authority of NSW CEO, John McKenna.

"In that time, visitor numbers have increased tenfold, injecting tens of millions of dollars into the local economy and supporting jobs across the Sapphire Coast."

RCI's *Icon* expands

ROYAL Caribbean's *Icon of the Seas* will head around the United States in 2027-28, offering her first voyages from Texas, California, and the country's Northeast.

A range of four to 12-night adventures on board nine Royal Caribbean ships, including *Liberty of the Seas*, will be on offer from Apr 2027.

Voyages will visit destinations like Oranjestad, Willemstad, and Castries, as well as the coastlines of Mexico, calling at ports such as Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta.

Northeast cruises will venture through destinations such as Maine, Nova Scotia, Boston, and more.

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*Cruise must be booked by 19/11/25, valid on select sailings departing 14/11/25 – 10/5/28 & 9+night Alaska Cruise tours on Celebrity Summit departing 8/5/26 – 4/9/26. Up to 75% off 2nd guest & up to \$1,000 Savings Offer are for non-refundable fares, new, individual bookings at standard and prevailing rates. 75% is off nonrefundable fares on 2nd guest in the same stateroom as first full fare guest. Cruise savings per stateroom varies by stateroom category and cruise length. Excludes Galapagos. Other T&C's apply, visit celebrity.com/au.