



Celeb scraps Haiti

CELEBRITY Cruises has cancelled all visits to Haiti for the rest of the year and in 2026, as it is currently under a 'do not travel' advisory due to violent crime.

The cruise line's ships will instead visit the Turks and Caicos, the Grand Cayman, or Cozumel, Mexico, with 11 itineraries now updated to reflect the changes.

Viking does the NTIA double



VIKING has made National Travel Industry Awards (NTIA) history, becoming the first-ever cruise line to win both the 'Most Popular Ocean Cruise Operator' and 'Most Popular River Cruise Operator' in the same year.

The Basel-based company took out the river award for the first time on Sat in Brisbane, having also won the ocean award for the third time in a row earlier on in the night.

Viking bested Uniworld Boutique River Cruises to win the river gong, with the Los Angeles-based line having won the past two years in a row.

Also up for the river award were AmaWaterways, APT, Avalon Waterways, Emerald, and Tauck.

Viking beat out stiff competition in the ocean category, including Celebrity Cruises, Crystal, HX, MSC Cruises, Lindblad

Expeditions, Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises, Princess Cruises, Quark Expeditions, Royal Caribbean, Silversea, and Virgin.

However Viking was not the only winner from last year to defend its crown, with Barbara Baron again named Most Outstanding Sales Executive.

Other winners on the night included Clean Cruising's Samantha Renvoye, who was named Most Outstanding Travel Consultant Leisure.

Renvoye made it a double, having won Cruise Consultant of the Year at the CLIA Awards earlier this year (**CW** 02 Oct).

Meanwhile, Helloworld Travel's wholesale cruise network Cruiseco won Most Outstanding Wholesaler - Product/Service, while Expedition Cruise Specialists was given the People's Choice Award, voted by the public as their favourite accredited travel agent.

Cruise Weekly's sister title **Travel Daily** is publishing a special NTIA edition later today - subscribe **HERE** now if you have not already. **MS**

Pictured: The Viking team.

It's expedition week

EXPEDITION week has arrived for this year's Cruise Lines International Association Cruise Month.

The organisation is today promoting the many different ways to get involved in Cruise Month, which includes registering to attend one of Oct's many webinars.

Head to **page 5** for more Cruise Month information.



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Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of cruise news, including a photo page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**, plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.



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AMAWATERWAYS



Princess kicks off SA cruise season

THE arrival of Princess Cruises' *Crown Princess* in South Australia has marked the start of the state's 2025-26 summer sailing season.

Crown made the first of 10 port calls for Princess in SA on Sat, which will include visits to Kangaroo Island and Port Lincoln, among other destinations.

Four Princess ships will visit South Australia this season, generating \$15m in economic benefit for the state.

Vice President Asia Pacific Matthew Rutherford said the arrival of *Crown* into Adelaide signals the start of an exciting summer season for local, national and international guests.

"Today's arrival of *Crown Princess* kicks off our summer cruise season, which will showcase the best of what South Australia has to offer our guests," Rutherford said on Sat, welcoming the ship to Adelaide.



"Princess is South Australia's number one cruise line, and we bring more international guests to South Australia than any other," he added.

Minister for Tourism Zoe Bettison said the arrival of *Crown* is an important milestone for SA's tourism industry.

"As we welcome the arrival of the *Crown Princess* and its

more than 3,000 passengers, we look forward to showcasing our state to local, domestic and international visitors," she said.

"We know Princess Cruises and their guests love South Australia and it's fantastic to see visits scheduled to our state across four of its ships, including its newest and biggest, which will make a first-time visit to Port Lincoln." *MS*

Aurora offsetting

AURORA Expeditions is set to introduce a new ocean regeneration program to replace its carbon offsetting.

The cruise line has committed to moving toward a circular impact model focused on decarbonisation and regeneration, rather than compensating for emissions after they occur.

Aurora's new approach will aim to prioritise reducing emissions at the source through smarter operations, cleaner technologies, and responsible decision-making.

This will mean ships are built for purpose, prioritising fuel reduction, increased biofuel testing, and lower impact.

The new approach will also aim to help regenerate the environment and invest in local communities by supporting conservation.

Viking has launched something brand new! A free, interactive **Viking Virtual Event** designed to immerse your clients in our best-selling **Grand European Tour**.

This is not another webinar. It is a live, guided experience for clients that will inspire, answer questions live, and most importantly encourage clients to book with you. With a special offer on the day to redeem through you.

Plus, we have an incentive for you. Every client you register and attends earns you **\$10 in Rewards by Viking points**. If one of your attendees makes a booking with you from the event, you receive a **bonus \$50 in points**, on top of your commission.

Click the registration page button to learn more about the event or visit rewardsbyviking.com to learn more about the incentive.

REGISTRATION PAGE

VIKING VIRTUAL EVENT *Grand European Voyage*



LIVE 11.00AM AEDT 23 OCTOBER 2025



CRUISE WEEKLY Near or far: a taste of NCL's World

Monday 20 October 2025

LAST week, NCL welcomed 50 media friends, industry partners, and colleagues to The Public Dining Room in Balmoral for a lunch hosted by Jason Krimmel, NCL's Chief International Sales & Marketing Officer, and Ben Angell, VP & Managing Director Asia-Pacific. The event spotlighted the 'Near or Far – Experience More of the World' campaign, showcasing destinations NCL sails to around the globe.

Guests enjoyed globally inspired cuisine, a signature perfume experience, travel trivia, and styling that brought NCL's key destinations to life.

The event also introduced *Norwegian Spirit's* new positioning: 'Where Grown-Up Getaways Begin' - an adult-centric cruise experience designed for couples and seasoned travellers seeking serenity over slides. As NCL's most adult-focused ship, *Norwegian Spirit* offers no kids' clubs, fewer guests, and a high guest-to-staff ratio, creating a more boutique-style escape.

Returning this December for her third season, *Norwegian Spirit* will sail 11- to 14-day Australia and New Zealand itineraries through April 2026, followed by an extensive South Pacific program, before launching her biggest-ever 2026/27 AUNZ season: nine Sydney departures, including five round trips - the most ever - and NCL's first four-night Tasmania taster cruises.



NCL'S global destinations inspired the props and styling for this photo moment.

GUESTS were gifted beautiful travel-inspired fragrances.



TRUDI Jenkins, Nine Travel, Kerrie McCallum, Newscorp & Kristine Tarbert, 9Travel.



BEN Angell outlines highlights of NCL's upcoming Australia, New Zealand, and South Pacific itineraries.



BEN Angell and Jason Krimmel introduced *Norwegian Spirit's* new 'Where Grown-Up Getaways Begin' campaign.



JOEL Katz, CLIA and Grant Bradley, freelance journalist.

STUNNING styling inspired by NCL's global destinations including Asia.



THE NCL team: Jacinta Baker, Damian Borg, Angela Middleton, Jason Krimmel, Tara Clifford, Ben Angell, Leanne Fonagy.



FIONA Carruthers, freelance journalist, selected her fragrance of choice inspired by her dream destination during the signature perfume experience.



CARNIVAL Cruise Line Brand Ambassador John Heald is rather sick of passengers leaving items behind on ships and then complaining about how long it takes for those items to be returned to them.

He revealed the pet peeve to his 645,000 Facebook followers after a pax complained they had not yet had a bag of souvenirs returned - forgotten on one of the line's ships - after just eight days.

Heald posted a video showing a huge collection of items that had been left behind on a *Carnival Conquest* cruise that had just ended two hours prior, which included sunglasses, jewellery, a walkie-talkie, a phone, clothes, shoes, and children's toys.

He pointed out that all the left-behind items needed to be catalogued and go through customs before they could be sent back - quite a task.

Some Brilliant news



VIRGIN Voyages has unveiled its newest ship *Brilliant Lady* (pictured) in Miami with a celebration full of stars.

More than 2,000 guests embarked on *Brilliant* on Fri, following a night of music and entertainment to welcome the ship as the fourth member of the Virgin fleet.

The event drew guests including Miami-based record producer DJ Khaled, rapper Swae Lee, and around 1,000 travel advisors.

Guests were treated to the world premiere of 'Red Hot', a 'rockumentary'-style spectacular inspired by Virgin Records' legendary music catalogue, which

features hits from the Spice Girls, Janet Jackson, David Bowie, Queen, The Killers, and more.

Brilliant's entertainment line-up also wowed with 'Up With A Twist', a Gatsby-inspired performance that channels the Roaring Twenties with theatrical flair and old-world opulence.

The night ended with 'Electric', a glowing, neon-themed onboard dance party that lasted until the early hours of the morning.

Brilliant will now spend the coming weeks sailing the Caribbean before making her way through the Panama Canal to Los Angeles and onward to Alaska in spring 2026. *MS*

West Coast Princess

PRINCESS Cruises has unveiled its 2027-28 North American West Coast season, which will see the line deploy eight ships on 69 departures across 15 itineraries to Mexico, Hawaii, and California.

On sale now, voyages range from four to 16 days, with departures available from Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Vancouver, Canada.

Guests can sail under the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, or the Lions Gate Bridge in Vancouver, past El Arco in Cabo San Lucas, and into Hilo with its iconic volcanic views.

"Princess Cruises has been Los Angeles' hometown cruise line for nearly 60 years, and no one sails the West Coast quite like we do," said Jim Berra, Princess Cruises Chief Commercial Officer.




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