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Concierge Veranda Stateroom	AU\$15,580	AU\$11,685

*All offers and fares are subject to Terms & Conditions.

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Concierge Veranda Stateroom	AU\$14,960	AU\$10,472

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BARCELONA TO ISTANBUL

10 Days | 17 Aug 2026 | *Oceania Sirena*



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Veranda Stateroom	AU\$8,200	AU\$6,650
Concierge Veranda Stateroom	AU\$8,510	AU\$6,808

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VIEW ALL VOYAGES

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of the latest cruise industry news, a cover wrap from **Oceania**, plus full pages from:

- CLIA
- Scenic

It's Oceania's world

OCEANIA Cruises' 'Your World Included' offer provides all speciality dining, shipboard gratuities, unlimited wi-fi, plus the choice of complimentary wine and beer, or shore excursion credit.

The cruise line is also currently offering limited-time savings of up to 45% on select sailings and categories, plus 50% reduced deposits.

A range of highlighted itineraries, as well as more information on the offers, is available on the **cover page** of today's **Cruise Weekly**.

Aussie cruise loses \$1b

CRUISE tourism's economic impact has fallen by more than a billion dollars from last year, according to a report from Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) and the Australian Cruise Association (ACA).

The sector delivered a \$7.32 billion economic impact for Australia during the 2024-25 season, which, while among the highest-ever results cruise has delivered, is an alarming 13.2% decline on last year's record contribution (**CW** 18 Oct 2024).

Passengers are still spending high across Australia, according to the report; however, as previously warned by the industry, this has not stopped the leakage of cruise tourism to other countries.

CLIA and the ACA are now calling for a national action plan across federal, state, and territory governments to support cruise tourism, improve Australia's

competitiveness, attract more ships, safeguard jobs, and create greater economic opportunities around the country.

"Australia's cruise community has been warning for some time that we risk losing tourism to other countries because of a difficult regulatory environment and high operating costs," CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz said.

"This report confirms we face headwinds and that action is needed to create a better environment for cruising."

ACA Chief Executive Officer Jill Abel added: "Cruise passengers spent more than \$1.82 billion around Australia last year, but this was down 5.9% because there were fewer ship visits.

"Australia needs to create a coordinated national approach to cruise tourism, bringing together all elements of government and industry," she asserted. **MS**

CLIA noms are open

NOMINATIONS are now open for the 23rd annual Cruise Lines International Association Awards (CLIAs), which will be hosted in Mar.

Members of the cruise industry are invited to nominate themselves or a colleague from today, in a range of categories detailed on **page 4** of today's **CW**.

Two weeks to save

SCENIC is reminding advisors and their clients that there are only two weeks left to take advantage of its super earlybird offer.

Travellers can secure economy flights included or a business class air credit of up to \$4,500 per person when they book a 2026 river cruise of 11 days or longer - find out more on **page 5**.

Regent

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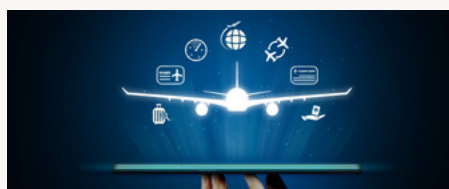
TRAVEL ADVISOR APPRECIATION MONTH

This November, **Regent Seven Seas Cruises®** is proud to demonstrate its ongoing commitment to you, our valued travel partners. We recognise the vital role you play in connecting discerning travellers with unforgettable ultra-luxury experiences.

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WEDNESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER
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Special Asia report

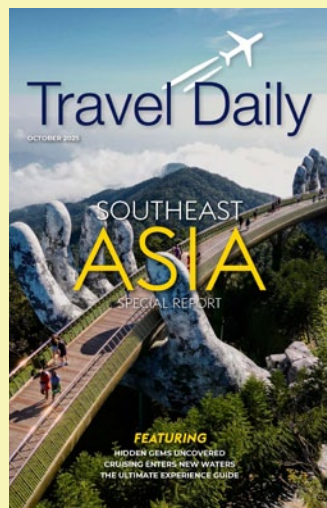
SISTER title *Travel Daily* has unveiled the latest issue of its special report series.

Cruising is in the spotlight in this issue, as the industry embraces new ports across the region, offering passenger experiences from the Mekong to Port Kelang.

It is jam-packed with features and the latest news from tourism in the region, including interviews with execs like Viking's Michelle Black, Princess' Matt Rutherford and Sherly Handjojo from the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

This edition also explores the hidden gems of Southeast Asia, from the pristine beaches of Labuan Bajo in Indonesia to the charming village of UNESCO World Heritage site Luang Prabang in Laos.

CLICK HERE to read the latest special report.



Going long in the Poles



PONANT Explorations is extending its expedition seasons in an effort to create wilder travel for guests, and further distance itself from its competitors.

Etienne Garcia, one of Ponant's most distinguished captains, said the cruise line's unparalleled fleet capabilities allow it to push further into the margins of the polar operating season than others are capable of.

Garcia is Captain of Ponant's expedition ship *Le Commandant Charcot*, which is the only luxury icebreaker in the cruise sector.

"We are going to places where people could go before, but we are going earlier in the season, like east Greenland," he explained to *Cruise Weekly*.

"If you go in Aug, you have a dozen vessels in the field, there is no sea ice any more, but we are going in May, and we are alone.

"We have a lot of areas in

the springtime, for example, to explore west and east Greenland," Garcia added.

The *Le Commandant Charcot* captain, when probed on what other new undertakings the cruise line is considering, said further circumnavigations of Antarctica and Greenland are in the pipeline.

Ponant is also seeking out new experiences in heavily saturated markets such as the Med, where it will use its fleet's small size to its advantage.

The cruise line last week announced its 2026 Europe collection, made up of a selection of small-ship voyages visiting the continent (*CW* 21 Oct).

Highlight destinations during the season include the Greek Islands, Italy, the Adriatic Coast, Scotland, Ireland, and the Arctic, with a highlight to be Ponant's European Grand Voyages. *MS*

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you today courtesy of Princess Cruises.

TODAY we sail away on our five-day Malaysian getaway on board *Discovery Princess*, and we are looking forward to touring the Royal-class ship and checking out her facilities.

This includes the Lotus Spa and adults-only Sanctuary space to the plethora of food and beverage venues.

Once we board, we will enjoy a ship tour with Meg Koffel and Alex Lund from the Princess team, then toast to our adventure during the sail away celebration on the top deck.

Dinner will take place at Catch by Rudi, followed by a show at the Princess Theatre.

Windstar 2027 out

WINDSTAR Cruises has opened its 2027 Europe voyages aboard *Star Explorer* for booking (*CW* 04 Jul).

The new ship will be the second all-suite vessel to join the fleet, and will sail year-round in Europe.

A range of classic Windstar voyages are on sale now, as are new itineraries, including a circumnavigation of Ireland.



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WORKING on a cruise ship may seem fun and exciting - after all, you get to make money while travelling the world - however, as with most jobs, there are downsides.

Julia, who goes by the username @iulia.puica on TikTok, spilt the beans to her followers about the good, bad and ugly that is part of life as a cruise ship worker.

Far from being a constant holiday, Julia explained how workers get "no real days off" during their contract.

"For months, you work every single day, long shifts, little downtime," Julia wrote in the caption of her video.

She also pointed out how chaotic embarkation days are as passengers get settled.

On the plus side, Julia said that working on a cruise ship teaches you independence, hospitality and resilience that "you won't get anywhere else".

Shorter is the key to multigen

BOTH large- and small-ship cruise lines are benefitting from an increase in multigenerational travel, as the sector rushes to adapt its offerings to appeal to both younger and older guests.

Celestial Cruises is watching its average age drop, as parents and grandparents bring their younger offspring on board with them.

The average age for Celestial's newly introduced Arabian Gulf cruises now sits at 44, with CCO Lee Haslett attributing this drop to the introduction of more abbreviated cruise options.

"Shorter itineraries packed with ports [are] a dynamic and unique offering that allows travellers the chance to explore six or seven destinations in just three or four days," he explained.

"This vibrant, fast-paced approach to cruising has attracted a different demographic from younger travellers to first-time cruisers keen to dip their toe in without committing to a longer



stay at sea.

"That flexibility has been instrumental in attracting younger couples, groups of friends, and multigenerational families, proving that cruise is now a holiday choice that works for all ages."

Also reporting a rise in multigenerational travel is Balkans-based small-ship operator Unforgettable Croatia, which is seeing strong growth for next year, up 34% on the PCP.

"These figures demonstrate that demand for intimate, small-ship cruising is stronger than ever," founder Graham Carter said.

"Travellers are seeking deeper, more authentic experiences, and our itineraries deliver just that," he added. *MS*

Red, white, and news

AMERICAN Cruise Lines has announced six new United States-built ships through 2028, as the company welcomes *American Pioneer* to its fleet this week (*CW* 11 Jul).

The cruise line will add four new riverboats: *American Anthem* (due 2027), *American Grace* (2028), and two other yet-to-be-named riverboats, which are also due in 2028.

Also welcomed to the fleet will be two small Patriot-class ships: *American Mariner* and *American Navigator*, both due in 2027.

All of American's new ships will continue to sail in the United States, operating itineraries across the cruise line's growing portfolio, including the Mississippi River, Alaska, and the East Coast.

The new ships will also accelerate American's expansion into new niche markets such as the Great Lakes, the Arkansas River, and its newly announced National Parks cruises, which will debut next year with a 15-day cruise - **CLICK HERE**.



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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.

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