

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **Silversea**.

Save with Silversea

FOR three weeks only, Silversea cruisers can save up to 45% on a number of voyages with the line.

The offer, which expires on 08 Sep, also provides reduced deposits from 15%.

Cruisers can save on destinations such as Japan, Australia, Bali, and more.

For more information, head to the **back page** of today's **Cruise Weekly**, or contact a reservation manager on 02 9255 0600.

MSC's new combo cruises



MSC Cruises has unveiled the first of its new European combination voyages - the start of a growing, bespoke program built for Australian guests.

Four departures are currently on sale for next year, departing on 29 May, 12 Jun, 10 Jul, and 04 Sep 2027.

The first combination voyage is a 14-night cruise aboard **MSC Meraviglia (pictured)** round-trip from Southampton to Norway's fjords and Scandinavia.

These new sailings respond to a clear shift in how Australians want to travel to Europe, bringing together two consecutive MSC itineraries into one, allowing guests to experience completely different parts of the continent.

That scale opens an enormous range of potential pairings from the western and eastern Mediterranean to the Adriatic, the islands of Greece, the Canary Islands, the Atlantic, the Baltic, and the Norwegian fjords.

"We're increasingly seeing our guests and travel partners look at back-to-back cruises as a way of creating a bigger European holiday, and with the scale of MSC Cruises in Europe, we have an incredible opportunity to make

that much easier," managing director Katrina McAlpine said.

"This is just the beginning - our presence across the region means we can connect itineraries in ways few other cruise lines can."

The consecutive sailings are McAlpine's latest attempt to pivot the MSC brand more towards the tastes of Australians, with the newly appointed MD having also leaned heavily on the cruise line's Yacht Club, its ship-within-a-ship concept, to achieve this.

McAlpine told **Cruise Weekly** in Jun following her appointment that Yacht Club had become one of the line's most important products in Australia (**CW** 10 Jun).

Yacht Club's popularity, which at the time saw it running at 150% of prior levels, has seen MSC modernise many of its older Musica-class ships, such as **MSC Musica** and **MSC Orchestra**, with the enclave (**CW** 04 Feb), expanding the concept to 19 vessels across the fleet.

"We have started to promote it more meaningfully here in this market now, but before we started meaningfully promoting it, we were already up 50% versus 2024," she told **Cruise Weekly** at the time. **MS**

Pax come up short

A NUMBER of passengers appear to be out of pocket after luxury line Kimberley Pearl Tours (KPT) went into receivership, the ABC reports.

Some customers appear to have lost tens of thousands of dollars due to the bankruptcy; however, despite this, cruises are still being advertised on the company's website.

The matter is before the Federal Court, where KPT's director Daniel Brown claims he was drawn into a predatory financing arrangement.

Hall Chadwick, which was also appointed to the property of KPT as a receiver, said it is currently unable to access the website to update it.



Viking's new *Flights on Us* campaign is here

For a limited time, your clients will enjoy included economy airfares valued at up to \$2,800 per person when they book a Viking river, ocean or expedition voyage. It's the first time they've extended this offer across all three products.

Prefer a cruise-only fare? Your clients can take a discount in lieu of flights instead, saving \$2,800pp (\$5,600 per couple).

[Click here for details on Viking's new campaign.](#)



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Viking's *Flights on Us* campaign delivers exceptional value for your clients. Their popular 8-day river voyage *Rhine Getaway* is available from only \$4,995 per person, including economy airfares valued up to \$2,800pp. It's an offer worth sharing.

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Galloway, Londregan to be godparents

VIKING is honouring two Aussie travel partners as godparents of two of its new river ships, with Flight Centre Travel Group's Danielle Galloway (**pictured**) and Virtuoso's Michael Londregan to officially welcome the new vessels to the fleet in Oct.

Galloway and Londregan will be among a group of travel partners named as godparents of a new Viking ship, who represent some of the cruise line's most valued relationships across the industry.

One of Australia's most respected luxury travel leaders and a longtime advocate for Viking, Galloway will serve as godmother of *Viking Sjofn*.

The managing director of FCTG's luxury and independent brands, she has been instrumental in helping Viking become the number one cruise line within her company's luxury travel advisor brand Travel Associates.



Meanwhile, Londregan, senior vice president global operations of Virtuoso, will serve as godfather of *Viking Ptah*.

Londregan has been a passionate Viking champion since the partnership with Virtuoso began in 2017 and has played a significant role in strengthening

Viking's presence within his network across Australia.

The two will be among seven travel partners from around the globe who will serve as godparents of a new Viking river ship, which will all be named together in a ceremony on 15 Oct in Amsterdam. *MS*

A delightful trip

HURTIGRUTEN has announced its new six-day 'Northern Delights: Svalbard and Arctic Norway' itinerary, now available to book for the 2026/27 season.

The voyage combines a two-day land journey on Svalbard, followed by a three-day cruise from Tromsø to Kirkenes (connecting via plane), providing guests the opportunity to see the Northern Lights.

Along the way, guests will make stops in Skjervøy, Hammerfest, the Sami sacrificial site of Finnkirka, as well as the world's northernmost lighthouse in the village of Gamvik.

The itinerary starts from £1,655 (approximately A\$3,155) per person and includes the flight from Longyearbyen to Tromsø.



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Mitsui preparing to launch second ship

JAPANESE luxury cruise line Mitsui Ocean Cruises is about to launch its new ship *Mitsui Ocean Sakura* next month, the second of two vessels the company bought from Seabourn Cruise Line (**CW** 07 Nov).

Sakura, formerly *Seabourn Sojourn*, will debut on 19 Sep as a sister ship to Mitsui's first ship, *Mitsui Ocean Fuji*, which was formerly *Seabourn Odyssey*.

The cruise line's first ship launched in late 2024 (**CW** 12 Dec 2024), with both ships holding capacity for 458 guests, and 90% of staterooms boasting a balcony.

Sakura and *Fuji* both feature fine dining restaurants specialising in Japanese cuisine, plush lounges, a theatre, wellness centres, pools, and jacuzzis, and were recently showcased to Australia's travel trade at the JNTO national roadshow last week (**CW** 21 Aug).



The ships offer guests an authentic, unique, and immersive Japanese experience underpinned by two, time-honoured local philosophies: 'funatabi', which is Mitsui's commitment to immersing guests in Japanese heritage, nature, cuisine and tradition; and 'omotenashi', the art of intuitive, meticulous, and heartfelt service.

To mark the debut of *Sakura*,

Mitsui's local representative Cruise Traveller has released five new packages for Apr and Sep, 2027, offering voyages aboard either ship, complete with free return flights to Tokyo from Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane.

The packages range from seven to 12 nights and start at \$8,799 per person twin-share, in a verandah suite - **CLICK HERE** for more information. *MS*

Ama opens up

AMAWATERWAYS has opened up reservations for 2028, with guests now able to secure their preferred itineraries, ships, and departure dates.

The 2028 season will be highlighted by two new additions to the cruise line's fleet, *AmaMaria* on the Rhine and *AmaGaia* on the Douro River in Portugal.

In addition, the season will also see the introduction of the 'Elegance of Burgundy & Provence' itinerary, a 10- to 11-night journey during Jul and Aug, sailing along the Rhone and Saone rivers.

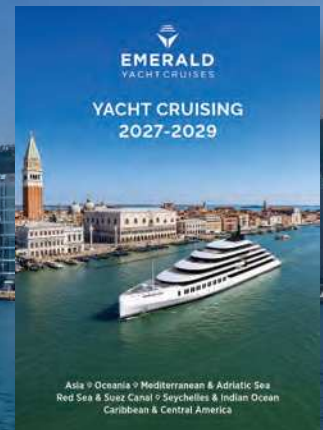
To celebrate the opening of the season, AmaWaterways is offering limited-time earlybird savings, with up to \$3,750 off per stateroom for guests who book before 30 Sep - call 1800 867 126 for more.



What's New for 2027-2029

- NEW Emerald Raiya
- NEW Emerald Xara
- NEW Asia Cruising
- NEW Australian & South Pacific Cruising
- NEW Yacht & River cruising combinations

NEW Luxury Yacht Cruising 2027-2029 brochure out now



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PONANT Explorations and French luxury brand Vilebrequin have launched an exclusive collaboration to introduce two limited-edition pairs of men's swim trunks.

The collection is available exclusively in Ponant's onboard boutiques.

There is also a 'Polar Plunge' design, available solely aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*, Ponant's luxury icebreaker.

Other products in the line include a tote bag and accessory pouch.



Rock out aboard HAL

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has expanded its live music offerings with a new poolside bandstand on board *Oosterdam* and *Zuiderdam*, which will bring live performances, special events, and some of the cruise line's favourite traditions to the heart of the ship.

Set on the Lido Deck, the new venues will host a variety of musical acts throughout each cruise, from solo performers to live bands during sailaways, special events and celebrations.

The new bandstand will also host events connected to Holland America's signature Orange Party.

Oosterdam will be the first vessel to receive the new bandstand, following her transformation next autumn.

The enhancement is part of the Holland America Evolution, a US\$500m-plus investment introducing guest-favourite venues, new staterooms and suites, and more, across six Vista and Signature-class ships.

Following their transformations, guests sailing aboard *Oosterdam* and *Zuiderdam* will also enjoy a number of enhancements,



including the introduction of the popular Grand Dutch Cafe and new staterooms and suites.

"Evolution is about bringing the very best of Holland America Line to more of our fleet," president Beth Bodensteiner said.

"Over the past several years, we've been on a journey to expand and elevate our entertainment offerings across the fleet, guided by what our guests tell us they love most.

"The new lido pool bandstands are another step in that effort, creating more opportunities to enjoy live music and memorable performances in one of the ship's most popular gathering spaces," she added. *MS*

A Season to be well

FOUR Seasons Yachts has introduced 'The Lanserhof Reset', a longevity- and wellness-focused experience which will take place aboard *Four Seasons I* during her first-ever transatlantic crossing.

The eight-day retreat will take place from 08-16 Nov, offering diagnostics, expert consultations, and personalised wellness programming at sea.

Developed in collaboration with medical wellness resort company Lanserhof, guests will begin with an initial consultation at *Four Seasons I*'s medical centre, where they will receive an eight-day wellness program tailored to their needs and goals.

This includes one-on-one consultations, holistic treatments like craniosacral alignment, fitness and breathwork sessions, sound bath experiences, and nutritional guidance, including chlorophyll shots.

General wellness experiences will also be integrated throughout the voyage.



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