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LAST CHANCE CLOSE TO HOME SALE ON NOW.



Norwegian Cruise Line's Last Chance Close to Home Sale is on now! Your clients can take advantage of **reduced rates on select 2026 cruises sailing** to Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific*. Set sail aboard the revitalised Norwegian Spirit®, and enjoy an elevated experience with no waterslides or kids' clubs.

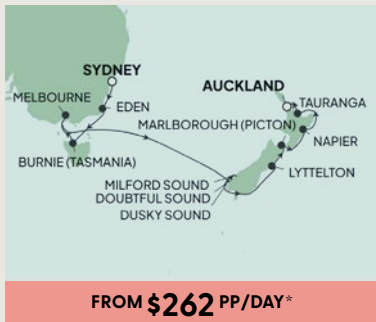
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12-DAY AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
FROM SYDNEY TO AUCKLAND
29 MAR 2026

12-DAY AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
FROM AUCKLAND TO SYDNEY
10 APR 2026

11-DAY SOUTH PACIFIC
FROM SYDNEY TO LAUTOKA
22 APR 2026

12-DAY SOUTH PACIFIC
FROM PAPEETE (TAHITI) TO HONOLULU
15 MAY 2026



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**NORWEGIAN
CRUISE LINE®**

*Per person per day prices are correct as at 5 February 2026 and do not cover all products and service offerings that relate to the cruise and is subject to change, availability and withdrawal. Free Unlimited Premium Beverages and more: exclusions apply. Offers are non-transferable, have no monetary value and are valid for new bookings only. Offers are subject to change or withdrawal at any time and combinability with other promotional offers is subject to change. Other restrictions may apply. For full terms and conditions visit ncl.com.
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Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise news, plus a cover wrap from **Norwegian Cruise Line** and a photo page from **Carnival Cruise Line**.

Europe's big Wish

DISNEY Cruise Line's *Disney Wish* will debut in Europe in summer 2027, following a special repositioning cruise.

Guests can choose from three- to 10-night itineraries visiting new ports such as Zadar, Trieste, and Hellesylt.

The 2027 summer season will also see *Disney Magic* and *Disney Wonder* sail again to Alaska, with both ships to depart from Vancouver.

Wonder and *Magic* will offer seven-night sailings, with the latter ship to also offer six- and eight-night options in the around Alaska.

The latter ship will relocate from Texas, from where she has sailed for 15 years.

There will be plenty of choices in the Caribbean during the season, with *Disney Dream* and *Disney Fantasy* to be among a number of ships sailing in the region.

Dream will return to Port Canaveral, sailing three- and four-night itineraries to the Bahamas, including visits to both Disney Castaway Cay and Disney Lookout Cay at Lighthouse Point.

Fantasy will offer four- and five-night Bahamian and Caribbean sailings as well as a 10-night itinerary for those after a longer cruise.

Uniworld's data-led edge



DATA is driving Uniworld Boutique River Cruises' growth, as it transitions from a family run company to private equity ownership, the line's president & chief executive officer Ellen Bettridge has detailed.

The Uniworld head, in Sydney for the line's 50th anniversary, said tech-focused developments are aiming to make it easier to do business with the brand.

"It's all about technology... looking at how you're doing things and how you could be better, how do you make your data better," explained Bettridge.

"How do you make it easier for a travel advisor to transact with you, how do you make your website better and provide better information to consumers - we're investing in all of that."

One destination which is prospering for Uniworld is Egypt.

Ager said Uniworld is now positioning the destination as a stopover on the way to Europe.

"We're using Egypt as a potential stopover for people who are going into Europe."

"Pulling into the Middle East and taking a tour into Cairo because it is so easy to do, and it's a trending destination."

Another destination which is taking off for Uniworld is India, where the cruise line offers sailings along the Ganges aboard *Ganges Voyager II*.

Bettridge said backing decisions with detailed numbers-based plans is helping the line to find an edge, as the market becomes increasingly competitive.

"You have to be backed up with information, backed up with data, you need to present your ideas in order to get them done," Bettridge explained. *MS*

Last chance on sale

LAST-CHANCE close-to-home sailings with Norwegian Cruise Line are on sale now, travelling to Australia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific.

Set sail aboard the revitalised *Norwegian Spirit*, with reduced rates available now.

Guests can receive more than \$3,250 worth of added value, including unlimited premium beverages, speciality dining packages, shore excursion credits, and more.

Cruises on sale include the 12-day Australia & New Zealand voyage from Sydney to Auckland, departing 29 Mar - more info on the **cover page**.

MSC webinar on Tue

MSC Cruises is hosting an 'All Things Alaska' webinar next week, which will take travel advisors into the line's 2026 and 2027 seasons in the region, which will be its first ever (*CW* 09 Oct).

The webinars are scheduled over two sessions on Tue, with the first to take place at 8:30am, hosted by BDM Bronwyn Knight, and the second will happen at 12:30pm, hosted by BDM Aaron Eilers.

Each session will include a 20-minute webinar presentation, which will delve into the MSC Alaska experience, including what to expect, itineraries, ship features, cabin types, and the Yacht Club experience - **CLICK HERE** for the early session and **HERE** for the later session.

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THE MEDITERRANEAN**
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Write a letter to the world with Cunard

CUNARD Line has joined with author Anna Funder to invite Australians to “write a letter to the world”, as part of a modern-day pen-pal exchange.

Funder and Cunard are calling on Australians to offer a glimpse into life Down Under for a reader they may never meet, but who may one day reply.

She will draw on the letters submitted by Australians to write a single handwritten letter to be broadcast from our country to the world.

Her piece will be revealed to hundreds of guests aboard *Queen Mary 2* while docked in Sydney Harbour next month, with two writers whose letters are selected invited to witness the unveiling.

All submitted letters will then travel by sea aboard *Queen Mary 2*, where they will be read by guests as the ocean liner continues her 108-night World



Voyage across Asia, Africa and Europe (**CW** 19 Jan).

Some letters may be answered by guests on the high seas, extending the pen-pal exchange across oceans and time zones.

The initiative is inspired by Cunard’s 185-year legacy of carrying letters and stories across oceans, from the red Royal Mail postboxes on board ships like

Queen Mary 2.

Every Aussie can submit their letter for inclusion **HERE**, with entries closing on 23 Feb. **MS**

Pictured are the cruise line’s sales & marketing director Amy Williams and Anna Funder depositing a letter, alongside the Cunard bellhops, and Leah-Brooke Mano from ConnectedAU, which is supporting the initiative.

Net-zero concept

FINNISH shipbuilder Meyer Turku has unveiled a new net-zero cruise ship concept as part of a four-year research and development program.

The concept vessel, which is being called AVATAR, has a carbon footprint lifecycle that is less than 90% of the baseline defined by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

AVATAR features technologies and solutions that are expected to be technologically viable and available by 2030.

“No single solution is enough - for example, simply switching fuels will not achieve the desired impact,” head of product development Liina Vahala said.

“A net zero vessel concept is the sum of many complementary measures.”



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<p>EXPEDITION TO THE EDGE OF THE ICE SHEET Reykjavik to Kangerlussuaq 30 July 2027 13-nights onboard <i>L'Austral</i> INCLUDES: One-way flight Kangerlussuaq/Paris & Transfer* from \$19,080 per person in a Deluxe Stateroom with balcony*</p>	
<p>EXPLORATION FROM GREENLAND TO CANADA Reykjavik to Toronto 29 July 2027 15-nights onboard <i>Le Bellot</i> Free Solo Supplement available!⁽¹⁾ from \$19,510 per person in a Deluxe Stateroom with balcony*</p>	

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Thursday 12th Feb 2026

CARNIVAL Cruise Line hosted 50 agents from the Helloworld network aboard *Carnival Adventure* on Tue for a special ship tour and trivia event designed to showcase the line's signature fun-filled atmosphere.

Attendees explored key onboard venues before joining a spirited trivia session led by Carnival national account manager, Lance Dye, alongside Carnival's Fun Squad. Helloworld agents also enjoyed special photo opportunities with beloved Dr Seuss characters, adding another playful touch to the day's activities.

Adding to the excitement, a cruise holiday was awarded to one lucky winner, and the trivia session featured standout prizes including top-tier Samsung and JBL products, along with premium Carnival merchandise.

"We're proud to host events like this that not only showcase our ships but also deepen our relationships with key partners," said Dye.

The event concluded with an onboard lunch, highlighting Carnival's welcoming service and diverse dining options.

PRE-TRIVIA fun with Dr Seuss characters.



THE CCL sales team with Dr Seuss characters.



CARNIVAL x Helloworld event group.



TRIVIA winners with Lance Dye.



TRIVIA master Lance Dye.



CAT in the Hat with agents.





A BROTHER and sister in Spain have put their passion for the ocean into action by starting a company that recycles and repurposes abandoned fishing nets.

Amaia Rodriguez Sola and her brother Julen started Gravity Wave in 2019 to tackle the issue of discarded fishing nets, which can sit on the ocean floor for centuries, trapping marine life and damaging coral reefs.

The duo collect and turn the 'ghost nets' into furniture, decorative items, and plastic pellets, working with companies that want to boost their eco credentials by funding clean-up operations.

"Our goal is to create value through impact, not just clean up the oceans," said Amaia Rodriguez Sola.

Gravity Wave now works with more than 7,000 fishermen in 150 ports in Spain, Italy and Greece to retrieve the nets.

Hurtigruten expands in the fjords



HURTIGRUTEN is expanding its 'Fjord & Arctic Voyages' itineraries for 2027-28 with three brand-new 'Limited Collection' voyages aboard *Trollfjord*.

Guests will explore areas of the High Arctic and West Norwegian Fjords in greater depth.

Port calls will typically last between nine and 15 hours, in destinations such as Rosendal, Skjolden, and Eidfjord.

The program will also focus on adaptable sailing routes, allowing

captains to tailor each journey to the day's conditions, delivering the best scenery.

The three new itineraries will include 'The Arctic Line', a 12-day northbound or 11-day southbound winter voyage sailing between Copenhagen and Tromsø; 'The Inner Fjords Explorer', which will be Hurtigruten's first fjords-only itinerary; and 'The Arctic Circle Explorer', an eight-day round trip departing from Tromsø. *MS*

Viking takes flight

VIKING has added new optional flight excursions to its eight-day 'Rhine Getaway' and 15-day 'Grand European Tour' river voyages.

The four-hour experience takes guests back in time to the golden age of air travel on a helium-filled Zeppelin, which offers aerial views of Cologne and the Ruhr.

After departing from Bonn-Hangelar Airfield, the Zeppelin ascends to more than 300 metres, gliding above the city's famous landmarks, including the UNESCO-listed Cologne Cathedral, Hohenzollern Bridge, and the trade fair district.

Liberty goes under

SYDNEY-BASED tailored group tour and cruise operator Liberty Tours has gone under, with the company no longer processing bookings or providing services.

A message from founder and chief executive officer Steve Cairns confirmed the news, thanking clients, suppliers, and partners for their support.



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SOUTHEAST ASIA SPECIAL REPORT

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