

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise news.

Ritz new sales boss

THE Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection has announced Tatiana Ferreira (**pictured**) as its chief sales officer effective immediately, following the departure of SVP global sales Patrick Mitchell last month (**CW** 15 Jun).

Ferreira is responsible for leading the organisation's sales, customer acquisition, strategic partnerships, and revenue, with a focus on accelerating growth through customer-centric strategy and AI-enabled transformation.

She brings extensive executive experience across luxury retail, hospitality, and consumer brands, including Neiman Marcus Group and Louis Vuitton.

Earlier in her career, Ferreira held leadership roles in the hospitality sector, including at Walt Disney Co and Starwood Hotels & Resorts.

She is based in Fort Lauderdale, and is also the founder and chief executive officer of HarmonIQ, a consulting and advisory firm.



Silversea shakes up SALT



SILVERSEA has launched its inaugural collection of SALT voyages, with itineraries built around experiencing destinations through food.

The cruise line's popular SALT culinary program, which has been integrated on select ships since 2020, is being expanded into standalone food-centric voyages.

Silversea has launched seven new sailings aboard *Silver Dawn* and *Silver Spirit* timed around Europe's grape harvest season, with SALT programming expanded on board and ashore.

Each voyage is guided by four themes: gather, craft, celebrate, and indulge, which connect guests with regional ingredients, traditions, and culture through immersive experiences.

The collection debuts with sailings across Portugal, Spain, France, and the United Kingdom, each of which pairs an expanded slate of onboard

culinary programming with SALT Experiences ashore.

This will include a private port-blending session in the Douro Valley, a Michelin-starred chef-led lunch at Chateau du Prince Noir in Bordeaux, a truffle hunt at the historic Chateau de Cazeneuve in Gironde, and more.

"With our new collection of dedicated SALT Culinary Voyages, we're building on our position as the small-ship leader in culinary variety to give guests direct access to the people and places that define a region's food culture," president Bert Hernandez said.

"That means a countless opening her kitchen in Northern Portugal, or a chef teaching her own family recipes at home in Normandy," he added.

"These are experiences guests couldn't arrange on their own, and that access is what sets this collection apart." *MS*

Barca tax coming

BARCELONA'S cruise ship tax hike will now go to debate at the city's next ordinances discussion, which could see it take effect later in 2026 or early next year (**CW** 20 May).

The city recently pledged to raise the tax to €24, rather than implementing it progressively, *Metropoli Abierta* has reported.

Mayor Jaume Collboni's government accepted a request from the Barcelona en Comu party to expedite the new tax, rather than phasing it in through to 2029.

Set to be paid by cruise passengers who spend less than 12 hours in Barcelona, the €24 figure will be the maximum legally allowed, and is a tripling of the current rate.

Critics of Barcelona's cruise sector claim it generates an unsustainable impact on the daily life of residents, with the tax hoped to act as a deterrent for short stays and attract more home ported ships.

Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) told **CW** in a statement that effective tourism management requires a balanced understanding of a destination's wider visitor economy and should be based on data, proportionality, and other factors.

"Cruise passengers represent, on average, just 2.5% of Barcelona's daily visitors, while cruise tourism generates more than €855 million in economic output and supports more than 6,600 jobs in the city," CLIA said.



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New Star brochure

ENTIRE Travel Group has released a new brochure for Star Clippers, showcasing its line-up of sailings next year aboard *Royal Clipper*, *Star Flyer*, and *Star Clipper*.

Highlighting the enhanced program is the addition of Entire's exclusive land and sail packages, pairing Star Clippers voyages with other experiences, allowing agents to sell their clients European vacations which expand beyond the cruise.

Key standouts of these packages include a sailing aboard *Royal Clipper* paired with a trip through the Douro Valley in Portugal, as well as an Adriatic cruise combined with an Alps rail journey from Switzerland to France.

The brochure also offers agents itinerary highlights, maps, package options, and booking information.

Agents can now view the brochure [HERE](#).

Pearl's gem of an itinerary



PEARL Expeditions has unveiled Paspaley's 'Ultimate Kimberley Experience', a 13-night journey departing next year that will combine a cruise aboard *Paspaley Pearl* with premium stays at El Questro Homestead and Pinctada Hotel Broome.

Guests will begin their journey with two nights at El Questro (pictured), an adults-only cliffside retreat overlooking the Kimberley's Chamberlain River.

Typically requiring a minimum three-night booking, this exclusive stay offers privileged access to one of Australia's most sought-after luxury lodges, complete with exceptional dining, premium wines, and immersive guided experiences.

Guests will then transfer to Wyndham to embark on *Paspaley Pearl* for a 10-night expedition along the Kimberley coastline.

Cruisers will be able to enjoy

signature flightseeing experiences aboard one of Paspaley's iconic Grumman Mallard flying boats, with each guest also offered \$1,000 toward aerial exploration, including helicopter tours.

The itinerary concludes with a stay at the newly renovated Pinctada Hotel, a boutique retreat located less than a kilometre from Cable Beach, with travellers able to join an exclusive VIP tour exploring Broome's rich cultural and pearling history.

"The Kimberley is one of the world's last great wilderness frontiers, and experiences like this play an important role in showcasing its significance while helping protect its future," Pearl general manager Mick Fogg said.

Bookings start from \$26,540 per person, with departures next year on 15 Apr, 12 May, 05 Jun, 23 Jul, and 19 Aug - [CLICK HERE](#) for more. *MS*

Roth to headline

FORMER Scorpions guitarist Uli Jon Roth will headline the lineup for the hard rock-themed 70,000 Tons of Metal voyage in Jan (*CW* 01 Jun).

Sailing aboard Royal Caribbean's *Freedom of the Seas*, Roth is set to play two sets which will pay tribute to Scorpions' *In Trance* and *Virgin Killer* albums.

Roth's career spans five decades, and he is recognised as a pioneer of the neoclassical metal genre, blending blues rock and European classical.

Joining Roth aboard the cruise are more than 50 metal acts from across the world, including the likes of Aether Realm, Arch Enemy, Obscura, Moonspell, and Enforcer.

Sailing round trip from Miami from 14-18 Jan, the 70,000 Tons of Metal voyage will sail to Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic.

On board *Freedom of the Seas*, guests can enjoy round-the-clock heavy metal entertainment, events, and activities hosted by the acts, as well as opportunities to meet and mingle with performers.

Music sets will be performed across four stages including the Pool Deck Stage, the largest open air stage structure at sea.

Fans are urged to secure their spot early as there are only 3,000 tickets available.

Virgin OBC deal

BOOK a Virgin Voyages cruise now and score up to \$400 onboard credit to spend.

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MANY seafarers have reported sights of ghost ships throughout history, but how often do you hear of reports of a ghost lifeboat?

A Princess Cruises ship recently investigated this very mystery off the coast of Alaska, following reports of a lifeboat with no one aboard (**pictured**).

Guests and crew members aboard *Emerald Princess* first sighted the lifeboat at about 8pm local time on 18 Jul, with the ship investigating the lifeboat for around an hour.

It turned out to have been jettisoned from a cargo ship that sank last year, and *Emerald* continued on her seven-day Alaska itinerary.



Rocking on Oosterdam



HOLLAND America Line, in partnership with music magazine *Rolling Stone*, has introduced a new musical, *Holland America Line and Rolling Stone Present All Access: The Songs That Shaped Us*, now playing on *Oosterdam*.

The show celebrates the music of rock legends such as the Eagles, Janis Joplin, Van Halen, and Fleetwood Mac.

It is the latest extension of Holland America's partnership with *Rolling Stone*, which includes a lounge named for the magazine found on board most of its ships.

"*Rolling Stone* has always

celebrated the songs and artists that shape how people feel, connect and create memories, and this partnership with Holland America Line brings that spirit to audiences in a fresh, immersive way," *Rolling Stone* chief executive Julian Holguin said.

"We're excited to build on the momentum of *Rolling Stone* Lounge with a new live experience that feels both unmistakably *Rolling Stone* and perfectly suited for guests looking to engage with music in a meaningful, memorable setting," he added. *JB*

Save on America

CRUISE Traveller is offering savings of up to US\$6,000 (approx A\$8,586) per couple on a range of Victory Cruise Line's North America sailings.

Available for bookings made by 15 Aug, the discount is offered on 10 cruises in North America's Great Lakes and along the Atlantic coast departing between Aug 2026 and Sep 2027.

The lineup includes a two-week itinerary from Canada to Florida aboard the 190-guest *Victory II*, a small ship that features two restaurants, a lounge, bar, gym, water views from every cabin, and personalised service.

Guests on board the 13-night cruise, which departs 18 Oct 2026, will visit several US states, including Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

The package includes a one-night stay in Nova Scotia, as well as all on board meals and beverages, shore excursions and shipboard wi-fi.

Click **HERE** for more details.

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