

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of the latest cruise news.

Danube damage

FOURTEEN people were injured aboard Phoenix Reisen's *Anna Katharina* after she crashed into a lock wall while sailing the Danube.

The 135-metre vessel was carrying around 200 guests when the incident occurred on Fri at 4:30am local time, near a power plant in Vienna.

Six of the 14 injured were sent to hospital to be treated for minor injuries

Anna Katharina suffered serious damage, but did not take on water.

Amangati floats out



AMAN at Sea has completed the successful float-out of *Amangati* (pictured), its inaugural vessel, at the T. Mariotti shipyard in Genoa, marking the completion of the ship's exterior build ahead of her maiden voyage in May.

Amangati will now move to the next phase of construction, with her interiors set to take shape.

The ship will feature 47 ocean-facing suites, the largest spa in the sector, four signature restaurants, expansive wellness facilities, and a dedicated suite host for every guest.

Onboard social spaces will include a jazz club, cigar lounge, pool bar, The Bar at Aman Grill, and an onboard cinema.

Amangati will also feature The Marina on Deck 3, offering two floating platforms and a fleet of water toys, as well as Selora, an adjacent waterfront lounge.

"Today is a defining moment in the story of Aman at Sea," the cruise line's president & chief executive Jonathan Wilson said.

"To see *Amangati* painted, afloat, and taking shape for the first time is to see years of design, craftsmanship, and vision meeting the water together.

"We are grateful to the T. Mariotti shipyard, Sinot Yacht Architecture & Design, and to

every hand that has brought *Amangati* to this milestone... every step from here brings us closer to welcoming our first guests aboard next May."

Amangati will embark on her inaugural six-night voyage from Palma de Mallorca to Nice on 07 May 2027, launching her first season with itineraries across the Mediterranean, Adriatic, Ionian, and Aegean.

Aman at Sea recently released the final four Mediterranean voyages of *Amangati*'s inaugural 2027 season for booking, as well as a 13-night Atlantic Passage centred on wellness, restoration, and extended time at sea.

Reservations are open for the maiden season as well as the newly released autumn 2027 Caribbean voyages, which will include itineraries exploring the Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, and Dutch Caribbean.

Highlights of the program will include St Barts, Nevis, Barbados, Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire, and the British Virgin Islands, alongside secluded anchorages, and private marina days (**CW** 26 Jun).

Amangati's opening Caribbean program concludes with an intimate two-night New Year's Eve celebration at a private resort in Nevis. **MS**

Virgin hits the Med

VIRGIN Voyages has announced its line-up of Mediterranean sailings for 2028, with 41 departures across 17 itineraries.

Aboard *Scarlet Lady*, guests will sail east from Athens, calling at ports across the Greek islands, Turkey, and the Adriatic Sea.

She will also feature overnight stays in Mykonos, Istanbul, and Cairo throughout the season.

The season will see *Valiant Lady* head west from Barcelona, with ports of call including Portofino, Venice, and an overnight stay in Ibiza.

All departures for the 2028 season are now on sale.

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Magill hops on board

ATLAS Ocean Voyages is set to welcome internationally recognised wildlife expert, conservation ambassador, and wildlife photographer Ron Magill on board *World Traveller* for an exclusive expedition to Antarctica and the Falkland Islands.

Departing 13 Mar 2027 from Ushuaia, the 16-night journey will traverse the Drake Passage to reach Antarctica, where guests enjoy wildlife sightings and unique exploration opportunities during daily Zodiac safaris and guided shore landings.

Throughout the sailing, Magill will deliver presentations on Antarctic wildlife and conservation, host discussions highlighting the biodiversity of the Falkland Islands, and run wildlife photography sessions drawing upon his decades as an ambassador for Nikon.

Travellers will also visit the Falkland Islands, which is home to five species of penguins and a wide array of wildlife, charming settlements, and dramatic coastlines.

Magill will join guests on select Zodiac cruises and shore landings, creating opportunities for wildlife interpretation, photography guidance, and conversations in the field.

Find out more [HERE](#).

Hurtigruten gets cooking



HURTIGRUTEN has partnered with cooking show *Everyday Gourmet with Justine Schofield* to celebrate the flavours, people, and places that inspire the food culture of the cruise line's homeland, Norway.

The partnership saw Schofield travel with Hurtigruten to produce *Norway Gourmet*, an eight-part series following her experience with the line, which will premiere on SBS on 26 Oct.

Schofield travelled from Norway's coastal fishing villages to the Arctic wilderness of Svalbard, meeting some of the key exponents of the food culture of Norway.

She travelled on a southbound Original voyage from Tromsø to Bergen, and then on one of Hurtigruten's Signature voyages, 'The Svalbard Line' from Bergen



to Longyearbyen.

Schofield met Hurtigruten's executive chef and culinary team, the producers at the small-scale, sustainable Myklevik Farm, and the founders of culinary brand Lofoten Seaweed.

The partnership was celebrated at an event in Sydney on Wed, where trade partners heard from Schofield and Hurtigruten managing director Damian Perry about the partnership, before she provided a cooking demonstration for guests. *MS*

Pictured above are sales director Andrew Eddy, Damian Perry, Justine Schofield, and marketing director Marisa Jones; **inset** are Schofield and Hurtigruten culinary ambassador Maret Ravdna Buljo.

Save on steamers

MURRAY River

Paddlesteamers has savings of \$500 per couple on three-, four- or seven-night sailings in 2027 aboard *Australian Star* when booked before 30 Sep.

As a bonus, seven-night bookings will also receive a free night at the Mercure Port of Echuca motel pre-cruise.

Accommodating 38 guests, *Australian Star* replicates a 19th century paddlesteamer with modern-day luxuries such as a gourmet dining venue and several outdoor recreation spaces, offering sweeping views of the Murray River.

Aboard each sailing, guests will experience an all-inclusive journey through the history, culture, and nature of the Murray region, enjoying daily excursions to farm stations, wineries, heritage towns, as well as barbecues and campfires on the riverside.

Australian Star made her debut on the Murray earlier this year (**CW** 21 Jan), currently the only five-star paddlesteamer in Australia.

The sale follows last month's announcement of APT Travel Group acquiring a majority stake in Murray River Paddlesteamers (**CW** 04 Jun), after the two first teamed up in early 2024 (**CW** 19 Feb 2024) on the construction of the new vessel.

Bookings can be made [HERE](#).



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SOMETIMES on a cruise ship, in a resort, or at a hotel, you see something from a fellow traveller you wish you never saw, and one recent moment aboard a Carnival Cruise Line ship takes the cake.

A TikTok user named @luckycharmedcourt posted a video to social media this week of a woman scratching her foot with a fork while dining at a table on board a ship.

The cruiser behind the account reported what she saw to Carnival management, and even raised the alarm with the ship's captain.

Carnival issued a response to the incident on social media, writing: "We can confirm that forks are intended for food, not foot care."

The cruise line said it addressed the situation with the guest in question and removed the utensil involved from service.

Polar Latitudes unveils '28



POLAR Latitudes Expeditions has announced its Arctic 2028 season, which encompasses Svalbard, Greenland, Iceland, Jan Mayen, and Norway.

Itineraries are built around wildlife, wilderness, and cultural discoveries, such as the eight-day 'North to the Midnight Sun' and the flagship 10-day 'Svalbard Circumnavigation' journeys.

The collection also includes the debut of a brand-new itinerary, 'Norway's Wild North: Lofoten to Svalbard', which visits the fjords of Norway, Bear Island,

and Tromsø, explores the bird colonies of Gjesværstappan, the village of Skarsvåg, and includes four full days in Svalbard.

Travellers who wish to combine the best of the Arctic can join the 13-day 'Four Arctic Islands' sailing, which links Greenland, Jan Mayen and Svalbard.

"The 2028 program marks another step in our continued growth, as we expand our core polar expedition offering with more departures and more ways for citizen-explorers to experience the High Arctic," the line said. *JM*

Save on Svalbard

AURORA Expeditions is offering travellers savings of up to 30%, as well as an air credit of up to \$2,850, on the 11-day 'Svalbard Odyssey'.

Guests will sail through majestic fjords; enjoy potential wildlife encounters with polar bears, Arctic foxes and beluga whales; discover the historical camps of explorers and hunters; and join Zodiac cruises along blue glacier fronts.

The deal is available for bookings made before 30 Sep 2026, and applies to the following departure dates next year: 24 Jun aboard *Sylvia Earle*, now priced from \$22,131pp twin share; 09 Jul aboard *Sylvia Earle*, from \$20,597pp twin share; and 08 Aug aboard *Douglas Mawson*, from \$17,587pp twin share.

Learn more about the limited-time offer [HERE](#).



ELEVATED EXPERIENCES

APT Travel Group CEO **David Cox** on catering to discerning travellers.

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Cruise Weekly is Australasia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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