



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Nielsen Imagines

**PACKAGE** holiday specialist Imagine Cruising has appointed Pam Nielsen as its head of trade partnerships.

She will lead Imagine Cruising's trade strategy, focused on expanding B2B partnerships, strengthening advisor engagement, and delivering long-term value for agency partners.

A highly respected cruise industry leader, Nielsen brings more than 20 years of experience driving commercial growth and building strategic partnerships across the sector.

Most recently, she held the role of sales manager for Virgin Voyages, where she played a key role in expanding the cruise line's presence in Australia and deepening engagement with advisors.

She has also worked in roles around the industry, including with Journey Beyond.

"Pam's experience, energy, and deep connection to the trade make her a fantastic addition to our team," MD Alex Sirman said.

"We are excited to have her leading our trade partnerships strategy as we continue to grow," he added.

Imagine Cruising's trade arm was most recently headed up by Katrina McAlpine, who departed the role in Dec to join MSC Cruises at its MD.

## CCL serves its Next Course



**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line revealed overnight 'The Next Course', which will introduce innovative new dining experiences fleetwide, while new eateries and drinks venues will launch on *Carnival Festivale* and *Carnival Tropicale*.

New culinary creations will be introduced in the Main Dining Room for breakfast, brunch and dinner; while the Lido Marketplace will include a new Lido Family Menu offering daily kid-approved favourites; and the Blueiguana Cantina will include daily rotating specials.

The Chef's Table menu has been revamped, with elevated multi-course dinners featuring regionally inspired flavours, while there will also be new pop-ups, including ice cream and milkshake bars on Excel-class ships.

There are also expanded grab-and-go options and mobile ordering for greater convenience.

The Next Course line-up will

also feature specialty restaurants and bars, highlighted by Emeril's Coastal Seafood from CCL's chief culinary officer, chef Emeril Lagasse (pictured).

Uku Lei Lei will introduce Hawaiian specialties and Asian classics, and Fetaccine will add Mediterranean-inspired favourites, combining Italian and Greek specialties.

Meanwhile, Le Bistro Musicale features classic French cuisine in a relaxed, music-filled Parisian setting, available exclusively on *Festivale*, which will also offer several new bars.

These will include The Spark - a vibrant lounge featuring live performances and cocktails inspired by iconic songs; as well as Mix - a playful bar where guests can order creative cocktails or craft their own drinks; and Festival Grounds Coffee & Bar, offering a variety of specialty coffees and cocktails. *MS*

### Allen joins Scenic

**GABBY** Allen has joined Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours as marketing manager of integrated campaigns.

Her role will see her support Scenic's development, execution, and delivery of its above- and below-the-line media campaigns across the firm's brands and products.

She formerly worked as a marketing exec with Uniworld.

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## Morgan out at Aza

**AZAMARA** key account manager Shannon Morgan (**pictured**) has departed the cruise line following a restructuring, **CW** can report.

Morgan worked with Azamara for almost three years, prior to which he was with MSC Cruises.

Director of sales Victoria Chigwidden thanked Morgan for his service, and told **CW** Azamara will continue to maintain a sales presence in each state.



## Azamara Overland 2027



**AZAMARA** Cruises has unveiled its 2027 Overland Experiences collection, showcasing 18 journeys across seven countries.

The experiences offer guests the opportunity to leave their cruise and embark on a multi-day land adventure before rejoining the voyage at a later port.

Each itinerary includes premium accommodation, transport (including flights, if required), guided touring and select meals.

Among the Overland offerings for 2027 is the 'Bora Bora Overwater Bungalow Escape', available to guests sailing on the 18-night 'Pacific Islands Cruise to Oahu, Kauai & Bora Bora', which departs 05 Jan 2027.

Guests can enjoy a three-day stay in an overwater bungalow at Hotel Le Bora Bora by Pearl Resorts, with direct lagoon access and world-class dining.

The Overland collection also features a five-day expedition

through the cultural heart of Laos and Vietnam, available to travellers on the 19-night 'Southeast Asia Cruise to Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City & Hong Kong', sailing 14 Mar 2027.

Meanwhile, passengers on the 14-night 'East Asia Cruise to Hong Kong, Shanghai & Beijing' can embark on a five-day adventure taking in China's iconic landmarks.

"The Overland Experiences for 2027 invite our guests to venture beyond the port through extraordinary cultural encounters, historic discoveries, and awe-inspiring natural wonders," Shandra Stoeterau, director of land product development at Azamara said.

"From the temples in Angkor Wat to the iconic lagoons of Bora Bora, these immersive experiences go beyond the traditional port visits to allow deeper exploration into the heart of the countries." *JM*

## Mitchell leaves Ritz

**THE** Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection has announced the departure of its SVP global sales, Patrick Mitchell (**pictured**), who joined the company just over a year ago.

"We're grateful for his leadership and contributions during his time with the organisation and wish him continued success in his next chapter," the company said in a statement.

"Our global sales organisation remains well positioned, with strong momentum across key markets and an experienced leadership team in place."

Until his replacement is found, the global sales leadership team will report into president and chief executive officer, Ernesto Fara.

The move comes amid Ritz-Carlton securing more than US\$300m of capital from lenders, as it pushed back on reports suggesting it is struggling with its finances and occupancy (**CW** 04 Jun).

Prior to being appointed at The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection, Mitchell worked at hospitality firm Sonder as VP global brand and e-commerce.



## A royal update

**ROYAL** Caribbean has held a keel-laying ceremony for its soon-to-be-named seventh Oasis-class ship, currently under construction at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire.

The ceremony saw team members from Royal Caribbean and Chantiers de l'Atlantique place a layer of freshly minted coins beneath the first steel block on dry dock, in maritime tradition.



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## River Cruise SPECIAL REPORT

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Travel Daily



**SCHOOL** children in the Netherlands were treated with a shock when a cargo ship sailing through a canal created a mini-tsunami wiping them off their feet.

Footage taken by the children at Winschoterdiep canal in Foxhol shows them attempting to run away from the 90-metre vessel as the powerful deluge of water was headed their way.

Thankfully, the children didn't sustain any injuries from the event, bar a bruised ankle and some waterlogged phones.



## Unforgettable themes



**UNFORGETTABLE** Croatia has revealed two new themed cruises across four departures as part of its recently unveiled 2027 program (**CW** 28 May).

Departing on 01 May and 09 Oct 2027, the seven-night 'Croatia Heritage Cruise', focuses on experiences that showcase the country's cultural identity, with highlights such as visiting the Cathedral of St. James, olive tasting at Krka National Park, and a traditional dinner in Korcula.

The other new itinerary is the seven-night 'Food and Wine Cruise', departing on 08 May and 09 Oct 2027.

Across the eight days, guests will enjoy food walking tours, private tastings and private dinners across Dubrovnik, Mali Ston, Zrnovo, Hvar, Vis, and Omis.

Both new itineraries will have a limit of 36 guests per departure, and are set to be operated on board the *Bellissima*, and the *Adris* respectively. *JB*

## In the Spotlight

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has announced its 2027 Spotlight Collection, featuring destinations across Europe on voyages on board *Seven Seas Grandeur*, *Splendor*, *Voyager*, and *Prestige*.

The collection offers a wide range of themes designed to appeal to guests' interests, including wellness, food and wine, and genealogy.

Highlights include the line's inaugural Spotlight Voyage on Wellness & Longevity with luxury wellness brand ELEMIS offering expert-led sessions and activities focused on nutrition, mindfulness, movement, and ageing.

There will also be an epicurean cruise through the Baltic region led by acclaimed journalist and bestselling author Mark Bittman.

"Spotlight Voyages represent the evolution of luxury travel - guests are looking not only to see the world, but also to engage through their personal interests and passions," Wesley D'Silva, president of RSSC, said of the voyages.



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