



**Cruise Weekly today**  
*CRUISE Weekly* today features three pages of the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.

**Book Cruise360**  
**BOOK** your spot at Cruise Lines International Association's (CLIA) Cruise360 conference today.  
The annual cruise conference is set to take place from 17-18 Sep at ICC Sydney.  
Attendees will hear inspiring conference sessions as well as industry insights and updates, while enjoying a dynamic trade exhibition.  
Those who are not a CLIA member will be able to take advantage of the event and membership package.  
There will also be valuable networking opportunities - see more on **page four**.

## Quark earliest-ever polar launch

**QUARK** Expeditions has unveiled its earliest-ever season launch, with new polar experiences announced for 2028.

The cruise line has unveiled its Arctic 2028 and Antarctic 2028-29 seasons, which feature more than 70 departures.

New for 2028 is a Canadian High Arctic voyage, which explores the remote Northwest Passage, featuring visits to Arctic Bay and Lancaster Sound.

The full Arctic 2028 season spans five regions: Svalbard, Greenland, Iceland, the Canadian Arctic, and Atlantic Canada.

Returning for four Arctic 2028 voyages aboard Quark's expedition flagship *Ultramarine* is the cruise line's Tundra to Table concept, co-developed with a local Greenlandic chef collective which explores indigenous food and culinary traditions.

The program highlights regional

ingredients, local perspectives, and the cultural traditions that shape life in the region.

Meanwhile, Quark's Antarctic 2028/2029 season explores five different regions, including the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia, the Falkland Islands, Patagonia, and the rarely visited emperor penguin colony at Snow Hill Island, which is accessible by helicopter from *Ultramarine*.

The season will also introduce several additions designed around shifts in traveller interest.

These include a new guided photography program and Quark's first extensions to gateway destinations.

The guided photography program has been developed with support from Quark's expedition team, offering dedicated instruction and small-group access designed around shooting in polar conditions.

Each excursion is capped at 16 participants and is led by a dedicated lead photo guide.

Quark's guided photography program is structured around a number of key elements, such as priority Zodiac positioning for optimal field angles; slower-paced field time designed around shooting conditions; daily workshops; and image reviews with the lead photo guide.

The cruise line is also introducing its first-ever expedition extensions, available before and after select voyages.

Curated experiences will showcase the landscapes, cultures, and communities that serve as gateways to the polar regions, such as Finland, Iceland, Torres del Paine National Park and Iguazu Falls.

Public bookings are open now, with an early bird bonus available while inventory lasts. *MS*

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## HX Arctic course

**HX AND** the University of Tasmania have launched their first Arctic educational course, starting with Alaska and building on the pre-departure Antarctica modules launched in Oct (**CW** 15 Sep).

The new HX Alaska course encompasses four modules, each taking around 30 minutes to complete.

Designed as a practical companion to the expedition experience, the course helps travellers understand how Alaska's glaciers, coastline, marine systems, wildlife and cultures connect, and how responsible tourism can support mindful exploration.

Guests who complete all four modules will earn a certificate of attendance, while HX Explorers loyalty members will also earn points for completing the course.

The modules are available free of charge for all HX guests travelling to Alaska, and will be the first in a new series of Arctic educational courses.

Future courses are planned for Arctic Canada, Greenland, Iceland, the Northwest Passage, and Svalbard.

"This collaboration continues to transform expedition cruising and lead our industry," HX COO Iain McNeill said.

"By combining exploration with structured, university-backed learning, we're helping guests become more informed and responsible ambassadors for the planet, while reaffirming HX's leadership in mindful, science-based travel."

## Carnival unlocks more calls



**CARNIVAL** Corporation has completed the extension of its pier at its new Celebration Key private destination in The Bahamas (**pictured**).

The newly expanded pier adds two additional berths, supporting increased guest arrivals and operational flexibility.

Celebration Key, which first opened in Jul, can now accommodate up to four ships simultaneously and welcome more than 13,000 guests per day.

The two additional berths were delivered ahead of schedule, unlocking roughly 200 more ship calls and 700,000 additional guest arrivals each year.

"Celebration Key is one of the centrepieces of our Paradise Collection - a bold destination built to redefine what a Caribbean vacation can feel like," CEO Josh Weinstein said.

"From a mile of white sand beach to the Caribbean's largest freshwater lagoons and five distinct experience portals, every

part of Celebration Key was designed to deliver something unforgettable," he added.

"Finishing the pier extension ahead of schedule gives us a real jump on meeting the extraordinary demand we're seeing and allows us to bring even more guests to this unique Bahamian paradise sooner than expected," Weinstein explained.

Twenty Carnival Cruise Line ships now call at Celebration Key from 10 US home ports, reflecting the destination's cornerstone position within the company's Caribbean deployment.

Three- and four-ship days will be routine at the destination from Sep, with Princess Cruises and AIDA Cruises to join the rotation later this year, as Celebration Key becomes a portfolio-wide Carnival Corporation port of call.

The Grand Bahama-based private destination will have welcomed 2.5 million guests by the time it celebrates its first anniversary on 19 Jul. *MS*

## Cruise Guide out

**CRUISE Weekly** has this week released its first-ever Cruise Guide, an essential new sales tool for agents.

As global demand for cruising hits record highs, **Cruise Weekly** has created the ultimate resource for travel advisors, highlighting the best cruise lines across all categories in the market.

Designed as a practical sales tool for advisors, the refreshed guide is jam-packed with the latest product offerings and guest experiences, as well as plenty of easy-to-use tables and resources.

Whether clients are considering a cruise for their honeymoon, a solo adventure across the Mediterranean, or a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Antarctica, the guide will help advisors find the perfect experience for them.

The guide has been made available in partnership with Cruise Lines International Association, alongside main sponsors including APT and HX Expeditions - **CLICK HERE** to check it out.



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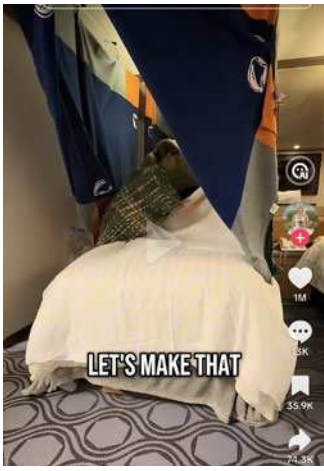



## PORTHOLE

**MANY** cruise passengers go to great lengths to make their stateroom their own when on a cruise, and one has recently taken this to stunning lengths in a viral video.

TikTok user @happygoliving has showcased the tent she constructs around her bed on a cruise ship, which she claims helps her sleep while at sea.

The video has amassed more than one million likes.



## Ponant's LATAM SAF deal



**LATAM** Airlines has operated its first passenger charter flights with sustainable aviation fuel, in partnership with Ponant.

Ponant purchased the SAF and initiated the charter flights to transport its cruise guests boarding Antarctic expeditions.

The partnership supports Ponant's broader commitment to reducing its global carbon emissions, ensuring that the air travel portion of its passengers' cruise itinerary is as sustainable as the sea voyage.

Consisting of 13 flights between Santiago and Ushuaia, the operation used almost 85,000 litres of SAF.

"This collaboration with LATAM marks another important step in our commitment to more sustainable tourism," Ponant CSR & sustainable development director Wassim Daoud said.

"We are proud to contribute, alongside LATAM, to the development of solutions that can support the decarbonisation of transport while offering our guests exploration experiences that are more respectful of the environment," he added.

The joint funding of the initiative made Ponant the first corporate client for LATAM to implement a SAF-based charter flight program. *MS*

## Marella adults-only

**MARELLA** Cruises will be transitioning its *Marella Discovery 2* into an adults-only vessel from next year.

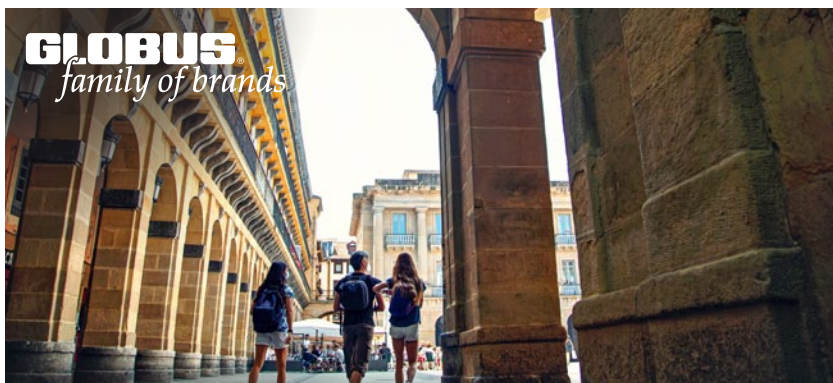
As part of the transition, the ship's current kids sections will be transformed into adult spaces, including a speakeasy, escape room, karaoke room, and an arts and craft area.

*Discovery 2* will home port exclusively in Spain during the summer 2027 season, sailing from Tenerife and Gran Canaria from Nov 2027 to Mar 2028, followed by Malaga from Mar to Apr 2028.

A highlight of the season will be the new seven-night 'Atlantic Fusion' itinerary, which will see her call at Agadir and the Canary Islands.

A number of cruise lines are beginning to specifically target adults with their products, including Oceania Cruises, which recently announced it would be shifting fully toward an 18-plus model (*CW* 08 Jan).

Carnival Cruise Line also recently announced (and subsequently cancelled) a series of adults-only voyages.

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