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### Cruise Weekly today

**CRUISE Weekly** today features three pages of cruise news, plus a front cover from **Regent Seven Seas Cruises**.

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**CRUISERS** can score up to 45% off Regent Seven Seas Cruises' (RSSC) exquisite escapes across 2026 and 2027.

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Sailings include 'Early Autumn Vibrance' on *Seven Seas Splendor*, sailing from New York City to Montreal, and there is also 'Epicurean Pageantry' on *Seven Seas Grandeur*, sailing from Amsterdam to Lisbon.

Head to the **cover page** of today's **Cruise Weekly** for more information.

## Cruise bookings strong despite hantavirus

**THE** expedition cruise segment has taken no hit from the recent *Hondius* hantavirus outbreak last month (**CW** 20 May), according to a survey from fiscal analysts.

A report issued over the weekend by bank holding company Truist found the mass-market contemporary segment has faced modest pressure from the outbreak of Andes virus on board the Dutch-flagged expedition ship *Hondius* in Apr.

Conversations between Truist analysts and cruise executives over the past month found the contemporary market has faced a cooling effect on booking volumes, which the report linked directly to "negative rhetoric" and "sensationalism" in the media regarding the outbreak.

However, the epidemic has seemingly been a non-issue for the expedition cruise sector in which the flare-up occurred, with



forward bookings continuing to look extremely strong, Truist said.

The report found bookings for this segment of cruises, as well luxury and river, have even accelerated over the past two months, despite the outbreak.

"As there have not been any noticeable uptick in cancellations, we believe impact on Q2 2026 is very minimal as the issue seems to be with just new bookings," the report read.

"We see the initial impact so far likely being net yield growths for [Carnival's] and [Royal Caribbean's] Q326-Q426 closer to the midpoints as opposed to at or slightly above the high ends."

Truist noted that even with the hantavirus impact, it is possible Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings could still beat its net yield expectations depending on the degree of conservatism from the new management team. *MS*



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**CCL, Royal confident**  
CARNIVAL Corporation and Royal Caribbean Group remain confident in their legal footing following a United States Supreme Court ruling against them last week in the Havana Docks case (CW 22 May).  
The companies said they look forward to continuing to defend their position, as they stand accused of allegedly trafficking in confiscated Cuban property in violation of the US' Helms-Burton Act by docking at a port in Havana from 2016-2019.  
"While we're disappointed with the ruling, it's important to understand that the decision leaves several of our key legal arguments unresolved, and we fully intend to pursue them in the 11th Circuit (Court)," the companies said in a statement.  
Carnival and Royal Caribbean, along with MSC Cruises, could be forced to pay out US\$440 million (A\$615 million) if their appeals fail.  
MSC declined to comment on the ongoing trial.

## Cruiseabout adds two



CRUISEABOUT is continuing to bolster its retail footprint to meet growing demand from Australians, preparing to open its second and third stores for 2026. Indooroopilly, QLD and Doncaster, VIC will bring Cruiseabout's total retail footprint to 11, after it opened in Erina, NSW earlier in May (pictured).  
The two new storefronts are expected to open later this year and will bring specialist cruise consultants to two of Australia's most active retail precincts.  
Both locations will offer customers face-to-face cruise planning expertise across ocean, river, and expedition itineraries.  
The brand's GM Brad Kennedy said the growth reflects both opportunity and demand for those willing to seize it.  
"It's hard to believe that in just three years we've managed to rebuild an entire brand and have 11 stores in almost every state, in addition to three incredibly successful remote teams," Kennedy said.

"Australians cannot get enough of cruising and as such, there's ample opportunity for consultants to build a strong client base and a genuinely rewarding career.  
"The demand is there - all we need are the right people in the right places to meet it."  
Kennedy said the brand's model continues to prove its worth in a category where customers value personal guidance.  
"Cruise is a considered purchase that is not only nuanced in itinerary but in cruise line, size of ship, level of luxury, inclusions and so much more.  
"Because of this, customers want to talk to someone in person who knows the product inside out.  
"Our stores give people that confidence, and our consultants the platform to build long-term relationships with their clients."  
Cruiseabout is currently hiring team leaders and consultants for its Indooroopilly and Doncaster locations - apply [HERE](#). MS

**Venetians to reunite**  
SILVERSEA'S Venetian Society members are set to reunite on a seven-day voyage from Copenhagen to Southampton, departing on 03 Sep 2027 aboard *Silver Dawn*.  
Hosted by Silversea president Bert Hernandez, the '2027 Venetian Society Reunion Voyage' will explore Northern Europe and the British Isles, calling at destinations like Denmark, Skagen, Scotland, and Londonderry.  
Highlights include a private visit to Velfrey Vineyard in Wales, tracing the origins of The Beatles through Liverpool, exploring the Orkney Islands' Neolithic sites, and guided visits to Scotland's Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Mile.  
Guests will also enjoy a series of exclusive onboard events and curated experiences, and receive commemorative gifts.  
"Our Venetian Society Reunion Voyages are our way of expressing gratitude to the guests who continue to explore the world with Silversea," said Hernandez.  
"This voyage - selected by our own Venetian Society guests - aims to bring together a community of curious, like-minded travellers whose passion for discovery defines our brand, and their perspectives continue to shape the journeys and experiences we create."

**APT's Canada sale**  
THE APT Travel Group is offering limited-time savings on a wide range of selected APT and Travelmarvel cruises and tours travelling to Canada and Alaska in 2027, including up to \$3,000 per couple off a number of itineraries.



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## Stay Updated

on the latest cruise news

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**THOSE** cruising off the coast of Taiwan ought to keep their eyes out for the Circular Blue (pictured) - a new floating plastic collection centre.

The autonomous seaborne drone is designed to clean up ocean waste, collecting the plastic that floats by it.

Built by phone case manufacturer Rhinoshield, a pair of onboard AI drones identify pollution hotspots in real time along the coast, targeting high-impact areas.

Onboard filtration is then able to capture debris in a range of sizes.

Circular Blue took 18 months to design and develop, and around US\$2 million (approx A\$2.8 million) to build.



## CCL's fresh take in Roatan



**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line (CCL) recently unveiled Mangrove Bay, a new pool area at its private destination in Roatan, Honduras, now renamed as Isla Tropicale (formerly Mahogany Bay).

The new 4,500m<sup>2</sup> recreational space features a dedicated kids splash pad, swim-up bar and adjacent bar service, while the pool also includes a peninsula lined with cabanas and loungers, as well as daybeds.

"Isla Tropicale marks another exciting investment in the largest group of exclusive cruise destinations, Paradise Collection by Carnival," said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line.

"New features, including the destination's first pool area, will

elevate the guest experience at Isla Tropicale.

"We look forward to continuing our partnership with Roatan and Honduras and expanding our positive economic impact in the region," Duffy added.

Minister of tourism for Honduras, Andres Ehrler, welcomed the opening of the project stating: "Isla Tropicale reflects the continued importance of cruise tourism to Roatan and to Honduras."

The destination, which first opened in 2009, features two berths for Carnival's Excel- and Vista-class ships, 52 shops, local artisan kiosks, three restaurants, four bars, a scenic chairlift, and oceanview cabanas. *JM*

## Amadio joins HX

**HX HAS** appointed Cinzia Amadio as its new senior vice president of global marketing, tasked with delivering a more connected brand experience and a stronger end-to-end journey for passengers and trade partners.

Based in Miami, Amadio brings extensive cruise experience from her nine years at Silversea as SVP marketing, as well as skills across luxury travel, brand building, and digital transformation.

Most recently, she served as chief marketing and growth officer at Roar Africa, the ultra-luxury safari company.

Amadio, who will report to CEO Gebhard Rainer, said she is "excited to return to an industry she fell in love with".

She brings a "unique combination of digital expertise, brand-building capability, and deep experience in both the luxury and cruise sectors, which will be invaluable as we continue to strengthen the guest experience and grow the business", Rainer said.



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