CRUISE WEEKLY
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Fri 20th Nov 2026

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus full pages from:

- **Silversea**
- **Celebrity Cruises**

Silversea savings

SILVERSEA'S Black Friday sale is now on, with savings of up to 45% on over 850 all-inclusive voyages.

The offer can be secured before 07 Dec with a reduced deposit of 15%.

See more on **page four**.

CCL to add new ship class

CARNIVAL Cruise Line (CCL) has unveiled its new ship class and the expansion of its Celebration Key private destination, as the brand shapes its next chapter.

President Christine Duffy today announced plans for two new ships, which will be built by long-time partner Fincantieri, and delivered in 2033 and 2035.

At approximately 130,000-gross tons, the LNG-powered ships are intentionally designed on a smaller scale, enabling access to more ports and expanding destination and itinerary choices.

Duffy said the move to build



smaller will offer Carnival flexibility moving forward.

"This new class gives us the best of both worlds, helping future-proof our fleet," she said.

Duffy also shared that Carnival is expanding guests' choices ashore, with the next evolution of the Paradise Collection by Carnival of private destinations.

The cruise line will build on the success of its Celebration Key private island with two new expansion phases that will increase total capacity at the destination by 6,000 guests, bringing its total maximum capacity to 19,000.

New developments in 2028 will see the introduction of a heated, beach-entry pool with a swim-up bar; a new social waterslide designed for four to five guests to slide together; a colourful, aqua play area featuring five water slides, a dry climbing play structure, and drenching bucket for younger children.

In 2030, a new major water park will add 18 water slides, the cruise industry's longest lazy river with float-up bars and swim-in/swim-out cabanas, as well as a new exclusive area with an infinity pool, more beach access and new f&b concepts. *MS*

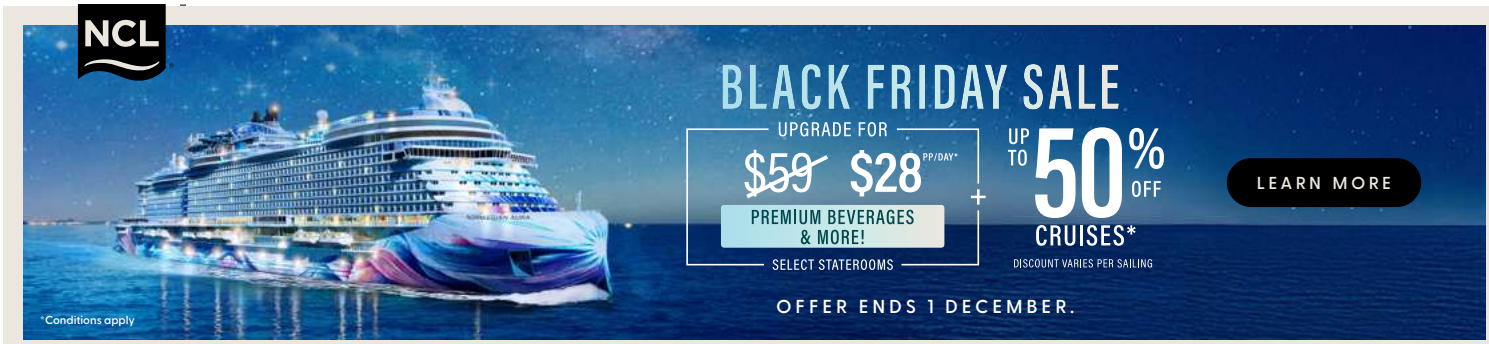
Celebrity deals

WITH Celebrity Cruises' Black Friday Kickoff, guests can save up to $1,400 per room and take off 75% for a second guest, in addition to $150 off Europe sailings.

See more on the **back page**.







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NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE®

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Travel Daily

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Here's *Viking Halogi*

VIKING has taken delivery of its newest European river ship, *Viking Halogi*, set to sail a range of itineraries on the Rhine river.

Accommodating 190 guests across 95 staterooms, the vessel features three full decks, the indoor/outdoor Aquavit Terrace, and a proprietary asymmetric corridor layout, synonymous with Viking river ships.

Itineraries she will embark on include 'Rhine Getaway', 'Christmas on the Rhine', and 'Oberammergau, Innsbruck & the Rhine', which will set sail from 2030 (***CW*** 15 Jul 2026).

"For nearly three decades, Viking has offered travellers a meaningful way to explore the history and culture of Europe through river travel," said Leah Talactac, president & chief executive officer.

"We are pleased to welcome the *Viking Halogi* to our award-winning fleet and to offer even more curious travellers the opportunity to experience Europe in Viking comfort," she added.

The delivery of *Halogi* is another part of the cruise line's long-term growth strategy (***CW*** 08 Oct 2026), as it is expected to take delivery of another 25 river ships by 2030, in addition to 11 ocean vessels by 2032 and two expedition builds by 2031 *JB*

Aussie cruise losing out



CLIA executive director Joel Katz said cruise lines are already planning itineraries through to the end of the decade, meaning decisions need to happen quickly in Australia if the country is to rebuild its sector.

One of the reasons the Australian cruise sector's lobbying efforts have not produced results is that lines are committing ships elsewhere on long-term deals, cruise sector leaders say.

Consensus from some of the industry's key heads at a press conference in Sydney yesterday was that Australia is no longer just competing for individual seasonal deployments, but also for long-term commitments of cruise capacity.

Those decisions are being made elsewhere, they said.

"Australia is losing its competitiveness against other countries...other countries are really recognising the value that cruise can deliver and are working hard," Katz said.

"We've seen that some of the brands that have left Australia have signed long-term agreements to deploy their assets into other parts of the world.

"We need that similar appreciation of the value of the cruise industry so we can get those long-term commitments from cruise lines to remain in Australia," Katz added.

Singapore is often mentioned as an example of one destination whose cruise strategy centres on positioning itself as Asia's premier home port and fly-cruise hub through multi-year deployments.

The Singapore Tourism Board has used incentives like the Cruise Development Fund to attract cruise lines and ships to home port there, such as with Princess Cruises (***CW*** 29 May), Disney Cruise Line (***CW*** 05 Mar), and MSC Cruises (***CW*** 17 Nov). *MS*

Oceania chef studio

OCEANIA Cruises has unveiled the Chef's Studio aboard *Oceania Marina*, created to provide culinary workshops, seminars and test kitchen experiences for guests.

Opening 25 Nov, the space can hold up to 18 guests in an intimate setting, highlighted by its Test Kitchen Series, offering one-hour sessions from US$49 per person on sea days.

The Test Kitchen Series sessions will see passengers learn about food culture, in addition to worldwide culinary techniques and fundamentals such as knife skills, pantry organisation cooking with high heat, and more.

The Chef's Studio will also be the gathering place for Oceania's Culinary Discovery Tours, allowing guests to meet in the studio for an orientation and return for drinks and follow-up questions once the tour has concluded.

During 2027, Oceania will offer over 100 Culinary Discovery Tours, with destinations including Iceland, Australia and Uruguay.

The program is set to be introduced to *Oceania Riviera*, then later to *Oceania Sonata* and *Oceania Aurelia*.

Chef's Studio's introduction follows the extensive bow-to-stern refurbishment on *Marina*, which occurred last month (***CW*** 09 Apr 2026). *JB*

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PORTHOLE

AUSTRALIA'S first warship has been discovered off the coast of North Queensland, exactly 128 years after it sank.

HMCS Spitfire was first built in 1855, supposedly designed to ward off a potential Russian invasion as a result of the Crimean War, in which Britain was involved in at the time.

However, the Russians did not end up invading, and *Spitfire* was used as a fishing vessel until it sprang a leak and floundered on 21 Aug 1898.

Spitfire was initially in the hands of the Queensland government as a pilot vessel from 1857, then was sold into private hands as a fishing boat in 1885.

Built with native timbers and copper sheathing, *Spitfire* was armed with a single cannon which fired 14.5kg cannonballs.

She was discovered by a Royal Australian Navy mine hunter vessel, which exposed 16 metres of the wreckage.

Queensland heritage officer Celeste Jordan called it "remarkable luck" that the vessel happened to be discovered on the anniversary of her sinking.



NT cruise tourism thriving



THE Northern Territory is leading Australia in cruise tourism, as the country's only jurisdiction to record growth in economic output during 2025-26.

New figures from Cruise Lines International Association show cruise tourism contributed $235.5 million to the NT economy last season, increasing by 14.6% compared with the previous year.

It marks a second consecutive year of double-digit growth for the NT, delivering a cumulative increase of almost 30% over the past two years.

The industry now supports 643 full-time equivalent jobs across the NT, up from 581 jobs the previous year.

During the 2025-26 cruise season, the NT welcomed 124 cruise ships across 140 port visit days; Darwin hosted 117 cruise ship visits, while a further seven vessels visited rural destinations including Bathurst Island, Melville Island, Elcho Island, Maningrida, and Yirrkala.

The strong performance highlights the growing appeal of the NT to domestic and international visitors and reflects increasing demand for both major cruise ship experiences in Darwin and expedition-style cruising across regional destinations.

Growth in the sector was driven by increased passenger spending and cruise line expenditure, generating economic benefits for local tourism operators, hospitality venues, retailers and service providers throughout Darwin and rural communities, Tourism & Events NT said.

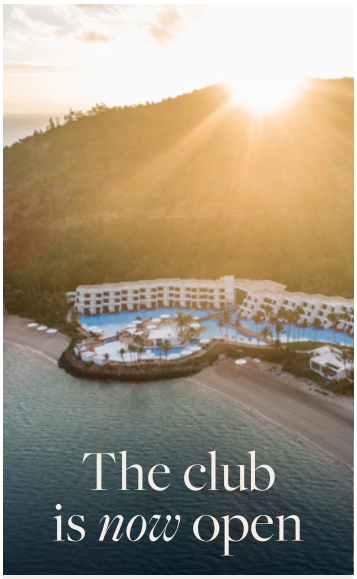
Every other Australian state and territory saw declines in 2025–26, with national output falling 8.7% to $6.68 billion. *MS*

Maritime buddies

AURORA Expeditions has launched its Companions Travel Free offer, allowing guests to travel with a second passenger at no added cost.

The offer is valid on bookings made before 22 Dec and available on select 2027 small ship voyages.

Highlights include European itineraries aboard *Douglas Mawson* to Italy and the UK. *JB*



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