CRUISE WEEKLY
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Tuesday 24th Nov 2026

Cruise Weekly today

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

Join CLIA in 2027

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) is encouraging travel advisors to join as a member for next year and become a specialist in expedition cruising.

From Antarctica to the Arctic, discover what makes expedition cruising so unique with a CLIA elective dedicated to the sector.

It's one of many specialist courses available to CLIA members, designed to build their knowledge, grow their confidence, and help match clients with extraordinary journeys - see more on **page 4** of today's ***Cruise Weekly***.

Cruise joins fight against tourism tax

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) has encouraged the Australian government to take steps to reverse the national decrease in cruise tourism, as the organisation joins seven others in fighting the latest tax on tourism.

CLIA was yesterday one of eight travel industry bodies joining forces to oppose the proposed increase to the passenger movement charge, including the Board of Airline Representatives of Australia (BARA), Airlines for Australia & New Zealand, Accommodation Australia, Australian Tourism Industry Council, Regional Aviation Association of Australia, Tourism & Transport Forum, and Australian Tourism Industry Association.

The proposed increase, from $70 to $80 per international passenger, is currently being debated in Australian Parliament.

CLIA is warning that the increase will make international travel more expensive for consumers, undermine Australia's tourism industry, and put further pressure on businesses and jobs.

The association's executive director Joel Katz told ***Cruise Weekly*** the increase could not come at a worse time.

"Australia has lost $1.75 billion worth of cruise tourism over the past two financial years – now is not the time to impose yet another burden on the tourism economy," he said.

"Fee increases like this have combined with regulatory uncertainties to make Australia uncompetitive as a cruise destination, and we are losing ships to other countries as a result," Katz added.

"The Australian government should be focused on reversing the decline and creating a competitive environment for cruise tourism, not adding to the problem with higher fees."

CLIA, alongside the national Australian Cruise Association, last week released its annual economic impact report (***CW*** 19 Nov), showing the total economic output from cruise tourism in Australia fell 8.7% to $6.68 billion in 2025-26.

It was the second consecutive year of falling cruise contribution in Australia, which has recorded a cumulative drop of around 20% over the past two years.

Meanwhile, Stephen Pearse, executive director of BARA, said the increase comes at precisely the wrong time.

"At a time when Australians are already feeling the cost-of-living squeeze, the last thing they need is another government-imposed charge making travel more expensive," he said. *MS*



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Hanna to Celestyal

CELESTYAL Cruises has appointed a new national sales manager, former Norwegian Cruise Line BDM Brad Hanna.

His appointment comes following the departure of Jarrod Zurvas to SeaDream. *MS*

Silversea's new *Dawn*

SILVERSEA'S *Silver Dawn* has returned from her dry dock, bringing a series of enhancements, including an extended pool area and brand-new culinary developments.

The cruise line has brought the Riviera pool and dining concept to *Silver Dawn*, after first introducing it earlier this year on *Silver Spirit* (***CW*** 12 May).

Riviera brings new furniture to the pool area including cabanas, loungers, umbrellas, cocktails, and new furniture layouts.

Also new to *Dawn* is a pickleball court, as well as a golf putting area and hitting bay.

These features were also introduced aboard *Silver Muse* last year (***CW*** 24 Nov 2025).

President Bert Hernandez said that the new enhancements on board *Dawn* reflect the cruise line's commitment to providing guests with more options.

"With the expansion of Riviera and the addition of new outdoor sports, guests have greater variety in how they spend their time on board," he said.

"As *Silver Dawn* sails the Mediterranean and the Caribbean in the coming seasons, guests will find that choice alongside the personalised service that defines Silversea," Hernandez added.

The vessel will return to service tomorrow, kicking off with a 14-day sailing from Rome to Lisbon, with 10 ports of call across Italy, Malta, Tunisia, Spain and Portugal, and overnight stays in Valletta and Malaga.

Dawn will also host Silversea's SALT voyages (***CW*** 23 Jul), which are highlighted by culinary-focused experiences both onboard and ashore, sailing across Western Europe. *JB*

New Oceania BDM

OCEANIA Cruises has appointed Andrea Massaro as its new business development manager for NSW/ACT.

Massaro's appointment sees her replace long-serving NSW BDM Martine Nunes. *MS*





CRUISE WEEKLY On Board: Viking Vela

Mamsen's

Traditional Norwegian fare is on offer across the day at Mamsen's Cafe, a peaceful space adjacent to the ship's Explorer's Lounge observation area.

Named for the family matriarch of Viking founder Torstein Hagen, the menu includes freshly made waffles (pictured) which make for a delicious breakfast treat.

Sandwiches and fabulous cakes are also available for lunch, afternoon tea or an evening snack.





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PORTHOLE

WHAT do you get when you add more than 300 kilograms of powdered sugar and fondant, around 600 kilograms of gingerbread and 80 crew?

New gingerbread towers across the Disney Cruise Line fleet, each brought to life with its own personality.

The journey for this Disney holiday season tradition begins in a shoreside woodshop, where sturdy bases are crafted, and a vinyl layer is applied, so the structures can stand tall aboard each ship.

Each display is then composed of tiers varying in size, which means the gingerbread pieces have to match and the calculations are done tier by tier.



HAL unveils Asia 2028-29



HOLLAND America Line's (HAL) 2028-29 Asia cruise season has been announced, adding five new ports across Japan, Taiwan, Brunei and the Philippines.

Sailing from Sep 2028 through May 2029, the season features itineraries ranging from 11 to 27 days, with departures from Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore.

It will see *Eurodam* sail on her first Asia program, with passengers spending more time ashore and enjoying opportunities to experience Japan during its famed cherry blossom season.

HAL's five new ports for the season add a mix of tropical landscapes, natural wonders, and historic sites, with two new destinations in Japan: the white-sand beaches and turquoise waters of Hirara and the temples and mountains of Wakayama.

Other new ports for the season will include Coron, known for the emerald Twin Lagoon; Magong, showcasing the basalt coastline of Taiwan's Penghu island; and Muara, providing a gateway to the gold-domed Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque. *MS*

Pictured: *Eurodam*

CRUISE WEEKLY

On location on board *Viking Vela*

***Cruise Weekly* is today coming to you from aboard *Viking Vela* as she undertakes a Greek Odyssey itinerary.**

AFTER cruising to Volos yesterday, we have arrived in Thessaloniki, another mainland port incredibly rich in history.

The capital of the Greek region of Macedonia, this city once rivalled Constantinople as a key centre in the Byzantine empire, which ruled from roughly the 4th century until its fall to the Ottoman Empire in the 15th century.

A host of ancient buildings still survive, of which 15 are UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Thessaloniki boasts spectacular distant views of the seven peaks of Mount Olympus, which emerges from the ocean to evoke all the drama of the Greek pantheon.

With more than 1 million in Thessaloniki's metro area, it serves as a key regional hub.



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Become an Expedition Cruise **SPECIALIST**



From Antarctica to the Arctic, discover what makes expedition cruising so unique with CLIA's Expedition Cruising Elective. It's one of many specialist courses available to CLIA members, designed to build your knowledge, grow your confidence and help you match clients with extraordinary journeys.

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