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*US\$1,000 (Paul Gauguin) and EUR1,000 (PONANT) shipboard credit offers are based on double occupancy and valid for new bookings only, made between 1 September and 31 October 2026 (US\$500 / EUR500 for single use of cabin); offers are combinable with Bonus/Early Booking Savings, PONANT Yacht Club Savings, Consortia Amenity Programs, Onboard Savings, Referral offer and roadshow special offer, but not combinable with free or reduced solo supplement or any other offer. Paul Gauguin offer valid on all 2026 & 2027 departures; PONANT offer valid on Le Jacques Cartier French Polynesia 2026 & 2027 select cruises only. Full terms and conditions available at au.ponant.com/tempting-tahiti-2026. Travel agents earn a \$200 gift card for every guest booked and deposited on the Tempting Tahiti offer between 1 September and 31 October 2026, dispatched by 30 November 2026 after validation.

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of the latest cruise industry news, plus a cover wrap from **Ponant**.

Ponant is tempting

PONANT Explorations Group's latest agent incentive, 'Tempting Tahiti', offers a \$200 gift card for each booked passenger for a limited time.

Travellers also receive \$1,000 shipboard credit on all sailings across the next two years.

Early bookers who reserve select voyages by the end of the month to claim their credit can also enjoy bonus savings of up to 30%.

Paul Gauguin sails across French Polynesia's five groups, including the Society Islands, Tuamotus, Marquesas, Gambiers, and Australs.

For more info, head to the **cover page**.

Oceania's final Regatta-class ship sold

OCEANIA Cruises' *Oceania Insignia* will join the fleet of German operator Phoenix Reisen from next Nov, becoming the latest of the luxury line's Regatta-class ships to be sold.

The vessel, which will be renamed *Alvara*, will enter dry dock in Sep to be fitted out for Phoenix Reisen.

Ship management company Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement will be the new owner of the vessel, which will be deployed for Phoenix Reisen under a charter arrangement.

Alvara will offer several short trips, a Christmas cruise and two longer trips in the Mediterranean as part of her inaugural program.

She will be christened by Phoenix Reisen in Hamburg on 26 Nov 2027.

"With *Alvara*, we are welcoming a fantastic ship into our Phoenix family," managing director



Benjamin Krumpfen said.

"The ship is very well maintained, in excellent technical condition, and already has a shore power connection.

"We are very much looking forward to this new family member, which our guests will certainly enjoy."

Insignia was initially set to join luxury residential cruise line Crescent Seas, before the company decided to focus on plans for a newbuild vessel (**CW** 06 Nov).

The sale of *Insignia's* classmate *Oceania Sirena* was announced last month (**CW** 24 Sep), with the ship to become the first vessel for Ambassador Kreuzfahrten, the new German brand of British cruise company Ambassador Cruise Line.

Meanwhile, the final R-class ship, *Oceania Nautica*, will be relaunched next year as *Oceania Aurelia* (**CW** 07 May), with the vessel being redesigned for long-form cruising. **MS**

Pictured: *Alvara* render.

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Explora celebrates double milestone

EXPLORA Journeys and its Italian shipbuilder Fincantieri recently celebrated a double maritime milestone, as the cruise line's fleet expansion continues.

The float-out of *Explora V* (pictured) and the coin ceremony of *Explora VI* at Fincantieri's Sestri Ponente shipyard in Genoa marked two further milestones toward the realisation of the cruise line's six-ship ocean fleet by 2028.

The ceremonies brought together Pierfrancesco Vago, executive chair of Explora's parent company MSC Cruises; the cruise line's president Anna Nash; Fincantieri chief executive officer & managing director Pierroberto Folgiero; and general manager of the shipbuilder's merchant ships division, Luigi Matarazzo.

Fincantieri production planner Consuelo Brunelli served as godmother for the ribbon-



cutting ceremony and float out of *Explora V*, while Anna Nash and Fincantieri's Camilla Ronco oversaw the coin ceremony of *Explora VI*.

Nash also hinted at the further expansion of Explora's fleet.

"*Explora VI* may mark the completion of our first six ships, but it is by no means the final chapter," she said.

The cruise line currently sails three ships: *Explora I*, *Explora II*, and *Explora III*, with the latter

delivered in Jul (**CW** 24 Jul).

Explora IV is scheduled to enter service in the northern spring of 2027, followed by *Explora V* toward the end of the year, and *Explora VI* in the northern summer of 2028.

The cruise line also recently announced it is set to enter the European river market, after signing a letter of intent with Dutch firm Den Breejen Shipyard for the construction of its first river vessels (**CW** 25 Sep). *MS*

Carnival's farewell

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has revealed the farewell voyages for *Carnival Adventure* and *Carnival Luminosa* in 2028, following the announcement of their departure in 2028 (**CW** 16 Oct).

Adventure will offer three itineraries as she embarks on her journey from Sydney to Seattle via Asia, including a 19-day Sydney to Tokyo voyage departing 20 Mar 2028, visiting Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong, Taipei and Japan.

There will also be an eight-day Tokyo roundtrip voyage departing 08 Apr 2028, with highlights including Busan and Mount Fuji, and a 15-day Tokyo to Seattle transpacific voyage departing 16 Apr 2028.

Meanwhile, *Luminosa* will set sail from Sydney on a 23-day cruise to Los Angeles via Hawaii and French Polynesia.



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THOUSANDS of cruise passengers packed for a Bahamian cruise out of New Jersey this month, where Oct temperatures average around 29°C to 32°C.

Unfortunately, what they got was a trip to Nova Scotia in the Canadian Maritimes, where overnight lows reach around 10°C to 12°C.

However, despite what you may expect for a ship of thousands of sun-seeking cruisers, they are reportedly having a blast up in Canada.

Stormy weather initially caused the diversion of the cruise, while American law requires foreign-flagged ships to visit at least one overseas port on each sailing.

"I have found out that Halifax is a beautiful city," said Jim from New Jersey, speaking to Toronto-based CTV News.

Talk about making the best of an unfortunate situation.

Cruisers to dine out on MSC



MSC Cruises has revealed its largest range of complimentary dining options yet on *MSC World Asia*, the line's next flagship.

Dining offerings on board the ship will range from main restaurants and buffets to fast-casual venues and grab-and-go options for a quick bite.

Highlights will include the new Aqua Food Market (**pictured**), offering five distinct food stalls serving freshly prepared, customisable dishes in a vibrant poolside setting.

Aqua Food Market will have something for every type of passenger, including salads,

loaded fries, sandwiches, pita breads and desserts.

Located on the Aqua Deck near the pool, Buffet Grab & Go will offer a selection of ready-to-go bites for guests looking for an easy snack.

There will also be a new Pan-Asian concept, including a dedicated window serving complimentary street food-style items during the day such as crispy seafood balls.

World Asia will feature a total of more than 40 bars, lounges and restaurants when sailings begin with seven-night Mediterranean itineraries on 04 Dec. *MS*

TUI ship crashes

TUI Cruises' *Mein Schiff 3* (**pictured**) has been damaged in a collision with two container ships, which has seen the cancellation of a Canary Islands sailing.

No injuries were reported from the incident, which happened in Bremerhaven after *Mein Schiff 3* had departed her wharf on the way to A Cornua.

The incident occurred amid strong winds despite tugboat assistance, with the ship able to return to her wharf following the crash.

According to German media, 2,428 passengers and 922 crew were on board, preparing to sail on the three-week voyage to the Canaries.

Bremen Police said the precise extent of the damage and the cause of the accident are not yet definitively known, with further investigations into the incident ongoing.



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