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*For applicable sailings, latest fares and full terms and conditions, visit [RSSC.COM/EUROPE-EDITION](https://rssc.com/europe-edition)
TM26_AU_20260915_CRUISE WEEKLY FP-EUROPE EDITION

Cruise Weekly today

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

Regent's Europe sale

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises' 2027 Europe Edition sale is still on, offering up to 25% off select 2027 Europe sailings and a free two-category suite upgrade on bookings made before the end of next month. Highlights include the 23-night 'Cathedrals to Castanets' itinerary departing 30 Jul 2027, and the 16-night 'Picture Perfect Fjords' sailing - see more on the **cover page**.

Celebrity finds its bearings



CELEBRITY Compass (pictured), the first ship in Celebrity River Cruises' fleet, has completed her float-out, in what is a major construction achievement for the new brand.

The line's river cruise division is now one step closer to its Aug debut, with the construction of the vessel's exterior now complete, marking the first time she touched water.

Taking place at Zwijenburg shipyard in Rotterdam on Wed, the multi-day float-out process was followed by *Compass* sailing her first 80km, arriving at TeamCo Shipyard in Heusden on Sat.

"The float-out of *Celebrity Compass* is a defining milestone as we bring our vision for Celebrity River Cruises to life," the line's president Laura Hodges Bethge said.

"With *Celebrity Compass*, we're reimagining river cruising 'The Celebrity Way', combining elevated design, exceptional hospitality, and destination-rich experiences to create a journey unlike any other on the river.

"As our inaugural ship enters the next phase of construction, we're one step closer to welcoming guests aboard in 2027 and showing them a new way to discover the world's iconic waterways," she added.

Celebrity River Cruises' ships feature the same design its ocean ships are known for, with open decks featuring uninterrupted,

360-degree views.

Guests can dine floating above the river on the Magic Edge, which is set to be the first-ever cantilevered dining pods on a river, alongside an infinity pool.

There will be king-sized beds in every stateroom, with spacious balconies available, across a ship-wide total of five categories.

Designed for every mood and taste, guests will enjoy dining at eight restaurants and bars, including Celebrity-favourite venues such as Martini Bar, Sunset Bar and Cafe Al Bacio.

Celebrity River is being run by Alfredo Suarez, who was recently appointed senior vice president for the division (**CW** 22 Jul), and began his role last month.

The cruise line also recently launched before- and after-cruise stays in four European cities, which are now open for booking across the next two years.

Passengers are being offered two- and three-night stays in Prague, Budapest, Amsterdam and Lausanne, with one Discovery Collection tour included each day from Celebrity's recently announced shore excursion program (**CW** 16 Mar).

Guests will stay in centrally located, high-end accommodations, and enjoy daily destination programming, with a balance of guided discovery and personal exploration built into the program, as well as optional premium experiences. *MS*

Royal starts its fifth

CONSTRUCTION has begun on Royal Caribbean's fifth Icon-class ship (**CW** 22 Jan), with a keel-laying ceremony taking place at the Meyer Turku shipyard in Finland.

During the celebration, the ship's first major block of steel was placed in the dry dock.

In shipbuilding tradition, Royal Caribbean and Meyer Turku placed a layer of freshly-minted coins beneath the steel block, providing good fortune for the vessel's journey.

The fifth ship is slated for a 2028 debut.

Meyer Turku will also construct the sixth and seventh Icon-class vessels (**CW** 28 Apr).



Viking's new Flights on Us campaign is here

For a limited time, your clients will enjoy included economy airfares valued at up to \$2,800 per person when they book a Viking river, ocean or expedition voyage. It's the first time they've extended this offer across all three products.

Prefer a cruise-only fare? Your clients can take a discount in lieu of flights instead, saving \$2,800pp (\$5,600 per couple).

[Click here for details on Viking's new campaign.](#)



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TM's *Sirius* business on the Nile River

TRAVELMARVEL'S new ship *Travelmarvel Sirius* has set sail on the Nile, marking the brand's return to Egypt (**CW** 26 Jun).

The ship's maiden voyage was celebrated last week, marking Travelmarvel's first Nile cruise in 13 years.

Sirius' inaugural voyage began in Cairo and was marked with a special sail away celebration, as guests and crew gathered to commemorate the occasion, and the beginning of Travelmarvel's new chapter on the Nile.

During the maiden voyage, travellers visited some of Egypt's most celebrated ancient sites, including Karnak, the Valley of the Queens and Kings, Abu Simbel and the Philae temple complex.

A highlight of the itinerary was a visit to the much-anticipated Grand Egyptian Museum, one of the world's most significant cultural openings of recent times.

Itineraries have been designed for a relaxed pace, giving guests ample time to immerse themselves in the destination.

APT Travel Group chief executive officer David Cox said Egypt has always held a "magnetic pull" for Australians, as the company sees the destination climb back to the top of travel wish lists.

"The demand for *Travelmarvel Sirius* confirms there's real appetite for a seamless, great-value way to experience this extraordinary destination.

"We're incredibly proud to not only be back in Egypt, but to mark it with a ship purpose-built to meet what our customers are seeking today: immersive experiences, thoughtful design, and exceptional value.

"*Sirius'* first sailing reflects our continued focus on innovation, delivering a premium river cruise experience on the Nile River at a

price point that resonates with Australian travellers."

Carrying just 124 guests across 62 cabins, *Sirius* offers multiple dining venues, local entertainment celebrating Egyptian culture and a spacious sundeck complete with a pool.

Travelmarvel initially paused its operations on the Nile in 2013 due to regional unrest and changes in travel advisory guidance to the destination.

Sirius' debut comes following what has already been a big month for Travelmarvel, which yesterday announced that its newly revealed, first-ever ocean ship will be chartered by Quark Expeditions for Antarctic cruises (**CW** yesterday).

Scheduled to enter service in Apr 2029, the new vessel will offer an intimate small-ship experience, providing access to smaller ports. *MS*

Road to Kayangel

FOUR Seasons Hotels & Resorts has introduced *Four Seasons Explorer Palau*, the latest vessel in its growing cruise portfolio.

The ship will travel north to the remote Palauan island of Kayangel on daily embarkations, operating as a luxury catamaran and 'floating resort' accommodating just 22 guests on board.

Spanning 1.4km² in size and only accessible by water, Kayangel offers guests clear waters and white sand beaches, and is untouched from the rest of the nation.

During the stop-off, guests will enjoy a stretch of reserved shoreline, as well as a beach lunch of vegetarian and seafood bento boxes.

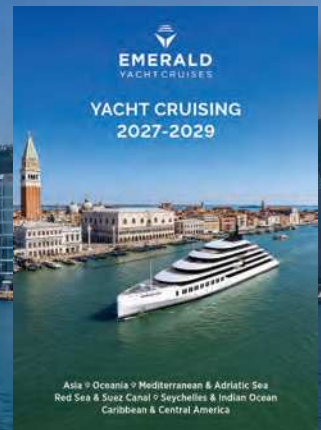
Other experiences include snorkelling, kayaking and multiple cultural experiences.



What's New for 2027-2029

- NEW Emerald Raiya
- NEW Emerald Xara
- NEW Asia Cruising
- NEW Australian & South Pacific Cruising
- NEW Yacht & River cruising combinations

NEW Luxury Yacht Cruising 2027-2029 brochure out now



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THE cruise community is at odds amongst itself, as sailors debate over the age-old question: is carrying luggage in a crowded elevator an act of poor etiquette?

This debate has compelling arguments on both sides, as those with multiple pieces of luggage usually require the elevator to move up and down decks, while some argue that taking up more space than is practical, especially on wild disembarkation mornings.

Etiquette expert Diane Gottsman has attempted to bring peace between the warring factions, telling *Fox News* passengers should be able to take luggage in the elevator, while being mindful of those around them.

She said if the luggage is big enough or there is multiple pieces to carry, it should be left outside one's stateroom for a crew member to collect.

World Asia on track for Dec debut

MSC Cruises' newest flagship, *MSC World Asia*, is on track for her Dec debut after successfully completing her sea trials off the west coast of France.

During her trials in the Atlantic, MSC tested the vessel's engines, manoeuvrability, fuel efficiency, safety systems, speed, and stopping distances, confirming her readiness ahead of her naming ceremony on 28 Nov in Le Havre, France.

World Asia will now undergo her final touches at Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, before her delivery on 25 Nov.

Guests will board the vessel for the first time on 04 Dec, departing from Barcelona for her inaugural seven-night sailing across the Mediterranean.

The ship boasts 40 gastronomic concepts, including the Pan Asian Bar offering Southeast Asian-inspired street food and beverages (*CW* 11 Sep), in addition to specialty bars such as the Sky Box Bar and Coral Cove.

MSC will also debut one of its largest wellness offerings on board *World Asia*, highlighted



by the 1,260m² Aurea Spa, featuring a collection of advanced wellness therapies, along with a thermal area with 12 different experiences (*CW* 17 Aug 2026).

Entertainment offerings aboard *World Asia* include the interactive MSC Luna Park Area, The Clubhouse, as well as a theme park known as The Harbour (*CW* 29 Apr).

World Asia will sail seven-night itineraries calling at some of the Mediterranean's most popular destinations, including Barcelona,

Marseille, Genoa, Civitavecchia, Messina, and Valletta, with accessible embarkation available in every port.

The vessel will join the fleet as MSC's 24th ship, and the third LNG-powered World-class vessel, building on the success of her class mates.

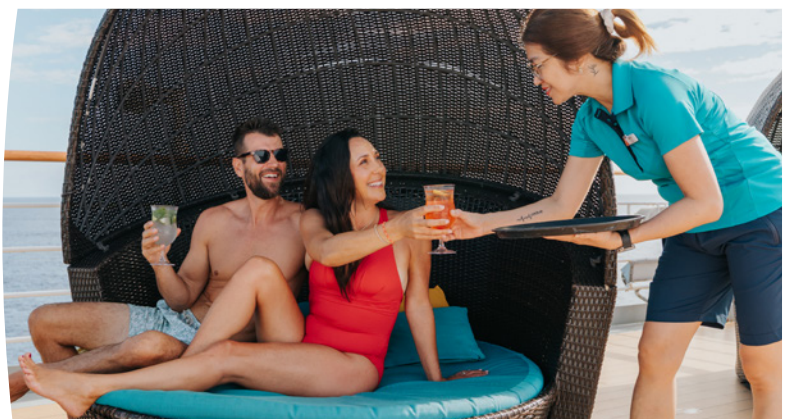
World Asia is also fitted with shore power connectivity, which allows the ship's engines to be switched off while in port, eliminating local emissions and improving local air quality. *JB*



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