



### Cruise Weekly today

**CRUISE Weekly** today features three pages of all the latest cruise news.

### CCC on sale now

**CAPTAIN** Cook Cruises (CCC) Fiji has announced sales for *Caledonian Sky* have gone live, with a bonus complimentary upgrade offer for new bookings.

The cruise line announced earlier this year it will operate *Caledonian Sky* year-round in Fiji, commencing on 11 Nov (**CW** 08 May).

Sailing from Nadi, *Caledonian Sky* will expand her product offering into Fiji, as well as Tonga and Samoa.

The upgrade offer is available for new bookings until 30 Sep, or until sold out, for travel until 30 Jun.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.

## Lindblad, Adventure World synergy strong

**THE** longstanding GSA agreement between Lindblad Expeditions and Adventure World has produced “spectacular growth” since it kicked off in 2015, according to Adventure World Managing Director Neil Rodgers.

Speaking yesterday at a special event hosted at the Australian Museum in Sydney alongside Lindblad’s Lesa Bain (**pictured**), Rodgers said both organisations “share a vision and a commitment to travel with purpose and give back to destinations that we’ve travelled to”.

“Our unique and custom approach of active exploration leads to the most immersive and authentic of experiences, that really signifies the brands together,” he enthused.

Bain, who grew up in Australia but now lives in the United States with her family as Lindblad



Expeditions Vice President of Agency Sales for North America, echoed Rodgers, saying “it’s a wonderful partnership”.

Lindblad was a pioneer of polar exploration, with the cruise line’s founder Lars-Eric Lindblad taking the very first non-scientific guests to Antarctica way back in 1966.

The company continues his philosophy, which aims to take people to places that will inspire them to become a “voice of

preservation” for the destinations visited, she said.

Lindblad now operates more than 120 voyages across all seven continents, operating extensive scientific partnerships and also supporting projects to protect and support the world’s oceans.

Bain also unveiled Lindblad’s Expedition 360 training platform for Australian travel advisors - for more details see [expeditions.com/expedition360](https://expeditions.com/expedition360).

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## Silversea upgrades

**SILVERSEA** Cruises is extending its suite upgrades promotion, and offering exclusive benefits on select voyages.

The cruise line's guests can now enjoy suite upgrades on a wide selection of voyages departing between Nov 2023 and May 2025.

The limited-time offer is available exclusively with door-to-door, all-inclusive fares for new bookings made by the end of next month.

Also included is US\$1,000 shipboard credit per suite, and 15% reduced deposits and price guarantee, as well as private exclusive transfers, international flights with Business class upgrades, in-country air and hotels, and luggage handling.

Discover more information on the promotion [HERE](#).

## Scenic flying to new heights in the NT

**SCENIC** Luxury Cruises & Tours will take its helicopter experiences in the Kimberley to "new heights" in its inaugural *Scenic Eclipse II* season in the region next year (**CW** 21 Apr).

The vessel will be the only ship sailing in the region with two helicopters on board, each capable of carrying up to six pax.

Both helicopters launch direct from the ship, meaning no need for transfers to an external operator, and more time to spend in the air and in-destination.

On each voyage, the flightseeing program will be complimented by up to 10 helicopter excursions, designed by Director of Discovery Operations Jason Flesher.

They will include tours over the iconic King George River and Horizontal Falls, visits to remote indigenous communities, landings at Darwin Aviation Museum and Willie Creek Pearl Farm for VIP



touring, and excursions to the remote Buccaneer Archipelago and Lacepede Islands.

Throughout the voyage, helicopter barramundi fishing expeditions and private beach picnics will also be on offer, complete with an expert guide and delicious fare from the *Eclipse II* galley.

Guests will also have the

opportunity to create their own journeys, chartering the helicopters for private flightseeing and their own specialised tours.

*Eclipse II's* Airbus H130-T2 helicopters feature a spacious, air-conditioned interior and large windows, and are also the quietest helicopters in the sky, equipped with BOSE noise-cancelling headsets.

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**THE** Hallmark Channel has announced a one-of-a-kind Christmas cruise setting sail from 05-09 Nov 2024, created in partnership with Sixthman.

Immersive experiences on board *Norwegian Gem* will include photo opportunities with beloved Hallmark stars, an exclusive *Countdown to Christmas* world premiere on board, Xmas activities, wine tastings, and more.

Setting sail from Miami, the four-day cruise visits Nassau, before returning to the Floridian coastal metropolis.

Pre-sale sign-ups are available now, with staterooms going on sale on 21 Jul.

## Le Ponant achieves Relais & Chateaux

**PONANT'S** *Le Ponant* has become the world's first sailing yacht to obtain the Relais & Chateaux label.

The cruise line's three-masted flagship will sail her first voyages under with the tag in Cape Verde and the Caribbean later this year.

"Both our firms are committed to sharing expertise and promoting the inimitable French lifestyle to design meaningful voyages aboard *Le Ponant*," the cruise line's Chief Executive Officer Herve Gastinel said.

## Cunard's '24 events lineup

**CUNARD** Line has launched its Events Voyages program for next year, which will set sail with some of the greatest talents in gastronomy, art, and entertainment.

Flagship *Queen Mary 2* plays host to four of the seven newly launched themed voyages, with others to take place on *Queen Elizabeth*, as she navigates Australia and Japan in early 2024 - highlighted by the already announced Sporting Greats & Wellness Voyage in Jan (**CW 04** Jul).

Back by popular demand in Jun is "London Theatre at Sea", an eight-night Eastbound Transatlantic Crossing of musical theatre in partnership with Cunard partner the Olivier Awards, which recognise excellence in London's professional theatre scene.

This unique crossing features immersive acting workshops, fascinating behind-the-scenes talks, and performances curated by Society of London Theatre Chief Executive Julian Bird.

Also returning in Nov 2024

is "Literature Festival at Sea", where book lovers can absorb themselves in seven days of inspiring literary events on this westbound Transatlantic Crossing, curated by Cunard partner, *The Times of London* Cheltenham Literature Festival.

Each Literature Festival at Sea features more than 20 acclaimed authors, with past headliners including Ian Rankin, Victoria Hislop, and Simon Armitage.

New for next year is a unique opportunity to celebrate history in the making, as *Queen Mary 2* embarks on her 400th Transatlantic Crossing in Aug from New York City to Southampton.

Next year also marks the 15th anniversary of Cunard's spectacular National Symphony Orchestra voyages, brought to you by eminent conductor Anthony Inglis.

Guests will be able to rehearse with the choir by day and enjoy classical concerts in the Royal Court Theatre by night, on board this unique nine-night Eastbound Transatlantic crossing via Newport and Boston in Oct 2024.



## CLIA UPDATE

with Joel Katz  
MD, CLIA Australasia

### Our community is stronger than ever

CLIA is delighted to welcome thousands of new members to our community this month, giving us an even stronger presence in Australia and a more powerful voice for cruising.

A new agreement between CLIA and Flight Centre Travel Group (FCTG) means all consultants from across the group's leisure brands in Australia will become CLIA members and gain access to our professional development opportunities.

We're proud of the fact that CLIA members are the most knowledgeable and successful cruise specialists in Australia, so it's a pleasure to help build this expertise across Flight Centre.

Being a part of the CLIA community gives travel consultants access to an enormous amount of knowledge, online training, resources and live events, all of which creates a greater ability to assist clients and boost cruise sales.

Last year CLIA was honoured at Australia's National Travel Industry Awards (NTIAs), receiving the award for 'Most Outstanding Travel Industry Training Institution'.

We're humbled by this accolade, and it wouldn't be possible without the enormous amount of passion and dedication shown by our travel agent members.




*The Chat* with Jenny  
Conversations with Women in Travel  
Listen to the trailer [HERE](#)