





cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Tuesday 6th Jun 2023

RSSC releases 2026 itineraries

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has today launched its 2025-2026 Voyage Collection, featuring cruises as far out as May 2026.

Vice President of Sales and General Manager Lisa Pile (pictured) told *Cruise Weekly* the program features 164 itineraries, including nine new sailings in Africa and Arabia - more than any previous Voyage Collection.

"I truly believe it's the best ever launch in my time with the company," she said, citing the huge diversity of itineraries across the six-strong RSSC fleet, including newbuild Seven Seas Grandeur, launching later this year.

New to the program are departures from Doha, as well as the opportunity to embark in Mauritius, with the global program of sailings ranging from seven nights to the epic 154-night



2026 World Cruise ex Miami aboard *Seven Seas Mariner*, departing 10 Jan 2026.

An expanded program of voyages in Africa offers some unique ports including Dar es Salaam, Mahe and Madagascar, while a Doha-Athens cruise "ticks every bucket list possible".

Pile said the launch was four months earlier than usual, meaning RSSC now has more than three years of sailings in the market.

"Aussies and Kiwis are just booking further and further out... and one thing that COVID has taught us is is not to wait," she said.

Pre-registrations open later this week, while reservations will open for sale on 22 Jun.

The RSSC 2025-2026 Voyage Collection continues the line's "truly all-inclusive luxury" offering of shore excursions, gourmet cuisine in a host of onboard speciality restaurants, fine wine & spirits, entertainment, unlimited internet access, prepaid gratuities and valet laundry service.

Guests staying in Conciergelevel suites and higher also receive a complimentary onenight pre-cruise hotel package.

Bookings can be secured with a 7.5% deposit if confirmed by the end of next month, with a full marketing toolkit for travel advisors available **HERE**.

Teiotu to lead MSC

MSC Cruises this morning announced the promotion of Lisa Teiotu to the role of Managing Director of its business in Australia, while Michelle Warren has been named Marketing Manager Australia and New Zealand.

Teiotu joined MSC as Sales Director in Nov 2019, with Sales Executive Director, Angelo Capurro, saying the appointments "will further strengthen relationships with the local trade to maximise together opportunities to grow the presence of local consumers to the overall guest mix on board both our current and future fleet".

MSC has plans to expand its fleet to 23 vessels by 2025 and to become the "market leader in Europe, South America, the Middle East and Southern Africa".

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WHEN THEY BOOK BY 31 JULY 2023.

PRE-REGISTRATIONS OPEN FROM 8 JUNE 2023 RESERVATIONS OPEN 22 JUNE 2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PRE-REGISTER YOUR CLIENTS PLEASE CALL 1300 455 200 (AU) | 0800 625 692 (NZ)

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MUSSEL poop may help clear oceans of microplastics, which can otherwise clog the intestines of fish.

Bivalves voraciously eat contaminants, which they are invulnerable to, potentially making them easier to clear from the water when they poop them out.

The mussels are essentially "putting the rubbish out for us to collect," Penelope Lindeque, an ecologist at the Plymouth Marine Laboratory, told academic journal Science.

An experiment conducted by Lindeque and her colleagues showed mussels who gobbled up the plastics eventually consumed about two-thirds of the microplastics in the tanks, and sequestered them in their feces.

Ponant celebrates

PONANT is celebrating its 35th anniversary with an extra 10% savings on more than 200 departures.

The limited-time offer provides additional savings on new journeys in 2023 and 2024 when booked between 01 Jun and 05 Jul, and can be combined with the cruise line's existing offers, including the Ponant Bonus (up to 30% off the brochure fare) and welcome offer, or Ponant Yacht Club benefits.

Eclipse II christened in Malaga



SCENIC Luxury Cruises & Tours' ultra-luxury discovery yacht Scenic Eclipse II has been christened in Malaga by American geologist Kathryn Sullivan.

Accompanied by Scenic Group co-owners Glen and Karen Moroney, Eclipse II was christened in front of an esteemed audience on the weekend.

The event included VIPs and members of the travel industry from around the world, with Sullivan christening Eclipse II while toasting all who sail on her.

"I am touched and honoured to be the Scenic Eclipse II's godmother," Sullivan said.

"Now that I have had the opportunity to tour the ship with Glen and Karen Moroney, to hear their story and see their vision for travel, I am eager to join her for a voyage.

"Seeing the level of ultra-luxury that is possible in what is truly an expedition vessel, has me wondering what the Moroneys could do with the rather restrictive confines of the Space Shuttle and the super cramped environment of the submersible

we used to dive the Mariana Trench."

Moroney said Scenic is honoured to have Sullivan as Eclipse II's godmother.

"The depth of her experiences above our planet and below our seas, and her incredible passion for exploration, is truly inspiring and is what we feel makes her the perfect representation of our newest Scenic Eclipse Discovery Yacht.

"We do believe that Scenic Eclipse II offers our guests exploration possibilities unlike any in the industry."

Leno joins Carnival

AMERICAN television host Jay Leno has been named as godfather to Carnival Cruise Line's Carnival Venezia, marking the first time the brand has deviated from the traditional 'godmother'.

Leno will assume his duties at a celebratory event next Wed, when Venezia is blessed, and enters service from New York City, from where the comedian hosted The Tonight Show for more than 20 years.

He will also perform a special comedy show exclusively for guests at the event, in partnership with Carnival World Mastercard.

"I am truly honoured to be named the godfather of Carnival Venezia...it was an offer I couldn't refuse," Leno

"Carnival's focus on fun combined with the Italian theming of this ship is something that is truly unique.

"I'm also excited to have my very own cruise ship, although I think I'll need a bigger garage!"





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