



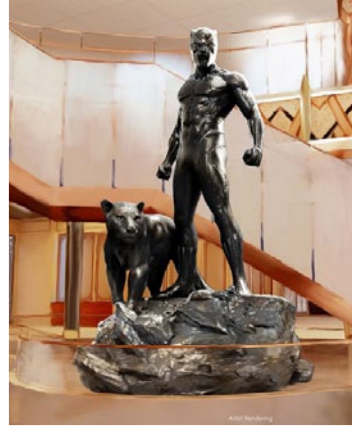
Cruise Weekly today
CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

Viking agent portal

VIKING has launched a new Travel Advisor Portal, with the enhancements providing partners with everything needed to book and market. The portal, found **HERE**, is designed to provide advisors with the tools and resources needed to sell Viking. The updated platform offers a comprehensive suite of features to enhance the booking experience and streamline the marketing process, with partners able to access a wide range of tools, such as content and assets. There is also a guide (**CLICK HERE**) help agents navigate the new platform.

Marvel to face its *Destiny*

MARVEL-INSPIRED experiences will be coming to Disney Cruise Line's *Destiny* when she launches late next year (**CW 21 Mar**). A diverse range of Marvel characters will serve as the inspiration behind themed venues and entertainment aboard *Destiny*, including a Grand Hall inspired by the rich lore of the Black Panther films. A light fixture inspired by 'Vibranium' - the rare metallic ore found in Wakanda - will generate the effects that fill the room with life and colour. Presiding over the Grand Hall will be a statue of T'Challa (**pictured**), also known as Black Panther, the king of Wakanda. The space will come to life throughout every voyage with immersive shows and interactive programming featuring characters from Disney, Marvel, and more.



There will also be a centrally located entertainment parlour influenced by *Doctor Strange*. The Sanctum will host a variety of activities throughout the voyage, offering guests a variety of cocktails, spirits, and coffees. Meanwhile, the *Destiny* Tower Suite will be a Marvel-inspired penthouse honouring Iron Man's legacy with a luxurious take on

the sleek, industrial designs of Tony Stark, AKA Iron Man. Set high in *Destiny's* forward funnel, the one-of-a-kind Tower Suite will offer views of the top deck and beyond through an expansive two-storey window. The almost 200m² suite will comfortably sleep eight guests and feature designated areas for eating, sleeping, and playing, as well as a full kitchen, a private elevator, and more. Guests staying in the *Destiny* Tower Suite and all concierge-level accommodations guests will receive a premium level of dedicated service and access to exclusive areas and amenities, including the Concierge Lounge and private sun deck. A Marvel superhero will also be the signature stern character on a Disney ship for the first time, with Spider-Man and his Spider-Bots to adorn *Destiny's* facade. *MS*

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This two-part marketing solution lets you effortlessly co-brand content and connect with your clients. You can easily share pre-designed content experiences via email, social media or custom links, giving them an immersive look into cruising with NCL. Plus, the all-new co-branded website includes sailings & real-time pricing and drives clients directly back to you!

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NCL boost for *Encore* and Aussie trade

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has announced enhancements to *Norwegian Encore*, which will undergo extensive updates in Nov, to deliver more elevated onboard guest experiences.

A brand-new Spice H2O (pictured), *Encore's* adults-only outdoor lounge, will replace the laser tag arena, and feature a new design and elevated layout from the cruise line's long-time design partner Studio Dado.

Space H2O will be equipped with multiple hot tubs, eight large daybeds surrounded by cooling pools, and a large cocktail bar.

The Nov revitalisation will also see the expansion of two popular dining venues, Cagney's Steakhouse and Teppanyaki.

Both will soon offer greater capacity by taking over Los Lobos' footprint on deck eight and Coco's on deck six.

Ocean Blue will be converted



to the guest-favourite Palomar, boasting Mediterranean seafood.

There will also be 24 new balcony staterooms, two club balcony staterooms, and redesigned suites in The Haven by Norwegian, as a result of growing demand for three-bedroom suites aboard the line's other ships.

"Our guests' wants and needs are at the forefront of every decision that we make, and enhancing *Norwegian Encore* with more of the experiences they value showcases our commitment to just that," President David Herrera said.

"From more space for adults to relax, to more opportunities to enjoy their favourite dining options and beyond, we are dedicated to providing our guests with an elevated onboard experience," he added.

MEANWHILE, Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) has announced a brand-new personalised marketing solution for trade partners in Australia.

'NCL Connect' is debuting today, a new, complimentary marketing solution which lets trade partners leverage pre-designed content experiences and easily distribute them to their clients via email, social media channels, or through a custom link.

Users can also direct their clients to their very own co-branded website to explore all NCL sailings and real-time pricing, while driving leads directly to their inbox - [CLICK HERE](#). **MS**

Ilma is delivered

RITZ-CARLTON Yacht Collection has taken delivery of the second of its three ordered cruise ships, with *Ilma* now in the hands of the line.

The Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard handed over the keys to *Ilma* - a 242-metre LNG-powered vessel which features spacious suites, each with balconies along with two upper categories measuring up to 100m² in size.

Ilma also has a modular fuel design, meaning it can adapt to new propulsion methods as they become available.

Other environmentally friendly design elements include an advanced waste water treatment plant and LED lighting throughout the ship.

It is the second of three ships ordered by the line, with *Evrima* having launched two years ago (**CW** 13 Oct 2022).



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ALMOST everyone who's been on an expedition cruise has at least at one point looked at a Zodiac and thought "I could drive that" - spoiler alert, it's not as easy as it looks.

North Korean officials found that out of late, when they took Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un out on a Zodiac, clearly without having done the requisite training beforehand.

Kim was out surveying floods that had hit Sinuiju, on North Korea's border with China, when an official driving the Zodiac lost control of the craft, crashing into a tree.

The incident can serve as a gentle reminder that those driving your Zodiac on your next expedition are expertly trained to do so.



Micro expeditions for Atlas



SHORTER itineraries aimed at travellers eager to see the Arctic without committing to a more in-depth exploration are among the highlights of the new 2026 Arctic season from Atlas Ocean Voyages.

The new season features a range of first-time ports including Skjoldungen Island, Greenland; Stykkisholmur, Iceland; and Senja in Norway for its two ships, *World Voyager* and *World Navigator*.

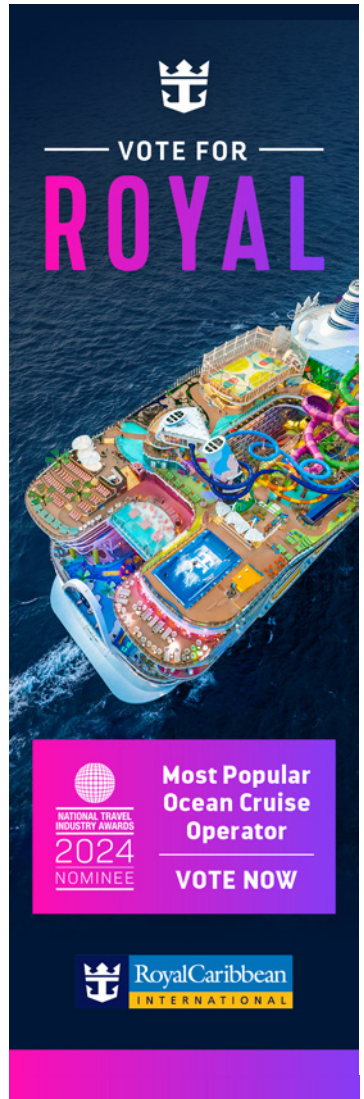
Travellers can embark on six or seven-night expeditions between Tromso and Longyearbyen, while exploring the remote Norwegian coast and culminating in Svalbard.

These shorter journeys are

limited in their departures and are scheduled for various dates in May and Jun 2026.

All expeditions departing from Longyearbyen on Svalbard and Kangerluusuaq in Greenland include one-night accommodation pre-cruise along with charter flight connections to or from Oslo or New York JFK, depending on embarkation point.

Atlas Ocean Voyages features two small ships catering to less than 200 passengers per sailing and are available to book in Australia and New Zealand through local small-ship specialist, Cruise Traveller. *ML*



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