



DARE TO **DO IT ALL**



DARE TO **DO ALL THAT'S INCLUDED**

There's so much included on a Disney cruise. Dare to do it all!

Sing. Smile. Scream. Enjoy entertainment from Character encounters to Broadway-quality shows, fireworks at sea and immersive kids' clubs complete with specially trained Disney counselors. **Sip. Snack. Sample.** Enjoy meals ranging from family-friendly fare to upscale 3-course meals, all-you-can-eat ice cream and desserts galore. **Slide. Splash. Soak.** Play the day away at the pool or enjoy the perfect adults only escape, in spaces designed especially for grown-ups. **Sleep. Snooze. Snore.** Relax in spacious staterooms designed with families in mind. And so much more.

It's all included on your Disney cruise!

Disney CRUISE LINE

Sailing from **Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney** and **Auckland** in 2024/2025



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise news plus a full page from **Disney Cruise Line**.

Railbookers cruise demand soaring

RAILBOOKERS is handling cruise extensions in record numbers, both throughout Europe and beyond.

President & Chief Executive Officer Frank Marini said a large part of Railbookers' tremendous 61% YOY revenue growth in Australia is its pre- and post-cruise itineraries.

"Travel agents are using Railbookers as a connector with rail, hotel, sightseeing and transfers to help piece together the larger, more complex journeys - such as before or after cruises or extending a trip."

Switzerland is proving particularly popular for pre- and post-cruise extensions, with the Glacier Express being Railbookers' most popular extension train, and Bern among its top cruise ports.

The Swiss Alps are among the biggest draws, with 54% of all Australian cruise extension bookings featuring rides on the Glacier Express and Bernina Express scenic trains.

Other top-trending destinations include Italy, Norway, and Alaska.

Travellers are averaging 11 nights on their journeys, with more than 70% using Railbookers as a portion of an overall larger holiday.

"Whether it's our low deposits to book, booking window from last minute up to two years out, and much more, we're able to save agents time and make them money by helping create the ideal independent FIT holiday for their customers," the Railbookers President said.

Explora to ring in NYE



EXPLORA Journeys has unveiled its festive program for this year, aboard *Explora I* and *Explora II* in the Caribbean, which will see guests enjoy family activities, enriching onboard programs, and star-studded entertainment.

The cruise line's *Explora I* will voyage from 23 to 30 Dec, starting in Miami and visiting San Juan, Road Bay, Roseau, Castries, and Bridgetown; while *Explora II* sets sail from 20 to 27 Dec, with stops in Road Bay, Pointe-a-Pitre, Jost Van Dyke, and Marigot, before concluding in San Juan.

Explora I (pictured) will then depart from Bridgetown on 30 Dec, celebrating New Year's Eve in St. George's, before visiting Kralendijk, Willemstad, and Oranjestad, ending in Miami on 07 Jan.

Meanwhile, *Explora II* will begin her NYE journey on 27 Dec in San

Juan, featuring stops in Charlotte Amalie, St. John's, and Basseterre.

The cruise will conclude in Miami on 05 Jan.

Explora's two ships will be transformed into festive havens, adorned with twinkling lights, wreaths, trees, and elegantly crafted ornaments.

Guests can enjoy gingerbread houses, a range of seasonal treats, and curated holiday menus, prepared by the talented culinary team.

Special holiday entertainment includes choirs, carols, parades, and a Santa meet-and-greet.

As the New Year approaches, fireworks displays will light up the night sky at midnight in San Juan and St. George's, before guests are invited to dance the night away at the exclusive New Year's Eve gala.

Both ships will also sail Thanksgiving journeys, with *Explora I* round tripping from Barcelona, and *Explora II* sailing from Miami to San Juan. *MS*

Dare with Disney

DARE to do all that's included with Disney Cruise Line, sailing from a trio of Australian ports this season.

Enjoy entertainment from character encounters, Broadway-quality shows, fireworks at sea, and immersive kids clubs.

Experience meals ranging from family-friendly fare to upscale, three-course dining, as well as all-you-can-eat ice cream and desserts galore.

Head to the **cover page** of today's **CW** for more of what's possible with Disney.

Cruise Month here

CRUISE Lines International Association's (CLIA) Cruise Month is here (**CW** yesterday), celebrating holidays at sea throughout Oct.

CLIA yesterday launched the first initiatives in a month-long campaign designed to generate fresh excitement around cruising, and direct travellers to CLIA member travel advisors.

This week is Ocean Cruise Week, the first of four weekly themes highlighting the diverse choice of cruising options available in Australia, and around the world.

Subsequent weeks will celebrate river cruising, expedition voyages, and luxury.

"This year's Cruise Month comes at a time when the opportunities around cruise are stronger than ever," CLIA Australasia Managing Director Joel Katz told **CW**.

"We're seeing record figures internationally - more people cruising than we've ever known...at the same time we have new ships, new products and new onboard enhancements that are helping to expand the appeal of cruising and attract new guests," he added.

Activities planned include an expanded social campaign using the hashtag #LoveCruise, and aligned digital advertising.



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Big opportunity in cruise for Jamaica

JAMAICA'S Minister of Tourism Edmund Bartlett has emphasised the importance of increasing the country's role in the cruise sector, through partnerships with Carnival Corporation.

Bartlett noted the size of the cruise industry opportunity during a Tourism Enhancement Fund meeting in Jamaica.

The US\$5.3 billion sector is poised to grow to US\$17.3 billion inside the next decade, which Bartlett said Jamaica needs to ensure it cuts in on.

"We think Jamaica has an important part to play in supplying this growing demand," he told assembled media.

"Today's meeting signals that Jamaica is ready to take a bigger slice of that \$17.3b opportunity."

Bartlett also highlighted the need to strengthen the supply side of the tourism industry in order to maximise economic



benefits for the country.

He noted the opportunity on offer in the food supply segment, for which the cruise sector generates significant demand.

"We spend so much on the demand side, bringing 4.3 million visitors to our shores and generating US\$4.5 billion, yet our retention rate is only 40 cents on

the dollar," Bartlett said.

"We can increase that to 60 cents by meeting the demand of the tourism sector."

The meeting provided Jamaican manufacturers with insights into Carnival Corp's purchasing requirements to become a supplier to its nine brands, *eTurboNews* reported. *MS*

New CruiseHQ sale

IT'S time to celebrate Europe with CruiseHQ, with a new campaign from the wholesaler which will run through to the end of the year.

The Celebrating Europe campaign begins today, with CruiseHQ creating an exclusive selection of holiday packages, from the Mediterranean to Northern Europe, and more.

Travel advisors can access unique promotions and exclusive travel packages for their clients alongside a suite of incentives and rewards.

The campaign will feature brands such as Celebrity Cruises, Celestyal Cruises, Holland America Line, MSC Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises, Ponant, Seabourn, and Uniworld Boutique River Cruises.

CLICK HERE for more information on the campaign.





CELEBRATING

EUROPE

WITH

CruiseHQ

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DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF EUROPE WITH
EXCEPTIONAL PACKAGES AVAILABLE
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**DISCOVER
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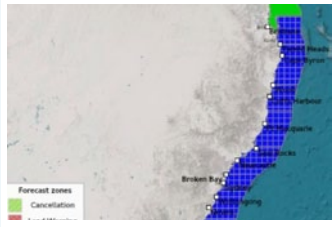
THE Bureau of Meteorology has apologised after accidentally sending a tsunami warning for Australia's east coast last week.

The weather service said there was no threat after the tsunami alert was sent to users of its weather app between 11am and 12pm on Wed.

"The Bureau acknowledges and apologises for any confusion that this test may have caused," it said in a statement to 9News.

"The test warnings were sent to the BOM Weather app for various locations.

"The test warnings were cancelled immediately after they were issued."



No crown for the Swans



THE Sydney Swans may have come up short against the Brisbane Lions in the weekend's AFL Grand Final, but they were not without their support.

Princess Cruises, one of the Swans' newest partners (**CW** 13 Dec), sailed its *Diamond Princess* into Melbourne on Sat ahead of the game, adorned with a giant "Cheer Cheer the Red and the White" banner (**pictured** inset).

Diamond welcomed Swans mascot 'Cyggy' and Princess' mascot 'Stanley the Bear' to celebrate the big day together with Swans legend Ted Richards



(**pictured**), who played in the club's 2005 premiership.

Princess Cruises is the official cruise line for the Sydney Swans, and will host a dedicated cruise for season ticketholders aboard *Crown Princess* in Jan 2025, sailing to Hobart. *MS*

Big GFOB giveaway

GLOBUS family of brands (GFOB) has launched a '\$1k a Day Giveaway' trade incentive, starting today.

Travel advisors now have the chance to win \$1,000 every day by making a deposited booking with Avalon Waterways, as well as its sister brands Globus and Cosmos.

The giveaway is applicable on next year's departures, and runs from today until the end of next month.

There are no limitations on the number of times an advisor can win, with a total prize pool of \$61k up for grabs.

The more bookings made, the more chances an advisor has to win.

Every deposited booking made during the promotional period automatically qualifies for the daily draw.

Each day, including weekends, the GFOB sales team will conduct the draw, with winners announced each afternoon at 5pm.

They will be contacted directly by GFOB via phone call or email.

Discover the all new *River Cruise Special Report*

