



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Silversea**.

Silversea offer

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The deal expires on 13 Jul, with savings available on more than 700 voyages across select suite categories.

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Contact your Silversea Sales Manager or the cruise line's reservations team - more information on **page 4**.

Viking puts it on for its new Vesta

VIKING has named its newest ocean ship in Croatia, with *Viking Vesta* (**CW 27 Jun**) welcomed to the cruise line's fleet during a ceremony in Split.

Serving as the godmother of *Vesta* (**pictured**) was Norwegian journalist Lene Tangevald-Jensen, with the ship to now continue her inaugural season sailing in the Med and Northern Europe.

Tangevald-Jensen has written for two of Norway's leading financial publications, *Kapital* and *Finansavisen*, interviewing a range of world leaders and changemakers, including former President of the United States Jimmy Carter.

She used a Viking broad axe to cut a ribbon that allowed a bottle of Norwegian aquavit to break on the ship's hull - a longstanding tradition with the cruise line.

Guests also enjoyed performances by Norwegian



soprano Sissel Kyrkjebo, who is the godmother of *Viking Jupiter*, and violinist Tor Jaran Apold.

"As we celebrate 10 years of ocean voyages in 2025, we are pleased to welcome the new *Viking Vesta* to our award-winning fleet of elegant sister ships," Chair & Chief Executive Officer Torstein Hagen said.

"We are also very grateful to

Lene for serving as godmother... in addition to her personal and professional accomplishments, Lene embodies the values that are very important to me and to Viking - she is kind, honest, hardworking and, of course, curious," he said.

"I am proud to count her as a friend and a valued member of the extended Viking family." *MS*



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Hoffmann departs

PHIL Hoffmann, founder of his namesake travel agency, has bid bon voyage to his business after 35 years.

Hoffmann (pictured with his wife Alison) retired yesterday, with the travel agency he founded to continue to operate under the leadership of CEO & MD Peter Williams.

The South Australian travel industry icon was a pioneer of the Australian cruise industry, opening the country's first dedicated cruise department within his Phil Hoffmann Travel (PHT) business, which he started in 1990.

Hoffmann continued to innovate within the cruise space as one of the founding members of Cruiseeco, specialising in fly-cruise packaging, as well as charters and incentives.

He will retain an ambassadorial role with PHT, leading tours and continuing to advocate for the brand and the travel industry.

Hoffmann will also remain on the board of PHT as an Executive Director.



Cannes following Nice lead



ANOTHER French Riviera city is making moves to limit the number of cruise ships entering its waters, with Cannes revealing new restrictions due to come into force by year's end.

Largely under the guide of acting on overtourism, authorities in Cannes have voted to limit the size of cruise ships to a maximum capacity of 1,000 passengers, as well as a daily cap of 6,000 cruise visitors per day.

Larger ships will also be forced to anchor further out at sea and away from the city's famous beaches, cove and lagoon - a move that will make the existing tendering process longer.

Officials in Cannes say they have taken inspiration from nearby ports of Nice and Villefranche.

Cannes Mayor David Lisnard acknowledged the economic benefit of cruise to the city and clarified the purpose of the restrictions it was implementing.

"It's not about banning cruise ships, but about regulating,

organising, setting guidelines for their navigation," Lisnard said.

While a total ban on cruise ships was initially flouted and then walked back, new regulations at the two ports taking effect today allow only one ship per day to berth at the port itself.

Restrictions in force in Nice permit ships with a maximum capacity of 2,500 passengers to anchor in the bay area and tender passengers ashore, a move that was designed to divert ships to Cannes or nearby Marseilles.

The move by the city is one of a broader trend toward limiting mass tourism, particularly in the popular European cities which swell with visitors in the summer.

Venice (**CW** 15 Jul 2021) Amsterdam (**CW** 26 Apr 2024), and Barcelona (**CW** 10 Oct 2023) have all recently made moves to restrict their cruise sectors, with the Italian destination making plans for a new regional cruise centre at an industrial port to the east of the city. *ML*

Liberty not free yet

A CARNIVAL Cruise Line ship has been forced to change dry docks mid-refit due to a strike at the shipyard.

A strike by metalworkers at the Navantia Shipyard in Spain caused the cruise line to relocate its *Carnival Liberty* to another shipyard in Marseille.

Even the relocation process was disrupted, as the strike also intervened with *Liberty's* exit from Navantia.

The ship has since arrived in Marseille to continue her refit, with the cruise line being forced to cancel her first post-refit departure on 06 Jul from New Orleans.

The cruise line said it would not be commenting publicly on the strike.

Luminara named

THE Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection's newest vessel, *Luminara* (**CW** 28 May), was officially named in Barcelona last week by the ship's godmother, British actress Simone Ashley, best known for her role in *Bridgerton*.

Senior company leadership, brand collaborators and media gathered to celebrate on the 452-passenger yacht's top deck, enjoying champagne, canapes and live music.

Luminara will embark on her maiden voyage this Thu, sailing from Monte Carlo to Civitavecchia in Italy.

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PORTHOLE

THE shipwreck of James Cook's *Endeavour* has recently confirmed to be lying on the seabed off the coast of Rhode Island, almost 250 years after she sunk.

After a few years of contention, the ship was recently confirmed to be *Endeavour*, the vessel that Cook commanded on his first voyage from 1768 to 1771.

Research teams compared historic plans and analysed timber, ballast, hull structures, and more.

The Australian Maritime Museum recently confirmed the case is now closed.

"You'll never find a sign saying 'Cook was here', but we've got a whole series of things pointing to [the wreck] as being *Endeavour*," one of the ship's archaeologists Kieran Hosty said.

Endeavour came to rest at the bottom of Narragansett Bay when she was scuttled as part of a plan from the British Army to protect Newport from seaborne invasion during the American Revolution.



Ambassador goes kids-free



AMBASSADOR Cruise Line has launched its 2027/28 season, which will be the first where all of its itineraries will be adult-only.

Following a decision to remove multigenerational cruises from the Ambassador offering, the new season features 75 itineraries with calls at 131 ports - 10 of which are new - across the UK, Mediterranean, Nordics, the Americas, and the Caribbean.

From 24 Mar 2027 through to 14 Apr 2028, *Ambience* will sail 32 itineraries and four Festive Events, while *Ambition* will offer 43 sailings.

Itinerary highlights include the 19-night 'Mediterranean Moments & Solar Eclipse' sailing aboard *Ambition*, which departs from Dundee on 27 Jul 2027.

Ambassador said the decision to go adults-only in its offering is in line with guest feedback.

"Our all-new season will see us offer the warmest welcome at sea to many more new and returning guests," Chief Executive Officer Christian Verhounig said.

To mark the launch, Ambassador is offering a 'buy one, get one half price' deal on all 2027/28 sailings, with the first guest at full price and second guest travelling for half that amount, along with 50%

off premium drinks packages and half-price fares for solo travellers.

The specials are available for bookings made by 30 Sep 2025 - see the new brochure **HERE**. JM

Globus India cruise

GLOBUS is charting a new course through India with its new 'Heritage of India & the Ganges River' cruise-tour.

Highlights of the itinerary will include a seven-night sailing along the Ganges aboard *Bengal Ganga*.

The cruise will depart from Kolkata and visit ports such as Serampore, Chandernagore, Bandel, Fulia, Kalna, Nabadwip, and Mayapur.

Other destinations visited as part of the tour leg of the itinerary will be New Delhi, Agra, and Jaipur - **CLICK HERE**.



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For confidential discussions and further information, please contact Tom Green.
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