

### Cruise Weekly today

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

### CLIA slams Cannes

**THE** Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) is "perplexed" by Cannes' decision to ban large cruise ships (**CW** 01 Jul).

The French riviera city, which voted on the measures on 27 Jun, said it is aiming for cruise tourism to be "less numerous, less big, less polluting, and more aesthetic".

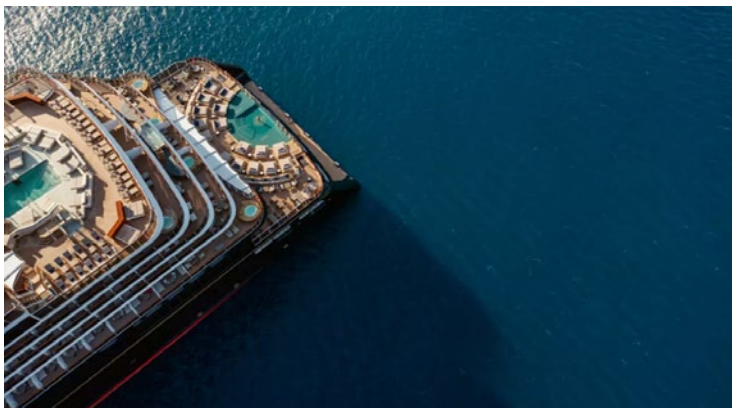
Under the proposed limits, only ships with fewer than 1,000 passengers will be allowed in the port, with a maximum of 6,000 cruise visitors permitted to disembark per day.

CLIA said: "We are particularly concerned by the unilateral and abrupt nature of this announcement, made without prior consultation, or coordinated planning, which risks harming local businesses and service providers."

"This move is especially difficult to understand given that it comes just weeks after the signing of the Sustainable Cruising Charter for the Mediterranean by the Minister of Transport."

The charter further bolsters the cruise sector's commitments to environmental progress in the region.

## Explora Club gets bigger



**EXPLORA** Journeys has launched the next phase of Explora Club, with members now able to enjoy their benefits and privileges on board, while simultaneously earning points.

Following Explora Club's successful launch in Apr (**CW** 10 Apr), the next phase of the Explora Club includes an expanded status match, with loyalty guests of Oceania Cruises now brought into the program of 11 cruise lines.

This enhancement comes directly in response to guest feedback, with strong demand for Oceania's inclusion, Explora said.

Travellers holding status with any of the eligible programs can match to the equivalent Explora Club level by providing proof of status, unlocking curated benefits from their very first journey.

Members are also now able to view their points balance and loyalty status online.

The cruise line is inviting

guests to enrol so they can begin enjoying privileges, including bespoke onboard events, value savings, surprise gifts, and elevated services.

Every night sailed on board contributes toward earning points, as do eligible onboard purchases, and Destination Experience bookings on shore.

The Explora Club offers a five-level structure, with tiers including Classic, Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Diamond.

Each level offers a collection of benefits, from priority access and bespoke events to personalised gifts and exclusive savings.

Benefits for select tiers include birthday gifts, special turndown service surprises, exclusive savings and rewards including member offers, future journey savings, journey experience credit, a complimentary journey for two, and a range of pre-journey privileges - **CLICK HERE** for more information. **MS**

### Viking Rhine offer

**TRAVELLERS** can save \$4,800 per couple on Viking's eight-day 'Rhine Getaway' voyage when they purchase one or more pre- or post-cruise extensions before 01 Sep - find out more **HERE**.

  
CruiseHQ

## EOFY SALE

Earn your EOFY bonus with select cruise line partners. Enjoy **bonus commission** and **\$50 rewards** exclusively through CruiseHQ.

Book and deposit before 31 July, 2025\*

 AZAMARA

 Celebrity **X** Cruises

 Disney CRUISE LINE

 MSC CRUISES

 NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

 OCEANIA CRUISES

 ROYAL CARIBBEAN

\*T&Cs apply



## DISCOVER ASIA'S BEST KEPT SECRETS

- ONBOARD STAR SEEKER -

**VIEW VOYAGES**

For more information, contact 1300 749 875 or email [reservations@windstar.com.au](mailto:reservations@windstar.com.au)

## P&O UK lawsuit

**DOZENS** have reportedly sued the UK's P&O Cruises over a series of sailings which allegedly made many sick.

The lawsuit, on behalf of more than 60 passengers, is seeking compensation relating to gastroenteritis outbreaks on board *Ventura*.

A P&O spokesperson told **Cruise Weekly** it had received a letter from the law firm.

"We are investigating the allegations made," they said.

An earlier lawsuit was filed late last year on behalf of more than 100 cruise passengers who took cruises from Apr to Jun 2024.

One of the sailings saw more than 500 people get ill.

## Act to save lives

**MARITIME** search, rescue and security operations tech firm Zelim has renewed its push for cruise lines to adopt its technology, following the recent man overboard (MOB) on Disney Cruise Line's *Disney Dream* (CW 02 Jul).

Fewer than 19% of known MOB cases result in a successful recovery, according to US Coast Guard data.

Despite rules mandating cruise lines to integrate technology that can be used to detect passengers overboard, most cruise lines have yet to install these systems.

Zelim Director of Search and Rescue Matt Mitchell said his company's technology can help with this problem.

"Cutting-edge detection systems can alert the bridge within seconds of a person going overboard, and some can even track the individual in the water until they're safely recovered," he said.

"These systems work, they're deployable, they have been type approved, and they can save lives."

# The Med's new Star



**WINDSTAR** Cruises' new *Star Explorer* (pictured) will debut in the Mediterranean during the winter 2026/27 season, offering fresh itineraries, local flavours, and its 'yacht-style cruising'.

*Explorer* is set to debut in Dec 2026, and is built for sailing to small ports, with an inaugural season which includes longer stays and local festivals, such as the Carnival of Venice, Epiphany in Greece, and cosy winter markets throughout.

Guests will enjoy overnight stays in Florence, Barcelona, and Nice, and visit lesser-travelled ports like Genoa, Catania, and Malaga.

*Explorer* offers 112 spacious suites, including two Horizon Owner's Suites with expansive wraparound balconies, as well as Windstar favourites like the Yacht Club Cafe, and the signature Marina deck.

"Winter is when the Mediterranean slows down - and that's when Windstar steps in," Director of Destination Experience & Itinerary Planning Jess Peterson said.

"With *Star Explorer*, we're offering guests a chance to see these legendary places with fresh eyes and fewer crowds, all in the comfort of our newest yacht."

The cruise line is currently inviting passengers to take advantage of an early booking offer, available through the end of the month.

Travellers who book now will receive a complimentary all-inclusive package, featuring wi-fi;

gratuities; and unlimited select wine, beer and cocktails.

Guests will also enjoy up to US\$200 in onboard credit per stateroom, redeemable for shore excursions, treatments at World Spa by Windstar, and other onboard amenities.

The cruise line has also introduced a new 'Pay Now, Save More' promotion, with those paying in full at the time of booking to receive an additional 5% discount on cruise fares.

The sale is only available when making a reservation with the early booking offer.

This season will be Windstar's fourth sailing the Mediterranean in winter. *MS*

## A Dream port call

**SEADREAM** Yacht Club's *SeaDream II* has connected to shore power for the first time, eliminating emissions during a visit to Bergen this week.

Both SeaDream yachts can now switch off their engines and reduce emissions in ports, after *SeaDream II* was upgraded to accommodate shore power connectivity two years ago.

*SeaDream I* successfully underwent the upgrade during a stay at Naval Rocha Yard in Lisbon early last year, making SeaDream the first luxury cruise line to upgrade its entire fleet in this manner.

"This is an important milestone for us, and another step forward in our journey to more sustainable travel," President & Chief Executive Andreas Brynstad declared.

"Visiting some of the world's most beautiful destinations, comes with a responsibility."

"We are glad to see more ports following the lead of Port of Bergen and other front-runners in offering shore power facilities."

PLATINUM PARTNERS

**CVFR TRAVEL GROUP**

CVFR TRAVEL GROUP  
CVFR TRAVEL GROUP  
CVFR TRAVEL GROUP

**Expedia TAAP**

**ROYAL CARIBBEAN**

**LIVE NOW**

HOME AGENT  
VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

**SIGN UP FREE HERE**

ABERCROMBIE & KENT

AmA WATERWAYS

Carnival CRUISES

CRYSTAL

ENVOYAGE

exotica

GLOBUS

JOURNEY BEYOND

NTA

OCEANIA CRUISES

Rail Europe

Sunderland Overland

TravelManagers

VIKING

Wendy Wu Tours

WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
WALKING ON A DREAM





**PLENTY** of cruisers face “analysis paralysis”, or the inability to decide where to travel to next due to a wealth of options.

Royal Caribbean International is solving this problem, enlisting leading astrologer Clarisse Monohan to help travellers align their holidays with their personal goals.

This follows a 53% surge in the popularity of ‘astrocartography’ - the practice of mapping planetary influences onto geographic locations from a birth chart.

The practice supposedly identifies which places on earth resonate the most with an individual.

This gives holidaymakers the perfect opportunity to visit new locations that cosmically align with where to travel for their best holiday.

Cruisers looking for love and passion are recommended to pursue the ‘Venus line’, incorporating destinations which could include the Western Mediterranean, or the United States/Caribbean.

Meanwhile, those looking to unleash their adventurous spirit and expand their horizons are encouraged to investigate the ‘Jupiter line’, including Iberia and Alaska.

Thankfully, Royal Caribbean has ships based in every single one of these destinations.

## A HAL of a celebration



**HOLLAND** America Line (HAL) is marking the United States’ 250th anniversary next year with cruises to historic ports around the country.

One of the highlights of Holland America Line’s season in the US will be the 04 Jul departure aboard *Zuiderdam* (pictured), which sails round trip from Boston, and includes an overnight in New York City, and a visit to Norfolk, Virginia.

The seven-day ‘America’s 250th Celebration: Stars & Stripes Voyage’ includes a visit to New Brunswick in the United States’ northern neighbour Canada, as well as access to Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown, part of Virginia’s Historic Triangle.

Guests will be able to take in shore excursions in these historic colonial communities.

*Zuiderdam* will also position herself in Boston Harbor, to take in the city’s iconic Fourth of July fireworks as she sails away.

The ship will then arrive in New York City in time to catch the conclusion of the ‘Sail 4th 250’ tall ships flotilla, which takes place from 03-08 Jul.

Sail 4th 250 will see the largest fleet of the world’s tall ships and gray hull ships assemble in New York Harbor for the week, with

*Zuiderdam* guests to witness the ‘Farewell to the Fleet’, as the tall ships depart for Boston.

“America’s 250th anniversary is a singular milestone, and we’re excited to mark this historic occasion with a cruise that brings our guests closer to the places where our nation was born,” Holland America President Beth Bodensteiner said.

“From walking the grounds of Williamsburg and visiting Ellis Island to exploring Boston’s Freedom Trail, this voyage offers an unforgettable journey through American history,” she said. *MS*

## Cunard’s birthday

**TRAVELLERS** can save up to 25% on select Cunard voyages as part of the line’s 185th anniversary celebrations.

Eligible sailings include an 18-night trip from Hong Kong to Sydney on 27 Feb 2026 and a 45-night one-way Sydney to Southampton voyage, both on board *Queen Anne*.

There are also one-way itineraries from Sydney to Cape Town, as well as from New York to Sydney.

The 185th anniversary sale is available to book until 04 Aug for departures until Apr 2027.



## FOR SALE: two well-established Australian travel publications.

Signature Media is exploring the sale of two of its popular consumer travel titles in order to re-focus on our core publications. This offers a unique opportunity to acquire and further develop these highly respected publications, and we’d love to find them an excellent home.

### Vacations & Travel

Established over 41 years: Australia’s longest-running consumer travel magazine and a trusted source of travel inspiration and information for Australian travellers. Full suite of established digital platforms.



### Ski & Snowboard

Operating for over 19 years: originally launched as Ski & Snowboard with Kids, expanded in 2025 to serve the wider snow travel market. Editorial focus: Global ski destinations, gear reviews and expert advice.



For confidential discussions and further information, please contact Tom Green.  
[tom.green@vitapointpartners.com](mailto:tom.green@vitapointpartners.com)

#### EDITORIAL

Editor - Myles Stedman  
Deputy Editor - Matt Lennon  
Journalists - Adam Bishop, Janie Medbury  
Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper  
Editorial Director - Damian Francis  
Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller  
[info@cruiseweekly.com.au](mailto:info@cruiseweekly.com.au)

#### ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Head of Sales & Marketing - Sean Harrigan  
[advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au](mailto:advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au)

#### GENERAL MANAGER & PUBLISHER

Matthew Vince

#### ACCOUNTS

[accounts@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@traveldaily.com.au)

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd  
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia  
Tel: (AU) +61 2 8007 6760 or (NZ) 0800 799 220  
Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220