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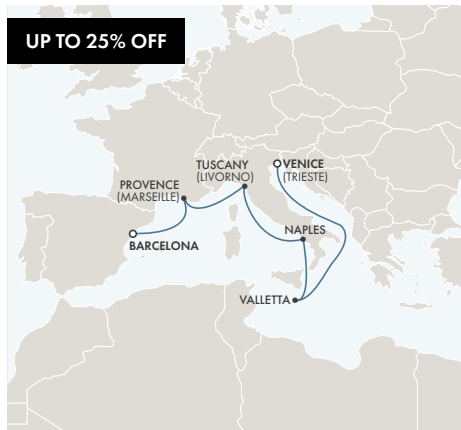


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DURATION	DEPARTS	UP TO
9 NIGHTS	13 OCT 2025	53 EXCURSIONS

ALL-INCLUSIVE CRUISE FARE WAS ~~AU\$12,240pp~~ NOW **AU\$8,324pp**
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WITH HONIG WINERY
VENICE TO BARCELONA
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DURATION	DEPARTS	UP TO
12 NIGHTS	22 OCT 2025	74 EXCURSIONS

ALL-INCLUSIVE CRUISE FARE WAS ~~AU\$15,530pp~~ NOW **AU\$11,182pp**
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always INCLUDED

- Unlimited Shore Excursions
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- Customisable In-Suite Mini Bar
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- Butler Service in Penthouse Suites and Higher
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Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a cover wrap from **Regent Seven Seas Cruises**.

Celestyal new calls

TRAVELLERS eager to see the Arabian Gulf in more detail can take advantage of two new 14-night repositioning voyages scheduled by Celestyal Cruises as part of its winter season.

The new longer voyages feature a range of maiden calls for Celestyal, including two new countries: Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which returns to the cruise line's schedule after a two-year break.

Four new ports for Celestyal include Aqaba, Jeddah, Muscat, and Sharm El Sheikh.

The 14-night 'Ancient Athens to Amazing Abu Dhabi' cruise will be available across both of the line's ships, with *Celestyal Journey* departing 22 Nov.

She will be followed by *Celestyal Discovery* six days later, which will follow the same course as her fleetmate, with the exception of an additional stop in Kusadasi.

At the end of the season, the two ships will return to Europe, charting the same course and departing on 06 Mar and 21 Mar respectively.

The new voyages follow a successful maiden Arabian stay, with bookings up 27%.

Vancouver joins CLIA, eh



DESTINATION Vancouver has joined Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) in Australia as an executive partner.

The destination will team up with CLIA to strengthen its standing within the international cruise industry, and its choice of pre- and post-cruise experiences.

The partnership connects Destination Vancouver with thousands of CLIA travel advisors across Australia, as well as leading cruise operators from around the world, supporting partners who represent ports, destinations, tourism operators, and industry suppliers.

Destination Vancouver is able to support advisors with dedicated training, marketing, and sales resources, as well as the opportunity to join famils through the Vancouver Specialist Program.

The DMO will kick off its CLIA membership by taking part in a series of the Association's upcoming initiatives, helping travel advisors to promote and sell the destination with confidence, and increase pre- and

post-cruise bookings.

CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz said Destination Vancouver will be a welcome addition to CLIA's growing Aussie community.

"Vancouver is one of the world's most spectacular cruise ports and a gateway to the incredible coastal scenery of British Columbia and Alaska," Katz said.

"Destination Vancouver can help unlock enormous possibilities for cruise travellers and we look forward to working together to create fantastic new opportunities for Australasian travel agents and their clients."

Destination Vancouver's local representative Dianna Schinella said the new partnership will reinforce the city's role within the global cruise industry and provide greater support for cruise specialist travel agents.

"This is an incredible opportunity to strengthen our engagement and connect with CLIA's cruise specialists to highlight everything that makes Vancouver an exceptional pre- and post-cruise destination," Schinella said.

"From its stunning natural beauty to its vibrant culture and world-class experiences, Vancouver truly has so much to offer and I can't wait to work alongside CLIA and its members to inspire more travellers to explore this iconic city." *MS*

TTW adds Martin

TRAVEL The World (TTW) has appointed Shelley Martin as its new Sales Manager for Windstar Cruises.

Martin will focus on strengthening partnerships with travel advisors, enhancing brand awareness and driving sales for Windstar's unique small-ship experiences.

She was previously business development manager for Uniworld Boutique River Cruises, where she was instrumental in strengthening trade relationships and driving sales growth.

Her long-standing expertise in the luxury cruise sector, combined with a strong travel trade network, make her a valuable addition to the Windstar team, TTW said.

The Europe edition

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has slashed up to 40% off cruise fares for a range of voyages as part of a new sale.

Eligible offers include 30% off a nine-night 'Heritage Sites and Greek Isles' itinerary on board *Seven Seas Mariner*, which travels from Istanbul to Venice on 13 Oct.

Also available is a 12-night 'Spotlight on wine with Honig Winery' voyage from Venice to Barcelona, departing the idyllic Italian city on 22 Oct - more information on the **cover page**.

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\$4000

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Up, up, and away

FORMER NASA astronaut Sandra Magnus will join Aurora Expeditions for its 'Jewels of the Arctic - Greenland Solar Eclipse' expedition next year.

Magnus will share her insights through lectures and guided discussions, drawing connections between space and the polar regions, and emphasising the importance of scientific research, environmental stewardship, and the spirit of discovery.

She has spent more than 150 days in space, including missions to the International Space Station, and participating in the final space shuttle flight in 2011.

Magnus' extensive career spans NASA, the United States' Department of Defense, and global aerospace initiatives.

"Aurora Expeditions is dedicated to fostering a deeper connection between our travellers and the natural world," Chief Executive Officer Michael Heath said.

"Having Dr. Magnus on board offers an extraordinary chance to learn from a pioneering explorer whose experiences extend beyond our planet."

The cruise sails between 02-16 Aug 2026, taking travellers through Svalbard and into eastern Greenland, home to Scoresby Sound, the largest fjord system in the world, and a remote Inuit settlement.

Two brands better than one



THE return of Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings' Chief Luxury Officer Jason Montague to lead both Regent Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) and Oceania Cruises will allow the two brands to distinctly identify themselves in the market, SVP International & Consumer Sales Steve Odell has asserted.

Montague returned to NCLH at the start of the year to once again lead the company's two luxury cruise lines (**CW** 07 Jan), and Odell said this will allow both brands to give each other space to breathe.

"He's doing a lot behind the scenes on restructuring the business, and making sure we correctly define the two brands," Odell revealed to **Cruise Weekly**.

"I think of having oversight of both brands, there's an advantage in many ways, because you can direct how they operate, and how they're promoted...[there's] no better person to do it."

While RSSC firms itself with tag lines such as "The Most Luxurious Fleet at Sea" and "Unrivalled at Sea", Odell believes more work may need to be done on

the Oceania side to ensure its personality shines through.

"How do we make sure that the brands have a definition of their own that isn't clouded," pondered Odell.

"Oceania punches above its weight in the market, particularly with the service, the food, so how can we capture that and tell the story in the best way possible?"

"What does the brand represent, where does it fit?"

"You can't lose the DNA of what that brand is, which is all about food, destination, comfortable travel, and so I think those things will still remain the core."

Part of further carving out each brand's niche will be improving the onboard product, with Odell emphasising the importance of the input of travel advisors.

"We do a lot of research, not only with customers but travel agents, to see what's important to people in the experience they have," he said.

"It has to be a two-way street, because you can't hone it unless you understand what people really want." *MS*

Queen of the party

CUNARD'S *Queen Mary 2* will join the United States' 250th anniversary celebrations next year in New York City.

Queen Mary 2 will take pride of place at the heart of the celebration's landmark event: a six-day flotilla of tall ships and naval vessels on 04 Jul 2026, believed to be the largest ever assembled.

More than 30 tall ships are expected from 17 different nations, with the celebrations to also include festivals, a massive fireworks display, a military flyover, public access to the vessels, and an exhibition of 18th-century historic documents.

Planners expect eight to 10 million spectators to line the shoreline to view the parade.

"Cunard has a long and distinguished history with the United States, and we are proud to play a role in this momentous celebration," the cruise line's President Katie McAlister said.

"As the world's only ocean liner, *Queen Mary 2* will offer guests an experience like no other - immersed in the excitement and grandeur of America's 250th Independence Day," she added.

"This is a truly unique opportunity to witness history in spectacular fashion, and we couldn't be more thrilled to be part of it."

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on the latest cruise news

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DISNEY Cruise Line is known for its magic, but no amount of hocus pocus can prevent a plumbing malfunction.

Some passengers on a recent six-night Western Caribbean sailing from Galveston on board *Disney Magic* saw a little too much behind the curtain - so to speak - when pressure in the ship's sewage pipes caused a major clog.

According to a Reddit post, the staterooms affected were on deck 6.

And with *Magic* sailing at capacity, there was no possibility of relocating.

The plumbing backup caused faeces to seep through the carpet, causing an unholy smell.

In this case, crew cleaned up the affected areas quickly, but the ship was still forced to run large fans to try to extricate the aroma for two days.

This isn't the first time *Magic* has experienced plumbing issues, with the same issue occurring in Oct.

Commentary on the Reddit post then turned to what compensation would be appropriate, with travellers in previous incidences receiving an onboard credit, while others were gifted a bottle of wine.

Magic has also been involved in its fair share of positive news too, with the ship rescuing four people from a sinking yacht last year.

Princess heads to Asia



PRINCESS Cruises has announced its 2026-2027 Southeast Asia program, with voyages to Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Japan, and more.

The season's 11 cruises are open for sale now, with *Diamond Princes* to sail from Singapore, taking guests to 28 destinations across eight countries.

The cruises range from 10 to 31 days, and include late-night stays in Ha Long Bay, Hanoi, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Kyoto.

"Our newest Southeast Asia cruise season brings travellers to some of the world's most sought-after destinations," Chief Commercial Officer Terry Thornton said.

"Our award-winning itineraries ensure there is an option for every type of traveller, making it easier than ever to experience the rich cultures and breathtaking landscapes of multiple countries for the adventure of a lifetime."

The season begins and concludes with a repositioning sailing between Singapore and Japan, offering a variety of options from 14 to 31 days via Taiwan and Vietnam, including a late-night 'More Ashore' visit to Hong Kong.

Other highlights include 10- to

16-day round trip sailings from Singapore, visiting Vietnam, Malaysia, and Thailand.

Cruisers can spend the holidays at sea over Christmas and NYE, on a 14-day sailing to Kuala Lumpur, Ho Chi Minh City, and Bangkok.

There is also a 31-day Southeast Asia & Japan cruise, including stops at Ishigaki, Okinawa, Kochi, and Kobe. *MS*

AIDA recycling

AIDA Cruises recently recycled 45,700m² of carpeting, bringing the circular economy to its shipyard.

The equivalent of six soccer fields worth of carpet was removed from *AIDAdiva* during her recent refit (*CW* 25 Mar).

The carpet will be reused during *AIDAluna's* next dry dock, as insulation, among a number of other uses.

"The recycling of carpets is a pilot project that we launched together with Oceancircle more than three years ago," Director Hotel Maintenance Dry Docks & Refit Marc Spingler said.

"We have taken an important step towards conserving resources and reducing waste."

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