

### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Quark gets solar

**QUARK** Expeditions has unveiled its second solar eclipse voyage in response to overwhelming demand.

*Ocean Explorer* will depart Reykjavik on 03 Aug 2026 on a 17-day journey which will transport guests to East Greenland's High Arctic.

They will be positioned at the optimal point of totality to witness the world's longest eclipse duration of two minutes and 17 seconds.

Passengers will sail across the Denmark Strait where they will also have the opportunity to visit Nuuk.

Joining the experience will be author and world-renowned eclipse cartographer Michael Zeiler, a member of the esteemed International Astronomical Union Working Group on Solar Eclipses.

"Since witnessing my first eclipse in 1991, I've dedicated my work to helping others experience and understand these rare phenomena through detailed mapping and education," he said.

"It's an honour to lead guests on this journey into the path of totality."

The expedition will also see guests venture to Mongufoss, one of Iceland's most remote and beautiful waterfalls, Northeast Greenland National Park, the largest national park in the world; and cruise the 110km King Oscar Fjord.

Guests will get to explore Blomsterbugten, or the Bay of Flowers, known for its colourful fall foliage and unique flora; and take in the beauty of Hofman Halvo, home to muskoxen and a diverse range of birds.

## Ponant to Baja's heart



**PONANT** has announced a new voyage to Baja California, co-developed with local communities, which will depart in winter 2027.

The 11-day journey, three years in the making, will cruise aboard *Le Bellot*, inviting guests to experience one of the world's last true wildernesses.

The 'Exploration in the Heart of Baja California' cruise will see guests encounter grey whales, swim with sea lions, and explore remote canyons, all under the guidance of expert naturalists and local conservation stewards.

Wildlife watching will be a highlight, while landings with the naturalist team will provide access to places untouched by human presence.

Snorkelling, scuba diving, and hiking through canyons will all be on the agenda for more adventurous guests.

Visits to small Mexican towns such as Loreto will also offer opportunities to immerse oneself in the local culture.

The cruise will round trip from Cabo San Lucas, with three departures, on 31 Jan 2027, 20 Feb 2027, and 02 Mar 2027, priced at \$10,950 per person.

"We have a huge responsibility to share this exceptional environment, to pass it on to future generations, and to show that we are worthy of the trust

placed in us by the people who live there," Director of R&D Expedition Experience Jose Sarica (**pictured**) said.

"What I experienced there compares to no other experience: it's the powerful feeling of being truly alive, connected to nature, and that's what our guests will discover," he added. *MS*

### Juneau fee hike

**SOME** cruise lines will be forced to pay roughly double to visit city-owned docks in Juneau next year, according to reports by local media.

The city's governing body, the Juneau Assembly, unanimously approved the change last week, which applies only to large cruise ships, bringing in millions of dollars in additional revenue to the city.

The regulation changes will weight fees based on a cruise ship's capacity.

Juneau Visitor Industry Director Alix Pierce said the changes will make the city's dockage fees more competitive with those charged by private docks around the region, such as the facility being built by Royal Caribbean (*CW* 21 Oct).

CLIA was unable to reply to request for comment by *Cruise Weekly's* deadline.

### No kids on CCL?

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line (CCL) is set to offer a series of adults-only voyages in an effort to fill staterooms on ships which were originally scheduled for dry dock.

The cruise line is inviting certain loyalty guests to book the voyages, with many of them already sold out, according to overseas media.

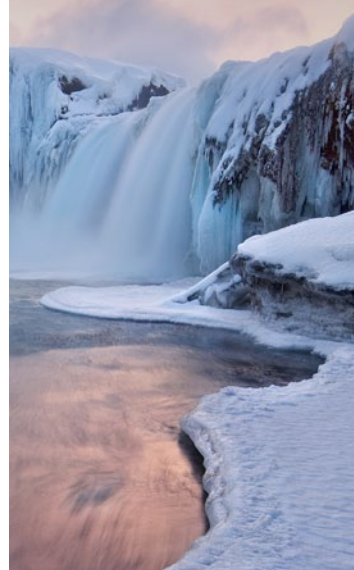
The cruises will take place on board *Carnival Conquest* and *Carnival Magic*, both of which were scheduled for refurbishments that have been pushed back.

Both ships were due to head into dry dock later this year but have now been rescheduled for 2026.



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## CRUISE WEEKLY

On location on board  
*Carnival Adventure*

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Carnival Cruise Line, which this week is hosting a voyage to Moreton Island in Queensland aboard the recently transitioned *Carnival Adventure*.

**AFTER** making the tough call to say goodbye to the P&O Cruises brand, Carnival Cruise Line is keen to let Aussies know what to expect on board the rebadged *Carnival Adventure* as she sails local waters.

**CW** will be aboard a special media voyage from Sydney to Moreton Island, where we will experience all of the updates such as the brand's iconic Fun Squad; free pizza daily; the benefits of the Carnival HUB app; and staples like the popular Build-A-Bear workshops - all aboard.

## Hurti ups its poplar routes



**HURTIGRUTEN** is increasing capacity on its premium Signature offering in response to strong demand for immersive Arctic and Norwegian coastal voyages.

*Midnatsol* will join sister ships *Trollfjord* and *Finnmarken* in the Signature fleet from summer 2026, offering sailings between Bergen and Longyearbyen.

She will then alternate with *Finnmarken* on the North Cape Line in the winter, departing weekly from Hamburg.

*Midnatsol* will undergo a comprehensive upgrade of her onboard facilities before she joins her fleetmates on the route.

*Vesteraleen* will also return to full-time service with the Original Coastal Express fleet on the

Bergen-Kirkenes round trip.

"Demand for our Signature voyages has seen remarkable growth across key APAC markets," MD Damian Perry said.

"Bookings have significantly increased year-on-year, and our trade partnerships are contributing to strong double-digit growth.

"It's clear that our distinctive offering is appealing to travellers across the region."

Perry said this momentum puts Hurtigruten in an excellent position to grow its footprint and deepen engagement across the Asia-Pacific region.

**Pictured:** *Midnatsol* and *Finnmarken* cross paths off the Norwegian coast.

## Three new ports

**THE** Port Authority of Las Palmas, along with its partners Global Ports Holding and Sepcan, have officially inaugurated three new cruise ports in the Canary Islands.

Two new cruise terminals at Lanzarote Cruise Port have been delivered, as well as a new cruise terminal at Fuerteventura Cruise Port.

The two new terminals at Lanzarote include the new Naos Terminal, designed for both transit and home port operations; and the Los Marmoles Terminal, which has the capacity to serve up to three cruise ships.

There is also a smaller satellite terminal, which supports auxiliary services for passengers and crew.

Meanwhile, the new Fuerteventura Cruise Port terminal is situated a short distance from downtown.

The terminal has been designed with a modular concept, featuring a dining area with an outdoor terrace, enhancing the overall passenger experience and strengthening its connection to the local environment.

Both terminals are eco-efficient buildings equipped with solar, and built with recyclables and innovative technologies to minimise carbon footprint and maximise the use of renewables.

## Hurti flash sale

**HURTIGRUTEN** is offering two-for-one on its flagship voyages along the Norwegian coast for a limited time.

The flash sale covers voyages departing between Oct-Dec 2025 and applies to its Original Coastal Express and Signature North Cape round-trip cruises.



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**ALTHOUGH** Carnival Cruise Line typically doesn't allow dogs on board, the brand's *Carnival Splendor* rescued three pooches in the South Pacific last week.

The trio of dogs, and their four very appreciative owners (**pictured**), were rescued from a disabled catamaran on Thu morning, while *Splendor* was sailing south of New Caledonia.

The catamaran had departed from the Gold Coast earlier in the month, heading to Fiji.

The vessel broke down during bad weather, stranding its passengers, which included two Aussies, one German, and an Italian, before they were brought safely aboard the cruise ship.



## A Ritz-y event in Melbourne



**THE** Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection (RCYC) Director Travel Partnerships Anastasia Kotanidis held a trade event in Melbourne last week at Gaggenau Melbourne's showroom.

Trade partners enjoyed a masterclass with chef Tony Tan, showcasing some of his closely guarded recipes, including his mother's famous roast chicken.

The group also learned the art of dumpling-making, interwoven with personal stories from Tan's

rich cultural heritage.

The event set the stage for the launch of RCYC's third yacht *Luminara*, which will feature world-class dining, and sail Asian voyages during the 2025 and 2026 seasons (**CW** 02 May). **MS**

**Pictured** at the event are Sally Stockdale, Travel Associates Hampton; Anastasia Kotanidis; Tony Tan; Judy Tanner, Aurora Travel; Josephine DeMuth, Bayview Travel; and Amit Holckner, Edge Connections.

## Beyond Facebook

**SOCIAL** media marketing should be a broad exercise for cruise and travel sellers, encompassing many different platforms beyond Facebook, according to the owner of Thorne Travel, Shona Thorne.

While Facebook was a primary tool for marketing, different audiences are prevalent on other platforms, meaning cruise sellers may potentially be missing out on prospective passengers.

Thorne said she has seen success by diversifying to TikTok, Pinterest, and LinkedIn, driven largely by her younger team members.

"Facebook is great, but customers are looking for a lot more," Thorne said, advising agents to design posts personal to clients.

"They're looking for TikTok in particular - not just for the daft things, but the quirky."

Thorne said Facebook has become "a bit shouty" in terms of its user engagement, while activity on LinkedIn is much more subtle.

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