

Cruise Weekly today

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

Alaska tax lawsuit

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) is suing the Alaskan town of Skagway over its new tax policy, which changes how the destination levies shore excursions.

Skagway late last year approved a tweak to its tax code to collect levies on the full price cruise passengers pay for their shore excursion, which includes the commission the lines charge.

"We oppose provisions of Ordinance No. 24-12 that violate the U.S. Constitution and Alaska state law by imposing new and duplicative taxes on shore excursions sold by cruise lines," a CLIA spokesperson told local media.

RSSC unveils new *Prestige* suite categories

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has introduced brand new suites on board *Seven Seas Prestige*, with skyview suites, grand loft suites, and horizon penthouse suites to make up the dozen stateroom categories available on the ship.

Prestige will feature six two-storey skyview suites, located on decks 14 and 15, which will feature serene private rooftop terraces and an in-room elevator.

There will also be four two-level grand loft suites, with floor-to-ceiling windows; and a horizon penthouse suite, which features oversized balconies.

The highly anticipated skyview regent suite, another brand-new category, will be unveiled at a later date.

"At Regent, we pride ourselves on delivering 'unrivaled space at sea', and with the accommodations aboard *Seven*



Seas Prestige, I can confidently say that we have once again raised the bar with this collection of suites offering an unparalleled luxury unlike anything the cruise industry has seen before," RSSC Chief Luxury Officer Jason Montague said.

"Debuting in late 2026, guests will be able to experience these extraordinary accommodations

while sailing to the world's most sought-after destinations and enjoying the highest standards of service through our signature 'heartfelt hospitality'.

"Excitement for *Seven Seas Prestige* is already sky-high, and we know our discerning guests are eagerly anticipating reservations opening on 25 Jun," he said. *MS*

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Henson pours one out for Princess

AMERICAN actress Taraji Henson's Seven Daughters Moscato has joined Princess Cruises' star-studded Love Lines Premium Liquors Collection.

Seven Daughters is known for its vibrant, light, and sweet flavour, and is now available across the Princess fleet.

Henson (**pictured**) joins an expanding roster of celebrities featured in the Love Lines Collection, including Jason Momoa's Meili Vodka; Matthew McConaughey's Pantalones Organic Tequila; and Blake Lively's Betty Booze and Betty Buzz, among others.

"Princess Cruises is committed to curating distinctive, high-quality experiences for our guests, and Seven Daughters aligns seamlessly with that vision," Vice President of Food & Beverage Sami Kohen said.

"Taraji's moscato reflects a bold



yet approachable style that we know our guests will love."

Henson described her wine as "a celebration in a glass".

"Our moscato is inviting, refreshing, and perfect for moments of connection which is

what makes this partnership with Princess Cruises so amazing.

"Now we can experience this feeling with people from around the world, whether they're toasting under the stars or relaxing on the open sea." *MS*

Shackles are off

JONATHAN Shackleton, cousin of explorer Ernest Shackleton, will retrace his family's legacy on a voyage to Antarctica with Ponant in Jan.

The younger Shackleton, who serves as the family's historian, will join *Le Commandant Charcot* on a sailing from Ushuaia to Hobart next year.

Shackleton will deliver a series of engaging lectures and informal talks on board, drawing on themes such as the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration, the legacy of his cousin, polar literature, and the region's natural history.

His storytelling has previously captivated guests on Ponant expeditions to the Ross Sea.

Shackleton has followed in his ancestor's footsteps for more than 25 years, taking part in numerous expeditions to Antarctica.

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CRUISE ship meetups are a rare and fun sight, but even more unique is a fleet's two most important (and cutest) officers getting together at sea.

Royal Caribbean's two Chief Dog Officers, Sailor and Rover, officially met for the first time recently, on board the cruise line's brand-new *Icon of the Seas* (pictured).

Sailor is preparing to join Royal Caribbean's new ship *Star of the Seas* as its Chief Dog Officer, and is learning some new tricks from Rover, who serves in this most important role aboard *Icon*.

Word from the meetup is the ship encountered "ruff" seas.



Last-minute Murray

LAST-MINUTE savings are available for the final season of Murray River Paddlesteamers' *Emmylou's* overnight cruises, before she begins her charter with Travelmarvel.

Couples can save \$800 and solo travellers up to \$2,520 - call 03 5482 5244.

Fiji's first cruise turnaround



FIJI successfully hosted its first major ship turnaround earlier this month, when Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Sun* docked at Queens Wharf in Lautoka, disembarking 2,000 passengers.

Ground operator Rosie Fiji Cruises, along with Fiji Ports, port agencies, government border agencies, and more, came together to tackle a logistical challenge not seen before on this scale in the destination, reports *FBC News*.

The turnaround - the disembarkation of one group of passengers and embarkation of the next - is the first of three Fiji will host this year.

Turnarounds are far more valuable than regular cruise calls, as passengers engage with the destination's accommodation, transfers, hospitality, and other sectors with the tourism industry.

Rosie Travel Group General Manager Eroni Puamau described the turnaround as a defining moment for Fiji's cruise sector.

Adding his plaudits was Tourism Fiji Chief Executive Officer Brent Hill, who said the turnaround of *Sun* (pictured) proves the destination can handle more cruise capacity.

Hill has long been an advocate for more cruise capacity to

Fiji, previously calling on lines to home port a ship in the destination (**CW** 13 May).

Adding to the country's attraction as a cruise home port destination is the recent growth of its flag carrier Fiji Airways, which has expanded its international network and increased flight frequencies, making it easier for travellers from key source markets such as Australia and the United States to access the island nation. *MS*

Quark hosts new webinar series

QUARK Expeditions is hosting a new webinar series, 'The Polar Bites Series', which will start next week.

A free stateroom on a Quark Svalbard expedition next year is up for grabs for those who attend all six bite-sized information sessions.

Each webinar will spotlight a unique polar destination, from the landscapes of Antarctica and Svalbard's wildlife to the beauty of the Arctic Archipelago and the emperor penguins of Snow Hill.

The webinars will take place on 04, 11, 18, and 25 Jun, and 02 and 09 Jul.

Each webinar will run in the morning - **CLICK HERE** to register and for more info.



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