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NOTHING says 'bon voyage' like a double scoop of SPF 50+, according to Carnival Cruise Line, which has announced the creation of a very unique dessert concept.

In partnership with Van Leeuwen ice cream company, the cruise line has unveiled a sunscreen-flavoured ice cream.

The flavour aims to combat what Carnival calls the 'end-of-summer scaries' or "the bittersweet feeling when the season of sunshine and carefree moments winds down".

Thankfully, sunscreen is not actually on the ingredients list.

Those daring enough to try the new creation will taste coconut, vanilla and sea salt... which actually sounds pretty tasty, if you ask us.

However, the cruise line revealed that the sunscreen ice cream won't be available for public purchase at first.

Carnival is inviting its fans to share their reactions to the new ice cream on social media, with a trial run to come "if the buzz is big enough".

Early reaction though has been mixed, with some of Carnival's vocal fans already calling for it to be banned.



Viking Tonle launches in Asia



VIKING has officially welcomed its newest river ship, *Viking Tonle*, into its fleet (**CW** 15 Nov 2023).

The vessel will sail exclusively on Southeast Asia's Mekong River, operating the 15-day 'Magnificent Mekong' itinerary, which visits Hanoi, Vietnam; Siem Reap, Kampong Cham and Phnom Penh in Cambodia; and Tan Chau, Sa Dec, Cai Be, and Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam.

Like her sister ship *Viking Saigon*, *Viking Tonle* features the brand's Scandinavian design, and has an 80-guest capacity across 40 outdoor staterooms with a veranda or French balcony.

The three-deck ship also features a pool, a spa, and a fitness centre, as well as an open-air Sky Bar on the upper deck.

"Our guests are thinking people who value learning through travel, and the rich history and traditions of Vietnam and Cambodia make this region especially compelling," said Torstein Hagen, Chairman and CEO of Viking Cruises.

"We are pleased that the

addition of the *Viking Tonle* to our fleet allows us to welcome even more curious travellers to the Mekong River and the cultural treasures of Southeast Asia."

Viking's global inventory is set to grow further, with the line taking delivery of 25 additional river ships by 2028, which will bring its river ship fleet up to 112.

The cruise line is expecting 10 new ocean ships by 2031. **JM**

Behind the curtain

CRYSTAL Cruises has announced the next sailing in its 'Crystal on Broadway' series, which features acclaimed Broadway artists such as Tony Award-winning producer, Kevin McCollum.

Departing New York on 31 Oct 2025 aboard *Crystal Serenity*, the nine-day voyage will take in the autumn foliage of New England and Canada.

Guests will enjoy a cabaret-style concert, performances, and an 'Ever After the Musical' workshop with a Q&A session.



Milestone month for cruise

SEPTEMBER has kicked off with a string of milestones that highlight the strength of our sector.

Our 2025 conference welcomed a record delegation, creating an incredible platform for collaboration across cruise lines, ports, destinations and government.

A standout moment was the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding with Tourism Australia and CLIA Australasia, formalising our joint commitment to increase international cruise calls in Australia and bring more visitors from overseas to cruise in our waters.

It was also very special to award Honorary Life Membership to Thor Elliott, who has been Fremantle Ports' appointed representative for more than 20 years and was present at the ACA Conference in Fremantle in 2005.

Honouring him two decades later in the city again was a fitting recognition of his longstanding contribution to the sector.

WA took centre stage again last week with the opening of the Kimberley Marine Support Base in Broome, a development set to transform cruise operations and bolster Broome's First Point of Entry status.

Broome International Airport was also recognised as a finalist in the 2025 Seatrade Cruise Awards for its trailblazing Cruise Lounge.

Meanwhile in Hamburg, ACA Board Member and Director Cruise at South Australian Tourism Commission, Andrew McKinnon, represented our region at Seatrade Cruise Europe, holding key cruise line meetings on behalf of ACA.