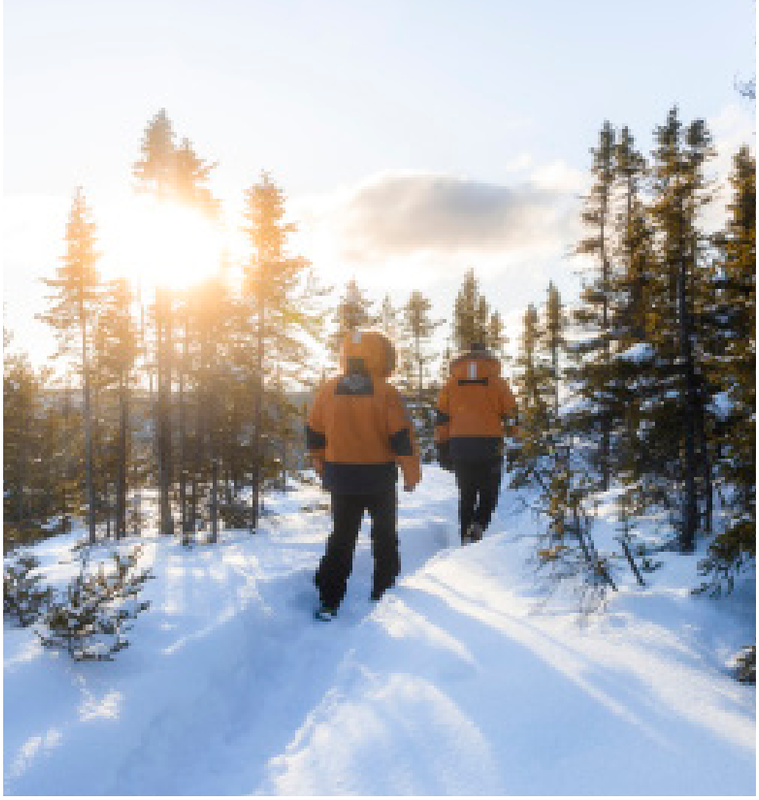


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Frozen frontier

Ponant's state-of-the-art polar expedition ship *Le Commandant Charcot* will take to the seas with a world-first expedition to St Lawrence River during the heart of the boreal winter. The 13-day voyage will see guests sail through ethereal frozen landscapes illuminated by the mesmerising northern lights to Québec and the Inn and Micmac communities of Canada. Hiking, snowshoeing, kayaking, dog sledding and ice fishing will be on offer to adventure-seeking guests, with the possibility of encountering caribou and elk. *ponant.com*

ROLEX SETS SAIL

One of the world's most influential luxury watch brands is now available on the high seas. Rolex recently opened a boutique on Explora Journeys' luxe liner, *EXPLORA I*, which is entirely dedicated to the Swiss luxury watchmaker. It's the first time Rolex has had a store at sea. The 'Rolex at sea mono-brand store' promises an extensive range of models and styles exclusive to those on board. *explorajourneys.com*



© Rolex

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Quark coup

Astronaut, geology professor and science communicator, Dr Sian Proctor, has been named godmother of Quark's newest expedition ship, *Ultramarine*. Along with voyages to the world's most remote regions, Dr Proctor is the first Black woman to pilot a spacecraft. Dr Proctor says when she first saw polar regions from space, she knew she wanted to make these places part of her work. "What better place than the far edges of the planet to expand our awareness of what it means to be a just, equitable, diverse, and inclusive society?" You can join Dr Proctor on board *Ultramarine* on its November sailing of Antarctica. *quarkexpeditions.com*

A Viking state of mind

Viking has three new summer expedition voyages to the Arctic in 2025. The new itineraries range from 13 to 27 days and include Canada and Greenland, with two of the three visiting the Canadian High Arctic. Torstein Hagen, chairman of Viking says, "From the time of Leif Eriksson and the original Vikings, Greenland and the Canadian High Arctic have fascinated intrepid explorers. Today, there is no better way to experience this pristine area of the world than from the comfort of our purpose-built expedition ships." *viking.com*





KICKING CULINARY GOALS

You know you've hit culinary heights when you are inducted into the prestigious echelons of the Maîtres Cuisiniers de France. Now, Oceania Cruises' culinary team has achieved it twice, making it the only major cruise line to have two Master Chefs of France. Oceania's senior culinary director, Alexis Quaretti, has made the list, joining vice president of culinary Eric Barale. Quaretti says, "Being inducted into the Master Chefs of France is truly one of the biggest honours of my career, and I sincerely look forward to being part of this prestigious organisation." Quaretti's ever-changing menus are inspired by his home country of France, as well as his world travels. *oceaniacruises.com*

Grandeur gains a godmother

Sarah Fabergé, founding member of The Fabergé Heritage Council and great-granddaughter of renowned jeweller Peter Carl Fabergé, has been named Godmother of *Seven Seas Grandeur*. Fabergé will officiate the ship's christening at a gala in Miami on 10 December. *Seven Seas Grandeur* will then embark on a return three-night Caribbean christening cruise before commencing its inaugural season in the region. The ship will be home to an opulent art collection, its centrepiece the custom-designed *Journey in Jewels* – the first Fabergé Egg to permanently reside at sea. *rssc.com*

