

Canada's Travel Trade News

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A detailed photograph of the Fontana del Nettuno in St. Peter's Square, Rome. The central figure is Neptune, seated on a rock and holding a trident. He is surrounded by his horses and other figures. The fountain is set against the backdrop of the St. Peter's Basilica facade, with its columns and arches visible. The water flows from the base of the fountain into a pool of clear blue water.

**INCREDIBLE
ITALY**



AIRLINES

The Air Canada Master Executive Council (MEC) of the Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l (ALPA) has provided a notice to bargain to **Air Canada** management. The union says it anticipates scheduling its first bargaining meeting with the airline in the coming weeks. Westjet pilots are also members of ALPA. Last month, Westjet and ALPA reached a tentative consensus on their second collective bargaining agreement, narrowly averting a strike. The deal included a 24% wage increase over four years. The Air Canada pilots announced their new membership in the ALPA, also last month, and invoked a clause to end its 10-year collective agreement a year early and launch negotiations over a new one.

Both **Air Canada** and **Air Transat** were honoured at the 2023 Skytrax World Airline Awards, held at the Paris Air Show. Air Canada took the prize for the World's Most Family-Friendly Airline, and the Best Airline in Canada. Air Canada employees won for Best Airline Staff in Canada, and Air Canada Rouge was declared the Best Low-Cost Airline in Canada. Meanwhile Air Transat came out on top once again at the Skytrax Awards, taking home the 'World's Best Leisure Airline' award for the fifth time. "Receiving this award for the fifth time illustrates their exceptional contributions, which are at the heart of our success," said Transat's President and CEO, Annick Guérard.



POLICIES

New legislation has been introduced by Ottawa to bolster accountability at airports and create a transportation sector that's more efficient and transparent. Bill C-52, tabled in the House of Commons and announced by Transport Minister Omar Alghabra, would pave the way for new rules requiring airports and other airport operators to create service standards and publish data that can be compared against those benchmarks. Ottawa says these standards could track outcomes ranging from security screening wait times, to how long it takes luggage to reach the carousel.

CRUISE

VIVA Cruises will debut a third new-build ship, Viva Enjoy, set to launch in September 2024. With a similar design to VIVA Cruises' second new-build ship, Viva Two, the Viva Enjoy will mainly sail on the Danube from September to December 2024. Itineraries are now open for

booking. The new vessel will set off on its 12-night maiden voyage on Sept. 22, 2024, from Frankfurt to Vienna. The river cruise brand launched sales to the North American travel market in 2022, backed by its cruise-pioneering parent Scylla. VIVA Cruises itineraries are commissionable to travel advisors starting at 15% and increasing based on bookings.



SUSTAINABILITY

Silversea has become the first tour operator to gain certification in environmental management in the Galapagos Islands. According to the ultra-luxury and expedition cruise line, it is the first operator to divert all waste from landfill disposal in the Galapagos. Silversea classifies and sorts all waste generated aboard Silver Origin, before transporting all but organic waste out of the Galapagos Islands to the mainland to be recycled or processed in line with regulatory procedures. The cruise line receives a traceability document that verifies the responsible movement and disposal of all waste.