

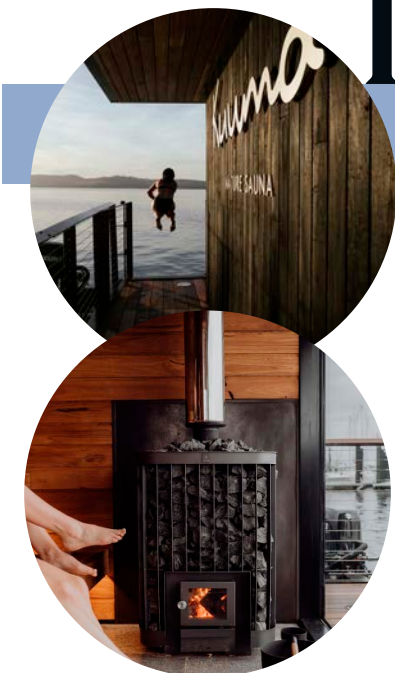
Travel news

EDITED by BERNARD O'SHEA

Watch out for whales

Whale-watching season is upon us, and from now to November you'll have a good chance of spotting Humpbacks and Southern Rights off the coast. To guide you, AVIS Australia has compiled a list of seven top viewing spots where roadside scenery is appealing too. They are: Cape Solander, Huskisson and Merimbula in NSW; Flinders Bay, WA; Victor Harbor, SA; Bruny Island, Tas; and Warrnambool, Vic.

Now is a great time to see whales as they embark on their annual migration.



Sauna AT SEA

Full steam ahead

Inspired by the sauna culture of Northern Europe, husband and wife team Nathan and Chloe Gore wanted to take the Australian sauna offering to the next level. The ingenious result? Kuuma, Australia's first seafaring sauna pontoon boat, which offers scenic sailings around North West Bay from Barretta, a 20-minute drive south of Hobart. Kuuma's "a special place where everyone can unwind, reconnect with nature, and enjoy moments of peace and mindfulness" says Chloe. Book a communal spot or round up seven besties for a memorable private outing. See kuuma.com.au



Princess Cruises' 2026 Alaska cruising season promises to be epic, with eight ships doing a combined 180 departures to 19 destinations in the region. Leading the flotilla will be its newest ship, the *Star Princess* (illustration, left), which is due to make her maiden voyage in August 2025. The cruises range from seven to 20 days. More at princess.com

Book that exotic trip!

Need holiday ideas? We're drooling over the latest travel guides from Hardie Grant, such as *Hidden Pockets in Kyoto*, *Ultimate Island Escapes Australia* by Emma Shaw, and James Vodicka's *Undiscovered Queensland*. Go to hardiegrant.com for more.



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