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Slovenia targets Aussies

SLOVENIA is the hottest new destination in Europe, and authorities there have launched a concerted effort to attract more Australian visitors.

Yesterday a high level delegation including Slovenia's Minister for Economic Development, Zdravko Pocivalsek, and Maja Pak, director of the Slovenian Tourist Board, took part in the country's first Australian workshop in Sydney.

"We feel Slovenia has the right profile for this market," Pak told *Travel Daily*, with the country touting its green, active, healthy and sustainable tourism offerings.

She said until recently Slovenian tourism had targeted European visitors but was now setting its sights on long-haul markets including Australia.

Last year Australian visitors to the country were up 20% and it's felt there is significantly more potential - particularly with Emirates now offering non-stop flights from Dubai to Zagreb, which is about two hours' drive from Slovenia.

Slovenia is also easily accessible from Venice, with the country described as the "green heart of Europe" connecting the Alps to the Mediterranean.

As well as several dignitaries, the Slovenian Tourism Workshop featured representatives of hotel groups, DMCs and attractions including the iconic Ljubljana Castle - more from the event on **page eight** of *Travel Daily* today.

Win a \$10k US trip

AMERICAN Airlines and **Brand USA** are inviting travel agents to share their knowledge of AA and America, in a promotion with a grand prize of the "ultimate US itinerary".

The winner's trip takes in Las Vegas, Los Angeles and New Orleans - for more details see the **cover page** of today's *TD*.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has ten pages of news and photos, a front cover for **Brand USA** plus full pages from:

- Albatross Tours
- Travel Trade Recruitment
- People's Choice
- Hotel Connection prod pg

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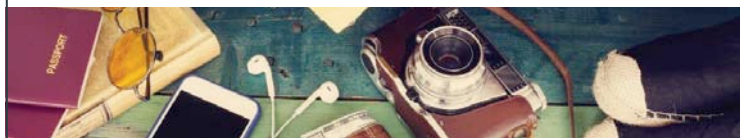


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Vance to Cruiseco

ETIHAD Airways marketing manager Adam Vance has taken a new role as general manager product & marketing at Cruiseco.

He had been at EY since 2012, and prior to that was Travelscene head of marketing.



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UA hails Houston success

UNITED Airlines' new non-stop flights between Sydney and Houston (TD 22 Jan) are performing strongly, with the Texan city's key positioning as a hub seeing almost 70% of passengers connecting through to other destinations.

UA vice president Atlantic & Pacific Sales, Marcel Fuchs, told *Travel Daily* last night he was "really pleased at how we are shaking things up".

United now operates 787-9 aircraft on all of its routes between Australia and the USA,

and offers seamless one-stop connectivity over Houston to more than 70 destinations across North and South America.

The addition of Houston means "we now have 1,000 seats per day in the market - including 200 premium seats," he said, with the all-Dreamliner operation making a "big difference for customers".

UA is currently upgrading its Polaris lounge in Houston, Fuchs said, and once complete in the coming months will offer a full meal service prior to the late evening departure to SYD.

Inbound passengers to the USA also enjoy a smooth arrival experience in Houston, Fuchs said.

QF in tax spotlight

QANTAS has come under scrutiny over its tax contributions, with the ABC naming the national carrier among top Australian companies that have not paid corporate tax for several years.

The public broadcaster says QF has not paid tax for close to 10 years despite generating income of \$106.4 billion since 2009.

It acknowledges the airline's sizeable losses in past years, but says Australia's generous tax concessions allow companies to offset losses against past and future profits.

Other carriers named include Emirates, Qatar Airways, Tiger Airways Australia and Virgin Australia Holdings, all of which paid zero corporate tax in the 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years, the ABC says.

Jetstar to lift Fiji

THE International Air Services Commission has confirmed an application from Jetstar Airways to introduce additional services between Australia and Fiji.

Qantas has lodged an allocation of 258 seats per week on the Fiji route and the IASC is now inviting other applications for capacity on the route, with a lodgement deadline of 28 Feb 2018.

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Park deal creates largest Aus network

ADELAIDE-BASED Discovery Parks has acquired the Top Parks brand of 170 sites, creating Australia's largest network of holiday parks.

In a licensing deal, Top Parks member locations will remain independently owned but become part of the growing Discovery Parks network, forming a combined group of more than 220 parks nationally.

The new combination claims a loyalty base of more than 140,000 camping fans and becomes the largest group of caravan, holiday and resort parks in Australia.

"It's the logical next step for Discovery," said Discovery Parks ceo Grant Wilckens.

"Our customers travel all over Australia and we want to offer them great places to stay and loyalty rewards, even where we don't own our own parks."

Under the agreement, both the Discovery Parks and Top Parks brands will be retained.

Top Parks and Discovery Parks members will have access to a new customer rewards program, G'DAY Rewards.

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Travel Daily

Wednesday 14th February 2018

New Hawaii chief

HAWAII Tourism Oceania today confirmed the appointment of Giselle Radulovic as its new country manager Australia.

Radulovic joins HTO from her most recent role as director of marketing and communications for Canberra Convention Bureau, and has more than two decades of industry experience.

"Giselle's reputation and expertise as an industry professional precede her, and we're thrilled to have her join us to lead the HTO team," said Jacqui Walshe, md of the Walshe Group which represents Hawaii in Australia and New Zealand.

"Her strength in business events and sustainability will complement the HTO team well and give us opportunity to expand our activity in both these areas," Walshe said.

She takes over from Kerri Anderson, who resigned from the HTO last year (TD 16 Nov) after two years with the organisation.

QR eyes CBR hotel

HAVING acquired the Sheraton Melbourne in Little Collins Street last year (TD 09 Aug), Qatar Airways Group is considering more hotel options in Australia.

Company ceo Akbar Al Baker yesterday said the firm was now "actively" looking for a property in Adelaide, as well as real estate in Canberra to develop a "much needed" new five-star hotel.

He remarked that Canberra has a lot of potential land and the city "deserves more options", and that QR was prepared to invest.

"Qatar Airways would like to bring one of the top brands to Canberra if we are given appropriate real estate," he told ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr during yesterday's inauguration ceremony of QR's CBR flights.

"We would need real estate that is appropriately priced. I would prefer it to be free," Al Baker quipped to the bemused Minister.

MORE from Qatar Airways on this page, **page 7** and **page 9**.

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CBR will take time

QATAR Airways head honcho Akbar Al Baker has admitted the airline's new Canberra service via Sydney (TD Mon) may take up to 12 months to gain penetration.

"When Qatar Airways launches a route it's a long term investment," the QR ceo said.

"If I was coming to Canberra because I wanted to make money in the first month or year, it's not going to happen. This is a long-term investment & commitment to a destination," he commented.

MEANWHILE, Al Baker said QR continued to "have our eyes on more destinations in Australia".

Although tight-lipped about the destinations of choice, he said the next route would not be a tag-on service - such as the Canberra route - leaving Brisbane & Darwin as the only obvious options.

Further, Al Baker confirmed the carrier would announce another 10 new destinations this year, but would not be drawn on revealing the names of those locations yet.



Window seat

QATAR Airways' outspoken ceo Akbar Al Baker was in fine form at last night's gala (see **page 8**) to mark the Doha-based airline's entry into Canberra this week.

Not one to shy away from controversial statements, Al Baker highlighted the size and age of his airline's fleet of 200+ planes and an average age under five years, and remarked, "I'm sure your national carrier must be very jealous".

The event also saw a number of lucky attendees win a set of Economy and Business class return tickets to anywhere on Qatar Airways' global network.

When Queanbeyan City Travel & Cruise's Jim Cooper was drawn as the Business class winner, Al Baker stormed the stage, saying "You'll have to sell more seats Jim. Those seats won't be free".

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Sail the azure waters of the eastern Mediterranean in the February issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read
travelBulletin

Le Meridien to Melb

MARRIOTT International will bring its Le Meridien brand to Melbourne, having signed a partnership with developer Jinshan Investment Group to open a 235-room property fronting Bourke & Spring streets.

Slated to open in 2020, the hotel will boast a "distinct mid-century modern approach to design and bold 'Destination Unlocked' positioning", and will follow other Le Meridien openings in Italy, South Korean, China and the US.

The 12-storey hotel will be converted from an existing low-rise building and will include several bar and dining venues, a 210m² function space with breakout rooms, and a heated swimming pool.

The new property comes as part of Marriott International's commitment to open 50 hotels in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific by the end of 2021.

Sri Lankan eyes SYD

SRILANKAN Airline ceo Suren Ratwatte says the national carrier will explore more opportunities in Australia with new direct flights to destinations like Sydney, according to local media.

Ratwatte said daily nonstop flights between Colombo and Melbourne are witnessing high traffic, which has reversed a previous decline in passenger traffic into the island nation.

The **oneworld** carrier flies into Melbourne daily from Colombo.

Frasers to Japan

FRASERS Hospitality has invested US\$188 million to develop two new serviced residence properties in Tokyo's Ginza and Akasaka districts.

The Capri by Fraser, Ginza, and Fraser Suites Akasaka are both in central downtown locations close to transportation hubs.

They are due to open in 2020.

Hotel Connection roadshow



THE Hotel Connection yesterday hosted top travel agents at a function in Sydney, showcasing its 'Luxury Collection' portfolio.

The event featured representatives from some of the overseas suppliers who made the most of the stunning views in the 'Studio' venue atop Sydney's Centrepont Tower.

Pictured above from left are Virginia Irurita from Made for Spain & Portugal; the inimitable Filippo Curinga from I.D.I. Italy and France; Sarah Whitty, The Hotel Connection; Michael Erwin, the Victoria Palace Hotel Paris; Madeline Pack and Cindy Kam, The Hotel Connection; and Doug Greenwood, Cheval Residences.

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travelBulletin Travel Daily

TIME's double celebration



THE Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) network recently celebrated the 27th intake from its mentoring program in Travelport's Sydney office last week.

Ensemble Travel Group's Trish Shepherd spoke at the event about the importance of having

great mentors in the success of her own career.

"Three decades into my career I still work with my mentor," Shepherd said.

The latest intake program for 2018 has now kicked off.

Pictured are the latest graduates of the program.

Tas hits UK screens

TOURISM Tasmania has launched a new TV campaign in the UK, with the aim of boosting the state's profile as a premium travel destination.

The TVC will be shown through until 04 Mar on Sky TV, with Tourism Tasmania ceo John Fitzgerald saying "the time is right to invest in the United Kingdom to take advantage of a rebound in consumer confidence".

"In the 12 months to Sep 2017, 26,000 visitors from the UK visited Tasmania - an increase of 9% on the previous year," he said.

"On average, each visitor spent just over \$1,575 in Tasmania, equating to an estimated total spend of \$41 million over the 12 month period."

Called Under Down Under, the TVC will feature iconic images and native animals.

Tourism Tasmania has partnered with Flight Centre, which will run a month-long digital, press and in-store campaign in the UK.

NT \$100m stimulus

THE Northern Territory Government has announced a \$103 million tourism stimulus package that will provide more marketing collateral, new tourism infrastructure and improve existing events in the region.

The spending breakdown will see \$26.57m allocated to smarter tourism marketing, \$56.24m for improved infrastructure and \$20.78m going towards enhancing festivals and events.

The \$26.57 million marketing injection alone is anticipated to generate a \$345 million return on investment over two years.

Vegas mega resort

MARRIOTT International has announced plans to develop a 4,000-room resort in Las Vegas, due to open in 2020 under the JW Marriott brand.

To be called The Drew Las Vegas, the integrated resort will include a casino, located on The Strip.

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Avalon to India

AVALON Waterways will introduce its first river cruises in India as part of its newly released 2019 program.

A 13-day itinerary, Colourful India & the Ganges River, travels between Delhi and Kolkata and joins Avalon's existing Asian cruises on the Mekong, Irrawaddy and Yangtze rivers.

The 2019 program also includes four new European itineraries of between eight and 18 days and a new 11-day itinerary in Burma.

Avalon has also refreshed its existing itineraries to include new excursions and activities under the categories of Discovery, Active and Classic.

Savings of up to \$2,500 per couple are available as well as a \$4,600 per couple flight credit.

Royal wedding

TO CELEBRATE Prince Harry tying the knot with TV star Meghan Markle, The Arch London is offering a special package which includes a Windsor Castle tour, a £100 upmarket shopping voucher & free airport transfer.

Deal avail in May from £3,900 for a two night stay twin share.

Hilton Cairo double

HILTON has signed two management agreements to open new hotels in Egypt.

The deal will see the company operate the Heliopolis Hotel & Towers Luxury Hotel under two distinct brands, one of which is already operating as the Hilton Cairo Heliopolis while the other will see the debut of its Waldorf Astoria brand later in the year.

The Hilton Cairo Heliopolis features 593 rooms

The Waldorf Astoria Cairo will offer 247 rooms when fully operational.

Nanuku Oct debut

AUBERGE Resorts has announced that its 13 new luxury one- and two-bedroom 'Auberge Beach Villas' in Nanuku Fiji are on schedule to open this Oct.

When finished, each villa will feature luxury amenities including private swimming pools.

The Auberge Beach Villas will also provide guests with an award-winning restaurant and bar, as well as a wellness centre and will be based on the island of Viti Levu in a precinct referred to as "Fiji's Adventure Capital".

Mövenpick networking



MÖVENPICK Hotels & Resorts last night booked out the swanky Ivy Penthouse in Sydney for an evening of VIP networking, highlighting the company's range of new and exciting developments across Asia.

Holger Jakobs, vice president of sales for Asia, spoke about recent announcements including the pending debut of the 148-room Mövenpick Resort Lang Co in Vietnam and the 105-villa Mövenpick Resort & Spa Kuredhvaru Maldives.

The Swiss hotel group is undergoing rapid expansion, and expects to launch at least eight new Asia Pacific hotels this year, boosting its regional portfolio by more than 50% to 19 properties.

Jakobs is pictured above left with Jeannie Foster, country director for Mövenpick's local representative Discover the World, and Belinda Harvy, Mövenpick international sales manager Australia/NZ.

Rotorua targets AU

TOURISM New Zealand is currently running a NZ\$750,000 marketing campaign designed to entice Aussies to visit Rotorua.

The city is being promoted as a way to escape winter by checking out geothermal experiences such as hot pools.

A separate campaign specifically targeting skiing attractions in New Zealand will also kick off in Mar.



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TripAdvisor trends

TRIPADVISOR'S 2018 Experiences, Tours, And Activities Trend Report shows that travellers are becoming increasingly interested in new experiences, but they're still loyal to the world's most iconic sites.

In 2017, the most booked experiences were a combined skip-the-line Vatican Museums, St Peters and Sistine Chapel pass, followed by the Chicago Architecture Cruise.

Bookable options for the Eiffel Tower and Empire State Building also featured in the top 10.

Historical & heritage experiences are the fastest growing area for US travellers, up 98%.

Sunset cruises jumped 89% in bookings and snorkelling up 64%.

Expedia cruise boost

EXPEDIA CruiseShipCenters is reporting a milestone-heavy year for the North American brand.

The brick and mortar travel agency achieved 12% year-over-year growth in gross bookings, opened 25 new franchise locations and welcomed a record-breaking 1,773 new vacation consultants to its network.

Expedia CruiseShipCenter attributes its growth in part to the continued expansion of the cruising industry.

The centre's president Matthew Eichhorst said the company was eager to play an integral part in the booming cruise sector.

The brand expects another strong year with 35 new franchise openings projected in 2018.

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Only successful applicants will be contacted

No DOH/CBR non-stop, yet



ANY hopes of a non-stop flight between Doha and Canberra have been quashed by Qatar Airways boss Akbar Al Baker, for now.

He told media at QR's press conference in Canberra yesterday that a direct flight into the capital out of the Middle East would not be possible at this stage due to CBR's insufficient runway length.

Al Baker said that although a long-haul flight from the Middle East would be able to land at Canberra, "we will not be able to take off".

"When you are going for such an ultra long-haul flight the aircraft is very heavy so it would need a minimum of 4,300 metres... to be able to fly directly to other destinations, via our hub in Doha," he explained.

"We don't intend to land anywhere else mid-way so this [transit in Sydney] is the only alternative we have".

Canberra Airport md Stephen Byron said the facility would address extending the runway as part of its master plan "over time".

Byron spruiked QR's new route for Canberrans, saying people will

appreciate the opportunity "to avoid all the hassle in Sydney", such as the delay and transfer of terminals for a domestic to int'l connection and "significantly long changeover times".

"To be guaranteed to be on the same plane and to have your luggage clear Customs in Canberra Airport is a substantial advantage over the alternative," Byron said.

If Canberra extended its runway,

the QR boss said a non-stop service would be considered.

"We would look at every opportunity to fly direct.

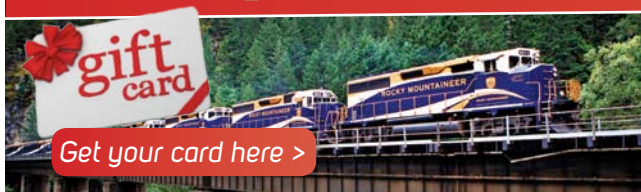
"Our strategy is always to fly point-to-point directly, without going through a busy or

congested hub, anywhere in our network," Al Baker said.

Pictured at yesterday's media event in Canberra from left are Qatar Airways svp APAC Marwan Koleilat; ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr, Qatar Airways Group ceo Akbar Al Baker; His Excellency Nasser bin Hamad Mubarak Al-Khalifa and Stephen Byron, Canberra Airport.



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Wednesday 14th February 2018

Slovenia LOVES Australians



SLOVENIA Tourism's first ever Australian workshop (see p1) has involved some serendipitous timing, coming on the evening before Valentine's Day.

It's possibly not a coincidence, because the country makes a big deal of the fact that it's the only nation in the world to have the world LOVE in its name.

Delegates highlighted the mix of history, culture, nature and activity offered to Slovenian visitors, with the country located between Austria to the north, Italy to the west, Hungary in the North East and Croatia to the east and south.

Iconic attractions include the capital Ljubljana, Predjama Castle & Postojna Cave, the stunning Lake Bled, vineyards, forests & more.

H.E. Zdravko Pocivalek, Minister of Economic Development and

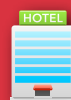
Technology of the Republic of Slovenia is pictured with H.E. Ms Helena Drnovsek Zorko, Slovenian Ambassador to Australia (left) and Maja Pak, director-general of the Slovenian Tourist Board.

Cairns renaissance

THE Cairns & Great Barrier Reef region is in the midst of an infrastructure boom according to Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ).

Among the future developments are three new Crystalbrook Collection hotels in Cairns, a new Hemingway's Brewery on the Cairns waterfront, and the opening of the Cairns Performing Arts Centre in mid-2018.

Silkair also recently added more direct flights from China further improving access to the region.



Accommodation Updates

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wed feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description with an image to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.



AccorHotels has recently unveiled the refurbished **Novotel Sydney Darling Square** in Sydney's newest neighbourhood featuring corporate offices, shopping, and eateries. The 230-room property has undergone a complete refresh inspired by a tranquil Chinese aesthetic. The hotel has also opened the new lobby bar and restaurant called Pier Street Kitchen.



Luxury fragrance brand **Cochine** has partnered with the **The Langham, Hong Kong** to present guests with floral afternoon tea treats inspired by cosmetics company Cochine's new range of hand creams.

Bite-sized afternoon tea pastries are on offer when bookings are made for afternoon tea such as Vietnamese Cassava coconut dacquoise with green jasmine mousse.



The first phase of a major modernisation project has been completed at the **Avani Windhoek Hotel & Casino** in Namibia. The refurbishment includes a new grand entrance able to accommodate passenger vehicles and buses for self-drive guests and tour groups. A new lobby has also been revealed and an update to all guest and business facilities. The second phase of renovations are now underway.



The **La Mon Hotel and Country Club** in Belfast Northern Ireland has completed stage four of its major renovation program which has seen all of its bedrooms and one wing of the hotel receive a complete refresh. The next phase of the refurb will update its banqueting, conference events suites & reception spaces later this year.

Outback's ninth

OUT of the Ordinary Outback has purchased The Alma Hotel in South Broken Hill, expanding its portfolio to nine properties in outback NSW.

The regional tourist operator has already commenced refurbishment activities on the building with aims of creating a hub of leisure and entertainment.

A new dining space and sports bar had already been added.

Marriott in Java

MARRIOTT Hotels has opened its first Marriott branded hotel in Indonesia, the Yogyakarta Marriott Hotel.

The 347-room property is positioned close by to major tourist attractions such as Keraton Royal Palace and the UNESCO-listed Borobudur Temple.

The hotel is located only 20 minutes from Adi Sutjipto International Airport.

Tahiti summer sale

AIR Tahiti has launched a sale offering return Economy airfares from Sydney to Papeete priced from \$1,179 per person and Sydney to Bora Bora from \$1,689 per person.

The sale finishes 26 Feb and is valid for travel from 01 Mar to 30 Nov with some blackout periods applying during peak times.

For further info on the summer promotion **CLICK HERE**.

Le Boat family deal

EUROPEAN boating specialist Le Boat is currently offering discounts of up to 10% for travellers with children who book more than seven nights.

The company is looking to capitalise on its family appeal, boasting playgrounds and outdoor swimming pools on trips.

The deal is valid until 28 Feb and applies to cruises taken from Jul and Aug - send enquiries **HERE**.

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Travel Daily

Qatar Airways celebrates CBR launch

QATAR Airways stamped its mark on Canberra last night at a gala held at the Hyatt Hotel Canberra for some 400 VIP guests, including **Travel Daily**, to herald the introduction of its new Doha-Sydney-Canberra route.

Emceed by TV personalities Matt Doran (from Seven Network) and Natarsha Belling (from Network Ten), the event gave travel trade partners the chance to mingle with QR executives including ceo Akbar Al Baker, celebrities, govt and CBR Airport officials, politicians, Qatar embassy officials, key corporate accounts and media.

Continuing Qatar Airways' track record of bringing out the big-guns of the entertainment industry to celebrate new routes in Australia (eg, Kylie Minogue for its Sydney flights), the gala's headline act was ARIA award winner and Australia's 2018 Eurovision entrant Jessica Mauboy.

Local agents have embraced Qatar Airways' entry into the nation's capital, especially because of its commitment to offer an appealing daily service from the outset, albeit through Sydney.

Deb Long from Weston Cruise & Travel welcomed QR's entry into Canberra, telling **Travel Daily** the route would provide better connectivity for her clients, not only onto Qatar Airways' extensive network, but also enabling Canberrans to tap into the destination portfolio offered through the oneworld global alliance, of which Qatar Airways is a member.



FLANKED by Qatar Airways cabin crew are Sue Graham, Helloworld Travel; Dennis Alysandratos, Consolidated Travel; Adam Radwanski, Qatar Airways senior manager Australasia; Stacey Seeto, Flight Centre and Tom Manwaring, Express Travel Group.



JESSICA Mauboy lit up the stage.



NO, THERE was no duet - Qatar Airways ceo Akbar Al Baker welcomed guests.



DEB Long, Weston Cruise & Travel with Qatar Airways' commercial manager Justin Kestel and marketing manager Australasia Dianne Biviano.



ORIENT Travel Centre's Bassam Elsadik and Mustafa Elsadik, with Qatar Airways' Dianne Biviano and Justin Kestel, and cabin crew.

JIM & Jenny Cooper of Quenbeyan City Travel with Lida Alevizos, senior sales exec, Qatar Airways.



AARON Glaskin, Corporate Traveller; Chris Wilks, Flight Centre Travel Group; Lida Alevizos, Qatar Airways; Demi Kavaratzis, Expedia and Rob Dell, HRG Australia.



AMONG the celebrities attending the gala were Kerri Anne Kennerley (right) and Anna Heinrich & Tim Robards.

Tax hike opposition

AIRLINES for America (A4A), which represents major US carriers, has rejected plans by President Trump to increase Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) security fees (**TD** yesterday).

The industry peak body says Congress should prioritise efforts to return billions of dollars that were diverted from TSA and CBP to pay for non-aviation related purposes, instead of increasing taxes for the travelling public.

A4A president and ceo Nicholas Calio said an increase on taxes will curtail job growth and limit the options "small and medium communities currently enjoy".

As part of the United States 2019 budget, plans are to increase the passenger security fee by US\$1 in 2019 and add another US\$1.65 in FY2020.

Hertz parking res

SPOTHERO has partnered with Hertz to provide smart parking solutions to rental car customers.

Under the deal, SpotHero and Hertz will collaborate on a suite of mobility solutions to make parking easier for Hertz renters.

The first plan is to create the ability to find, book and pay for off-street parking in more than 50 major cities across North America directly in the Hertz mobile app.

Ritz-Carlton St Kitts

THE Ritz-Carlton has signed a management agreement with The Lianuiga Corporation to open the first Ritz-Carlton resort in St Kitts from 2021.

Plans for the property include 125 suites as well as 25 branded villas and residences.

The Ritz Carlton will be located on Southeast Peninsula.

Join the team at Business Publishing Group

We are looking for a talented go getter to join our team of writers on a part-time basis to produce content for our portfolio of publications – *Travel Daily*, *Pharmacy Daily*, *travelBulletin*, *Cruise Weekly* and *Business Events News*.

You will be required to prepare, write and edit copy for the daily publications ensuring deadlines and quality standards are achieved. Your role will also involve conducting interviews and providing coverage of industry events for the generation of content.

We are looking for someone with a minimum of three years experience in journalism, PR or communications, a sound knowledge of Adobe InDesign and social media. Experience within the travel industry would be an advantage. This is a part-time role with a minimum of 20 hours per week, based at our Macquarie Park office, offering a competitive salary and flexible working hours.

A full job description is available on request. To apply email your confidential CV with cover letter to jobs@traveldaily.com.au before 21/02/2018.

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Travel Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Produced each weekday since 1994, *Travel Daily* is Australia's leading travel industry publication.

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Win an escape to Thailand



Centara Grand @ CentralWorld Bangkok

This month *Travel Daily* and Centara Hotels & Resorts are teaming up to give readers a chance to win an escape to Thailand.

The prize

Return flights to Bangkok and seven nights accommodation at Centara Grand in Bangkok and Krabi for two.

How to win

1 Head to centarahotelsresorts.com/b2b to check out all the key selling points and amazing destinations that Centara has to offer your clients.

2 Send us your 3 favourite Centara selling points along with a picture or meme of you enjoying your ultimate Centara moment. The most imaginative entry will win. Send your entries to centara@traveldaily.com.au

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Yapta-Amadeus link

YAPTA, a provider of airfare and hotel price tracking services has debuted an intelligent price tracking service on the Amadeus Global Distribution System (GDS).

The group's product provides 24x7 analysis and insights into corporate airfares, allowing pax to re-book tickets at lower prices.

Corporations that use Amadeus will be able to use Yapta's FareIQ and RoomIQ solutions to capture savings at all points of sale.

Qingdao surges

CHINA'S Qingdao Liuting International Airport is booming, with passenger traffic increasing 23.21 million in 2017.

The figure was up 13.2% year-on-year from 2016.

The airport's average seat utilisation was 60.4% over 2017.

Seabourn chats

SEABOURN has announced details of the upcoming season of Seabourn Conversations aboard *Seabourn Ovation*, scheduled to launch in May 2018.

The line's newest ship will feature a program including author Sir Tim Rice and integrative medicine pioneer Dr Andrew Weil on the 05-16 May voyage.

Historian Warren Fahey will sail on *Ovation* on 14 Nov-04 Dec.

Joshua Tree shuttle

JOSHUA Tree National Park in California is offering a new shuttle bus service.

The bus will take visitors to several designated stops in and around the park.

The shuttles will leave every two hours from the Joshua Tree and Oasis Visitor Centers.



Working in partnership with the Australian Travel Industry

Accommodation Consultant

Sydney, Circa \$45k + Super, Ref: 3240SO1

Working for a fast growing and fun business that require a couple of additional consultants to join their diverse and supportive team. You will be predominantly working with an array of luxury accommodation across Australia and world-wide to book their dream hotels. With an events division you will be assisting everyone from the blushing bride and groom for their perfect wedding, to prestigious black tie corporate functions. Join this friendly and exciting business and never look back!

For more information please call Sasha on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Online Travel Consultant

Melbourne, up to \$55k OTE + Super, Ref: 2601MC1

Seeking experienced retail or existing wholesale travel consultants to join an industry leader and take the next step in their travel career. If you have a successful sales track record and a strong ability to build rapport over the phone this is the role for you. Successful candidates will be responsible for handling large volumes of calls while piecing together tailor made and packaged itineraries for travel agents. Professional phone manner is essential and strong organisational skills are key.

For more information please call Meghann on
(03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Product Manager

Melbourne, Competitive Salary + Super, Ref: 1241CGA2

A rare travel industry Product Manager position has opened in Melbourne. My client is seeking an exceptionally driven and motivated Product Manager to be part of this fast pace & growing business. The overall purpose of this position is to generate profitable revenue by developing & managing products. You will have destination knowledge and professional travel in India. Monday – Friday working hours. If you are a quick learner & show excellent attention to detail this is the role for you.

For more information please call Courtney on
(03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Experienced Travel Consultant

Brisbane, Competitive & Lucrative Salary Package, Ref: 2032AW1

Working with the crème de la crème of travel products you will be walking into an agency that specialises in high yield bookings! The ideal candidate will have strong GDS and fares experience and come with a wealth of travel knowledge. Do you enjoy creating bespoke and tailor made itineraries? Pride yourself on delivering exceptional customer service? Walking into this role with confidence and motivation and being a team player is key to succeeding in this agency!

For more information please call Amanda on
(07) 2132 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Travel Consultant, Part-Time

North West Sydney, \$40-\$45k + Commission, Ref: 2010AJ1

A rare opportunity has just opened up in the North Western suburbs for an experienced consultant to join a great team that specialise in looking after their team members. A healthy Work-Life balance is paramount and you can therefore look forward to enjoying 3 days off a week in addition to a friendly work environment. On top of this, the store is in an ideal location with plenty of foot traffic leading to the potential to exceed targets and reap the associated benefits of doing so.

For more information please call Antony on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Operations Coordinator

Melbourne, \$40k-\$50k + Super, Ref: 3274HC1

Are you looking for something a little different in the travel industry & want to get into operations? This role is the one for you! This highly successful travel company are looking for fantastic operations coordinators to help with their business. We are looking for consultants who are willing to be flexible in their work place and keen to learn the ropes. This is a dynamic, busy, fun environment where no days are the same, offering a multitude of different tasks.

For more information please call Hannah on
(03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Leisure Travel Consultant

Brisbane, up to \$50k + Super & Comms, Ref: 2514SZ2

Would you like to work in an agency and run it like your own? Do you have the confidence and experience to work solely within a store that will provide you with at least a guarantee \$1.2-\$1.5 million dollar yearly turnover? Our clients use Galileo as a GDS and due to a long standing consultant leaving for overseas, this unique role has become available where you will have an existing client base, always getting 2 days in a row off which means no more 6 or 7 day working weeks!

For more information please call Serena on
(07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Leisure Travel Team Leader


Perth, Competitive, Ref: 3250SJ2

A fantastic opportunity to work within a leading travel company as their Team Leader. This team of experienced consultants are looking for a motivated & proactive leader. You will ideally have excellent experience in people and sales management as well as a passion for travel & cruise. This is a varied role involving strategy and change management. It is a great chance to focus purely on management in the travel industry. A great salary, plus bonuses, modern offices & a central location.

For more information please call Sarah on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.



Find your ideal travel job at www.TravelTradeJobs.com.au
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Who will be crowned People's Choice: Travel Agency of the Year 2018?

AFTA is on the hunt to find Australia's Favourite Retail Travel Agency.

*To do this, we've partnered with APT & Australian Traveller Media
to help us rally consumer votes.*

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Have your clients vote for your ATAS Travel Agency. The Travel Agency with the most consumer votes by 31 May 2018, will be crowned the NTIA People's Choice: Retail Travel Agency of the Year and awarded at the NTIA Gala Dinner on Saturday 21 July 2018.

WHY SHOULD MY CLIENTS VOTE?

To incentivise Australians to vote, APT are offering your clients the chance to win a Mekong River Cruise for two people valued at over \$8,000.

HOW CAN I GET MY CLIENTS TO VOTE?

AFTA has produced some promotion material that you can use to encourage your clients to vote for you. Simply visit www.afta.com.au to download the assets.

For more information or to vote visit www.internationaltraveller.com





Made for Spain & Portugal

FROM short escapes to month long vacations, multi-generational events to history focused itineraries, from family fun to gourmet food and wine trails, **Made for Spain & Portugal** creates bespoke journeys to take all dreams and turn them into a trip of a lifetime.

Owner Virginia Irurita says many visitors get a taste for these countries when they visit briefly on cruises, and she is able to fulfil every whim when they return for a more extensive experience of the destinations.

Possibilities with **Made for Spain & Portugal** include exploring the world's largest vineyard region, the Iberian Peninsula, home to over 90

wine regions, on a trip stretching from central Spain all the way to northern Portugal. Sample fantastic varietals along the way with visits to spectacular private wine estates with the owners, and pairings with Michelin Star meals.

The culture obsessed can immerse themselves in Spanish and Portuguese history and art, with visits to top museums while they are closed to the public. Experience them through an expert's eyes with a renowned local artist as a host.

For adventure seekers, combine gastronomy, culture and sport with cycling trips through lush hills and charming medieval villages with

stops for delectable regional cuisine to refuel. In these two richly diverse countries, the possibilities are truly endless.

Irurita has personal connections with the owners of many of the stately homes across the countries, and particularly highlights the affordability of Portugal where you can get a "lot more for your money".

LOCAL CONTACT

For enquiries in Australia contact the Hotel Connection: **contact**
[@thehotelconnection.com.au](mailto:contact@thehotelconnection.com.au)