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## **Travel Daily** First with the news Tuesday 24th July 2018



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to remember

Chimu signs FC preferred

FLIGHT Centre has confirmed a new preferred supplier deal with Chimu Adventures, with the agreement set to make the specialist the FCTG's "one-stopshop" for the polar regions.

Chimu, which is 50% owned by Intrepid Group (TD 15 Aug 2017), will also offer product in Latin America, where it specialises in fully flexible, guaranteed F.I.T. itineraries through its own operations on the ground.

#### Win with TNZ

TOURISM New Zealand is offering travel consultants the opportunity to win \$250 simply by testing their knowledge of the North Island.

The incentive is part of TNZ's annual North Island Touring campaign, which will be backed by billboards and online ads over the coming months.

TNZ said the campaign was a key opportunity to "recommend amazing itineraries and earn good commission on accommodation, transport and activities". More details on the cover page of today's Travel Daily.

The company also offers small ship cruising in the Amazon, Galapagos Islands and Patagonia.

"Chimu will help the Flight Centre Travel Group make selling Polar and Latin America product easy by providing training sessions, incentives, industryrenowned famils, events and access to Chimu's marketing material," according to the firm's co-founder Chad Carey.

"We are so happy to be preferred with the Flight Centre Travel Group and look forward to the opportunities that it will bring both parties," he said.

#### Air NZ Cooks switch

AIR New Zealand will serve the Sydney-Rarotonga route using a 777-200ER aircraft from 15 Nov, replacing its 787-9 on the onceweekly frequencies.

#### Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has 10 pages of news and photos, a front cover page for Tourism New Zealand, plus a full page from:

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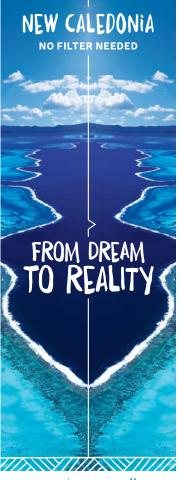
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#### Aviation online bdm

LYDWINA Nio has taken up the role of business development manager for Aviation Online and Breakaway Travel Club.

She brings more than 20 years' experience in the travel industry, including roles with Polynesian Airlines and Fiji Airways.

Aviation Online represents nine carriers in the Aus and NZ markets, including Samoa Airways, Hawaiian Airlines, LOT Polish Airlines and Alitalia.



nouvelle calédonie Pacific heart **CANBERRA** Airport has backed calls to lift landing restrictions at its Sydney counterpart, arguing that "outmoded" regulations are contributing to flight delays around the country.

In a submission to the Productivity Commission's inquiry into airport regulation, the ACT gateway says although Sydney Airport is a major competitor, "we feel the effects of its inefficiencies and delays".

"(SYD's) wings are clipped by outmoded operational strictures that make it one of the most constrained airports in the world," CBR's submission says.

"It is these constraints that cause most of the delays at Sydney Airport & not only prevent its on-time operations from recovering after bad weather disruptions, but cause delays at airports around Australia because four out of every 10 planes in Australia fly through Sydney at least once a day."

CBR's submission reflects similar calls made by the Tourism and Transport Forum (TTF) which released a report earlier this **Trail of the Northern Lights** NORWAY, FINLAND & RUSSIA 24 DAYS DEPARTING FEB & MAR 2019

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**CBR backs SYD reforms CANBERRA** Airport has backed calls to lift landing restrictions at its Sydney counterpart, arguing **CBR backs SYD reforms** month recommending aircraft movement restrictions be reformed (*TD* 04 Jul).

> CBR calls for the cap on movements through SYD to be increased from 80 to 90 per hour, and that additional limits on the number of flights allowed each 15 minutes be removed in favour of a "rolling average".

> It also argues for greater flexibility to allow flight schedules to catch up in the event of weather disruptions.

#### Qantas 787 to HKG

**QANTAS** has confirmed Hong Kong as the next destination for its Boeing 787-9 aircraft, starting this Dec.

The 787 will initially fly to HKG from Melbourne up to six days per week from 13 Dec to 29 Mar.

It will fly once per week from Brisbane from 19 Dec, increasing to twice weekly from 30 Jan.

The *Dreamliner* will then launch on the Sydney-Hong Kong route on 30 Mar, operating six days.

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## MORE INFO

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#### Middleton new role

MICHAEL Middleton has joined Ignite Travel Group as gm cruise, relocating to the Gold Coast.

Middleton spent the past eight years as general manager for Perth-based cruise specialist Bicton Travel & brings close to 28 years of experience to the role.

He said he was delighted to join the Ignite Travel/MyCruises team, adding "I am looking forward to being an integral part of the next stage of their journey".





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Tuesday 24th July 2018

Pilot demand intensifies

#### TAG \$32m purchase

**TRAVEL** and event management company The Appointment Group (TAG) has been bought-out by private equity firm Apiary Capital as part of a growth plan that includes a new ceo.

The UK-based company - with offices in Sydney and Melbourne - will now be headed by Steve Barrass who joins from the Emirates Group where he was senior vice president for new ventures at dnata Travel.

The value of the purchase has not been stated, though London's *Sunday Times* reports the deal to be worth £18 million (A\$32m).

TAG co-founder Maurice Veronique will step down from the board after Barass' appointment, while fellow cofounder John Gianquitto will remain in the role of president.

Apiary partner Nicki Boyd said TAG fitted perfectly "within our investment sphere" and had an excellent platform for growth. **BOEING** has highlighted the crew shortage threatening airline operations worldwide in a new report which forecasts demand for an extra 790,000 pilots over the next 20 years.

The aircraft manufacturer says this represents a doubling of the current workforce and comes amid the strongest crew demand experienced in nine years.

Intensified pilot needs are being driven by an expected doubling in the global commercial airline fleet, Boeing says, as well as record-high air travel demand and a tightening labour supply.

"Despite strong global air traffic growth, the aviation industry continues to face a pilot labour supply challenge, raising concern about the existence of a global pilot shortage in the near-term," said Keith Cooper, vice president of training & professional services at Boeing Global Services. "An emphasis on developing the next generation of pilots is key to help mitigate this."

Boeing says cabin crew demand is also increasing, due to changes in fleet mix, regulatory requirements, denser seat configurations and multi-cabin configurations that offer a more personalised service.

Locally, Regional Express this month accused Qantas and Virgin Australia of poaching its pilots, a claim denied by the larger carriers which have increased their pilot training investment (**TD** 16 Jul).

#### Ferret to lead SLH

**SMALL** Luxury Hotels has appointed Jean-Francois Ferret as its new ceo, replacing Filip Boyen who has stepped down after three years in the role.

Ferret joins after six years as ceo of Relais & Chateaux.

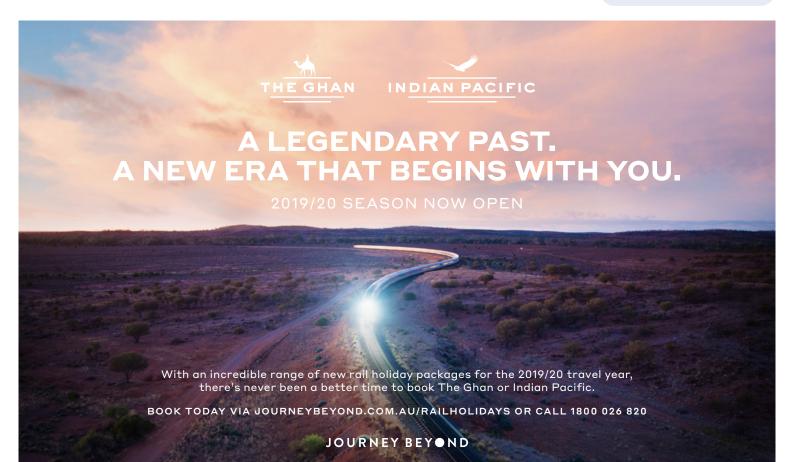


**KANGAROO** Island is one of the success stories of Australian tourism, but even its most enthusiastic supporters have been left scratching their heads this week over plans to connect it to the mainland with one of the world's longest bridges.

Candidates in an Adelaide Hills by-election have been among those supporting the 14km bridge, but the Mayor of Kangaroo Island Peter Clements has dismissed the idea as "a bridge over troubled waters", the ABC reports.

So far, nobody is offering to pay for the bridge too far.







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## Princess orders two LNG ships

**PRINCESS** Cruises overnight announced a newbuild agreement for its first liquefied natural gas (LNG) cruise ships, with two vessels scheduled for delivery in 2023 and 2025.

The fast-growing brand now has five vessels arriving over the next six years, with Princess Cruises senior vice president Asia Pacific commercial and operations Stuart Allison saying "this is great news for everyone at Princess Cruises as it means our business is strong and our industry is thriving".

LNG is said to be the world's cleanest burning fossil fuel and significantly reduces emissions, with Carnival Corporation now having contracts for 11 LNG ships among a total of 20 newbuilds expected to arrive between now and 2025.

The new Princess vessels, being constructed by Fincantieri in Monfalcone, Italy, will be the biggest in the Princess Cruises fleet, accommodating about 4,300 guests each.

Further details of the features and amenities will be shared in the future, Princess said.

Allison noted that last night's announcement came just two months before the line's newest ship, *Majestic Princess*, makes her inaugural visit to Australia, arriving in Sep.

"Princess has been a leader in the cruise industry for more than 50 years, and Princess' newest ship designs reaffirm our leadership in the global cruise industry and our growing popularity worldwide," he said.

Allison said the growth of Princess provided Australian travel agents with "even more opportunities for guests to travel with Princess all over the world on our world class ships".

More cruise news in today's issue of *Cruise Weekly* - subscribe free at cruiseweekly.com.au.



# NZ cruise growth outpaces Australia

**CRUISE** Lines Int'l Association (CLIA) Australasia today released its New Zealand Source Market Report, indicating the number of Kiwis afloat jumped 8.7% in 2017.

That compared to growth of 4.4% in Australian cruise numbers last year (*TD* 24 May).

The NZ figures are still small, however, with the overall total comprising 98,000 New Zealanders, compared to more than 1.34 million out of Australia.

CLIA Australasia md Joel Katz noted that over the last decade NZ ocean cruise passenger numbers had risen by an average of 14.7% annually.

The most popular destination was the South Pacific, attracting almost a third of NZ cruisers, and the most popular cruise duration was 8-14 days, although the fastest growth was seen in shorter voyages of four days or fewer, which increased 150%.

#### QWB progressing

**THE** Queensland Government has highlighted tender pricing opportunities for the \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane (QWB) integrated resort project.

One of the bidding contractors, Probuild, has started advertising today to test pricing in preparation for submission of its own tender for the "tourism, leisure and entertainment destination" expected to offer more than 1,100 hotel rooms, 50 new restaurants, cafes and bars, apartments and car parks.

Probuild is seeking pricing for subcontractors for the Rosewood and Dorsett hotels, along with a double-tower Star Hotel.

However Destination Brisbane Consortium has advised that the refurbishment of Treasury Brisbane to become the Ritz-Carlton Brisbane will be in a later tender, with those works occurring after the planned 2022 opening of the core QWB project.

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#### New music for TFE

**TFE** Hotels has partnered with subscription service Nightlife Music to deliver a "cutting-edge music platform" designed to help hotel managers engage with guests by providing on-brand curated playlists at each location.

The tailored lists "create a sense of experience", from classic tunes at the Heritage Hotel to contemporary sounds at the Vibe Hotel in North Sydney, and will be rolled out at all TFE Hotel locations around Australia & NZ.

#### John Paul expands

ACCORHOTELS' high-end concierge and employee loyalty program provider John Paul has welcomed Andrew Quake as ceo of the company's APAC arm.

The appointment follows the opening of the company's Hong Kong office and highlights its focus on "strengthening relationships with key clients & partners" in the region.

#### **Celebrity Apex**

**CELEBRITY** Cruises has begun construction on its newest ship *Celebrity Apex*, the second in the cruise line's Edge series, following *Celebrity Edge*.

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The ship, which is being built at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in France, will "take her place at the height of modern luxury", Celebrity Cruises said.

"The success and momentum for *Celebrity Edge* has been incredible, and with *Celebrity Apex* we will yet again show how we are taking our brand to the next level...we are offering our guests the best way to experience the world in modern luxury style," said Celebrity Cruises president and ceo Lisa Lutoff-Perlo.

*Celebrity Apex* is set to make her debut in northern spring of 2020, with third and fourth Edge series ships arriving in the northern autumn of 2021, and northern autumn of 2022.

**CLICK HERE** for more info on Celebrity's Edge ships.

#### Small Group Travel, Tauck Style

Smaller groups, averaging 24 guests, engage more closely, spend more time in the destinations, add to this Tauck's exclusive cultural experiences and insider access it become even more memorable when shared with fewer guests.

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## **Evergreen on the Mekong**



**EVERGREEN** Cruises & Tours has launched its first star-ship, *Emerald Harmony* on the Mekong river in Southeast Asia.

The new star-ship will have 42 staterooms and suites, with four lead-in Emerald Staterooms, 32 Emerald Panorama Balcony Suites, four Grand Balcony Suites and two Owner's Suites, each with a terrace and hot tub.

On board offerings include the Asian-themed Horizon Bar & Lounge, the Reflections Restaurant with a locally inspired menu showcasing native cuisine from the region, a swimming pool (**pictured**) and a Lotus Lounge, located at the aft of the star-ship.

Evergreen will offer three itineraries on *Harmony*, including the 13-day Majestic Mekong Discoverer Cruise, the 17day Treasures and Temples of Vietnam and Cambodia river cruise and tour, and the 21-day Grand Tour of Vietnam and Cambodia river cruise and tour.

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#### NT \$2m youth push

**THE** Northern Territory Government has announced a \$2 million investment to attract young international visitors.

Initiatives under the funding include a marketing push promoting the "Hidden Summer Party" for 200 newly arrived backpackers on the country's east coast to visit the top end.

Marketing efforts will include digital, trade and industry events, as well as a range of social media partnerships with key influencers.

Party attendees will be encouraged to use the hashtag #backpacktheoutback to further promote the Northern Territory.

#### Sun out of Ardent

**SUN** Hung Kai Global Opportunities Fund (SHK Group) has sold its stake in the embattled Ardent Leisure Group.

The group offloaded 2,908,415 securities with an approximate share price of \$2 each.

#### **Emirates & flydubai**

**EMIRATES** has announced its route between Dubai and the Croatian capital Zagreb will be serviced by partner carrier flydubai from 02 Dec to 30 Mar.

The move is designed to maximise capacity on the service to meet pax demand during the northern winter season.

The two airlines started codesharing on select flights on 29 Oct 2017 (*TD* 26 Sep).

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#### Overseas ski surge

AUSSIE skiers & snowboarders have been pursuing more overseas holidays over the last three years, according to Roy Morgan research.

After the Aussie dollar dipped in 2014-15, so did the appetite for Aussie skiers to travel overseas for a snow trip, however, as the dollar stabilised subsequently, research shows the likelihood for an overseas trip has improved from 33% (early 2015) to most recently 46%.

The most popular overseas destinations for skiers and snowboarders were listed as New Zealand, Japan, the United States, Canada and European countries such as Germany and France.

#### Melbourne traffic MELBOURNE Airport

welcomed 36.7 million travellers in the 12 months to 30 Jun, an increase of 4.4% compared to the previous corresponding period.

The spike in numbers was fuelled by the introduction of six new airlines and six more international destinations opening up.

"Melbourne Airport's growth in the past 12 months has been unparalleled in the history of the airport, hitting record breaking figures in int'l pax traffic," said Mel Airport ceo Lyell Strambi. Int'l pax numbers were also up by 12.4% for Jun when compared

to the same month in 2017.

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incentive and health benefits. OTE approx. \$95,000. Viking will be the world's largest small ship cruise company by 2019.

Please send a short cover letter and resume to: jobsau@vikingcruises.com Applications close Friday 27 July 2018. Only successful applicants will be contacted.

# Starry-eyed winners revealed



**THE** 2018 AFTA National Travel Industry Awards (NTIA) last weekend saw Star Alliance give prizes during the night to eight lucky attendees.

Among the rewards on offer were trips to Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, with the winners finding out they scored the adventures when they opened their Star Alliancethemed napkin holders.

The night's recipients included Apurva Goswami from Excite Holidays who won a seven-night Thai islands cruise on *Panorama II*, courtesy of Thai Airways and Peregrine Adventures.

Another prize winner on the night was The Journeymasters' Kerrie Mieszkuc who walked away with an Air China trip for two to Beijing for a nine-day Great Wall and Warriors itinerary with On the Go Tours, taking in Xi'an, Shanghai and Suzhou.

For the fourth year in a row, Star Alliance sponsored the Best Non-Branded Travel Agency Group category at the NTIA awards, secured this year by Helloworld Business Travel.

**Pictured**: Star Alliance airline members enjoying the colour and excitement of NTIA 2018.

#### Accor African fund

**HOTEL** operators Katara Hospitality and AccorHotels have partnered on a property fund targetting investment in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Amounting to approximately U\$\$500 million in equity, the fund will be used to pursue greenfield projects, brownfield projects and conversions of existing hotels.

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#### NZ DUD boost

**AIR** New Zealand is increasing its Auckland-Dunedin ops from 29 Oct, introducing a fourth daily rotation on selected days for the upcoming summer season.

Overall frequencies will increase from 21 to 26 weekly.



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#### **Emirates on sale**

**EMIRATES** has launched a First class fare sale to Europe and Dubai, available until 08 Aug.

Departures are between 25 Jul 2018 and 31 May 2019, from Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Perth.

Flight restrictions, day-of-week surcharges, inbound blackout periods, amendment and cancellation fees apply.

For further information, call Emirates on 1300 303 777.



Win a Goog Home Nini or Home Cinema EVENT cinema tickets tickets here to have your say

## Lido White Ribbon initiative



**THE** Lido Group (**above**) has announced the launch of the accommodation specialist's White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Program.

The company will work over the next 18 months to meet the 15 criteria under three standards to create a "safer and more respectful workplace".

Lido said the program builds on its existing gender equality and diversity initiatives, "providing the tools to strengthen a culture of respect and gender equality at all levels of the organisation".

#### B&R releases 2019

ACTIVE travel specialist Butterfield & Robinson has announced its biggest collection of trips for 2019, including 21 new biking, walking, expedition and family options.

New biking trips feature routes in the Cotswolds, Sardinia and Napa Valley, while new active expeditions range from Alaska and British Columbia to Oahu, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay.

New walking trips include options in Romania, New Zealand and Italy - **CLICK HERE** for details.

#### TFE appointment

**TFE** Hotels has appointed Kristie Mancell as sales and marketing manager of The Calile Hotel, ahead of the property's opening in Sep.

Mancell brings more than 12 years of sales and marketing experience at five-star hotels and was most recently PR and marketing manager at Sofitel Brisbane Central.

#### Haka Australian rep

**NEW** Zealand owned and operated tour company Haka Tours Group now has a presence in Australia, with the appointment of Chris Bain as its Brisbane-based representative.

Bain was previously bdm with Coconuts Marketing, and is also a former area manager with Flight Centre Travel Group in NZ.

#### Sichuan to Tel Aviv

**SICHUAN** Airlines will add a new non-stop route between Chengdu and Tel Aviv from 26 Sep this year, with GDS screens indicating twice weekly flights using A330-200 aircraft.

## WIN TICKETS TO MAMMA MIA

Each day this week in Travel Daily, Royal Brunei Airlines are giving readers the chance to win a double pass to the Mamma Mia Cocktail intheatre evening in Melbourne on 22 Aug. The prize is valued at \$500 per double pass and includes premium dress circle seating, a selection of canapes and beverages and private suite access pre-show and at interval.

To win, ROYAL BRUNEI in 25

less tell us how would you sell Royal Brunei Airlines new one stop MEL to LHR to your clients?

Send your entries to rba@traveldaily.com.au

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#### OAG accelerator

**DIGITAL** flight information provider OAG has partnered with Plug and Play, described as "the world's largest startup accelerator and innovation centre".

The companies said the partnership would enable OAG to collaborate with disruptive startups and technology leaders "to create smarter and more innovative solutions for the travel ecosystem".

Plug and Play has a footprint in Tokyo, Singapore and Jakarta along with eight offices in China in partnership with Wanda Group, Philips, Daimler, Audi & Cisco.

OAG's schedules & flight status database is used to feed OTAs and booking engines across the globe.





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# AFTA update

From AFTA's chief executive, Jayson Westbury

THE good old Australian Constitution and section 44 (dual citizenship) of said document has taken its toll on Australian politics and this weekend (Sat 28th Jul) will be a true manifestation of the rule stated by section 44. What this is all about is that only an Australian can sit in our Parliament, and as a true patriot I think that is fair enough.

For what we hope are the last politicians to ever be tripped by section 44 (we can only hope that all future ones can fill in the form correctly) there will be five by-elections taking place this weekend - four where all of the sitting members held both British and Australian citizenship, and one for family reasons.

For those serious travel folk who like me love to follow the cut & thrust of politics it will be almost like a mini election. No doubt TV viewing and a few chops on the BBQ are planned, and we are in for a close call.

The facts: seats in question – Braddon (Tas) held by Labor by 2.2%, Fremantle (WA) held by Labor by 7.5%, Longman (Qld) held by Labor by 0.8%, Mayo (SA) held by Centre Alliance (formerly Nick Xenophon party) by 5%, and finally Perth (WA) held by Labor by 3.3%.

This weekend the Federal Coalition really wants to break with tradition and win some seats. Historically, sitting governments very rarely win byelections, either by losing the seats they have (the government does not currently hold any of the seats in question) or by not winning new seats.

But with all the hype and the way Canberra has been rolling these last few months and the principal reason for why these by-elections have been called, it is reasonable to think that the government might just get its hands on one or maybe two of these seats. As such the label Super Saturday has been placed on the weekend's polls and I am sure it will make for interesting newspaper reading and for the die hard, TV watching on Sat night.

So no matter what your political views are, this will be an interesting weekend for sure. To finish off this week's column with some interesting history, the SA seat of Mayo has a long distinguished history of Liberal party royalty. Mayo was held by Alexander Downer from 1984 until 2008 when he retired. He was a former Foreign Minister and in fact the Minister responsible for the creation of the DFAT Smartraveller Campaign that continues today and has always been respected by the travel industry. Downer was in fact the leader of the Liberal Party in the 90s and was succeeded by Dr John Hewson who I think is best remembered for his explanation of GST and birthday cakes.

At this by-election the Liberals will be represented by Downer's daughter Georgina, but from all of the pre-polling there is a contest to be had, and we will have to wait and see if history can be written.

## **MTA bliss in Noumea**



MTA - Mobile Travel Agents wife and husband team Ally and Nick Kilpin (**pictured**) took some time out from a Silversea *Silver Discoverer* study tour for a snorkel while sailing from Noumea to Cairns.

Ally, an 18-year veteran with MTA, has attained "Platinum" sales status with the company and was the very first recruit of MTA founders and managing directors, Roy & Karen Merricks.

#### LATAM Sth America

LATAM Airlines has launched a new sale for flights to South America running until 16 Aug and offering discounts of up to 44%.

Return Economy airfares from Melbourne to Santiago, Chile, are available from \$999, or from Sydney (via Auckland) from \$1,019 (including taxes).

LATAM is offering deals to Aussies travelling between 01 Sep 2018 to 30 Jun 2019 and discounted flights are to a range of destinations across the region, including Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Colombia and Uruguay.

Deals are also available on flights from Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, and the Gold Coast.

#### **Qatar Gothenburg**

**QATAR** Airways has announced the launch of its five-times weekly direct flights from Doha to Gothenburg, Sweden starting from 12 Dec.

The addition marks the airline's second Swedish gateway after Stockholm and the flights will be operated by a Boeing 787-8.

#### Samoa roadshow

**SAMOA** Tourism Authority has announced the dates for the "Beautiful Samoa Roadshow 2018", which will provide attendees with product updates and prizes.

Starting in Brisbane on 30 Jul at Stamford Plaza Brisbane, the roadshow will continue to Melbourne on 31 Jul at Crowne Plaza and Sydney on 01 Aug at The Westin - **CLICK HERE**.

#### Bali Lombok boats

UNTIL further notice, all speedboats between Bali & Lombok will be stopped due to extreme sea conditions.

Clients can alternatively cross by slow boat/ferry or fly directly between Bali and Lombok.



w www.traveldaily.com.au

# Getting set for a huge NTIA night!

**CELEBRATIONS** for the 2018 National Travel Industry Awards kicked off early, with a special VIP cocktail party starting at 4pm last Sat prior to the arrival of other glammed-up guests an hour later. Sydney's Darling Harbour provided a sparkling backdrop to the gala event which was attended by airlines, hoteliers, car hire providers, tour operators, wholesalers, river and ocean cruise operators and of course leisure, corporate and online travel agencies.



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"The NTIA is the industry's only true awards...it has industry-wide representation and a strong history of recognising and celebrating businesses and personnel who demonstrate outstanding service, marketing excellence and business acumen within the travel industry," said AFTA ceo Jayson Westbury.

"The event may be put on by AFTA but it is the industry which makes it a celebration to remember each and every year," he added - and celebrate the industry certainly did, as evidenced by these photos during the lead-up to the awards. Lots more pics from the NTIA at facebook.com/traveldaily.





**UNIWORLD** md Fiona Dalton and Ingrid Kocijan of G Adventures.



**DAVID** Padman of Helloworld Travel with John Veitch, The Travel Corporation md.

**ROB** Harrison, Qantas head of agency partnerships; Jayson Westbury, AFTA ceo; Alison Webster, head of Qantas International; and Barry Brown, Emirates divisional vice president Australasia.



**ROBYN** Mitchell from Travellers Choice with CATO md Brett Jardine.



JULIE Primmer, Helloworld Travel with Louisa Warr of Qantas.

**HOLLAND** America Line's Tony Archbold with Clinton White of Visit USA.

CLASSICAL music and opera singers provided a delightful background.



**THE** QBE Travel Insurance team made the most of the NTIA photo wall, posing above with a fluffy Qantas mascot.

A GIGANTIC ice sculpture in the International Convention Centre foyer highlighted AFTA, ATAS and the new ACS credit card chargeback scheme.





**CORPORATE** Travel Management chief operating officer Laura Ruffles; Contiki md Katrina Barry; and Travellers Choice ceo Christian Hunter.

**SOME** of the hard-working **Travel Daily** and **travelBulletin** team: Rowena Rogers, Sarah Beyer, Anastasia Prikhodko and Jasmine O'Donoghue.



#### Auckland traffic

ACCORDING to the latest traffic update report from Auckland Airport, total passenger traffic grew by 2.3% in Jun 2018, with international passengers up 1.9%.

Domestic pax were up 3.8%, reportedly driven by additional capacity on the Queenstown & Dunedin routes, which saw 11.5% and 13.4% growth respectively.



**WELCOME** to *Money*, *TD*'s Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

#### \$1AUD = US0.737

THE Australian dollar has continued its downward slide across most major markets this morning, losing grip on its strong position from several weeks ago.

Travellers to the US should exercise caution following a 0.6% drop against the USD, which has seen the Aussie dollar hit critical support levels and experience 18-month lows.

UK visitors should also be aware of a 0.3% drop against the pound, while the Japanese Yen fell 0.5% following a jump in local bond yields.

Australian inflation numbers are set to be released on Wed.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.737
UK	£0.563
NZ	\$1.088
Euro	€0.630
Japan	¥82.11
Thailand	ß24.68
China	¥5.011
South Africa	R9.930
Canada	\$0.971
Crude oil	US\$67.89

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#### Wood is good

**THE** Bob Wood Cruise Group, Global Tour Specialists, and Guides Australia have unified their operations by rebranding as the The Bob Wood Group.

MEANWHILE, the company has promoted Kiri Braid to general sales & client communications, with Carmen Stephenson as the new general manager operations and service delivery.

#### **Travelport security**

TRAVEL commerce platform Travelport has partnered with data security company Security Metrics in an effort to achieve proof of Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard compliance to help prevent data theft and cyber hacking.

Travelport-connected agents can complete a simple questionnaire on their payment processing, before completing the Attestation of Compliance.

#### **Flights expanded**

**TURKISH** Airlines will increase services from Istanbul to Copenhagen from 21 flights to 28 per week, effective 27 May 2019.

Additional operations to Copenhagen will also be offered from 25 Jun 2019, increasing from seven to 10 per week.

#### Beyond winter deal

**BEYOND** Travel is offering customers \$300 in Discover More vouchers on winter wonderland escapes to Scandanavia if booked by 31 Aug.

Tours are available for travel from Nov 2018 to Apr 2019. For more info, **CLICK HERE**.



#### Win a trip to Walt Disney World

This month, *Walt Disney World* in Florida, Virgin Australia and Delta Air Lines are giving *Travel Daily* readers the chance to win two places on

In a 1-min video, 250 word blog or instaworthy photo/meme, tell us why your Christmas in July wish is to travel with Virgin Australia and Delta Air Lines to Walt Disney World Resort for the Christmas season?

"A Very Merry Toy Story Land Christmas Mega-Fam" flying Virgin Australia and Delta Air Lines to Walt Disney World Resort in Florida. Send your entries to

disneycomp@traveldaily. com.au. The most creative judged entry will win one of two *Travel Daily* Exclusive places on the famil. click here

For more info visit wheredreamscometrue.com.au

australia

Ward Disnep World Resort

#### Jetstar Aussie sale

A RANGE of reduced domestic air fares have been released as part of Jetstar's "Great Aussie Sale" promotion.

The sale includes one-way fares to the Whitsundays from \$55, the Sunshine Coast from \$75 one-way and Uluru from \$89 one-way. Sale ends 30 Jul, **CLICK HERE.** 

#### 737-800 for Jeju Air

**SOUTH** Korean airline Jeju Air has taken delivery of the first of three Boeing Next Generation 737-800s, making it the first low-cost carrier in the country to operate the aircraft.

Seok-Joo Lee, president and ceo of the airline said the delivery "marks the beginning of a new era for Jeju Air as we continue to revolutionise Korea's dynamic commercial aviation industry".

#### NSW W Cup bids

📥 DELTA

THE NSW Government has announced plans to bid for 10 world cup events over the next 10 years, including the men's and women's Rugby World Cup, the FIFA Women's World Cup and the ATP Tennis World Cup.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events Adam Marshall said major events drove the tourism economy and bringing sports fans from around the world "will be a massive boost for our economy".

#### Peru ups flights

**DOMESTIC** airline LC Peru has announced the addition of new direct flights between Lima and Chachapoyas from 30 Aug.

The flights will depart twice weekly on Thu and Sun, and will give tourists more options to explore the historic town.

# Travel Daily

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