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AQSC 2-for-1 offer

AMERICAN Queen Steamboat Company is offering two-for-one prices on select 2019 sailings on board *American Queen* and *American Duchess* as part of its Black Fri Sale.

The special is valid for one week and includes hotel accommodation, dining, guided shore excursions & port charges.

For more information, head to [page eight](#).

Tauck 2019 cruises

TAUCK is today highlighting its range of European river cruises on offer in 2019.

Travellers can choose from journeys departing Amsterdam and sailing to Budapest, explorations of France visiting Paris and Lyon, and cruises along The Rhine from Amsterdam and Zurich, with a two-night stop at Bern included.

For more details, see [page 10](#) of today's *Travel Daily*.

Finnair brands with Sabre

FINNAIR has signed up to Sabre and its Red Workspace platform, allowing the carrier to distribute its branded fares to 425,000 travel agents worldwide.

The deal means agents can view and book the ancillaries included within each of Finnair's branded fares, which Sabre says will provide customers with more choice and flexibility.

Sabre Red Workspace will also allow agents to view enhanced NDC-based offerings alongside traditional content.

"Travellers are increasingly demanding the same options through both the direct and

indirect booking channels," said Sabre Vice President, Air Line of Business, Alessandro Ciancimino.

"By making its branded fares available through Sabre, Finnair will have access to an unrivalled network of global travellers, helping it effectively compete with other large international carriers," he said.

Finnair Head of Distribution Kalle Immonen said customers wanted increased choice and transparency when booking.

"Today's travellers have a unique set of needs, and are just as interested in purchasing personalised experiences as they are premium value products," Immonen said.

"We are constantly evolving the products and services we offer our passengers, and recognise that this same level of high service needs to be available to travellers through whichever channel they choose to book."

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news and photos, plus full pages from:

- American Queen
- AA Appointments jobs
- Tauck

Webjet deal sealed

WEBJET has completed the acquisition of Dubai-based Destinations of the World (DOTW) (*TD* 05 Nov) and appointed Simon Pearson as IT Director, Group Infrastructure Services for its B2B division, WebBeds.

Pearson brings 15 years' experience in travel and has overseen merger and acquisition initiatives previously for Cendant, Blackstone, Travelport, GTA and the Avis Budget Group.

Webjet CIO Graham Anderson said Pearson had "a wealth of relevant knowledge and experience when it comes to bringing together complex, fast-growing businesses".

"We are thrilled that we are able to bring his know-how and expertise to the table as we continue on our own transformational journey".

Pearson said "the desire to grow the business in a structured yet ambitious way is one of the many things that appealed to me".



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[VIEW DETAILS](#)

Boy's take-off foiled

AUTHORITIES in Atlanta are investigating how an 11-year-old boy passed unchecked through airport security, despite travelling without guardians or a ticket.

The boy had travelled to the airport by bus and was stopped when he attempted to board.



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Explorer details revealed

DREAM Cruises has released details and renders of its soon-to-be refurbished *Explorer Dream*, which will become the first ship for the brand to sail down under in Oct 2019 (**TD** 13 Sep).

The vessel, currently sailing for sister brand Star Cruises as *Superstar Virgo*, will have capacity for 1,852 pax across 926 staterooms.

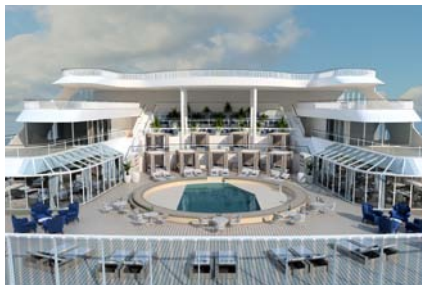
The 75,448-tonne luxury vessel will offer seven cabin categories ranging from "affordable" interior staterooms through to the more decadent Palace Villas.

There will be 50 Palace Suites which come with benefits such as wi-fi, a premium beverage package, specialty dining and a 24-hour butler service.

Dream Cruises said the vessel would "retain her luxe charm, paired with newly enhanced opulent interiors and a grand piazza-style lobby".

Staterooms will be rejuvenated with "sophisticated contemporary decor and eye-catching artwork".

The ship will feature a range of bar and dining concepts, such as Dream Cruises' Umi Uma sushi



and Teppanyaki restaurant, the Palm Court, Mozzarella Ristorante & Pizzeria, as well as a gelateria and "cake corner" for a sweet fix.

Families will also have access to the Little Dreamers kids' club, ensuring all ages are catered for on board the ship.

Seven-night cruises from Sydney to Auckland are open for bookings, with special rates from \$972ppts - for more information, call Dream Cruises on 02 9212 6288 or **CLICK HERE**.

A render of the Palace Pool Deck set to be on *Explorer Dream* is pictured - more on **FACEBOOK**.

A&K 2019 travels

ABERCROMBIE & Kent (A&K) today released its new 2019 Africa, Arabia and Persia brochure, including luxury private and small group journeys to over 20 destinations throughout southern, east, north and west Africa, the Indian Ocean, the Middle East and Iran.

Highlights include new 12-day Visions of Kenya where guests sleep in vintage safari style tents at a selection of boutique tented camps from \$15,825 per person.

View the brochure **HERE**.

Emirates stopover

EMIRATES is offering travellers a complimentary Dubai stopover for travel periods between 14 Jan and 31 Oct 2019.

The deal includes one night's accommodation and breakfast.

To redeem the offer, customers need to book an Emirates ticket by 10 Dec.

CLICK HERE for more info.

Iberia A350 to EZE

IBERIA has brought forward plans to operate its new Airbus A350 aircraft on flights from Madrid to Buenos Aires.

Flights will operate three times a week from 24 Feb.

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Meet and Greek

DON'T forget to nominate your favourite destination in the Greece and Mediterranean Travel Centre (GMTC) portfolio for a chance to win a meet-and-greet with TV's Anastasia & Faye from Network Ten's *Gogglebox*.

The Greek duo have been enlisted to help celebrate the launch of GMTC's 2019 portfolio, and will spend time with five lucky agents on Tue 27 Nov.

To enter, tell us which Greece and Mediterranean Travel Centre destination you would like to visit and why - email your answers to gmtc@traveldaily.com.au by the close of business today.

Pre-selection halt

JETSTAR Asia Airways, Scoot and Singapore Airlines have agreed to stop pre-selecting travel insurance for consumers who purchase tickets online.

The move follows consumer backlash over the practice.

Airbnb faces Israel backlash

ISRAEL has reportedly threatened to hit Airbnb with increased taxes and legal action over its decision to de-list properties and cease operations in West Bank settlements.

The home-share platform has faced an angry response from Israeli political leaders since its announcement on Mon that it planned to withdraw from contested lands.

"We concluded that we should remove listings in Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank that are at the core of the dispute between Israelis and Palestinians," Airbnb said.

"We know that people will disagree with this decision and appreciate their perspective."

The decision affects about 200 listings in the West Bank, which had been permitted until now in line with US law which allows companies to trade in the disputed territories.

Israel yesterday called for a reversal of the policy and raised the prospect of increasing taxes on Airbnb, *Associated Press* reports.

Tourism Minister Yariv Levin was quoted saying Airbnb's new position was discriminatory and a "disgraceful surrender" to boycott proponents.

He said property hosts would be encouraged to sue Airbnb and that Israel would impose new restrictions on the company.

"If you have a policy of discrimination against Israelis you cannot earn money in Israel," he told AP.

Airbnb said it had consulted with experts to develop a policy framework on how it should treat listings in occupied territories.

It included consideration on whether the existence of listings had a direct connection to the wider dispute in the region and whether they contributed to human suffering.



Window Seat

ACROSS the dateline, folks in the US have yet to wake up to the great annual feasting festival that is Thanksgiving.

But here at **Travel Daily** we're already on the case, thanks to Delta Air Lines, Discover Los Angeles and Los Angeles World Airports who sent us the magnificent pumpkin pie pictured below.

The occasion also serves as a reminder for the L.A. Insider specialist training program and all the benefits it brings agents.

To find out more and register, **CLICK HERE.**



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12 Jul 2019 - 19 Sep 2019, 3 Oct 19 - 19 Oct 2019. Subject to availability.
Conditions apply. Advertised price is based on a Getaway fare booked on the internet.

Visit USA's Thanksgiving



THANKSGIVING celebrations kicked off this morning in Sydney with the Visit USA team hosting a breakfast for its members in the Royal Botanic Gardens.

The event was an opportunity for the regions of Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming

to showcase their landscapes and attractions as part of a collaborative marketing effort.

Pictured from left are: Monique Roos, US Commercial Service; Lucy Rowe, President, Visit USA and Caroline Davidson, Account Director, The Great American West.

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QF Alaska codeshare

QANTAS has applied to the International Air Services Commission for permission to expand its codeshare agreement with Alaska Airlines on flights between Alaska and other US states and Canada.

The proposal asks for the codeshare to take effect from 15 Jan 2019.

Air NZ flies kids solo

AIR New Zealand is set to transport 9,000 unaccompanied children between 01 Dec and the end of Mar 2019.

The kiwi carrier provides all unaccompanied minors with a wristband tracking technology called Airband, which is scanned at key stages of the journey to trigger text updates for parents.

"We look forward to welcoming our young customers on board this summer," said Air NZ GM Customer Exp Anita Hawthorne.

Encore takes two

WYNDHAM Hotels & Resorts has announced a new direction for its Ramada Encore by Wyndham brand, revealing a greater push towards being "Refreshingly Different".

The brand rejig includes a redesigned logo that is intended to be more appealing to a new generation of traveller.

The brand has also introduced new prototype designs for public areas and guest rooms.

"We wanted the brand identity for Ramada Encore to reflect its position as a hotel for guests on the go," said Wyndham Hotels & Resorts Chief Marketing Officer Lisa Checchio.

"Ramada Encore is a place where travellers can relax, refresh and connect," she added.

Ramada Encore by Wyndham is comprised of 54 hotels across 20 countries and was founded in the late 1990s as a limited mid-scale hotel brand.

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Thursday 22nd November 2018

NYC campaign push

NYC & Company has unveiled the latest iteration of its digital global tourism campaign "Famous Original New York City", which will run throughout 17 countries including Australia.

"Our refreshed campaign... is designed to reinforce New York City's fundamental values of diversity and inclusion and its world-class welcoming spirit," said NYC & Company President and CEO Fred Dixon.

Visit the landing page for the digital campaign [HERE](#).

QF virtual training

QANTAS will be running four virtual training sessions for agents on 05 Dec covering self-service features, 24/7 service requests, and how to view and track requests made through Qantas Agency Connect.

Sessions will run at 8.30am, 9.30am, 11.30am, and 2.30pm.

Delta staff comms

DELTA Air Lines has launched a new digital Flight Family tool to allow its staff to communicate with each other about important pre-departure customer issues.

The application will be used to check on the status of passenger action items such as catering, cleaning, fuelling, accounting for carry-on and checked bags, and aircraft inspections in real time.

PNG new website

PAPUA New Guinea Tourism has relaunched its website in order to provide a "new refreshed look and feel" and deliver a wider scope of visitor information.

The latest incarnation provides content on key adventures such as trekking, diving and fishing, as well as a calendar of cultural events, tour operator lists, accommodation options and important visa information.

Visit the new site [HERE](#).

American Airlines' long lunch



YESTERDAY American Airlines hosted a special Thanksgiving celebration with all the trimmings.

The event at Sydney's Hyatt Regency Hotel featured an impossibly long table (*inset*) where key AA partners gathered as an expression of the carrier's appreciation over the last year.

A menu specially created by AA's Aussie celebrity chef Sean Connolly featured roast pork and turkey with sides of duck fat roast potatoes and balsamic roasted brussel sprouts, with the meal wrapped up (naturally) with lashings of pumpkin pie.

AA Country Manager Simon Dodd welcomed guests, with



other speakers including a representative of Assistance Dogs Australia as well as former Harlem Globetrotter basketball star Tracy Williams.

Pictured above from left are Simon Dodd, American Airlines Country Manager; Tracy Williams; Sean Connolly; and AA Marketing Manager ANZ Laura Evans.



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Register your bookings on the entry form provided by Qatar Airways Sales Support or email auincentives@au.qatarairways.com for an entry form.

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* Incentive period finishes 30 November 2018. One winner will be selected from each of the following states/territories: NSW/ACT, VIC, SA, WA. The agent from each state with the highest amount of points at the end of the incentive will win. The winners will be determined at 5pm AEST on 13 December and winners will be contacted via phone and/or email on 14 December. Qatar Airways reserves the right to withdraw this incentive at any time without prior notice. No correspondence will be entered into regarding allocation of prizes; the judge's decision is final. For full terms and conditions and entry form please email auincentives@au.qatarairways.com

Agents' two-for-one visit



EIGHT Australian agents have recently returned from a famil which focused on two Asian coastal cities, Macao and Xiamen - on a single ticket.

The journey, organised by the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) showcased the former Portuguese colony and its close links with the nearby Chinese province of Fujian.

The MGTO said it would work closely with Fujian Tourism to promote their products with the goal to boost tourism in both destinations.

The Fujian & Macao "Maritime

Silk Road" famil supported by Xiamen Airlines and Fujian Province builds on the success of an MGTO and Xiamen Airlines co-operative campaign in 2017.

The campaign saw the creation of a "Two Cities, One Airfare" offering twin-destination fares from Sydney and Melbourne (**TD** 18 Apr).

Agents **pictured** on the steps leading to the Ruins of St Paul's in Macao are: Reiko Hayashi, New Horizon Tour; Carla Marno, MTA Travel; Nicole Onyck, Flight Centre Shellharbour; and Lyn Tyson, Travel Managers.

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APPOINTMENTS



WELCOME to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thursday feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry email appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

Crown Resorts' appointment of **John Poynton** as a Director of Crown has officially become effective, following the receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals.

Travel Beyond Group has appointed its former Events Director **Don Arachchige** to the role of General Manager for the company's Events Beyond brand. Arachchige will focus on maximising client value in all aspects of their events and strengthen relationships with international supplier networks.

Australian Regional Tourism has welcomed **Coralie Bell** as the new Chair of the Board. Bell was previously the Tourism Manager at Shoalhaven for three years.

Wyndham Destinations has named **Martheas Mulyawan** as its General Manager for Ramada Suites by Wyndham Solo, in Central Java.

Peter Ferris has stepped into the role of Director of Global Sales and Marketing at **RMS - The Hospitality Cloud**.

Manchester Perth

FOOTBALL club Manchester United will play two matches at Perth's Optus Stadium in Jul 2019 in a bid to attract "thousands of visitors" to Western Australia.

The trip is being supported by the WA Government, through Tourism Western Australia.

Thai baggage shift

THAI Airways has made a series of changes to its baggage allowances, effective 01 Dec.

Booking classes L, V and W for domestic flights within Thailand now have an allowance of 20kg, the carrier has advised.

Combined domestic and international sectors will continue to have an allowance of 30kg.

For more info, contact the local THAI office.

Jeju orders 50 737s

KOREAN low cost carrier Jeju Air has confirmed an order for 40 Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft, as well as options for 10 additional jets in a move "to meet rising passenger demand".

The order is the largest ever to be placed by a Korean low cost carrier, with President and Chief Executive Officer of Jeju Air Seok-Joo Lee commenting it will "allow us to improve our operation and continue to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for our passengers".

Edinburgh Tattoo

THE Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is coming to Australia, with shows confirmed to take place 17-19 Oct 2019 at Sydney's ANZ Stadium.

The Tattoo, which has only toured outside Scotland a handful of times, is predicted to attract more than 59,000 overnight visitors and deliver more than \$37 million in expenditure to the NSW economy.

Tickets will go on sale from Apr - a waitlist is available **HERE**.

Qatar changes

QATAR Airways has flagged a series of changes to its schedule, including the addition of a new weekly flight for its Doha to Montreal route from 17 Dec.

The airline has also announced it will add the Airbus A380 to one of its two daily services from Doha to Frankfurt, effective from 31 Mar 2019.

HTA 2017 stats

HAWAII'S tourism industry achieved new records across total visitor spending and visitor arrivals in 2017, marking the sixth consecutive year of record growth in air and cruise travel, according to the *2017 Annual Visitor Research Report* by The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA).

A total of 9,404,346 visitors arrived by air or by cruise ship to the state, an increase of 5.3% from the previous year of 8,934,277 visitors.

Total spending also increasing 5.6% to reach a new high of \$16.81 billion.

Read the full report **HERE**.

Thursday 22nd November 2018

A flair for German fare



REPRESENTATIVES from the Goethe-Institut and the German National Tourist Office (GNT0) recently hosted a German and Australian food showcase that aimed to highlight that “there is so much more to German food than just sausages, schnitzels and sauerkraut”.

The “Culinary Delight: German and Australia” event was hosted by Australian chef Darren Taylor and Hamburg chef Helge Hagermann, who created a series of dishes to delight the tastebuds of attendees.

MEL runway lags

OWNER of Melbourne Airport, Australia Pacific Airports Melbourne, has announced the public exhibition of the airport’s third runway has been moved to a yet-to-be-fixed date in 2019.

Construction of the runway remains on hold until a series of “certain criteria” advised by stakeholders are met, which includes the public exhibition.

One lucky guest walked away with a prize of a flight to Berlin on Scoot, including two nights’ accommodation at the Best Western Hotel and the opportunity to experience German cuisine first hand.

Pictured at the event are: chef Helge Hagermann; Nadja Warner, GNT0; Chef Darren Taylor; and Sonja Griegoschewski from the Goethe Institut.

APAC hotels in Oct

HOTELS in the APAC region reported growth during Oct 2018, according to data from STR.

Occupancy in APAC rose 1.6% to 72.5%, with ADR at US\$111.68 (A\$154) and RevPAR increased 3.0% to US\$80.93 (A\$111.430), with Bali setting a record for Oct.

ADR (A\$178) and RevPAR (A\$135) were at their highest for any Oct in STR’s Bali database, while occ level (%75.6) was the largest for Oct since 2011.

Phuket occ was down 16.1%, the lowest for Oct since 2009.



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To win, all you need to do is have the most creative photo showing your ‘Africa’ face – the over the top, super excited or emotional expressions that many people make on seeing the incredible experiences that Africa offers. It can be from a trip you took to Africa or even from here (using your imagination)!



Send your entries to
bench@traveldaily.com.au

Seabourn entertain

SEABOURN has released new evening entertainment experiences for its 2019 cruise season on board *Seabourn Odyssey*.

Guests can expect updates to Seabourn’s *An Evening with Sir Tim Rice* production along with four new experiences, including Italian performance Viva Italia.

Seabourn Odyssey’s Grand Salon has also been upgraded with the addition of new LED screens, a redesigned stage, and updated theatrical lighting.

Each new production will premiere throughout Dec 2018.

Similar entertainment and Grand Salon upgrades are scheduled to be introduced on *Seabourn Sojourn* in Jul 2019 and *Seabourn Quest* in May 2020.

Design addition

CHINA’S Tsingpu Tulou Retreat & Tsingpu Yangzhou Retreat have joined Design Hotels’ portfolio.

The 22-room, two-suite Tsingpu Tulou Retreat is located in Taxia Village, in the Fujian Province, and the 20-room Tsingpu Yangzhou Retreat is located in Jiangsu Province close to Nanjing.

Omniche discount

OMNICHE Holidays has released a seven-night Escape to Norfolk Island Governor’s Lodge Resort Hotel offer for new bookings made by 04 Dec.

The offer includes an \$800 combined discount on accommodation and flights, along with a welcome dinner, breakfast and seven days’ car hire.

For more details **CLICK HERE**.

THE WHO’S WHO OF SUPPLIERS ARE IN THE 2018 AFTA TRAVEL PAGES SUPPLIER DIRECTORY.

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On our river cruises, you can expect to see the sights a bit differently than you would with anyone else. All-inclusive river cruises enhanced by "little Tauck touches", with intimate, sophisticated atmosphere onboard, and the uncommon access to exclusive cultural experiences ensuring experiences as memorable as the places you visit.

Amsterdam to Budapest by Riverboat

15 days from Amsterdam to Budapest (or reverse) Departing 25th, 28th Jul, 8, 11, 22nd Aug & 20 Oct 2019

Northbound departures

Starting from \$9,490*pp twin share
other departure dates available, prices vary

Our two-week Budapest to Amsterdam river cruise include private shore excursions that take you to many UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the historic districts of Budapest, Vienna, and Bamberg, and the Wachau and Rhine valleys. In Vienna, attend a grand Imperial Evening in a traditional palace and so much more!



Savouring France: Paris, Lyon & Provence

10 days from Paris to Lyon
Departing 2 Jul 2019

Starting from \$8,240*pp twin share
other departure dates available, prices vary

This 7 night epicurean delights begin in Paris with a reception and dinner at Fouquet's, on the Champs Élysées, and a pastry class especially for Tauck guests at Le Cordon Bleu Paris. Taste your way through Les Halles, Lyon's famed covered food market... cruise in search of culinary adventures along the Rhône.



The Rhine, Swiss Alps & Amsterdam

10 days from Amsterdam to Zurich (or reverse)
Departing 15 Apr or 27 Oct 2019

Starting from \$7,240*pp twin share
other departure dates available, prices vary

Follow the romantic Rhine river on its winding journey from Switzerland to the Netherlands, with a 7-night cruise plus two nights in Bern. You'll experience medieval winetowns, cathedrals, castles, museums, and river landscapes of the kind that inspired JMW Turner and Richard Wagner.



Introducing Douro River 2020

Introducing 3 new river cruises on Portugal's Douro River in 2020 Sailing aboard our new riverboat purpose-built for cruising the Douro with only 84 guests!



2019 DEPARTURES, ENJOY
ONE BONUS HOTEL NIGHT
WHEN YOU BOOK BY 31 DEC '18

For more information on Tauck River Cruises [click here](#) 