

Last TD tomorrow

TOMORROW will mark the last edition of *Travel Daily* for 2019, as the team at Business Publishing Group hangs up their hats to celebrate the holidays.

The *Travel Daily* team will return on 02 Jan to deliver all the latest news and photos from the Australian travel industry.

SAA extends TTL

SOUTH African Airways (SAA) has extended the ticketing time limit (TTL) for any new SAA bookings (outside 30 days of dep) created between 13 Dec 2019 & 20 Jan 2020 ex. Australia to Africa.

The change means tickets do not need to be issued until 30 days prior to departure regardless of booking class used.

For any existing SAA bookings created before 13 Dec 2019, for departure outside 30 days existing TTL will apply.

Earlier this month the AFTA Chargeback Scheme (ACS) advised that it would no longer cover supplier failure credit card chargebacks relating to SAA (TD 03 Dec).

Brand USA reauthorised

THE future of Brand USA has been secured, with the US Government reauthorising the tourism marketing organisation through fiscal year 2027.

The funding of Brand USA was due to run out next year, after it was axed by the Trump administration in Feb 2018, to be redeployed into border controls (TD 06 Sep).

The legislation passed congress with strong bipartisan support and was signed into law on Thu.

"Reauthorisation allows Brand USA to continue to inspire millions of international travellers to visit the USA, who will spend billions of dollars and support tens of thousands of jobs each year, in communities nationwide," Brand USA President and CEO Christopher Thompson said.

"All of us at Brand USA are grateful to continue our important work, to grow the economy and bring the world closer together, through the power of international travel."

The move follows advocacy efforts from the travel industry, with the US Travel Association

joining its colleagues in the Visit US Coalition, a group of associations representing sectors of the economy that benefit from the economic effects of travel.

US Travel Association President and CEO Roger Dow said "Brand USA's work to boost international visitation is absolutely essential to the US trade balance, and the fact that it operates without sending American taxpayers a bill make it a model public-private partnership that delivers proven results".

"Congress should be widely applauded for this move by anyone who cares about the US economy and trade," he added.

In Jul, a bill was passed by the US Senate committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation which would see the previous US\$14 Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) fee - paid by travellers arriving from visa waiver program countries - raised to \$21.

A new structure would see US\$7 of the ESTA fee go to Brand USA, which would max out at US\$100m (TD 05 Aug).

TD Summit to be carbon neutral

NEXT year's *Travel Daily* Sustainability Summit will be a 100% carbon neutral event, with the support of South Pole which has teamed up to become the event's carbon offset partner.

The 22 Apr 2020 event aims to once again share best practice in sustainability across the industry and will be held at Sydney's Doltone House Darling Island, the first six-star green-rated building in NSW.

South Pole Senior Carbon & Renewables Manager, Jay van Rijn, said the *Travel Daily* Sustainability Summit partnership would "ensure that all event related emissions - including guest travel - are compensated for through our extensive portfolio of climate action projects that drive sustainable development and mitigate climate change".

Any leftover fresh food from the event will also be donated to OzHarvest to be shared with people in need.

A limited number of tickets for the summit are now available for purchase at special earlybird pricing - for more information on booking as well as the full agenda see sustainabilitysummit.com.au.

Qantas plane swap

QANTAS has filed an update on its Sydney-Hong Kong which sees it swap out the A380 on QF127/128 with Airbus A330, Boeing 747-400 and 787-9 aircraft in the first quarter of 2020.

The 747-400 & A330 will fly the route 13 Feb-01 Mar, while the 787-9 will operate 02 Mar-28 Mar.

Advertising Coordinator

Macquarie Park, Sydney

The Business Publishing Group is looking for the services of a proactive Advertising Coordinator to work across our industry leading titles.

This is a full-time role working within our sales and marketing team. Key responsibilities will be the development and production of our publications, liaising with clients on quotes and advertising coordination as well as assisting with promotional activities.

We are looking for someone who has strong attention to detail, is organised, a team player and excels at customer service. Experience with Adobe InDesign and Microsoft Office suite is highly desirable.

If this sounds like you apply to jobs@traveldaily.com.au today.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has four pages of news and photos, plus a full page from:


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Do not miss out



TRAVLR partners

TRAVLR has teamed up with WebsiteTravel Global Marketplace API and Adventium Technology, following the reveal last week of a partnership with Network 10 for an "end-to-end travel platform and ecosystem" (TD 18 Dec).

The deal with WebsiteTravel & Adventium Technology gives global audiences direct live availability, access to NZ businesses and operators connected to WebsiteTravel, as well as geo-located deals for in-location customers.

Etihad frequencies

A NUMBER of Etihad Airways routes will be reduced from the second quarter of 2020.

AUH to BKK will be reduced from three to two daily, AUH to GVA and JNB will be shrunk from seven to five weekly, and AUH to HKT will go down from seven to four times weekly.

AUH to DUS will reduce from seven to five weekly from 05 to 28 May, before becoming thrice weekly from 05 to 11 Jun, and up to five weekly from 16 to 25 Jun.

Journey Beyond Syd cruise

JOURNEY Beyond will launch a new cruise product on Sydney Harbour in the first quarter of 2020, offering lunch or dinner with views of the Harbour Bridge and Opera House.

Journey Beyond Cruise Sydney will invite guests on board a new 78-foot vessel with capacity for 90 guests, with sailings all-inclusive of gourmet meals and premium beer and wine.

The two-and-a-half-hour lunch cruise will offer a two-course meal, as well as New South Wales fine wines, beers, tea and coffee, while the three-hour dinner option provides guests a three-course meal, served with sommelier-chosen wines from around the state.

The lunch cruise starts at \$119

for adults and \$95 for children aged 4-14, while the dinner cruise sails from \$175 for adults and \$155 for children.

Kids under the age of four sail both itineraries free of charge.

Journey Beyond Chief Commercial Officer Pete Egglestone said the product was part of the company's "ever-expanding national footprint", having also recently acquired tour operator Outback Spirit (TD 17 Oct).

"Journey Beyond continues to grow and bring guests new and exciting experiences that capitalise on the natural beauty and iconic adventures Australia has on offer," he said.

"Our new cruise product in Sydney will be perfect to combine with a rail adventure on the Indian Pacific."

The vessel is also available to be booked for private charters and events.

Emirates A380 SYD

EMIRATES will deploy an A380 on the Dubai-Sydney route for the northern summer 2020 season.

From Dubai, the EK416/417 service will be operated by A380 aircraft from 19 Jun to 31 Aug, instead of 777-300ER.

QF Exmouth fares

QANTAS has revealed it will expand its special weekend fares to Exmouth during a six-month period in 2020 to help boost tourism to the town.

In association with the Western Australian Government, the promotion will see the number of seats available under the program tripled, providing 300 of the fares from Fri to Mon from PER to LEA between Apr and Oct.

In total, 7,800 fares will be available from \$169 one-way, with the renewed push coming following a successful trial this year (TD 11 Apr).

MEANWHILE, Qantas has applied to the International Air Services Commission to allow 670 seats per week of extra capacity for two extra services per week between Australia and Indonesia operated by its Jetstar subsidiary.

The carrier has requested the allocation to Jetstar on a five-year basis starting 28 Apr.



Window Seat

AS THE second-busiest airport in the United States, personal effects are bound to be left behind at Los Angeles International every day.

In response, LAX has set up a new website designed to re-home lost items, allowing passengers to log on and search through the up to 7,000 possessions which get left behind each month.

For those that don't find their way home, there is a good alternative - the airport says after 90 days, lost property is typically sent to Goodwill Industries International or the Salvation Army.

Carnival collision

CARNIVAL Cruise Line said it is assessing the damage of Sat's collision between *Carnival Glory* and *Carnival Legend* in Mexico, but that the incident had not impacted the seaworthiness of either ship.

As she was manoeuvring to dock, *Glory* collided with the already-docked *Legend*.

Carnival Cruise Line indicated one passenger aboard the notably larger *Glory* was injured, with the *New York Times* claiming as many as six were hurt in the collision in total.

MEANWHILE, the cruise line was also recently informed by the Meyer Turku shipbuilding company the delivery of *Carnival Mardi Gras* will be delayed until late Oct 2020.

Carnival is advising the first revenue sailings of the ship, originally scheduled for 31 Aug, will be pushed back to 14 Nov.

Those booked on now-cancelled sailings will receive 25% off a future cruise, in addition to the full refund of their cruise fare.

Guests will also be assisted with non-refundable airline and hotel reservations already booked.

Secure your seat to the Summit now

22 April 2020

Doltone House,
Darling Island, Sydney



Travel Daily



Sustainability
SUMMIT

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Reflect with us on the year that we've had in 2019 in the December issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read

travelBulletin

Air NZ WLG lounge

AIR New Zealand opened its new-look Wellington Domestic Lounge on Sat.

The space now has seats for 374 patrons, and features six different zones - a cafe and bar; barista station; business area; lounge area; quiet area and a self-service food and drinks station.

The airline has also recently opened a new regional lounge in Nelson, as well as tripled the size of its regional lounge in Auckland (**TD** 25 Nov).

Cunard drone show

CUNARD'S *Queen Elizabeth* pre-emptively celebrated its first ever Christmas Down Under, in Melbourne yesterday morning.

The cruise line treated citizens to the town's first-ever "drone show", with 60 of the illuminated vehicles soaring above Port Melbourne - see it **HERE**.

Two more sleeps until Santa!



THE Christmas photos have been coming in thick and fast from the travel industry, with Leisure Group sending in a photo of its team at its recent Christmas breakup lunch (**above**).

The Flight Centre Queanbeyan team is also pictured **right**.

Today is your last chance to send in photos ahead of our final edition of the year tomorrow - happy holidays to all **TD** readers.



BROCHURES

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Skimax - Southern Hemisphere 2020

Skimax has gone to press with its 2020 Southern Hemisphere brochure. The 35-page program showcases a range of mountains and resorts across New Zealand, Australia and South America. Skimax specialises in many types of product, catering for families, individuals and groups at all different price points. Also outlined in the publication is accommodation, packages, other local activities, and detailed technical information on the best skiing spots south of the equator.



AAT Kings - 35 Best Short Breaks in Australia

AAT Kings' new Best Short Breaks in Australia brochure 2020/21 provides itineraries designed for guests who are limited on time, but still want to explore the country. Ranging from two- to seven-day holidays, the packages consist of guided day tours, accommodation and dining options and more. A program highlight is the chance for guests to witness the Field of Light installation at Uluru. Also in the release is a five-day Adelaide & Kangaroo Island discovery, a four-day Melbourne & the Great Ocean Road exploration, a four-day Tropical Reef & Rainforest venture and a four-day Perth & Rottnest Island adventure.

GBT 2020 forecasts

LONG-HAUL low cost carriers not based in Asia have largely floundered in 2019, according to American Express Global Business Travel's (GBT) *Air Monitor 2020* report.

Part of the Global Business Consulting's Monitor series, which in addition to air, covers ground and hotel, the report provides insight into the business travel industry through its forecast methodology, based on five years of historical GBT data.

The report also found economic growth in Asia Pacific remains high relative to other economies, despite a gradual slowdown.

SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Today's Sustainability Matters is brought to you by Air New Zealand



This marks the last in a series of columns around sustainability at Air New Zealand.

Over the past few months we've shared some of the challenges we're facing in this space, including reducing our carbon emissions and reliance on plastic, as well as some of the initiatives underway to tackle them such as investing in modern aircraft like our A320 and A321neos and introducing plant-based cups – and in the meantime we've even trialed edible cups!

I hope the insights shared have given you an idea of the work we're doing behind the scenes, as well as a sense of the challenges the travel industry as a whole continues to face.

At Air New Zealand we've committed to keeping sustainability in all its forms – social, economic and environmental – front of mind, so please don't hesitate to pass on feedback or ideas to the team if they arise – let's keep the conversation flowing.

Lastly, I'd like to thank you for your ongoing support of Air New Zealand. Have a safe and happy holiday break.

Kathryn Robertson
Regional General Manager
Australia

AIR NEW ZEALAND 

Moxy into NZ

MARRIOTT International has announced the debut of its Moxy Hotels brand in New Zealand after signing Moxy Queenstown with owner and developer, Queenstown Central Limited.

The 176-room hotel, slated to open in 2022, will be located near Queenstown International Airport and the banks of the Kawarau Falls Scenic Reserve.

It will be the third Moxy brand hotel to be signed in the New Zealand, Australia and Pacific region in the past 12 months (**TD** 17 Jul).

Scenic Rim funds

SCENIC Rim, Southern Downs, Sunshine Coast and Noosa will receive a \$6 million tourism recovery package to help boost visitor numbers and stimulate local economies after the southern Queensland spring bushfires.

The package, which is jointly funded by the federal and Queensland governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, will be dispersed among the regional councils as well as going towards tourism marketing and restoring trails in the Lamington National Park.

Druk Air gives it a Bhutan



DRUK Air - Royal Bhutan Airlines recently held its General Sales Agent Conference in Bhutan from 07 to 12 Dec.

The conference offered the opportunity to network, receive updates on the airline and experience the country and its flag carrying airline.

The Australian GSA for KB, The Walshe Group's Lachlan Burnet, attended the conference, along with a number of other GSAs from Asia, the Middle East and the Pacific.

Burnet is **pictured** centre, saying, "the hospitality shown by the Bhutanese people is so genuine and leaves you feeling so cared for, I can't wait to return."

"As a new partner of The Walshe Group it was enlightening to learn about Druk Air's operations and aspirations and also be able to see their unique and very special corner of the world in the one trip."

The Walshe Group was appointed as Druk Air's GSA earlier this year (**TD** 15 Nov).

Lindblad addition

LINDBLAD Expeditions has released the 18-day Antarctica & Patagonia: Legendary Ice & Epic Fjords journey, departing 04 Nov 2020 with prices from \$29,600pts.



A-LEAGUE

**A-LEAGUE
WINNER R11**

Congratulations

**NATASHA
MELHUISE**

from Holiday World

Natasha is the top tipper for R11 of *Travel Daily's* A-League footy tipping competition. She's won a \$100 travel voucher from Breakaway Travel Club.



A-League tipping competition is sponsored by Etihad Airways and ReadyRooms, with the top tipper for the season winning a trip to Manchester to see Manchester City play.



ReadyRooms

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Travel Daily

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For more information on Ireland
visit trade.ireland.com

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