Travel Daily First with the news



One&Only's Winter

WHILE the weather cools down, the deals are heating up, with Emirates One&Only Wolgan Valley today reminding agents of its range of winter packages.

Nightly rates start from \$1,045 per person twin share - for more information, see page eight.



Royal Brunei adds BNE

ROYAL Brunei Airlines CEO Karam Chand will this afternoon formally launch the airline's 25th destination, with new A320neo aircraft operating non-stop services from Brisbane to Brunei.

The use of the next generation single-aisle aircraft is enabling BI to expand its international network, with its longer range and fuel efficiency seeing the return of the Brisbane route, which was suspended in 2011.

Chand told TD the airline continued to see significant demand from Qld-based guests who were currently connecting to BI destinations such as London, Dubai, Tokyo and the Maldives via the airline's existing Melbourne Boeing 787 route.

"We will now be able to service this demand directly," he said, with the new Brisbane flights initially operating four times a week, but with aspirations to go

daily "as soon as possible".

The A320neos give the carrier increased flexibility to add more destinations, and while additional Australian locations are under consideration. Royal Brunei is also actively looking at adding Beijing.

Chand also addressed the controversy around the recent expansion of Sharia Law in Brunei, saying criticism of the move and media attention saw an initial dip in bookings.

However after a week or two reservations returned to "above trend...we believe our Australian guests make their own judgement and are very happy to fly with a quality airline," he said.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news, including a photo page for Abu Dhabi, plus full pages from:

- One&Only
- AA Appointments jobs



RSSC's new world

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has announced a new 120-night roundtrip world cruise, dep San Francisco in Jan 2022.

The Navigate The World -Elements of the Pacific cruise will see Seven Seas Mariner visit 17 countries and 59 ports.





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NDC or perish: Travelport

TRAVELPORT Group VP and MD of OTA, Rob Brown, has defended the value of the New Distribution Capability (NDC) standard, telling TD it will depend on the approach of each individual agency.

When asked if the NDC would provide "real value" to agents, Brown said "if you're an agent who is thinking about the end consumer and about providing a more customised experience and overall trip...and you embrace NDC in that approach, then I think the answer is yes".

"If you're a travel agent who wants to be doing things the way it's been done over the last couple of decades, I don't think that you're going to get the same value," he added.

Brown likened the rollout of the NDC to "any new standard or technology", saying those who get value understand that the market and end consumer is changing, and adapt.

A key change in the rollout of the NDC is that agents will enter into a commercial agreement directly with the NDC-enabled airlines, instead of with the GDS.

"Will there be changes to the commercial models?

"That's a question we're all asking," Brown told Travel Daily.

"At the end of the day, as long as you're a player in that ecosystem that is adding value to the overall ecosystem, then there's going to be upside," he added.

"I think agencies need to have their eyes open to understand as NDC progresses, how that commercial model is going to work and how they can make it benefit them as agents."

The comments follow a warning from Australian Federation of Travel Agents CEO Jayson Westbury, who on Tue said "the few airlines that have decided to bring a distribution strategy dressed up as NDC, have not yet demonstrated any real value to travel agents" (TD 09 Jul).

Finnair to Busan

FINNAIR is further expanding its Asian presence with the 30 Mar 2020 launch of seasonal direct flights between Helsinki and Busan in Korea, to operate thrice weekly using A350 aircraft.









We are excited to announce the winners of four Expeditions voyages. Don't forget 5% bonus commission has been extended to 31 July, 2019.





MAIN BEACH TRAVEL Jenny Bevan







Travel Daily on location on the **Danube River**

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of APT, which will this week christen its brand new AmaMagna on the Danube River as it cruises between Budapest and Vienna.

AMAMAGNA is now en route to the picturesque Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its natural beauty, quaint towns, steep vineyards, ancient castles and monasteries.

Today guests will explore the village of Durnstein, discover the breathaking Melk Abbey or cycle along the banks of the river, before later in the day participating in extensive christening celebrations.

Asia Pacific Holdings (APH) CEO Chris Hall appears in a new TD video extolling the ship - see traveldaily.com.au/videos.

All still OK at C&K

COX & Kings Australia has reiterated that it is business as usual in its local operations (TD 03 Jul), after IATA this week suspended the BSP participation of its Indian parent company.

Shares in C&K India plummeted further after an Indian Stock Exchange update confirming the IATA move which meant the firm could not sell airline tickets.

"However the company will continue to issue tickets on a cash and carry basis," C&K India said.

A local spokesperson said Cox & Kings Australia was functioning under its own IATA license and was "fully compliant with the IATA regulatory environment.

"As such [C&K Australia] is not at all impacted with the current situation of Cox & Kings India."

C&K India said it was working closely with lenders to "optimise its strong asset base globally and bring the situation back to normal as soon as possible".



Find out how to make the most of a trip to South Africa in the July issue of travelBulletin.

> **CLICK** to read trave|Bulletin

Fernie Dream over

ALASTAIR Fernie is understood to no longer be MD of CruiseAway by Dreamlines, having left the business earlier this week.

He was appointed to run the local operations of CruiseAway three years ago (TD 28 Oct 2016), a few months after the firm's acquisition by German OTA cruise giant Dreamlines, which also owns Cruise1st.

At this stage Dreamlines has not responded to requests from TD for comment on the departure.

Tramada sales chief

ALAN McCartney has been appointed as Head of Sales and Account Management at Tramada Systems, joining the company after his most recent role as Global Accounts Manager at Amadeus IT Pacific.

His career has also seen him hold senior sales positions at BCD Travel, Amex GBT and CT Connections.



Window Seat

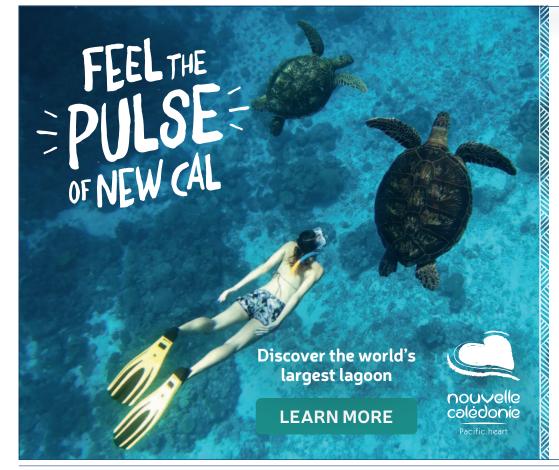
COULD we be nearing the next great travel innovation?

Russian inventor Dahir Semenov has designed an electric train-plane hybrid with the ability to travel at 500km/h and seat up to 2,000 passengers.

As the ultralight structure takes flight, it is tethered to an electrified rail which feeds it power and eliminates the need for fuel.

Despite incorporating existing technology, it is still in the design stage, with no current plans for production.





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The final Fullerton countdown



TO CELEBRATE 100 days until the official opening of The Fullerton Hotel in Sydney, representatives of Singapore-based Fullerton Hotels and Resorts group hosted an intimate luncheon for a range of dignitaries on Wed.

The luxury hotel, slated to open its doors on 18 Oct, will be located within Sydney's heritage GPO building in Martin Place, and marks the brand's first international expansion outside of Singapore (*TD* 19 Oct 2018).

"The Fullerton Hotel Sydney will offer complimentary heritage tours for hotel guests and the public," said Fullerton Hotels & Resorts General Manager Cavaliere Giovanni Viterale.

"We plan to share the building's fascinating history, which spans the hallowed hallways of the heritage building to the ornamental carvings on the facade...we want to tell the tales of early Sydney, where the building dominated the Sydney skyline, and bring the building's soul and historical significance to life," he added.

Pictured enjoying the Sydney event are Fullerton Hotels & Resorts representatives Robert Gauer, Director of Operations; Cavaliere Giovanni Viterale, General Manager; Cathy Chia, Director of Corporate Communications; and Vanessa Frances Paul, Corporate Communications Manager.



TRADE MARKETING ASSISTANT

MSC Cruises Australia is looking for a Trade Marketing Assistant based at the Sydney CBD head office.

The ideal candidate will look after:

- Inside Sales and trade collateral to market
- Trade promotion co-ordination
- Updating of MSC Book agent portal/ new agents
- Control of trade databases
- Assistance with trade PR content
- Reporting of campaigns

The successful candidate must have completed a course degree and have attention to detail and the ability to work effectively as part of a team as well as independently in a fast paced environment.

For further information and to submit your resume hr@msccruises.com.au



Qantas inspections

QANTAS will inspect six of its A380s after fine cracks appeared in a part of the wing of early production models.

In a proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EUSA) said "this condition, if not detected and corrected, could reduce the structural integrity of the wing".

Qantas said inspections are being done well in advance of the required time frame.

Silver Origin sales

SILVERSEA has announced sales for its upcoming *Silver Origin* ship will officially open on 16 Jul.

The 100-passenger vessel, which has been "designed entirely with the Galapagos Islands in mind", is set to embark on her maiden voyage to the region in Jul 2020, allowing guests to explore the landscapes with local experts, as well as enjoy regionally inspired cuisine, lectures and more.

For ship info, CLICK HERE.

Ormina 2020 out

EUROPEAN small group operator, Ormina Tours, has launched its 2020 program, offering two new itineraries over the European winter months.

The Christmas Markets Regional Discovery itinerary includes ice skating, market visits and a castle stay, while the Winter Dolomites Regional tour takes guests hiking, snowshoeing and sledging.

To request a brox, CLICK HERE.

Snow'n'Ski famil

AGENTS have the chance to win one of 30 spots on an upcoming famil to the ski fields of Japan thanks to a new incentive by Snow'n'Ski Holidays and Japan National Tourism Organization.

The agents who sell the most Snow'n'Ski accommodation and lift packages before 31 Oct will qualify - for more information, phone 1300 766 754.

SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Today's Sustainability Matters is brought to you by Tourism NT



I recently had the privilege of spending time in Nhulunbuy and surrounding areas in Eastern Arnhem Land. This

remarkable place is pristine Aboriginal land, home to some of the most spectacular and largely untouched landscapes on the planet. It is also a showcase for sustainable tourism development that is cognizant of the fragile environment and the communities that call this place home. Being NAIDOC week, I thought it is appropriate to share some of these stories.

To get a taste of what I am talking about, have a look at this video from the team at Intrepid Tours who have some wonderful itineraries in this part of the world. CLICK HERE to watch.

Similarly, the team at Outback Spirit have produced with traditional owners one of the most spectacular group itineraries throughout Arnhem Land. CLICK HERE for more.

No trip to this region is complete without a visit to the Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre at Yirrkala. This world class art centre showcases the very best of Yolngu art. Yirrkala is the birthplace of the Yirrkala boards and the Yirrkala church panels which are both extremely significant in modern day recognition of Aboriginal connection to their lands.

This is but a small taste of what awaits in Eastern Arnhem Land. These programs and products are truly leading the way in sustainable tourism development!

Scott Lovett, Executive General Manager, Tourism NT







AirAsia X seals west deal



AIRASIA X and the State Government of Western Australia, via Tourism WA, have signed an agreement to bring more tourists to the region. Under the pact, marketing

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campaigns will run in China, India, Japan and Malaysia, promoting affordable airfares to the state's capital of Perth.

Announced yesterday at the carrier's headquarters in Malaysia, the \$1 million deal is part of the State's \$12 million international marketing boost.

Pictured is WA Tourism Minister Paul Papalia shaking the hand of Benyamin Ismail, AirAsia X Chief Executive Officer, alongside dignitaries and Air Asia X crew.

Marriott faces fine

MARRIOTT International is facing a £99,200,396 (AU\$178m) fine from the UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) over last year's data breach, which saw the details of up to 500 million guests stolen from the company's database (TD 03 Dec 2018).

Marriott International President and CEO Arne Sorenson said, "we are disappointed with this notice of intent from the ICO, which we will contest.

"Marriott has been cooperating with the ICO throughout its investigation into the incident, which involved a criminal attack against the Starwood guest reservation database."

An investigation determined the database with information relating to reservations at Starwood properties had been accessed by hackers from 2014 -2018.

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.

Wharf Hotels has made a slate of new appointments, naming Balwin Yeung as Group Director Global Sales, Ben Choi Group Director Rooms

Sunshine Coast Airport has appointed Gareth Williamson as its new General Manager Aviation Business Development. He joins MCY with over 15 years experience in aviation, airline and tourism management, working with carriers from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Sage Hotel West Perth has announced the appointment of Graeme Rutherford as General Manager, moving from his current role at Brisbane Casino Tower. Rutherford began his hospitality career with Rydges Hotels, working his way up to his first General Manager position in Melbourne. Since then he has managed a number of hotels in Australia, including Rydges and Frasers Suites in Perth.

Innstant integration

INNSTANT Travel yesterday announced it is now integrated with Gimmonix's Travolutionary.

The move allows Innstant to offer Gimmonix's users access to its 750,000 worldwide properties, including hotels, apartments, chateaux and luxury villas.

Darryl Ismail, Innstant Chief Executive Officer, said "we are delighted that our global accommodation product is now available to Gimmonix's users, offering even more choice and flexibility to their clients".

Virgin Velocity move

AFFINITY Equity Partners is exploring an exit from its 35% minority investment in Virgin Australia's Velocity Frequent Flyer program, the airline has revealed in a statement to the ASX.

Affinity is looking into various exit options for the sale of its stake in the program.

Alliance additions

ALLIANCE Airlines has entered into a deal to purchase five additional Fokker 100 aircraft from Swiss airline Helvetic Airways, as well as the entirety of Helvetic's spare engines, parts and tooling.

The move builds on Alliance's strategy to expand its fleet "as more opportunities present themselves in Australia & the Sth Pacific, particularly in contract aviation and wet lease services".

Blue ribbon figures

THE Tourism and Transport Forum has described last night's State of Origin game in Sydney as a win-win for the visitor economy, with an estimated 24,000 interstate and regional travellers coming to the city for the series decider.

The event generated approximately \$17 million in tourism-related expenditure.

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Travel Daily

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HEADS or tails continues.

Abu Dhabi roadshow comes to a close

THE Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi, together with Etihad Airways completed a successful roadshow to celebrate both the luxury and tradition of Abu Dhabi and the myriad of options to Choose Well on Etihad.

Roadshow attendees were able to spend time getting to know representatives from the following stakeholders in Abu Dhabi: Jumeirah Hotels and Resorts, Bab al Qasr Hotel, Etihad Airways, Etihad Holidays, Hala Experiences, World Expo 2020 and Orient Tours.

Participants were given access to all the insider knowledge including how to go to the World Expo from Abu Dhabi.

The Roadshow was held at the Emporium Hotel in Brisbane on 24 Jun, the Luminaire in Melbourne on 25 Jun and the Four Seasons Hotel

in Sydney on 26 Jun.



A SPIRITED game of Heads or Tails, with the winner making away with two Business class flights to Abu Dhabi and accommodation at Jumeirah Al Wathba and Jumeirah on Saadiyat.

LIDA Rowis from Etihad Holidays presenting.

INDUSTRY professionals enjoying the Arabian Dessert



Etihad Holidays

AGENTS tested their skills to win a place on the mega famil.



DIANA Ancuta, Mark Ehlers, Jodie Collins and Jennifer Gaskin.

THE beautiful table settings.





ANTHONY Rippingale, Director of Travel Trade Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi.





TOP row: Anthony Rippingale, Saeed Sulman, Paul Valkovics, Monique Safayan, Alisha Qasem Al Hammadi. Bottom row: Massimilliano Pipino, Suzanne Tobin, Teree George, Jennifer Gaskin, Diana Ancuta, Sarah Dubke, Lidia Rowis, Brigette Ward, Lisa Baddock.



Swedish floating hotel opens



THE highly anticipated Arctic Bath Hotel and Spa located in Swedish Lapland is now accepting bookings to stay at the unusual floating property.

Off the Map Travel, the same team behind a popular Treehotel in Sweden, is the brains trust who built the hotel, which is now offering stays for between Feb 2020 and Feb 2021.

Attractions for lovers of wellness accommodation will enjoy the circular-shaped Arctic Bath houses which feature spa treatment rooms, four saunas. an outside cold bath, a hot bath, outdoor and indoor showers, and two dressing rooms.

"The serenity of the location combined with this distinctive wellness experience makes this a first in the travel world," said Off the Map Travel founder Jonny

Wellness services offered at the property include yoga and meditation classes, cleansing sessions using crystals, and cold and hot water dips.

Drink menus boast special organic smoothies using locally sourced ingredients.

For more information on the floating wellness hotel's features, **CLICK HERE.**

Flight shaming

RYANAIR'S Chief Executive Officer Michael O'Leary has hit back at the Swedish-born "flight shame" movement, telling a conference in Brussels this week that European airlines were not "getting a free ride on the environment".

"We have a very good case to push back against these NGOs like the 'flight shame' movement because actually this is an industry that is...meeting its obligations towards a greener, cleaner planet," he said.

The flight shame movement was founded to highlight the adverse impact the air travel sector has had on the environment.

win a trip to Morocco for two. The 11-night Kaleidoscope of Morocco ip takes in ancient wonders such as the UNESCO-listed Roman ruins of blubilis, the ancient desert city of Ait Benhaddou, the imperial city of Fez and the bustling medina of Marrakesh. Click here for more trip details win you need to correctly answer one question each week in July, and the end of the month tell us in 25 words or less why you should be th rson to win this prize. Send your answers to gate1@traveldaily.com.au Q2. Arabic is one of the official languages of Morocco. What is the other one?

SLH adds three

SMALL Luxury Hotels of the World (SLH) is preparing to introduce three new properties to its collection, including its first hotel in Malaga, Spain.

The 68-room Palacio Solecio will open in Dec, while the 44-key Alex Lake Zurich, Switzerland debuts this month.

The 46-room Twinpalms MontAzure, Kamala Beach, Thailand is also set to open its doors to the public in Jul.

EK hotel discounts

GUESTS flying with Emirates (EK) until 30 Sep can take advantage of discounted hotel rates at any UAE properties under the Accor, Armani Hotel Dubai, Emaar Hospitality Group and Marriott brands.

France flight tax

EUROPEAN airlines' share prices have plummeted following news France will introduce an eco-tax on flights from its airports.

Air France saw its share value fall 5.2%, with the carrier warning the tax would impact its competitiveness.

From 2020, pax travelling in Economy class, within France and the EU will be taxed €1.50, while those at the pointy end of the plane will be charged €9.

Travellers flying Economy to destinations outside the EU will be taxed €3 per flight, while those in Business will face up to €18.

The flight tax has been developed as an alternative to the diesel tax that was scrapped in response to the yellow vest protests, and will fund domestic transport infrastructure.

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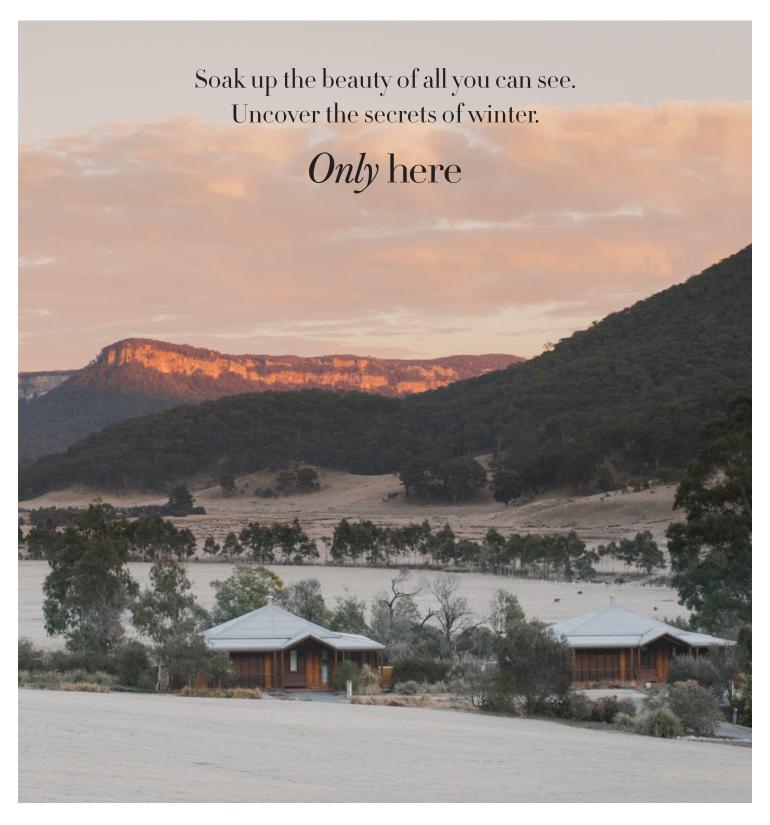
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NEW WINE & DINE

FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER BRISBANE – UP TO \$95K PKG

Come and join an iconic Brisbane hotel as F&B Manager. Reporting into the GM you'll be responsible for managing key outlets including restaurants, bars, function areas and room service to ensure service standards are met and profit increased. You'll have strong people management skills along with the ability to devise and implement strategies to increase sales and reduce cost and waste. Experience in a similar F&B role within a hotel environment is a must.

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CORPORATE ACCOUNT MANAGER X 2 SYDNEY- SALARY UP TO \$110K

As a Global Corporate Account Manager you will be responsible for the regional program with the objective of growing revenues, increasing revenues, increasing margins and retaining the business. To do this, you will have a thorough knowledge of corporate travel as well as the professional communication & negotiation skills to deal with people at all levels up to executives.

Interviews to commence this week.

THE RAREST OF OPPORTUNITIES

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY- UP TO \$112K PKG

If you're well connected within the travel market and looking for a first class product to represent – don't miss out on this challenging BDM opportunity. Along with managing and growing existing leisure accounts you'll be confident in identifying and building new business opportunities to increase revenue, experienced in presenting and have strong negotiation skills. Previous experience in a similar industry sales role is preferred. Top package.

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Commercial Director of Sales & Marketing – New Zealand
Cluster Hotel Corporate/Wholesale Sales Manager - Sydney
Marketing Manager - Iconic Property - Sydney
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National GM of Operations - Sydney
Director of Conferences and Events - Sydney
MICE BDM- Brisbane
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