

APT's Cash or Cabin

APT is reminding agents there are just three weeks left for bookings to be included in its "Cash or Cabin" incentive.

To qualify for entry to possibly win a cabin or \$1,000 cash, book select itineraries including APT and Travelmarvel European or Mekong river cruises as well as APT coastal cruises.

For more information on the incentive, see **page eight**.

CZ cutting flights

CHINA Southern Airlines is winding back capacity into Australia, with GDS screens indicating seasonal service reductions for flights to Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

Guangzhou-Brisbane services will reduce from daily to six weekly from 02-15 Sep, while flights into Melbourne and Sydney will also go from double daily down to 10-12 weekly between Jul and Oct 2019.

Platinum Travel NZ deal

AUSTRALIAN-BASED Platinum Travel Corporation has continued its expansion plans with a move into New Zealand through a licensing agreement with New Zealand corporate travel specialists Fortis Travel.

The agreement will see the two companies represent each other exclusively in their respective markets, operating under their respective company names in each market.

More than six months in the making, the tie-up sees corporate, leisure and events teams from each company cross-manage clients with a Trans-Tasman presence.

This will allow clients to take advantage of local support for all operating branches, and on-site event and conferencing support that optimises their budgets.

The deal was formalised this month by Platinum Director,

Andrew Buerckner, and Fortis Managing Director, Blair Huston, with current client implementations now complete.

The new partnership will be driven by Platinum's Strategic Account Manager, Lauren O'Dowd, and Fortis Operations Manager, Mandy Nicod, in their respective markets.

Platinum Travel said the deal was in line with its ambitious FY20 growth plans, with the company opening a new office in Perth in Jan in response to a "dramatic increase in demand from corporate and event clientele" (TD 21 Jan).

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news, a photo page for **Helloworld**, plus full pages:

- APT
- Travel Trade Recruitment

Virgin Voyages Australian plans

EXCLUSIVE

STACY Shaw, Vice President of Sales at fledgling cruise line Virgin Voyages, says the company had been "overwhelmed by the excitement and outreach from agencies in Australia" following several **Travel Daily** and **Cruise Weekly** stories about the Richard Branson-backed line (TD 03 Jan).

Speaking to TD yesterday, Shaw confirmed Virgin Voyages was currently focusing on the US, Canada and UK markets to get the business off the ground "but we'll look to expand into other markets as soon as we can."

"We know the Virgin brand has a strong presence here and we're so grateful for the love everyone is sending our way," she said.

Shaw added that "we think Australia and New Zealand makes a lot of sense for us and we would love to get things going sooner rather than later".

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CRUISE LINE

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QF Money waiver

QANTAS Travel Money has waived its overseas ATM fees though until 31 Jul 2019.

The promotion of the prepaid travel card aims to highlight the product's other zero-fee features including \$0 monthly account fees, currency conversion fees, bank transfer and BPAY load fees.

The card, linked to the Qantas Frequent Flyer scheme, offers 1.5 Qantas Points for every A\$1 spent in foreign currency, and one Qantas Point for every A\$4 spent in Australian dollars.

See qantasmoney.com.

AmaMagna debut

APT'S new double-width European river cruise ship, *AmaMagna* (**TD** 15 May 2017) has kicked off her inaugural voyage from Vilshofen, Germany to Budapest in Hungary.

The vessel has the "highest level of luxury and generous personal space of any ship on the rivers," according to AmaWaterways President, Rudi Schreiner.

AmaMagna has 98 staterooms, more than half of which are designated as suites with full outside balconies, open seating areas and large bathrooms with double sinks and walk-in showers.

Onboard amenities include a large boutique, four dining venues, five bars, a Zen Wellness Studio, a juice bar, a sun deck with heated pool and a "sky bar" - pics at facebook.com/traveldaily.

UK Govt plots new air levy

OFFICIALS in Britain have recommended a new Flight Protection Scheme, estimated to cost about 50p per person per flight, to fund insurance against the future collapse of airlines operating in the UK.

The final report of the government's Airline Insolvency Review has now been released, with the probe initiated following the failure of Monarch Airlines in Oct 2017 which saw a whopping 85,000 passengers repatriated by the UK Civil Aviation Authority.

At present protection options for those who book airline tickets in the UK include booking flights as part of an ATOL (Air Travel Organisers Licence) travel arrangement, booking with a credit card where transactions worth over £100 are protected by the Consumer Credit Act, or having travel insurance which protects against airline failure.

The review's analysis suggests that currently about 80% of passengers booking outbound flights from the UK have some form of protection against financial loss which would enable them to recover the money paid for tickets that have become worthless if their carrier collapses.

However only the 25% or so who have bought an ATOL-protected travel product - essentially a flight-inclusive package holiday - are assured of being able to get home in a timely

way at little or no extra cost.

"This leaves around 75% of passengers who would need to access and pay for alternative travel arrangements themselves if they are left overseas when an airline collapses," the paper says.

"We do not think a 'buyer beware' approach is sufficient to fill this gap," it adds, concluding that a level playing field should be provided for all passengers, giving confidence that arrangements are in place to protect pax who would otherwise face being stranded.

"Despite many previous attempts to raise awareness of the risks of booking air travel without financial protection, consumer research shows that few travellers think about these risks when they book a flight or understand how they could protect themselves."

The proposed scheme would require all airlines serving the UK market to pay for financial protections to cover the estimated cost of repatriating their UK-originating passengers in the event of insolvency, as a condition of UK Air Operating Licences & Foreign Carrier Permits.

"We estimate that, on average, the overall cost of this protection would be less than 50p per UK originating passenger," the committee said, with UK Transport Secretary, Chris Grayling, saying he would "work to swiftly introduce the reforms".

Rezdy TOMIS deal

REZDY, the Australian-founded independent booking and distribution platform for tour and attraction operators, has announced an integration with the TOMIS (Tomis Marketing Intelligence Software) platform.

The new arrangement allows users with a Rezdy profile to use TOMIS' "one-stop digital marketing shop" with a reports dashboard, marketing calendars, Google Adwords and Facebook Ads monitoring, keyword ranking and marketing insights.

"From the very beginning, Rezdy's value has been built around helping tour and activity operators grow their business by enabling them to move sales online and automate their bookings," said Rezdy Head of Product, Simon Mainwaring.

He said working with TOMIS would give users the ability to "supercharge growth of their online booking channels".

VS bids for Cook

VIRGIN Atlantic has reportedly lodged a bid for the long-haul flight operations of beleaguered UK travel group Thomas Cook.

The company currently flies from the UK to a range of North American ports including Las Vegas, Cancun and Orlando, and recently flagged plans to offload the air business (**TD** 11 Feb), with other interested parties believed to include Lufthansa.



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Read about sustainable practices and whether companies can really have an impact in the May issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



CX moves beyond

CATHAY Pacific has relaunched its brand under the new tagline of "Move Beyond", a move motivated by the carrier's desire to improve its level of product and services.

The airline said "we believe it captures an enduring spirit that has driven our evolution, from a small regional carrier to one of the world's top international airline brands".

Over the coming months Cathay Pacific is planning to announce a number of new products and service enhancements.

Eurowings platform

EUROWINGS has launched a new flight platform which allows its passengers to book numerous transfer connections at competitive prices.

The new booking tool also offers flight connections from airlines that Eurowings has no cooperation with, meaning its customers can book multiple flights in a one-stop-shop.

Additionally, the platform covers the transfer risk between independently booked airlines, with any missed connecting flights leading to Eurowings rebooking without incurring any additional costs.

"We are gradually expanding eurowings.com into a travel companion that meets every traveller's needs," said Eurowings Digital MD Oliver Schmitt.

Tourism wins in WA Budget

THE WA Government has injected over \$100 million into the state's tourism sector in its 2019/2020 State Budget.

The McGowan Government's Two-Year Action Plan for tourism has seen \$10m allocated for international aviation development (over five years) to secure more direct flights to Perth.

There's also \$22 million in funding for ongoing management of national parks, marine parks and conservation reserves, as well as \$12 million in new funding for international destination marketing.

Tourism Council WA has welcomed the latest budget spend, however was "disappointed" that funding for Aboriginal tourism development

dropped by 28% to \$3.6 million.

Tourism & Transport Forum (TTF) Australia has also embraced the latest budget, stating that the WA Government "continued to invest in the visitor economy and related transport infrastructure and should be congratulated".

The industry body was particularly buoyed about the WA Government's commitment to regional tourism.

"Regional WA is not missing out, with the government investing \$16.2 million to upgrade critical visitor infrastructure on Rottnest Island and continued support to develop indigenous tourism, specifically funding for the WA Indigenous Tourism Operators Council for a further four years," TTF said in a statement.

The budget also included \$10m in funding for Collie Adventure Trails to turn Collie into the state's "best adventure town", as part of its Industry Attraction and Development Fund (TD 26 Apr).

Another area saw \$4.5 million allocated to the StudyPerth International Education Plan, an initiative that aims to boost the state's profile as a destination for education tourism.

Maximum jitters

A SURVEY of 1,765 people conducted by Barclays Investment Bank found that 44% of flyers would wait a year or more before boarding a 737 MAX.

This result was compared with 39% who said they would have no issue flying the troubled jet within only a few months of re-entering service.

The same study found that only 20% of people would fly on a Max as soon as the grounding order is lifted, and 52% said they would rather fly on another type of aircraft.

Sno'n'Ski Mega Fam

SNO'N'SKI has released details of its 2020 Mega Fam which will see 30 top-selling agents hosted on an eight-night adventure to America's most desirable ski destinations.

For the past three years, the Mega Fam has toured ski resorts in Canada, including Whistler, Banff Lake Louise, Big White and Panorama.

Agents can qualify by selling as many Sno'n'Ski accommodation packages as they can from 01 May through to 31 Aug this year.

The 2020 fam will depart 06 Mar and return 15 Mar, visiting the popular ski destinations of Aspen, Snowmass, Steamboat and Park City.



Window Seat

ANANTARA Kihavah Maldives Villas has introduced a unique way for couples to tie the knot with a brand new underwater wedding option.

Romantic marine touches include a coral bed as an altar, rings presented in a white shell, vows exchanged with a dive-certified minister and an underwater photographer.

For those guests unwilling to don a snorkel to watch, they can simply view the whole ceremony from the underwater restaurant aptly named - Sea.

A warning though, getting hitched underwater may not necessarily help those suffering from cold feet.



Emirates profit slide

THE Emirates Group has reported that its profit fell by 44% for the financial year ended 31 Mar when compared to the previous corresponding period.

The carrier posted a US\$631 million in profit for the period, while revenue increased by 7% to US\$29.8 billion.

Higher oil prices, a stronger US dollar, and heightened competition were the factors driving the eroded earnings.

Delta wi-fi test

DELTA Air Lines will start trialling unlimited wi-fi on 55 domestic flight segments a day from 13 May.

The free two-week pilot will run across all cabins on select short-, medium- and long-haul routes and is Delta's first step toward a suite of complimentary onboard entertainment options.

PR EXECUTIVE

Based in Sydney, the role will play an important role in developing and executing a profile building programme and supporting the ANZ marketing and communications plan, to increase visits to England, Scotland and Wales. Plan and execute an expanded press and media engagement programme in Australia to build on the long-term brand position

- Create, develop and manage a programme of profile building PR activities including media and consumer events
- Proactively pitch timely visits to relevant consumer and travel trade media, and work with the PR team in London to coordinate the visits
- To grow, develop, embed and strengthen PR relationships within the travel & lifestyle arena across Australia.

For further information, please contact Ali Fortuna at alison@capstonerecruitment.com.au



TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Today's Technology Update is brought to you Stuba Pacific



Imagine if we upgraded our business systems as often as people update their mobile phones. Annual updates to your computer's

operating system would nearly kill you; even Microsoft office updates can be problematic!

What drives a worthwhile update?

Mobiles are about status; in other words, ego. Most upgrade because "I must have the latest". I work on the smash and replace process... This time I bought an ugly leather case to protect my 14-month-old phone. It's a keeper.

With a growing tech orientation in my role at Stuba, I'm playing a bigger part in driving a tech revolution. As a wholesaler, it's about simple, reliable and relevance. Selling travel is a lot more about you than us; we are a platform, part of your infrastructure, from which you build the dream.

Our technology needs and wish list has been cut from thousands to hundreds via contemplation, passionate management meetings and strategic analysis. We've condensed the challenge of the upgrade argument down to a simple truth;

The waypoints on your upgrade journey are the questions, the answers become your destination. You can only know you have arrived if you knew where and why you were going there in the first place.

Mark Luckey, Managing Director, Stuba Pacific



Emirates, LATAM

EMIRATES has announced a codeshare partnership with LATAM Airlines Brazil on 17 domestic routes serviced by the Brazilian airline.

The deal will allow passengers travelling on LATAM operated flights to and from cities including Belo Horizonte, Brasilia and Foz do Iguaçu, to connect with flights to Dubai from Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.

MEANWHILE, passengers flying through Dubai before 31 Aug can sign up to My Emirates Pass to access discounts of up to 50% at leisure and retail outlets in the UAE.

Riviera goes green

EUROPEAN river cruise line Riviera Travel has gone plastic-free under a new eco-program.

Riviera's program will see the removal of all single-use plastics from the line's 11 ships.

Passengers will be given Riviera Travel branded reusable BPA-free bottles that they can take home, while plastic straws have been replaced by washable glass or paper straws, and small individual toiletries will be substituted with refillable toiletry canisters to reduce waste.

Airbnb summit

AIRBNB said it is aiming to collaborate with travel industry leaders, policy-makers & members of the communities where it operates, to develop healthy and sustainable tourism models.

The business' first New Destinations Summit started yesterday in Igualada, near Barcelona, Spain, to discuss how tourism can be fostered in communities that do not have traditional infrastructure to cater for tourists.

Airbnb noted its model had delivered economic benefits to communities in Catalonia and France that had no hotels or other holiday accommodation.

TRAVEL SPECIALS

WELCOME to Travel Specials, *Travel Daily's* Friday feature. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of, send the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au

Outback adventurers can camp for four nights for the price of three at Broken Hill's new **Out of the Ordinary Outback Resort**, or glamp in the resort's new spa cabins for \$155 per cabin per night. Call 1300 688 225.

Great Train Journeys is offering 50% off companion fares for journeys between Cape Town and Pretoria on the Blue Train for departures until the end of Jul. Prices start at \$1,922 per cabin - email gtj@raileurope.com.au.

With winter on its way, **Qantas** has launched its Beach Escapes Sale, offering discounted fares to Hawaii, Phuket, Koh Samui, Denpasar and more. For more details, **CLICK HERE**.

Agents can lock in the eight-day Croatia Island Escape for clients at 20% off with **Contiki's** Croatia Sailing Flash Sale. Offer ends 30 Jun for 27 Jul and 03 and 07 Aug departures. Prices start from \$1,740 per person twin share - call 1300 266 845.

Captain Cook Cruises is offering a single surcharge of between only 25%-30% on normal twin share prices, for all three, four and seven-night cruises on the *Murray Princess*. Single fares start from \$1,148 for the three-night Discovery Cruise - call 1300 729 938.

AirHelp scores out

QATAR Airways and its home airport, Hamad International Airport, Doha, have topped the 2019 AirHelp rankings, which were released yesterday.

Qantas was the fifth ranked airline globally, and top airline in the Oceania region, with an 8.04/10 score overall.

QF was rated as 8.3/10 for its service quality, with 7.9/10 scores for on-time performance and claim processing.

Perth Airport was the top Australian airport at number 26, with an AirHelp score of 7.95/10, scoring highly for on-time performance, ahead of 65th ranked Sydney (7.51/10) and Melbourne at 76 (7.36/10).

Crystal turns 30

CRYSTAL Cruises is planning to celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2020 with a year-long celebration including commemorative gifts and special events on its ships.

The events will take place on 30 designated sailings in 2020 across the brand's ocean, river, yacht and expedition offering.

AF redundancy

AIR France is set to cut 465 ground staff jobs, French media outlets report.

The airline is expected to seek voluntary redundancies from its short-haul ground crew at a works council meeting on Mon 13 May.

The decision follows a reported €303m Q1 operating loss by AF.

Hyatt, SLH loyalty

HYATT Hotels Corporation and Small Luxury Hotels of the World (SLH) have expanded their loyalty alliance to over 200 participating SLH hotels around the world.

The expansion has quadrupled the number of participating SLH properties since the alliance started in 2018, and its expansion is expected to continue in 2019.

IATA age of data

THE International Air Transport Association (IATA) highlighted that supporting airlines' ability to thrive in the coming age of data and digital transformation will be the focus of the 2019 Aviation Data Symposium.

IATA's Director General & CEO Alexandre de Juniac said accommodating airline growth safely will depend on the ability to better integrate data and embrace digital transformation.

The conference will take place on 25-27 Jun in Athens, Greece.

Astral rebrand

THE Star Sydney - Astral Tower and Residences has rebranded to The Star Grand Hotel and Residences Sydney, following its \$100 million refurbishment.

The updated property features 440 newly designed rooms and suites with marble bathrooms and modern furnishings.

The hotel, located inside The Star, has close access to restaurants including Flying Fish, BLACK Bar & Grill, and Sokyō.

Aqua splashes out on ships



AUSTRALIA is predicted to become the largest contributor of passengers for Aqua Expeditions', *Aqua Blu*, the newest addition to its fleet announced at a press conference in Sydney yesterday.

Speaking with *Travel Daily* the company's Founder & CEO, Francesco Zugaro said that the deployment of the new vessel to cruise throughout East Indonesia represents many firsts.

"To have regular scheduled F.I.T departures hasn't really been done before," Zugaro said.

"We're catering to the trade, to the market with guaranteed scheduled departures.

"This will be the first cruiser to do this," he explained.

"Our growth for the new product will come from the trade as 80% of our business is trade.

"We'll continue to work closely with the luxury affiliate networks of Helloworld, Flight Centre and Virtuoso to generate sales," Zugaro added.

The luxury river and yacht cruise line aims to generate 700 passengers aboard the *Aqua Blu* in its first season of operation with the firm also announcing the addition of the *Aqua Nera* to its fleet to cruise the Peruvian Amazon in 2020 (*TD* yesterday).

Francesco Zugaro is pictured alongside Jodie Weeks, National BDM for Aqua Expeditions.

NZ wants 100%

TOURISM New Zealand (TNZ) is planning to get 100% of kiwis to support international tourism.

Research is conducted twice a year to gauge New Zealanders' sentiment about international tourism, with the latest study finding 93% are on board.

TNZ said it worked with govt & industry to ensure that the sector gave back more than it took.

"Government and industry teamwork has seen some great results this year like improvements to the camping system and increased education around visitor behaviour," said TNZ CEO Stephen England-Hall.

"Continued success relies on the sector and beyond working together to address the bigger, longer-term challenges like infrastructure," he added.

Amadeus commits

AMADEUS has recently achieved certification as a capable ONE Order Management System by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

This certification will result in implementation of a single order record, in place of current multiple industry records, allowing more simplicity and agility as the industry moves towards retail-driven systems.

ONE Order will provide airlines with flexible dynamic offers, personalisation & financial flows.

Airbnb Ireland tape

AIRBNB has expressed concern about further government regulations in Ireland, following the proposed introduction of "restrictive caps on the primary homes of local people".

The company believes this will not address the current housing crisis in Dublin but rather "hurt local people by withdrawing a much-needed economic lifeline, limit consumer choice & damage the indigenous tourism sector".

In 2017, Airbnb injected €506 million into the Irish economy.



Destination NSW

Regional Tourism Development Manager Riverina Murray

- Ongoing
- Sydney CBD – The Rocks
- Total Remuneration Package (\$118,309 - \$130,372)

About the Organisation

Destination NSW is a Public Service Executive Agency with responsibility for developing and implementing strategies to grow the visitor economy. Our particular focus is on driving tourism and acquiring and developing major sporting and cultural events for Sydney and Regional NSW. In addition, Destination NSW is the major investor in Business Events Sydney with the aim to secure more international conventions, incentive travel reward programs, corporate events and exhibitions for Sydney and Regional NSW.

For more information about Destination NSW please visit their website at www.destinationnsw.com.au

About The Role

The Regional Tourism Development Manager Riverina Murray is the interface between Destination NSW and Destination Riverina Murray, Local Government and tourism industry stakeholders in the region.

The Sydney-based role is responsible for working with the Destination Riverina Murray team to develop and deliver destination planning and management programs that will contribute to strengthening the region's visitor economy and achieving the State's overarching goal of tripling overnight visitation by 2030.

Applying for the Role:

Please respond to the following two targeted questions in a covering letter [maximum two pages] as well as include your resume [maximum five pages] identifying relevant skills and experience and how these relate to the capabilities of the role.

1. Outline your destination management experience, including specific responsibilities relating to destination planning and marketing, industry development, and stakeholder management.
2. Provide an overview of your experience in building positive and productive relationships with stakeholders including tourism operators, industry associations and Local Government. Where relevant, include specific examples of how you achieved collaboration across these stakeholder groups in delivering major projects, marketing programs, stakeholder education and any other destination promotional activities.

Part of the assessment process may include additional online capability testing, skills testing or work samples in accordance with the new Government Sector Employment Act 2013; therefore you may be contacted to participate.

Closing date: 20 May 2019 at 11.59pm

Enquiries: Stephen Mahoney on (02) 9931 1111 or stephen.mahoney@dns.com.au

Applications must be lodged electronically via the [I Work For NSW](http://IWorkForNSW) website. Applications submitted via email will not be accepted.

Maya closure ext

THAILAND'S Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation has extended the closure of the popular Maya Bay for at least another two years, reported *BBC News*.

The media outlet revealed that Maya Bay is now scheduled to reopen from 2021.

The destination was closed for ecological recovery early last year (*TD* 04 Apr 2018).

Other islands in the Hat Noppharat Thara-Mu Koh Phi Phi National Park remain open.

Helloworld Travel 2019 Awards

THE 2019 Helloworld Travel OMC in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, celebrated with the glamorous Gala Awards Dinner Event presented by World's Leading Cruise Lines at the InterContinental Hotel Saigon.

Nominees and winners from the Branded and Associate networks from around Australia were recognised across several categories. This year Helloworld Travel introduced a new category of Award for Supplier Partners, to recognise partners who went above and beyond.



NATIONAL Branded Retailer of the Year Award winner Janene Ferguson, HLO South Melbourne; with John Constable, Group GM Retail & Commercial, HLO Ltd; Julie Primmer, Head of Branded & Associate Networks, HLO Ltd; & Andrew Burnes, CEO & MD, HLO Ltd.



NATIONAL Associate Retailer of the Year Award winner Madeleine Dann, Cruise Travel Centre, HTG; with John Constable, Group GM Retail & Commercial, HLO Ltd; Julie Primmer, Head of Branded & Associate Networks, HLO Ltd; & Andrew Burnes, CEO & MD, HLO Ltd.



NATIONAL Branded Manager of the Year Award winner Barbara Hunt, HLO Port Augusta; with John Constable, Julie Primmer & Andrew Burnes.



NATIONAL Associate Manager of the Year Award winner David Smith, Travel on Capri; with John Constable, Julie Primmer & Andrew Burnes.



NATIONAL Branded Preferred Sales Growth Award winner Ian Mollison, HLO Balwyn North; with John Constable, Julie Primmer & Andrew Burnes.



NATIONAL Associate Preferred Sales Growth Award winner Darian Foot, Phil Hoffmann Travel Adelaide; with John Constable, Julie Primmer & Andrew Burnes.



HELLOWORLD Travel Airline Partner of the Year - Emirates. John Constable, Chris Paykel, Emirates; and Julie Primmer.



HELLOWORLD Travel Cruise Partner of the Year - Princess Cruises. Julie Primmer, Nick Ferguson, Princess Cruises; and John Constable.



HELLOWORLD Travel Land / Coach Partner of the Year - The Travel Corporation. Julie Primmer, John Veitch, The Travel Corporation; and John Constable.

Bentours and Hurti meet



THE Bentours team were recently joined by Hurtigruten's Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Skjeldam and Hurtigruten's APAC Managing Director, Damian Perry to discuss Hurtigruten's plans for the future.

During the meeting, Bentours presented Skjeldam with an appreciation award to thank Hurtigruten for its support.

"Bentours are proud to be part of their ongoing journey and success," the company stated.

"Bentours is excited to work with Hurtigruten as a strategic partner and continue with the ongoing success of Hurtigruten into the Australian/New Zealand market.

"We wish Hurtigruten all the best for their exciting future endeavours."

Pictured is the Bentours team Sudarshan Madan; Jesse Biddle; Cherie Vella; Alanna Lee; Samuel Manga; Kristie Pittman; Rhea Daniels; Rebecca Stokes; Stacey Atkinson; Charley O'Neil; Adam

Celeban; Marcus Dunn; Kashmira Commissariat; Sarah Field; Marina Amato; Liliana Chen; Ryan Bennett; Maridza Riccioni with Damian Perry, Hurtigruten APAC Managing Director; and Daniel Skjeldam, Hurtigruten CEO.

Culture travel up

CULTURE travel is experiencing the fastest growth rate among Chinese travellers, according to the recently released ITB China Travel Trends Report.

The surveyed Chinese travel agents reported they saw the fastest growth rate in culture travel, with 62% of respondents anticipating a growth of 30% or more over the next three years.

The agents said "local experience programs and scenery are what travellers care most about," including visiting local wineries and sporting events.

The report also found that travellers are willing to pay more for culture travel.



WIN A
TRIP TO
THAILAND

This month Centara and *Travel Daily* are teaming up to offer readers the chance to win a seven-night stay for two in a Deluxe Room at Thailand's Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Hua Hin with daily breakfast.

Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Hua Hin is one of Thailand's most famous hotels – originally built as the King's guesthouse in the 1920's it has been lovingly restored and extended over the years to a luxurious five-star resort. It is a short walk to the famous markets of Hua Hin with fabulous seafood, shopping and entertainment.

To be in the running, correctly answer each of the weekly questions across the month and have the most creative answer to the final question. Send your responses to centara@traveldaily.com.au

Q1. Which sport does Hua Hin and Centara host the annual championship of, which is considered the biggest in Asia with hundreds of players from all over the world attending?

CENTARA
GRAND
BEACH RESORT & VILLAS
HUA HIN

Terms and conditions

MGallery to HK

ACCOR'S MGallery by Sofitel is set to debut in Hong Kong with the launch of The Silveri MGallery by Sofitel later this year.

The hotel's suites feature outdoor terraces with private plunge pools overlooking the hills of Lantau.

The Silveri MGallery by Sofitel also contains a garden lawn, bar and restaurants.

The property will be situated in the Tung Chung district of Lantau Island.

Hyatt Shanghai

HYATT Hotels Corporation has entered into a management agreement with Shanghai Xintian Real Estate Co, for a Hyatt Centric hotel in Shanghai.

The 186-room hotel, set to open in 2024, will feature a restaurant, gym and two meeting rooms.

SATC Sports mag

SOUTH Australia's Kangaroo Island has landed the cover for the annual Sports Illustrated Swimsuit issue.

South Australian Tourism Commission CEO Rodney Harrex said South Australia is thrilled to have secured the cover.

"This is a money can't buy opportunity," he said.

Grandiosa plans

MSC Cruises has announced the christening of *MSC Grandiosa* in Hamburg will be hosted by TV celebrity Michelle Hunziker.

MSC Grandiosa is the third ship of the innovative Meraviglia generation and the first of the Meraviglia-Plus class.

She will be followed by a further 12 ships through to 2027 with her sister ship, *MSC Virtuosa*, launching next Oct 2020.



APT
TRAVEL
GROUP

APT

TRAVELMARVEL
Travel More

3 WEEKS LEFT!

**Cash or Cabin
Don't delay,
book and deposit today!**



**BOOK FOUR &
WIN!
FREE CABIN
OR \$1,000 CASH***

**Pack your bags or laugh all the way to the bank
with 'Cash or Cabin' thanks to APT and Travelmarvel.**

To qualify book and deposit between 1 April to 31 May 2019
for any of the following holidays:

- APT and/or Travelmarvel Europe River Cruise
- APT and/or Travelmarvel Mekong River Cruise
- APT Kimberley Coast Cruise

Winners will be congratulated by Monday 10 June 2019!



Book and deposit by 31 May 2019 to win!

Call Reservations on 1300 278 278 or visit www.atgconnect.com.au today.

*Terms and conditions apply. 'Cash or Cabin' is an exclusive trade incentive to APT and Travelmarvel. Incentive period is from Monday 1 April 2019 to Friday 31 May 2019. Valid for new bookings only made and deposited during the qualifying incentive period. Cancelled bookings will not qualify for the incentive. Group Bookings will qualify for the incentive. Strictly valid for 2019 departures only on APT or Travelmarvel Europe and/or Mekong River Cruise holidays of 7 nights duration or longer, along with APT Kimberley Coast Cruise departures. Winners will be notified by Monday 10 June 2019 by the APT Travel Group. Travel Agent must be employed with a valid Australian Travel Agency to qualify for the incentive and at the time of travel. Winning travel agents must choose between the complimentary cabin or \$1,000 cash at the time of accepting their prize. If accepting the Mekong River Cruise, travel must be completed by 31 December 2019. Cabin prize will be strictly subject to availability and cabin upgrades at time of booking and confirmation. Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd. ABN 44 004 684 619. ATAS accreditation #A10825. ATG-1-3WEEKS



Working in partnership with the Australian Travel Industry

Travel Consultant - Boutique Agency

Sydney, \$50k + Comms, Ref: 2223JB1

My client is seeking an experienced Travel Consultant with a minimum of 2 years experience for their high end agency located in central Sydney! The ideal candidate will have a passion for luxury travel, enjoy building tailor made itineraries and be able to provide exceptional customer service to new and existing clients. Strong experience using Sabre, Amadeus or Galileo is essential. The successful candidate will enjoy a competitive base salary alongside a generous commission structure.

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

Travel Recruitment Consultant

Sydney, OTE of \$82k, Ref: 5432SJ2

Join one of Australia's leading travel recruitment companies & by utilising your strong travel industry experience & superb sales skills enjoy earning a fantastic salary package with a realistic OTE of \$82k but many earning over \$100k. No two days are the same in this diverse role. You will need to be a people person, confident communicator & self-motivated. CBD offices with Mon-Fri working hours & a fantastic team environment with the autonomy to run your own desk with great rewards.

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

Cruise Travel Consultant

South BNE, up to \$45k, Ref: 1385CGA1

Seeking a dynamic, enthusiastic, sales focused travel consultant with at 12 months experience within a sales role. Come and join a leading name in travel within their growing department. This company really looks after their staff so expect excellent working environment and amazing perks! This role is for someone with a proven background in achieving targets and displays the highest level of customer service. Don't wait, apply now if you're ready to take your next step in your career.

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

Travel Consultant | Independent Agency

MEL East \$60k-\$65k + Bonuses, Ref: 5021SZ1

Join a well sought after independently owned, multi award winning agency in the inner eastern suburbs of Melb! Working alongside 4 others, you'll enjoy the flexible approach to your daily work life along with a mature minded office. Customer service is crucial to this role by going above & beyond utilising your expert travel industry knowledge to recommend, book & add additional services for the clients. If you like a new challenge & wish to work with premium products, here's your chance!

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

Business Development Manager - Ultra Luxury

Sydney, Salary to \$85k, Ref: 2279PE6

A new opportunity due to internal promotion has been opened for an experienced Business Development Manager to join a well-established Luxury Cruise Operator. You will be based in Sydney with your territory covering NSW & ACT. You will be responsible for creating & driving a sales strategy that will increase passenger growth & trade bookings. Increasing brand awareness & representing the company at industry events will also be part of this exciting cruise opportunity. Represent refined luxury!

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

Corporate Consultant | Northern Beaches

Sydney, Up to \$70K, Ref: 1112AJ1

Due to continued growth, an exciting opportunity has presented itself in the Northern Beaches for an experienced Corporate Travel Consultant within a market leading company. You will be servicing existing clients and will enjoy building and nurturing relationships while helping out with every aspect of the clients travel requirements. You will be experienced and confident when dealing with corporate clients. A background with Event Management or Group Travel also favourable.

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

Regional Travel Role | Relocation Package

BNE, High Salary + Relocation, Ref: 1966AW4

The role will be heavily customer service focused offering your expertise on worldwide destinations. Consulting across all platforms, including face to face, online and over the phone, this regional community travel agency is looking for New Regional Travel Consultant to RELOCATE and join their team! Time for some work/life balance?? Deliver EXCEPTIONAL service and Earn BIG \$\$\$, while having LOW living costs! Ongoing training and educational trips! Only work 2x SAT mornings per month!

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

Travel Consultant | Round the World

MEL East, \$55k-\$65k + Comms, Ref: 3985SZ1

Do you value work life balance? Tick! Do you want quality enquiries to work with? Tick! Do you want to work in a unified team environment & earn up to 30% commission? Tick! Ontop of uncapped comms, you'll be given a personal monetary travel allowance p/a + famil allowances. We are looking for an experienced consultant wanting a change of scenery to earn your worth whilst having more time to appreciate the finer things in life by working predominately MON-FRI and a rotational half day Sat.

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



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