

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has six pages of news including our PUZZLES.

Luxury Escapes hot

LUXURY Escapes (LE) says its database of 3.2 million customers are "more than ready to travel," with the company's Australian product showing a significant bounce-back in all metrics for both intra- and inter-state travel.

The relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions has seen the company's gross revenue climb daily, with monthly intra-state bookings now sitting at 165% of the average over the last year.

A new Tourism Australia partnership will launch on Mon seeing Luxury Escapes promote intra-state travel, with a second phase launching mid-Sep to highlight country-wide travel.

Further collaboration with state tourism bodies will further drive incremental exposure, LE said.

SQ outbound transit tick

SINGAPORE Airlines today confirmed that customers travelling from Australia and NZ are now able to transit through Singapore Changi Airport on a one-way basis to parent SIA Group's global network.

The one-way channel is subject to a number of restrictions and requirements, including that connections must be no longer than 48 hours and only between SIA Group (Singapore Airlines, SilkAir and Scoot) services.

Customers will only be able to transit in Changi via SIA flights departing from Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland and Christchurch, as well as Scoot services ex Perth.

Passengers must also comply with all Government requirements and restrictions for their departure and arrival ports.

"The decision to allow customers travelling from Australia and NZ to destinations

in the current SIA Group network via transiting through Singapore's Changi Airport, is a small but welcome step in our journey towards recovery," said Singapore Airlines Regional VP South West Pacific Philip Goh.

He noted that travel restrictions remain in place both in Australia and NZ as well as many other countries, adding "opening of limited one-way transit is not a sign that international travel is back to normal".

"The one-way transit channel will allow those who wish to return home from Australia or NZ to do so, in a COVID-safe manner, both on board our aircraft and while in transit at Changi."

Customers wishing to book flights must ensure they review all transit and travel requirements, including whether they can legally depart Australia and NZ and whether they will be allowed entry at their country of arrival, Goh said.

Transit passengers will be kept apart from non-transit passengers at Singapore Changi Airport as well as during the flights.

Services may have limited or no seat selection available during the booking phase to meet distancing requirements, and customers transiting in SIN will be issued with wristbands upon arrival giving access to a designated transit holding area with wi-fi, food kiosks, restrooms, a smoking room and a "snooze corner".

JobKeeper just the start - travelBulletin

TRAVEL businesses in Australia are going to need more than just an extension to the JobKeeper scheme if they are to survive past the COVID-19 pandemic.

That's the subject of an editorial from our publisher Bruce Piper sent to travelBulletin subscribers today in our sister publication's regular monthly e-newsletter.

Although AFTA's strenuous efforts to have JobKeeper extended to 30 Jun 2021 are vital (TD yesterday), businesses in the industry need to consider how they will navigate the uncharted waters of the next 12 months because while the scheme helps keep people employed, other costs such as rent, insurance, GDS fees, utilities and more continue - not to mention the ongoing accrual of liabilities in the form of staff entitlements.

With 40% of travel agencies saying they currently plan to shut down in just over three months time, what will happen to existing bookings - does the industry need an "agent of last resort"?

These depressing but salient issues are canvassed in the new article at travelbulletin.com.au.

TA NZ revamp

JENNY Aitken, Tourism Australia's long-time GM for NZ, will step down at the end of Jun as part of a restructure seeing responsibilities shift to Sydney.

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Pacific heart



World Exp surge

WORLD Expeditions says it's preparing for a rebound in domestic and NZ active holidays, citing "surging demand" for self-guided and custom itineraries.

Although the vast majority of the operator's programs remain inactive due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, early booking patterns indicate a healthy season for World Expeditions' domestic and New Zealand brands.

The booking rebound is being driven by a \$0 deposit offer, as well as new operating procedures and practices to ensure safety and minimise COVID-19 risks.

Hyatt Syd appoints

JANE Lyons has been appointed as the new General Manager of the Hyatt Regency in Sydney.

Lyons has extensive hospitality industry experience, most recently as GM of Sydney's West Hotel Curio Collection by Hilton. More appointments on **page six**.

Alliance set for expansion

ALLIANCE Aviation Services today announced a \$120 million capital raising plan aiming to boost capacity to service new demand including from domestic tourism operators, tourism boards and regional councils.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on global aviation, Alliance has

continued to flourish due to its diverse business model, focus on contract flying and ability to react quickly to the changing environment.

"Alliance believes it is now in an enviable position and is looking to invest for future growth," the carrier told investors today.

The airline, which is 20% owned by Qantas and operated a range of regional routes on behalf of Virgin Australia, said it intends to acquire additional 80-100 seat jet aircraft to take advantage of growth opportunities.

Alliance is seeing more demand from existing resource sector customers wanting to mitigate COVID-19 risks, and its expansion comes despite the suspension of its wet lease arrangements with Virgin Australia, as well as contracted inbound tourism services which are not expected to return to normal levels until at least 2021/22.

Globus launches North America

GLOBUS and Cosmos have today unveiled new "Undiscovered North America" holidays for 2021.

A total of nine itineraries are on offer ranging from eight to 14 days, taking guests to the "less-travelled highways, legendary lanes and scenic country roads to the special places and parks other tour companies don't visit," according to MD Gai Tyrrell.

See globus.com.au.

AFL tipping is off

THE uncertainty around the AFL season and potential for ongoing schedule changes means it's not practical to continue the **Travel Daily** AFL footy tipping comp this year, with hopes to resume in 2021.

All previous round winners have been notified, with special thanks to prize sponsors Emirates and Expedia TAAP.

However with just a few games left, our A-League tipping will resume once the rest of the season is confirmed.

EY travel voucher

ETIHAD Airways has launched a new "travel voucher" scheme to encourage travellers to start planning their next trip.

Guests who buy a voucher between 10 and 24 Jun will receive an extra 50% cash value for future travel from 01 Aug.

Vouchers are valid for two years and are available in increments of US\$250 up to a max US\$65,000.

Antarctica

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We're still hungry for recipes

Send us your meatball or mince recipe for our weekly feature.

CLICK HERE

Travel Daily



WA gears for grants

THE Western Australian Government has opened the second stage of its Tourism Business Survival Grant Program to support tourism businesses in the state, allocating grants of up to \$100,000 from a \$4 million funding pool.

The competitive grant program will see money used for launching new products to the domestic market, rebooting operations, staff recruitment and training, as well as marketing activities.

More details available [HERE](#).

Fullerton staycation

THE Fullerton Hotel Sydney has introduced a range of staycation packages to mark the easing of travel restrictions in NSW.

Deals include the Love Sydney option, featuring an upgraded Tower Premium guestroom, free parking, & breakfast for two from \$320 per night - for further details, [CLICK HERE](#).

States holding up bubble

BRISBANE travel agency Helloworld Mt Ommaney is part of a group which today lost a formal legal challenge to Queensland's ongoing border lockdown, claiming the closures continue to impose significant financial hardship on business.

The case kicked off in the High Court in Brisbane yesterday, amid criticism by NZ's Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters, who also blamed Australian state border closures for delaying the advent of a trans-Tasman travel bubble.

Speaking with Channel Nine's *Today* program yesterday, Peters said the plan had "run into a roadblock of federalism", conceding the travel bubble would likely be forced to "go at Australia's speed".

"We should not have states being held back by the slowest mover, let's get going and let's have a precedent here and I'm

certain when we have all of the protocols sorted out, which can be done very quickly...we could be off," Peters said.

"The performance of Queensland, the Northern Territory and Tasmania has been superior to New Zealand in many ways...I think we can have real confidence gong forward but you have to start somewhere and basically we are asking for the handbrake to come off but it needs to be organised out of Australia," he added.

Peters also claimed states such as Tasmania were "ready to go tomorrow," urging the start of direct flights as soon as possible.

Australia's Tourism Minister Simon Birmingham echoed Peter's the sentiments earlier today, telling *ABC News* that the longer states keep their respective borders shut, the more pain it will inflict on the struggling travel sector.

VA domestic boost

VIRGIN Australia today announced the resumption of services from Brisbane to Perth, Adelaide and Canberra, as well as Sydney-Perth flights, with the additional services seeing it double current capacity by early Jul to 320 weekly flights.

The move comes along with a new comprehensive range of safety and wellbeing measures, including pre-departure eligibility and health screening, contactless check-in, more frequent cleaning and expanded social distancing.

The health related measures have been developed in collaboration with airlines and airports across the country as part of the Australian Aviation Recovery Coalition.

VA Chief Commercial Officer John MacLeod said demand for air travel had started to return as state travel restrictions ease.

Flights for travel up to 30 Sep can be changed without fees if required, he confirmed.



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Discover how cruise lines are facing the new challenge of increased hygiene measures in the June issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read **travelBulletin**

Club Med adapts

CLUB Med has released a raft of new measures to boost consumer confidence, including free cancellation up to 30 days prior to stays, lower deposits, extending the loyalty status of clients up to 31 Dec 2021, and a new hygiene partnership with ECOLAB.

Events power move

CONVENTIONS and Incentives New Zealand and the Business Events Council of Australia have signed a joint agreement which will see the organisations team up to tackle issues affecting the events industry in both countries.

Part of the collaboration will see the groups combine to lobby government on behalf of the sector with a more unified voice and greater leverage.

“The close relationship between our countries, and the reliance we have on each other, means it makes sense to have a common voice when advocating for change, especially at this time of tremendous economic impact on our industry,” said BECA Chair Vanessa Findlay.

It's TIME to turn ten



THE Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) program is marking its 10th anniversary this week, an initiative aimed at helping aspiring leaders of the travel, tourism, hospitality and aviation industries accelerate their careers through mentoring. The first batch of future leaders were acknowledged at The Blue Hotel Woolloomooloo a decade ago in Sydney, the inception of what has become an integral

training and nurturing initiative for Australia's travel sector.

Founding mentors in the inaugural TIME program, and their companies at the time, included Gavin Smith (RCCL), Justin Montgomery (Creative Holidays), John Borghetti (Virgin Blue), Gai Tyrell (Sabre), Jenny Lorkin and Russell Butler (Avis).

Pictured: Founding Directors of TIME: Mike Hatton, Judith O'Neill, Glenn Cusack (behind), Rick Myatt, Marie Allom, Penny Spencer and Oliver Tams.

Rattling once again

HERITAGE railway Mary Valley Rattler on the Sunshine Coast will resume services from 13 Jul following a suspension of services brought on by COVID-19.

Initially, only a limited number of passengers will be allowed on each service to allow for social distancing protocols.

Perk up and cruise

SAVINGS of up to \$600 are now on offer for Celebrity Cruises sailings when stateroom bookings are made by 15 Jun.

The first two guests in the stateroom also earn a classic beverage package, unlimited wi-fi and \$100 of onboard spend.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.

Window Seat

HOLIDAYMAKERS looking forward to a post-COVID-19 break at a hotel on Germany's North Sea had better hope that all that lockdown snacking hasn't had too much impact on the waistline.

The Beachhotel Sahlenburg in Cuxhaven has issued a formal policy warning that guests should weigh in at no more than 130kg, in order to protect the property's "elegant design furniture".

“The designer chairs downstairs, they're real classics,” owner Angelika Hargesheimer told local media.

“When a person over 130kg sits on it, they sit there with one buttock and the chair does not last long,” she said.

“I want to have a designer hotel and I want to have nice furniture - not brutal furniture made of oak,” Angelika added.

Hargesheimer said she decided to introduce the new policy after a “big-boned” guest previously broke a bed, noting that the showers were also too small for heftier holidaymakers.

Apparently the edict against tubby travellers is only classed as formal discrimination if customers are so obese that they are classed as disabled.

TC delivers more

TRAVEL Counsellors (TC) has boosted its number of digital TV programs that are designed to keep its network of agents up-to-date with important information during the pandemic.

The now daily content takes the form of short news programs via webcam and training programs such as the TC Training Festival which delivers professional development opportunities.

TC has also created a welfare fund to assist agents who are currently in financial distress.

Catch up on the news of the week



Travel Daily

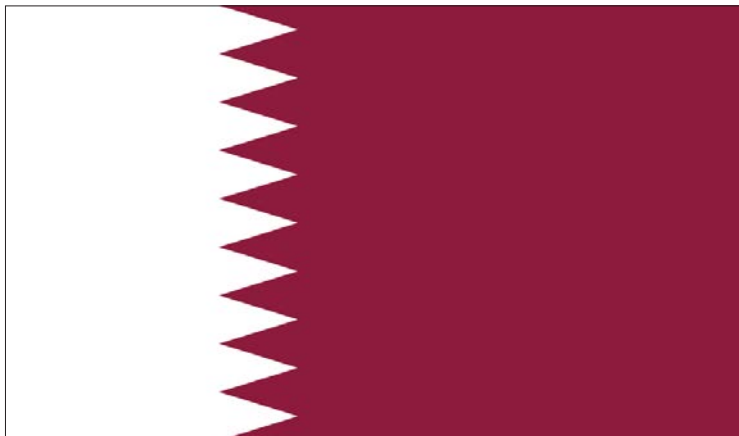
CLICK HERE TO LISTEN

Pub quiz

- True or false: Michelangelo designed the eye-catching uniforms of the Vatican's Swiss Guard?
- What is the only living (i.e. not man-made) structure that can be seen from outer space?
- What is the role of Mumbai's dabbawallahs?
- What country is comprised of 115 tropical islands in the Indian Ocean?
- How often is the Eiffel Tower repainted?
 - Every year
 - Every decade
 - Every three years
 - Every seven years
- Which receives more visitors each year: Disneyland Paris or the Eiffel Tower?
- One of Europe's last remaining rainforests is Perucica, located where?
- In which country can you find the fountain which flows with wine?
- What percentage of the world's rice is eaten in Asia?
- The largest sand island in the world is in which country?
- What city does this collection of pictures spell out?



Whose flag is this?



THIS ensign uses a colour that isn't usually seen in flags - we often get the more traditional red in it's place, and it's thought that either they deliberately chose the maroon colour to distinguish

it from it's neighbours, or else the local natural dye that would have made it red, darkens in the sunlight resulting in the colour you see today.

Do you know whose flag it is?

China word search

E	A	E	T	N	E	E	R	G	P	S	P	Q	J	Y
Z	W	P	F	Z	B	D	R	I	I	A	V	E	F	T
T	I	F	F	S	K	V	A	L	S	H	N	B	Y	I
G	S	E	T	B	W	H	K	K	D	T	M	D	R	C
N	B	H	Z	W	G	R	C	S	Y	O	T	I	A	N
A	S	R	L	N	O	I	M	T	L	R	C	Z	R	E
Y	M	R	A	A	T	T	O	C	A	R	R	E	T	D
P	X	H	D	S	M	A	N	D	A	R	I	N	U	D
E	S	N	P	X	V	H	W	N	F	Z	T	M	U	I
U	S	O	N	B	K	U	O	X	J	J	P	E	V	B
J	H	G	R	E	A	T	W	A	L	L	D	U	N	R
C	D	T	M	A	N	X	U	O	I	L	A	P	D	O
C	C	M	E	O	M	S	I	N	U	M	M	O	C	F
A	P	Q	W	K	U	H	G	N	I	J	I	E	B	S
H	U	Z	H	O	U	S	C	H	O	W	M	E	I	N

SEE if you can find these words. They are hidden horizontally, vertically and diagonally, forwards and backwards.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| BEIJING | HUZHOU |
| CHOPSTICKS | MANDARIN |
| CHOWMEIN | PANDA |
| COMMUNISM | SHANGHAI |
| DUMPLINGS | SILKROAD |
| FORBIDDENCITY | TERRACOTTAARMY |
| GREATWALL | WONTON |
| GREENTEA | YANGTZE |

Funnies Flashback



WE'VE trawled through the **TD** Window Seat archives to give you blast from the past. Here's some gems from 09 May 2012:

FEMALE tourists visiting the Yankari Game Reserve in Northern Nigeria have admitted concern over recent kleptomaniac tendencies of the local baboons after a number of handbag snatchings by the monkeys.

A number of victims have said the baboons are "sharp and fast" and "hardly spotted at close range but once they pounce on you, it is only a matter of seconds and your handbag is gone", with reports of the monkeys also smashing car windscreens & taking food from tourists' cars.

ANSWERS 10 JUN

Pub quiz: 1 Seven (Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Finland, Russia, Alaska, Greenland), 2 1969, 3 c) 15,000, 4 Berlin, 5 One person per six sheep, 6 Lisbon, Portugal, 7 Australia (you can travel it on the Indian Pacific), 8 Sagrada Familia, 9 Cave, 10 China

Where in the world: Hand in the Desert, Atacama, Chile

2	8	5	7	4	9	6	3	1
3	4	7	6	1	2	9	8	5
1	9	6	8	3	5	7	2	4
8	1	4	2	5	7	3	9	6
6	3	2	4	9	8	5	1	7
7	5	9	3	6	1	2	4	8
5	7	3	9	8	4	1	6	2
9	2	8	1	7	6	4	5	3
4	6	1	5	2	3	8	7	9



Which oceanview room has the most space?

Travel & Cruise Weekly

Find out more in the Autumn edition of *Travel & Cruise Weekly*

IHG flags Rome hotel

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels (IHG) has announced the planned opening of a new property in Rome in 2022.

The new hotel will feature 60 rooms and suites, a restaurant, a bar, a spa, and will be converted from the palazzo building which was originally a residence for visiting ambassadors.

The announcement follows IHG's recent signing of the Six Senses Rome, which is scheduled to open its doors in late 2021.

Yosemite reopens

MAJOR Californian tourism drawcard, the Yosemite National Park, has reopened to visitors after closing back in Mar.

Tourists wishing to visit the park will now need to purchase day passes in advance, with no visitors being accepted at the gates as was the case prior to closure, in order to manage the numbers of daily visitors.

Only 1,700 vehicles will be allowed to visit each day for the short-term future.

Townsville tourism heats up



TOWNSVILLE'S continued push to upgrade its tourism infrastructure has received a major shot in the arm with the Qld Government allocating \$6.5 million towards a new beautification project.

The state's Treasurer Cameron Dick this week revealed two solar

trees will be installed at the North Queensland Stadium precinct in the first quarter of 2021.

"The solar trees installation is set to stand as another unique tourism attraction for the city and region, and will create around 120 direct and indirect jobs during construction," Dick said.



Build an A-ROSA Ship & Win a 7-night European River Cruise

This month **Travel Daily** has partnered with **A-ROSA River Cruises** to give you the chance to win a 7-night European river cruise.

Fascinated by Paris, its art, fashion and culture and the **SEINE'S** mesmerising charm, breath-taking scenery and rich history?

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Take a selfie with your creation send it to arosa@traveldaily.com.au. Don't forget to also tell us in 25 words or less why you chose this particular A-ROSA cruise.



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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.

Radisson Hotel Group has appointed **Nisha Menon** as its new General Counsel, Asia Pacific. She will be based in Singapore and report directly to the hotel chain's President APAC Katerina Giannouka.

The Marketing and PR Manager for **Travel Counsellors**, **Marnie Pugsley**, will depart her role on 19 Jun. She has spent three years in the position, with no replacement yet announced by the company.

Tuan Razali Tuan Omar has been named the new Director of Tourism Malaysia. Based in Sydney, he will be charged with managing the marketing strategy and connecting with local trade partners.

OYO Hotels & Homes has appointed **W. Steve Albrecht** as a non-Executive Director, where he will play a supervisory role and guide the company on making key business decisions.

For confidential tip offs, connect with *Travel Daily* via our secure WhatsApp service on +61 2 8007 6760 or click **HERE**

