

Some Cup spots left

THERE are just six last minute places left for tomorrow's Melbourne Cup event at The Travel Industry Hub.

Costing just \$50, the event includes lunch, beverages and even a sweep entry.

See <https://www.thetravelindustryhub.com/melbournecup> for more info.

Are you a warrior?

VIKING is currently seeking new Warriors of Wisdom, inviting travel partners to join Mimir, the Norse god of knowledge and wisdom, on a quest to increase knowledge of the Viking brand.

As the inaugural partners of the **Travel Daily** Training Academy hub, five modules will be available in due course, with the first open now - see **page seven**.

QF closes US, UK

QANTAS has closed bookings on flights to the United Kingdom and United States until Oct 2021.

Services to a number of Asia Pacific destinations remain on the schedule, including Fiji, HK, Japan, New Caledonia, NZ & Singapore.

The move underscores recent comments made by CEO Alan Joyce that travel to both countries is unlikely to restart until the end of next year at the earliest.

JNB and SCL have also been pulled from the schedule.

Entourage seeks members

A NEW travel agent group has launched today, offering a limited number of individual agents and small- to mid-tier agencies "unparalleled flexibility, operational value and a share in the company from the outset".

Dubbed Entourage Travel Group, it's the brainchild of David Hughes, former QBT and Travel Counsellors Australia MD, and the Buerckner family who own Melbourne's Platinum Travel Corporation.

The group promises a "fully-flexible tiered broker model" with generous commissions, a mix of overrides and an opportunity to own a stake in the business.

Entourage partners can access a curated suite of travel tech and admin support, with the ability to work whenever and from wherever best suits their business and their client base.

"Working across global and broker businesses in recent years, I became aware of a number of different travel business models that weren't necessarily available in this market, as they just weren't the right fit," said Hughes.

"COVID-19 has changed all that, and what is needed now is a business that is 'for' the times, not 'because' of the times.

"In partnering with the Platinum team, who are themselves innovators in corporate and MICE travel, we are excited to bring this to the Australian travel landscape

at just the right time," he said.

"You can't just hang a sign outside your door overnight and say you are a broker network...brokers have unique requirements in terms of support, systems and technology, and only experience can deliver that the way agents and agencies need."

Four different tiers will be on offer through Entourage - a basic 'Connected' model giving a cost-effective opportunity to stay engaged with clients and the industry while travel restrictions remain in place, right through to an 'Enterprise' solution for those after a full suite of travel management systems & solutions.

Platinum Travel's Andrew Buerckner said Entourage was a "lean but robust family-oriented broker model that we want to act as a home for agents' expertise and experience".

He said membership would be ultimately exclusive due to a limitation in shareholder numbers.

"But we know it will be just the right home for top industry leaders - for agents and agencies who want to work with a collective of like-minded ambitious professionals who share their optimism in an ever-changing travel landscape".

Entourage will be connected to HLO via Platinum's membership of Magellan Travel, alongside the global network of UNIGLOBE and the Signature Travel VIP hotel program - see entourage.travel.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has six pages of news including our PUZZLE page and full pages from **Viking Cruises** and **Tourism Malaysia**.

Roadmap for cruise

THE US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has set out a new framework for a cruise restart, lifting its "no sail" order on cruise ships in US waters.

To recommence, lines must demonstrate adherence to stringent protocols, including extensive testing, quarantine measures and social distancing.

Cruise Lines International Association MD Australasia Joel Katz said the organisation was "advocating for a similar measured and carefully managed resumption of local cruise itineraries in Australia and New Zealand that work within our international border restrictions".

More details in today's issue of **Cruise Weekly**.

Travlr NZ p'ship

TRAVLR has announced a new e-commerce travel partnership with NZ media group Stuff (formerly Fairfax) which in May was sold for just NZ\$1 by Australia's Nine Entertainment.

The newly forged collaboration will see travel articles converted to bookings via a new Stuff Travel Bookings platform, which will feature a range of local deals.

NOVEMBER WEBINAR CALENDAR

Subject to change

BYO Coffee Clusters, Thursdays 12pm AEDT (1hr)

Nov 5: Emirates, Dubai Tourism, Unforgettable Croatia Cruises
Nov 12: Collette, Delta Airlines, I Love New York (NY State Tourism)
Nov 19: Insight Vacations, Celestyal Cruises, Haute de France Tourism
Nov 26: Qatar Airways, Swagman Tours, Macao Tourism Office

Destination Training (30mins)

Nov 4: Destination Canada: Nova Scotia
Nov 11: Visit Monaco: A Sustainable Luxury Destination
Nov 18: Destination Canada: Vancouver

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UA free COVID test

UNITED Airlines is launching the world's first free trans-Atlantic coronavirus testing pilot.

The free testing will see all passengers aged two or over receive a free test on its route from Newark (EWR) to London (LHR) between 16 Nov and 11 Dec, with hopes the trial will quicken the reopening of travel.

Viking agent promo

A **NEW** travel agent incentive has been launched by Viking, aimed at generating bookings and boosting market activity in the lead up to the Christmas season.

This month, all new river, ocean and expedition bookings, as well as rebookings made and deposited, will go into the draw to win a share of \$1,500 worth of Rewards by Viking points.

First prize will be \$1,000 points, while two other winners will receive \$250 each - for more information **CLICK HERE**.

Nats back \$250m package

THE Federal National Party has confirmed unanimous support for a proposed \$250 million support package for the travel industry, with Federal Member for the northern NSW coastal electorate of Cowper, Pat Conaghan, saying Deputy PM Michael McCormack has taken the plan to Cabinet.

Conaghan issued a statement last week saying he welcomed the support of his parliamentary colleagues, which followed Sep meetings with agents from his electorate and a Zoom meeting with travel representatives from across National and LNP electorates recently.

"I want the travel industry to know the Nationals have your back and we appreciate 40% of your travel agencies operate in regional and rural Australia and 80% of your workers are women," he said.

Cowper noted that agents currently are only able to sell

domestic product with drastically reduced revenue, no time frame for a recommencement and "limited avenues to pivot their business operations to gain new sources of revenue".

AFTA has not released details of its proposed \$250 million package, which is double the amount from its initial Federal Budget submission.

Hunt's vaccine plan

FEDERAL Health Minister Greg Hunt says he has "high confidence" that a COVID-19 vaccine could start to be deployed in Australia as early as Mar 2021, with anyone seeking immunisation able to receive it by the end of the year.

He said evidence was strengthening about the efficacy of vaccines currently being tested, meaning our int'l borders could reopen by the end of 2021.

New WA Hilton

HILTON has announced it will open the 112-room Hilton Garden Inn Busselton in 2022, in partnership with Pacifica Ausglobal Busselton.

The hotel will join its other properties in the state including DoubleTree by Hilton Perth Northbridge and Parmelia Hilton Perth, as well as the forthcoming DoubleTree by Hilton Perth Waterfront and Hilton Garden Inn Albany.

Hilton Garden Inn Busselton will be built in the centre of the town's 38-hectare commercial, cultural and public space foreshore precinct and will feature an all-day dining restaurant, a bar serving shareable small plates and handcrafted cocktails, fitness centre and meeting rooms.

The property will also complement the increase in airport traffic expected from upgrades currently underway to Busselton Margaret River Airport.

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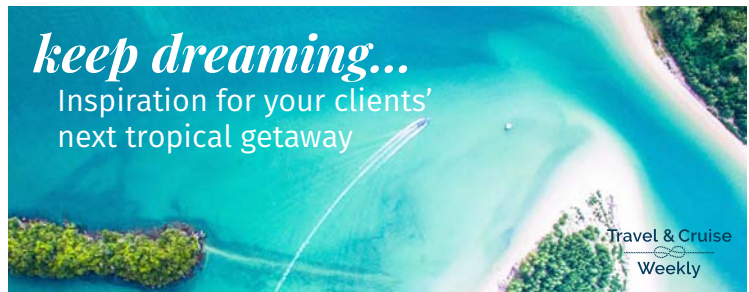
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NSW biz funding

THE New South Wales Government has launched a new \$100 million regional jobs creation fund.

The money is targeted at rural businesses that can increase employment through the development of new regional tourism experiences and visitor attractions- **CLICK HERE** for info.

Most are new clients

ROYAL Caribbean Group says over 65% of its 2021 bookings are from new customers, while the remainder are from redemptions of future cruise credits.

The details were included in a quarterly update, indicating the company lost US\$1.3 billion in the three months to 30 Sep.

The company's average monthly cash burn is between US\$250m and US\$290m with operations expected to restart in a "phased manner" once permitted.

Qld eases some borders

THE Queensland Government has confirmed its domestic border restrictions will be lifted later this week for all areas of the country, except greater Sydney and Victoria.

The state's Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, re-elected to the job over the weekend, said her government would review travel from Sydney and Victoria on 01 Dec, providing no guarantees travel restrictions would be abolished by that date, despite both areas recording very low infection rates in recent weeks.

Taking aim at the decision not to uniformly allow travel was Qantas chief Alan Joyce, who lambasted the move as "ridiculous" on Fri, suggesting it would do significant damage to Qld's tourism sector.

"Sydney is the biggest city in Australia and it probably has one of the best track records globally of managing a virus that is clearly

going to be with us for a very long time," Joyce said.

"Queensland may find that by the time it does open up to Sydney, people have made other plans," he added.

Joining the chorus of critics was industry body Airlines for Australia and New Zealand (A4ANZ), which labelled the decision "baffling", especially in light of an agreement by the state at a National Cabinet meeting for a unified approach to borders.

"Classifying...greater Sydney as a 'hotspot' when they do not meet the definition agreed to from the Acting Chief Medical Officer is hard to understand," said Chairman Graeme Samuel.

MEANWHILE, WA will ease its hard borders to "low risk jurisdictions" by 14 Nov, with travellers from NSW and Vic still needing to quarantine for 14 days and pass a COVID test on day 11.



Window Seat

TWO pilot brothers grounded during the COVID-19 pandemic have launched Butcher Crowd, a "national gourmet meat delivery" service.

The paddock-to-plate subscription model is operated by two former Jetstar pilots who recently ceased their careers in commercial aviation to turn their attention to their new meaty joint venture.

The inspiration for the service drew on generations of their family raising livestock in Far North Queensland's Tablelands.

Every piece of beef, poultry and pork they fly is humanely raised and hormone and antibiotic free, and a few months ago, they went national, delivering meat to front doors in almost every state and territory.

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Travel Daily



Catch up on the news of the week

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Brandenburg opens

GERMANY has officially added a new aviation hub, with Brandenburg Airport in Berlin commencing operations after close to a decade of delays and going €4 billion over budget. The airport will initially service only domestic flights via one terminal, however there are plans to make room for international flights in due course and open the second terminal as travel recovers from the pandemic.

Moon shines in Italy

SILVERSEA Cruises has formally taken delivery of its highly anticipated luxury vessel *Silver Moon* at a ceremony in Ancona Italy - the ninth in its fleet. The 596-passenger ship features similar amenities to her sister *Silver Muse*, but with enhanced public spaces such as an expanded La Dame restaurant and a vibrant new layout for the Dolce Vita Lounge area.

A frightfully good reminder



THE hairs on the neck of passersby of Planetdwellers Travel in Sydney were certainly standing to attention over the weekend, with the business putting together a scary video montage to celebrate the fun and ghoulishness of Halloween.

The mix of prancing ghosts and flaming skulls captivated onlookers on Fri and Sat night, playing the dual role of engaging in the antics of Halloween and also letting consumers know Planetdwellers is still very much

open for business.

Currently the store is operating on reduced shop-front hours, with staff working a portion of their hours from home.

"Hopefully with domestic travel restarting more and more it is a great time to remind people we are here," said the company's Managing Director Mario Paez, who is **pictured** left alongside video creator Dale Foulser from Foulse Music and Lights.

If you feel brave enough, view the scary montage **HERE**.

Greyhound on road

COACH service Greyhound Australia has announced a return to the road, relaunching major routes such as Brisbane to Cairns, Sydney to Canberra and Adelaide to Alice Springs.

To celebrate its official resumption, the company has hired Aussie musician Shannon Noll to front a campaign encouraging Aussies take a domestic holiday by performing his hit song *Drive*.

"Nollie is a genuine Aussie just like Greyhound, and from the moment we met we got on like a house on fire," enthused Greyhound CEO Alex de Waal.

Watch some of the tongue in cheek ad campaign **HERE**.



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Sudoku

BEGINNER

THE aim of Sudoku is to complete the entire grid using the numbers 1-9. Each number can only be used once in each row, once in each column, and once in each of the 3x3 boxes.

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

www.sudokuoftheday.com – visit them and get a new Sudoku every day!

Whose flag is this?



LOCATED in Africa, the country whose flag this is was once combined with another, but the two had very different religious majorities, with Islam dominant in the north and Christianity in the south.

This caused ongoing tensions which broke out in a protracted and bloody civil war which ended in a peace agreement in 2005,

which included a referendum on independence in the south.

The referendum passed in 2011 and the country became independent.

During the civil war this flag was used as a banner of independence and was adopted when the country officially became separate.

Do you know whose flag this is?

Who needs a drink?



VANUATU Tourism has shared this recipe with us, highlighting the island nation's coffee.

Wherever you go in Vanuatu you'll find Tanna Coffee, produced on the volcanic island of Tanna.

These beans help make a coffee that is perfect for an

espresso martini.

As always, please keep sending your recipes to cocktails@traveldaily.com.au.

xx *Jenny*

Jenny Piper
Owner,
Business
Publishing
Group



Tanna Coffee Espresso Martini

INGREDIENTS

- 40mL vodka (if you like it lighter, replace some of the vodka with a nip of Baileys or Amaretto)
- 20mL Kahlua
- 1 scoop of ground Tanna Coffee (Vanuatu Tourism suggests a medium roast)
- Ice cubes

METHOD

Brew your Tanna Coffee to produce 20mL of fresh espresso. Add espresso, vodka, Kahlua and ice cubes to cocktail shaker and shake until frothy. Strain the mixture into glasses (so you don't get any ice cubes in your glass) and enjoy.

ANSWERS 30 OCT

Where in the world: Orchard Road, Singapore

Pub quiz: 1 Investigator Strait, 2 Yellowknife, 3 United Arab Emirates, 4 Over, 5 Darwin International Airport, 6 New Zealand, 7 Yellow, 8 Central Park, 9 44 years, 10 Wales, 11 Wallaroo (wall + ah + roo)

Unscramble: blot, bole, bolt, bore, borer, both, bother, broth, brothel, brother, BROTHERLY, helot, hero, hole, holey, holt, holy, hotel, hotly, lobe, lore, lorry, loth, obey, other, retro, robe, role, rort, tote, theory, thole, throb, throe, toby, tore, torr, toyer, troy, tyro, yore

Canada cruise ban

TRANSPORT Canada has revealed it will extend its ban on cruises until at least Mar 2021.

The ban has been in place since Mar and will continue to restrict passenger vessels carrying more than 100 people from operating in Canadian waters, or calling in at Canadian ports until 28 Feb.

Additionally, vessels carrying more than 12 passengers remain prohibited from entering the country's Far North.

East Kimberley trip

TRAVEL Directors has introduced a brand new escorted tour, East Kimberley Safari.

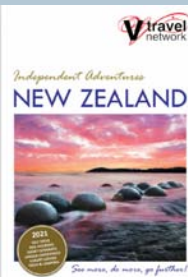
The eight-day adventure departs Perth and is strictly limited to 12 people, and departs 28 May.

The tour is priced from \$5,750 per person twin share, and visits destinations such as Kununurra, Lake Argyle and El Questro, with a range of inclusions.

CLICK HERE to access the trip's full itinerary.

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.



V Travel Network - 2021 New Zealand
V Travel Network has gone to press with its 2021 independent adventures New Zealand brochure. The program details short getaways, self-drives, rail adventures, luxury lodges, treks & camping adventures and other unique experiences. Aiming to include something for every kind of traveller, the brochure features 21 pages covering both the North and South Island, with highlights including a Tamaki Maori Village stay, a Tongario Trek, Auckland to Wellington camping adventures and a Wharekauhau Country Estate stay.



TasVacations - 2021-22 Tasmania
TasVacations' new 2021-22 Tasmania brochure is the wholesaler's biggest yet, providing 100 pages of holidays in the state. The brochure offers a range of signature holiday packages, accommodation, attractions and tours, group tours, golfing holidays, mountain biking, guided walking holidays, air & sea travel and car & campervan hire. King and Flinders Islands are also highlighted, with flights, accommodation and car hire available for both Islands, and for golf enthusiasts, a wide range of King Island golf tours are available.

Hotel courts teamwork



STORIES about the travel industry coming to the aid of families in crisis have been commonplace throughout the pandemic, but now we can add sporting teams to that appreciative list.

The NSW Swifts netball team recently stayed at Mantra Mooloolaba Beach for more than two-and-a-half months, after the Suncorp Super netball team was forced to relocate to Queensland.

"The Mantra Mooloolaba Beach team lead by General Manager Shane Monteith and Conference Manager Brooke Sharp did a wonderful job caring for and looking after the NSW Swifts

during their stay," a spokesperson for the team enthused.

Pictured: The girls demonstrate their appreciation for the temporary digs.

Wanderlust Melb

A BRAND new pop-up attraction, Wanderlust Melbourne, is set to open to the public from next month.

A multi-sensory attraction, Wanderlust will see visitors transported to five destinations: London, New York City and Paris, as well as an idyllic tropical beach and a snow-filled winter wonderland.

Located in the cultural hub of Fitzroy and spread over five rooms, tickets are \$29.50 per person and are on sale now **HERE**.

"As borders remain closed and the prospect of international travel still in the distant future, we wanted to help realise the travel dreams of Victorians and allow them to experience the excitement, joy and curiosity that comes with visiting somewhere new," said Chief Operating Officer Rachel Moore.

Wanderlust Melbourne can also be booked for events of up to 100, with a range of packages available, and will comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines at all times.

More information **HERE**.

Let's see about DC

WASHINGTON DC saw two new tourism openings late last month - citizenM Washington DC hotel and Planet Word.

Billed as "a twist on luxury", citizenM is a new hotel adjacent to the National Mall, featuring amenities designed to resonate with Australian travellers.

Meanwhile Planet World is one of the country's first voice-activated museums, featuring immersive galleries and exhibits targeting all age groups.

Founded on the belief that literacy is fundamental to the health of democracy, general admission to the museum is free.

Got a confidential tip? Contact *Travel Daily* via our secure WhatsApp service on +61 2 8007 6760 or click **HERE**



BECOME A VIKING Warrior of Wisdom

Viking invites its travel partners to join *Mimir* the Norse God of Knowledge & Wisdom on a quest to become a Viking Warrior of Wisdom.

As inaugural partners in the new Travel Daily online training portal, Viking has developed five core modules aimed at increasing knowledge and driving business for its partners.

MODULES

MODULE ONE | Welcome to Viking (*Available Now*)

MODULE TWO | River Cruising with Viking (*Coming Soon*)

MODULE THREE | Ocean Cruising with Viking (*Coming Soon*)

MODULE FOUR | Expedition Cruising with Viking (*Coming Soon*)

MODULE FIVE | Why Viking? (*Coming Soon*)

BONUS

Rewards by Viking points are up for grabs on successful completion of all modules



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