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is still standing

at a cocktail party hosted by Travel Daily
on Tuesday 30th November 2021
from 6pm at Doltone House, Darling Island, Sydney.

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Another big issue

TODAY'S issue of **TD** has nine pages of news including a front cover for **Travel Daily's** Still Standing Celebration, a special feature from **Qatar Airways**, **Business Events News** & a full page from **Silversea Cruises**.

New cancellation cover

EXCLUSIVE

A **NEW** travel insurance product is preparing to make a push in the Aussie market, offering policies designed to provide more confidence for travellers and protect revenue streams for operators and travel agents.

Australian operated Cancellation Covered offers coverage for travellers who cancel trips/experiences for a range of reasons including illness or injury, with policies underwritten by the Cover-More insurance group, owned by Zurich Insurance.

Speaking to **TD** about the benefits to all parties in the booking process, Cancellation Covered GM Chris Weide believes the product has the potential to spur a rebound in the industry.

"It gives operators a revenue stream so they can collect a commission on selling the policy and it also gives customers purchase-confidence by knowing that if something does happen to them...they can claim and get their money back and know it's underwritten by Cover-More/Zurich so there's going to be no shenanigans," Weide said.

Travel agents can also benefit from the cancellation coverage, Weide explains, providing key protection for commissions.

"If a travel agent is putting together the itinerary, they can add the insurance and in cases where travellers cancel, they get to retain their commissions because whatever relationship

they have with [the operator], whether they want the full amount or the net amount, it doesn't matter because the client will get paid out straight away."

Cancellation Covered costs 1.5% of the ticket price, and covers a range of travel experiences such as attractions, festivals, sporting events, as well as many travel-related packages.

Although coverage doesn't apply to external events like pandemics at this stage, Weide believes the likelihood of trips being cancelled due to COVID is becoming less of an issue as the world becomes vaccinated.

"While [COVID protection] was super important in Jan of this year, by Jan next year it's just not going to be that relevant...so what we are saying to operators is 'why don't you have your own policy to say you will cover a COVID-related claim so you can carve that out of it and that is a pretty safe bet at this stage for an operator to do,'" Weide said.


In any event, Cancellation Covered expects that COVID-related travel cancellation is on track to be incorporated before the end of the year - for more details, **CLICK HERE**.

Cancellation Covered has been established by John Weeks, former CEO of The Travel Corporation Australia (**TD** 24 Jul 2015), while Weide's other travel interests include iVenture Card Australia and the AquaDuck Safaris product on the Gold Coast/Sunshine Coast.


Be quick for tix!

THERE are still limited tickets available for **Travel Daily's** Still Standing Celebration taking place in Sydney on 30 Nov.

The gala cocktail party will give an opportunity to celebrate and commiserate the last 20 months - **BOOK NOW** via the **cover page**.



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Jan to Jun 2022

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VIEW HIGHLIGHTS

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Savenio revamps model

SAVENIO has “realigned” its agent offering to better support travel advisors who are beginning to return to the post-pandemic industry.

The new commission structure offers 85%, 95% and 100% commission models for a flat monthly access fee of just \$175 per advisor, with MD David Brandon noting that after the initial flurry of no-revenue refunds and rebookings and then a significant period of zero turnover, many advisors still haven’t made the decision to re-engage with the industry”.

“Savenio is offering an opportunity to support advisors as they move back into the market and start to rebuild their business,” he said.

As well as the reduced membership fee, Savenio’s new advisor model offers scalable options, with high yielding

members receiving an annual bonus based on tiered turnover targets, Brandon noted.

“Our new model recognises the travel industry is undergoing a complete reboot and with so many stop-starts and unknowns, Savenio’s new model will bring a level of confidence to our advisors as they ease back in and expand their business.”

Support provided by the group will also help advisors with up-to-the-minute information on COVID restrictions, requirements, insurance and travel challenges which will be essential knowledge for successful international travel.

Savenio, which recently joined the Magellan Travel Group (TD 02 Sep), is also a member of Virtuoso, with Brandon saying the network’s advisors “are the best placed to achieve the right outcome for their clients”.

See join.savenio.com.au.

P&O cancels WA, SA, Qld homeports

P&O Cruises yesterday cited ongoing uncertainty around the resumption of cruising in Australia for a decision to cancel its 2022 homeporting seasons for Adelaide, Cairns and Fremantle.

The move means ships will not be based in any of the cities for the first half of 2022, while all voyages scheduled to call in Papua New Guinea have been cancelled until Oct next year.

P&O Cruise Australia’s outgoing President, Sture Myrmell, said the three ports would remain important calls for visiting ships when the Government decides to permit cruising to resume.

The company has already paused operations for cruises scheduled to depart from Sydney and Brisbane until mid-Feb, with Myrmell saying P&O would continue to call on federal and state governments to provide a clear pathway for resumption.

Rewarding Silversea

SILVERSEA Cruises is inviting travel advisors to partner with its industry-leading sales team, promising to deliver strong returns with expert support.

For details see the **last page**.

Solomon returns

SOLOMON Airlines has announced the resumption of fortnightly passenger flights from Honiara to Sydney on 19 Nov, with the aircraft then connecting onwards to Brisbane.

Fully vaccinated Australian citizens and permanent residents can now return to Australia without quarantine requirements.

Qatar stopovers

QATAR Tourism is today highlighting its range of new stopover packages, offering four-night deals to allow guests to experience the destination - more on **page seven** of *Travel Daily*.

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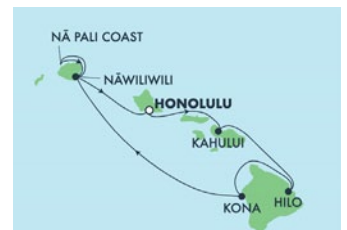
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Window Seat

THE global push to boost vaccination rates is being enthusiastically embraced around the world - particularly in Austria where a brothel has established its own on-site immunisation clinic.

The FunPalast: Sex Star Sauna Club is offering a free 30-minute voucher with the "lady of your choice" for every jab administered between 4pm and 10pm until the end of Nov.

A mandatory vaccination pass is being introduced in Austria next month, meaning people must be fully-vaccinated to enter restaurants, theatres, hairdressers... and brothels.

The FunPalast said it had been badly hit by the pandemic, with a 50% downturn in clientele.

It's hoped the vaccination initiative will turn that around, giving the business a happy ending after 20 months of pain.

Jetstar SIN VTL tick

JETSTAR has been approved to operate Vaccinated Travel Lane flights from Melbourne and Darwin to Singapore.

JQ flights from Melbourne to Singapore will return on 19 Dec, offering two-way quarantine-free travel for fully-vaxed Aussies, Singaporeans and Australian permanent residents.

\$10k from Princess!

PRINCESS Cruises is inviting travel agents to submit their favourite travel memory for the opportunity to win one of 10 \$1,000 Visa gift cards.

The initiative is part of the cruise line's new "Why We Travel?" series featuring local team members sharing some of their best travel experiences.

Only one entry per person - **CLICK HERE** to submit your memories.

EK revenue up 81%

EMIRATES this morning unveiled its results for the six months to 30 Sep, with revenue rising 81% to US\$6.7 billion and an overall loss for the period of US\$1.6 billion.

While still in the red, it's an improvement from last year's loss of US\$3.8 billion, with the results reflecting recovery across all business segments.

CEO Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum said momentum in vaccination programs had accelerated, while cargo operations had continued to perform strongly "providing the bedrock upon which we were able to quickly reinstate passenger services".

As well as taking delivery of two new Airbus A380s during the period, EK added Miami as a new destination and also activated new codeshare and interline partnerships with Airlink, Azul, Aeromar, Cemair and South African Airways.



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QF unlimited India capacity

THE International Air Services Commission (IASC) has issued a determination which allows Qantas to operate flights between Australia and India for the next 99 years.

The move follows the recent announcement of QF's planned new Sydney-Delhi services (**TD 22 Oct**), which are scheduled to commence on 06 Dec.

Initially three weekly A330

frequencies are planned on the route, moving to daily from 03 Jan until the end of Mar.

The carrier applied for unlimited capacity for passenger services on the India route on a third/fourth freedom (direct flight) basis, with the IASC advertising the submission but no other applications received.

Under the Australia-India air services agreement there is unrestricted capacity to operate flights between any points in Australia and Mumbai, New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad.

Accordingly the IASC has allocated the capacity for a 99 year period from 09 Nov 2021, subject to full utilisation by Qantas from no later than 27 Mar.

New on-demand marketing service

TOURS, attractions and activity operators are being offered an alternative to existing fee-based marketing services by a new venture established last year by a group of industry veterans.

Dubbed TourismSolved, the company offers "success-based marketing" which focuses on obtaining bookings directly from local travellers, bypassing the "costly distribution systems they typically rely on for bookings".

Jeff Lewis, previously Technical Director at Viator, is part of the team which has launched the platform offering services in return for a share of revenue.

TourismSolved's offer includes local marketing via Google's new Things To Do feature, content management and marketing and the delivery of mobile-optimised web pages with integrated booking capabilities and support.

The company's co-founder Simon Van Wyk described the initiative as "a genuine partnership with the industry, effectively delivering a marketing team to the operator at no immediate cost".

"The 'get bookings now, pay for them later' approach will be critical to help in the tourism recovery here in Australia, as the ups and downs of COVID lockdowns have left operators uncertain and struggling to rebuild their businesses" - email growdirect@tourismsolved.com.

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Travel Daily



Suki signs first partner

CONTENT aggregation hub Suki has signed up its first official partner since launching to the market earlier this year (**TD** 21 Jan), linking up with TravelManagers' 400-plus strong network of personal travel managers.

The hub offers advisors a means of saving time when searching for tours across land, river and ocean around the globe, deploying unique aggregation technology that gives users the option of searching across useful criteria such as price, availability, location and trip type.

TravelManagers Supplier Relationship Executive Sandra Leslie said the deal would allow its home-based agents to up their customer service by widening the choice of product at their fingertips.

"We're excited to provide our PTMs the opportunity to access Suki's comprehensive portfolio

of tours, cruises and itinerary building tools," she said.

"As the expected appetite for multi-day touring and cruising returns, our PTMs will have unprecedented product choice and search capabilities."

Suki's CEO Campbell Harris said the value of the hub for agents is multifold, but was principally its ability to be a valuable add-on to their daily workflow.

"Suki stays away from the actual booking, commissions and supplier contracts, leaving those existing relationships to the host agencies, suppliers and consortia," he said.

The platform also offers extra services for advisors, such as discussion rooms to share knowledge, trends on destinations, as well as a flexible palette of colours and logos to meet each user's needs.

Suki is now free for all advisors, see details about Suki [HERE](#).

COP26 pledge

AIR Transport Action Group has put forward the case for the aviation sector at the UN COP26 in Glasgow, outlining how the sector plans to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Strategies detailed include jet fuel made from waste, a shift to hydrogen for select short-haul routes, shifting to electricity, improvements in operations and infrastructure were all among the key aspects of the strategy.

VA appoints creative

VIRGIN Australia has appointed creative agency Special Group to be its brand strategy and creative partner, with the brief to focus on VA's customer service credentials.

The appointment coincides with Australia's border reopening of travel across most of the country, with VA stating it now had the chance to "re-imagine what customer service can mean to all Australians."

Webinar and win

DESTINATION Webinars is reminding agents that it has a BYO Coffee Cluster information session scheduled for this week, focusing on Colorado Tourism, Rocky Mountaineer and Viking.

The webinar will take place next Thu at 12pm AEDT, with an Osprey Colorado backpack, a Rocky Mountaineer gift pack and \$50 Viking Visa gift card up for grabs for those who attend.

Register to go to the session by [CLICKING HERE](#).

G Adv discounts

G ADVENTURES is currently offering up to 30% off 400 itineraries departing before 31 May 2022 as part of its Cyber Sale of the Year promotion.

The discounts will run from today until 02 Dec, and applies to tour categories across active, classic, family, local living and marine travel styles.

For more details, [CLICK HERE](#).

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Melbourne, VIC

TOURISM AUSTRALIA

The first official interview with new AFTA CEO Dean Long, the disunited states of Australia and more in the November issue of *travelBulletin*.

travelBulletin

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Expedia insights

EXPEDIA Group's *Travel Recovery Trend Report* has highlighted growing momentum for business travel, strong performance by urban destinations, and healthy demand for trips during the upcoming holiday season.

Global Vice President Media Solutions Jennifer Andre said while the travel industry experienced ups and downs throughout the third quarter, Expedia continues to see positive trends and overall progress on the road to recovery.

"The rise in business travel demand and double-digit year-over-year increases in holiday season travel searches are just two of the trends that signal growing traveller confidence," she said.

The quarterly report combines Expedia's first-party data and custom research with actionable insights to help travel marketers on their road to recovery.

We Make Travel Matter!

ADVENTURE World Travel (AWT) has launched its Make Travel Matter Journeys program in partnership with The TreadRight Foundation.

The 10 new itineraries will combine "once-in-a-lifetime holidays" with the very best of sustainability, conservation, and ethically themed wildlife adventures.

Designed with the fundamentals of sustainable travel in mind, Make Travel Matter Journeys are all carbon-neutral, feature sustainably-led hotels & practices, and use low carbon emission-transport where possible.

A portion of the cost of each trip goes directly to funding the featured host organisations of the Make Travel Matter Experiences, and each small-group itinerary has been rigorously curated by The TreadRight Foundation to ensure it upholds The Travel Corporation's (TTC)

five-year sustainability plan, which is aligned with 11 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

While the Make Travel Matter Experiences product range will continue to grow, the first 10 trips departing in 2022-23 are wildlife-focused, but also emphasise local community and conservation.

Spanning from eight to 13 days, the first group of itineraries travels to Yellowstone in the US, Rwanda, North & South India, Sri Lanka, Namibia, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Borneo.

AWT Managing Director Neil Rodgers said this new collection of dedicated small-group journeys builds upon the shorter Make Travel Matter Experiences which have featured in itineraries across TTC's portfolio of brands before.

He said the collection comes in response to growing consumer demand for more conscious and meaningful travel experiences.

Ovolo on the hunt

OVOLO Group has established a new Acquisition & Development team to help drive expansion activities across local markets including Australia.

Led by Group Director of Acquisition & Development Marc Hediger who has a strong operational development background, he brings more than 40 years of upper management and executive experience to the company.

Hediger will work closely with Kyu Baek Kim, who was recently promoted to Ovolo's Head of Acquisitions & Development.

Kyu Baek's career with Ovolo started more than three years ago as Acquisition and Development Manager.

He has played a leading role in driving Ovolo's investment & development strategies, working closely with hotel and project management teams to create distinctive, bespoke accommodations.

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Travel & Cruise Weekly

Australia on show at IMEX



TOURISM Australia has this week been showcasing the country's business events offerings to an international audience, with a team of Aussies (pictured) gathering in Las Vegas for IMEX America.

The global exhibition for incentive, meetings and events planners attracts thousands of delegates, with Tourism Australia joined on the stand by six key industry partners including Arinex, BESydney, Darwin Convention Centre/NT Business Events, Hyatt Regency Sydney, ID Events Australia and the Melbourne Convention Bureau.

"Maintaining engagement with customers throughout the pandemic has been central to our strategy," said Robin Mack,

Executive GM of Commercial and Business Events Australia at Tourism Australia.

"IMEX America is the first global trade show where we have been able to have an in-person presence since the pandemic started, marking a significant milestone towards recovery.

"Business events are a critical part of Australia's tourism industry...international trade shows like IMEX America deliver business leads for Australia, demonstrating tangible results and strong returns for industry," Mack added.

More Business Events News on **page eight** of today's *TD*.

Singapore packages for Aussies

SINGAPORE'S Marina Bay Sands resort has released special destination packages for Australian visitors to help them make the most of the new Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) arrangements which came into effect this week (*TD* 27 Oct).

Those who sign up for a complimentary Sands Rewards Lifestyle membership will also get a special price for their COVID-19 swab and serology tests - see marinabaysands.com.

Southwest fuel deal

US-BASED low-cost carrier Southwest Airlines has announced a 15-year supply agreement for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), to be provided by Velocys Renewables LLC.

The deal covers 219 million gallons of fuel, which once blended with conventional jet fuel could produce the equivalent of 575 million gallons of net-zero fuel, and mitigate 6.5 million metric tons of CO2 emissions, the companies said.

Southwest said it plans to begin purchasing SAF made in the Velocys factory in Mississippi as early as 2026.

TourRadar adds B2B

MULTI-DAY tour OTA TourRadar has unveiled a new business-to-business offering which it says will give travel agents across the globe access to product from more than 2,500 operators.

The new Adventure Booking Platform (ABP) allows resellers to book the experiences, claimed to number more than 50,000 in total, via a single platform, and as well as group trips the system's functionality also now allows the booking of private, tailor-made and self-guided holidays.

Agents can sign up for free, with commission offered on every booking and a dashboard allowing users to keep track of sales and earnings in a single portal.

TourRadar, founded by Aussies Travis and Shawn Pittman, three years ago secured \$50 million in venture capital (*TD* 28 Jun 2018).

See tourradar.com/agents.

Black Friday deals

TRAFALGAR and Costsaver are offering up to 20% off selected itineraries in Europe, the UK, Canada and the USA as part of a special Black Friday sale.

Deals on more than 40 trips are on offer for bookings made before 30 Nov - 1300 78 78 78.

Broken Hill upgrade

BROKEN Hill Outback Resort in Western NSW is offering a free upgrade to a Spa Cabin as well as a \$30 meal voucher to use at its historic pub, the Mt Gipps Hotel.

The resort is part of the Out of the Ordinary Outback portfolio which also includes The Argent Motel and The Tourist Lodge in Broken Hill, Cobar's Copper City Hotel/Motel, the Ivanhoe Hotel Motel and the White Cliffs Underground Motel - outoftheordinaryoutback.com.au.



Sales Manager

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Reporting to the Director you will be responsible for maximising sales and revenues in the Schools, Groups & Direct to Consumer markets to ensure we are meeting or exceeding our sales targets. A 'hands on' approach & strong leadership of the Sales Team is key, driving a high-performance culture where individuals are supported effectively & motivated to achieve their personal sales targets, and provide exceptional service to customers. Sales targets will need to be translated into tactical action plans that consider resource requirements and incentives that support the plan.

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For a detailed job description or to apply please email recruitment@pgladventurecamps.com.au

When applying please provide a covering letter and CV by 4pm 26th November 2021.

Content produced in collaboration with Qatar Tourism, Qatar Airways, and Discover Qatar

QATAR Airways has released a range of new stopover packages, designed to highlight the destination as the “world’s best value stopover”.

In partnership with Discover Qatar, the packages are up to a four-night stay in Doha, and feature a comprehensive range of options to choose from.

Arriving on Qatar Airways - the World’s Best Airline, according to Skytrax - travellers can choose to indulge in luxury before arriving in-destination, with the carrier’s revolutionary Qsuite product.

Stopover packages are themed to suit any preference, with focuses on art & culture, sports & adventure, nature, food, shopping and more.

Activities include awe-inspiring architecture & world-class museums, elite-level scuba diving



& desert safaris, whale shark experiences, gourmet dining & Michelin-starred restaurants, and a wide range of unique malls.

Hotels cover both the four- and five-star categories, with packages starting from just A\$19 per person per night.

Many accommodations also feature optional add-ons, including breakfast, a Discover Doha tour, a Discover the Dunes & Inland Sea tour, and airport transfers.

Qatar famil - win a spot!

BECOME a Qatar expert this Nov, with the chance to win a spot on a famil to the country next year.

Thanks to Qatar Tourism, Qatar Airways, and Discover Qatar, four lucky experts will be offered a spot, with one winner to be announced per week this month.

The competition runs until 28 Nov, with the famil departing in 2022 on a date to be announced.

To enter, travel advisors must:

1. Complete the Tawash online destination training, including three “essential” modules, to gain certification (**CLICK HERE**).
2. Register their agency to the Discover Qatar booking portal **HERE**.
3. Tell us what you think makes a stopover in Qatar so unforgettable.

Once registered, enter the competition **HERE**.



Qatar is open and ready

QATAR is now open to tourists and visa-free arrival from almost 100 countries, including Australia.

The development of Qatar as a destination has seen the best hotel brands, restaurants, spas and shops create an “oasis of luxury” in the heart of the Middle East; however, this does not mean the country is not rich in Arabian tradition.

Qatar’s heritage and cultural diversity is like none other,

offering an “east meets west” distinctiveness, and the best of the Middle East all in one.

An emerging destination, Qatar offers a diverse range of activities, and varied itineraries for every type of trip and traveller, including more than 500 kilometres of pristine coastline, as well as spectacular desert, headlined by the Inland Sea.

Qatar is also known as one of the world’s safest destinations.



An unforgettable stopover in Qatar

Your clients can turn one holiday into two, making the most of their journey with the “World’s Best Value Stopover” packages by Discover Qatar starting from AUD19* per person per night, including hotel stay and more.

Learn more at qatarairways.com/tradeportal





Mackay Convention Centre milestone



THE Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Conference has just wrapped up in Mackay, with a record 676 delegates taking part in the gathering.

The four-day event was also the largest conference hosted at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC) since COVID-19 hit in Mar 2022.

It was the third time the LGAQ Conference had been staged in Mackay, with delegates from all 77 Queensland regions debating and discussing key

issues affecting communities across the state.

The event's gala dinner was staged at The Big Shed at the Mackay Showgrounds, just a couple of blocks from the Convention Centre, featuring a 2,000m² enclosed pavilion ideal for off-site functions and activities.

MECC is also celebrating its win at the 2021 Mackay Isaac Tourism Awards where it received the Gold Award in the Business Event Venues category for the fourth time.

ICC Sydney staff benefit revamp

ICC Sydney has expanded its employee benefits program to incorporate provisions for both casual and permanent employees.

The scheme includes paid parental leave, paid exam leave, discounted car parking, free counselling services and an internal rewards and recognition program offering prizes such as VIP event tickets.

The changes come alongside an updated Enterprise Bargaining Agreement registered with the Fair Work Commission, incorporating annual wage increases and enhanced conditions for certain roles.

Hawaii MICE RFP

THE Hawaii Tourism Authority has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Global Meetings, Conventions and Incentives (MCI) Marketing and Management Services for the Hawaiian Islands.

The new contract, starting on 01 Jan 2022, will engage the successful bidder for four years, with an additional one year option, with the organisation selecting the proposal "determined to be the most qualified and capable of providing these services for both citywide MCI events held at the Hawaii Convention Center and single property MCI events held throughout the Hawaiian Islands under the Meet Hawaii brand".

Submissions must be lodged by 10 Dec, with full specifications now available online at hawaiitourismauthority.org/rfps.

AMEX OPTIMISTIC ON EVENTS

AMERICAN Express Meetings & Events has released a new report predicting that in-person meeting levels will return to pre-pandemic levels within two years.

The 11th annual *Global Meetings and Events Forecast* surveyed meetings and events professionals, with a strong majority (67%) forecasting significant recovery in 2022.

81% of events are expected to have an in-person element, while 64% of those surveyed cited increased budgets for next year.

However the industry is "neither expecting nor planning a return to business as usual, and instead professionals intend to take lessons learned during the pandemic to improve the value, effectiveness and sustainability of future events," the report says.

Asia-Pacific respondents said more attendees were expected at every type of meeting, both in-person or virtual/hybrid.

Overall, more than four out of five participants also highlighted

the increasing priority of the environment for meetings and events programs in 2022, saying sustainability was a factor taken into account when planning.

Sustainability practices most cited by those polled included minimising paper usage, looking for energy savings and waste reduction measures for meetings planned in 2022.

"While we are all eager to see the pent-up demand for meetings and events fully realised, we recognise that recovery will not be a straight line and we can't get there by simply repeating what we've done in the past," said Gerardo Tejado, GBT's Senior Vice President of Value Development and General Manager of Meetings & Events.

"As we look to 2022, we expect the optimism, resourcefulness and innovation we've seen in the sector over the past two years to lead to a new era of thoughtful, tech-forward, responsible M&E strategies," Tejado added.

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If you are highly organised, have a penchant for design, a keen eye for detail and a willingness to learn, this could be the role for you.

Candidates with customer service, travel industry experience, organisational skills and Adobe Suite proficiency would be highly regarded. Salary commensurate with experience. Full job description available upon request.

Applications close 12th November 2021.

Send your CV and covering letter to jobs@traveldaily.com.au



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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.

IHG Hotels & Resorts has named **Bruce Ryde** as the General Manager of the **Kimpton Margot Sydney**. Ryde will assist Kimpton Margot as it readies to become the first of the brand's Australian properties in Jan.

Tourism & Events Queensland has appointed **Nicolette Mewing** as its new Corporate Communications Specialist. She joins TEO with more than a decade of industry experience, with brands such as TravMedia, Tourism NT, Marine Tourism Management and more.

Steve Kaufer, Chief Executive Officer of **Tripadvisor**, is set to leave his post next year. Tripadvisor's founder took the company from its beginnings in a small office above a pizza shop in Massachusetts 20 years ago into a global, household-name brand. The company has initiated a search for a successor that will involve both internal and external candidates.

Angama has announced the appointment of **Steve Mitchell** as **Chief Operating Officer**, promoting him from his current role as Chief Financial Officer. Mitchell has been instrumental in the company's rapid growth, playing a key role in raising the capital to develop Angama Mara, and in the intervening years, ensuring its ongoing growth and success. His strengths are not only in finance and strategy, but also brand and marketing.

China leads traffic

CHINESE airports have dominated the top 10 busiest list from last year, with Guangzhou Baiyun Int'l topping the rankings.

CAN is one of seven Chinese airports to make the top 10, according to the latest data from ACI World, with the hub seeing 44 million passengers transit through it last year.

Previous top spot occupant Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International slipped to second place, receiving 43 million passengers.

Unsurprisingly, domestic markets dominated last year's airline schedules.

We deserve thanks

A PUSH is on for quarantine hotel workers to be rewarded, as the skills shortage crippling tourism accommodation businesses nationwide begins again following months of lockdowns and border closures.

Tourism Accommodation Australia will urge for hotel workers to be among the first included in various state voucher reward schemes in recognition of their service, as discussed at the body's national board meeting this week.

Chief Executive Officer Michael Johnson said the workers deserve a special "thank you" from govts.

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NSW charges it up

A \$105 million plug-in has been announced by the Government of NSW for electric vehicle fleets.

The incentive is designed to drive up electric vehicle purchases for commercial fleets.

The first round of the EV incentive will open on 30 Nov, and will be delivered through a reverse auction process, with bidding rounds opening approximately every six months until the end of 2024.

Fleet operators can register their interest and access the fleet incentive guidelines **HERE**.

Go travel in style

HILTON Melbourne Little Queen Street has launched its I Am Fashion stay, celebrating the hotel's exclusive partnership with the National Gallery of Victoria.

Available for bookings from 04 Dec through to 25 Apr, the experience will include overnight accommodation for two, a special welcome amenity curated by NGV, daily breakfast for two at Luci, and two tickets to the Gallery's 'Gabrielle Chanel Fashion Manifesto' exhibition.

Prices start from \$365, and early bookings are encouraged - **HERE**.

Win a Balcony stateroom on the Azamara Onward Pre-Inaugural Cruise!

Azamara and Travel Daily are providing one travel agent and guest with the once-in-a-lifetime experience of sailing on the 5 Night Pre-Inaugural Cruise of Azamara Onward. Sailing from Barcelona to Monte Carlo and staying in a Balcony stateroom, this is a special sailing not to be missed.

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