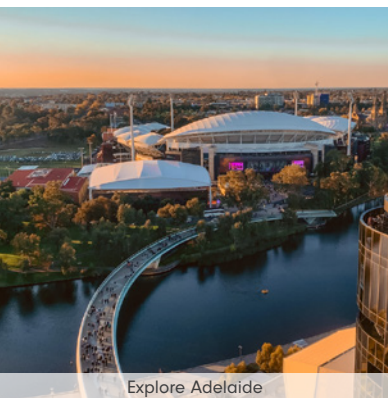
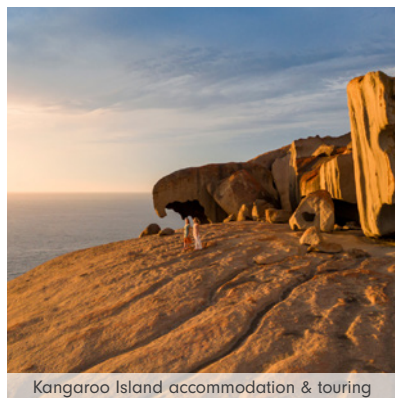


# YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURE

onboard the Great Southern



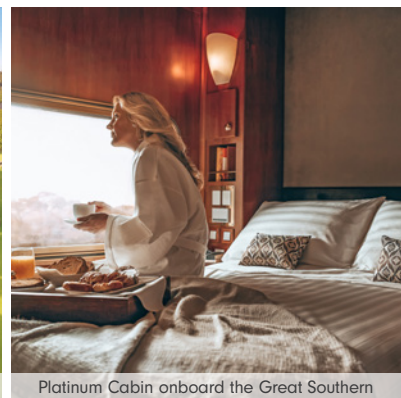
Explore Adelaide



Kangaroo Island accommodation & touring



Barossa Valley wine tasting



Platinum Cabin onboard the Great Southern

South Australia has a lot on its plate. Discover the delights of the southern food and wine capital. Travelling on the Great Southern between Brisbane and Adelaide, guests can expect fine food, exhilarating Off Train Experiences and show-stopping scenery. 'Adelaide Delight' includes a day exploring the vine-clad hills of the Barossa Valley, while 'Southern Wines & Wildlife' is an epicurean adventure that extends the vineyard visits and explores island life on beautiful Kangaroo Island.

FIND OUT MORE

EXPERIENCE HUB

## Today's issue of TD

*Travel Daily* today features five pages of news, plus a full cover page from *Journey Beyond*.

## Great Southern Land

**YOUR** next summer adventure is waiting aboard *Journey Beyond's* Great Southern railway.

South Australia has a lot on its plate, and you can discover just some of the delights of the southern food and wine capital.

Travelling aboard the Great Southern between Brisbane and Adelaide, guests can expect fine food, show-stopping scenery, and off-train experiences, such as 'Adelaide Delight', which includes a day discovering the Barossa Valley - see the **cover page**.



## Win 1 of 100 free famil staterooms

Viking are taking it to the next level with their current incentive. The first 100 agents to make two or more new twin share or single supplement reservations for any 2022 Viking European river cruise before 30 June 2022 will win a complimentary self-famil stateroom on a select 8-day Viking European cruise in 2022. This is the perfect opportunity to explore Europe with the #1 river cruise line.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



## "Major failure" judge rules

**A LEGAL** dispute between Scenic Tours and a group of disgruntled cruise passengers reached a conclusion in the NSW Supreme Court late last week, with the judge in the case confirming a "major failure" on behalf of the cruise line.

The class action was launched by Somerville Legal on behalf of affected European river cruise clients close to a decade ago, and went to court for the first time in 2016 (*TD* 27 Apr 2016), with the plaintiffs seeking compensation for adversely affected river cruise departures in Apr and May 2013, which were impacted by floods.

Justice Peter Garling determined Scenic Tours had breached Australian consumer law by not specifically warning passengers about weather

disruptions for cruises along the Rhine River, the Main River, and the Main/Danube Canal, awarding up to 90% of the price paid in damages, depending on the value each pax received and the expert market value of each of the 11 sailings in question.

Not every pax joined the class action, with some accepting a Scenic apology and a \$1,000 future cruise credit for any inconvenience caused.

## Booking green rise

**ONE** in four Australians have elected to travel shorter distances over the last 12 months in a bid to limit their carbon footprint, new data from Booking.com has revealed.

The study also found that 73% of Australian travellers believe sustainable travel is important to them, while 50% stated that recent news about climate change had influenced them to make even more sustainable travel choices in the future.

Testament to changing attitudes towards the importance of sustainability as a variable in travel bookings, 60% of Aussie travellers said they want to travel more sustainably over the coming 12 months, a 51% increase on the same study conducted in 2021.

Accommodation, transport, positive contributions to local communities, and alleviating overtourism concerns all ranked highly among Australian respondents of the study.

## Lounge about with VA

**VIRGIN** Australia's lounge entry on arrival is back, returning from ANZAC Day.

As Virgin's services ramp up, and more Velocity status members begin travelling again, entry on arrival will be available for Gold, Platinum, and Beyond members.

Maximum entry is as per policy, and is pending the capacity of lounges.

## Qld targets Kiwis

**QUEENSLAND-BASED** travel agency Ignite Travel has launched its MyQueensland marketing push in New Zealand for the first time, appealing to Kiwi travellers to enjoy Qld's beaches, islands, rainforests, and vibrant cities.

The campaign, run in partnership with the Qld Government and Air New Zealand, offers New Zealanders a number of deals on flights and holidays for winter getaways.

Qld Tourism Minister Stirling Hinchliffe said Ignite Travel's MyQueensland was the first stage of an integrated campaign to bring more Kiwi holidaymakers across the ditch.

"We want Queensland's winter message to New Zealanders to be almost inescapable," he said.

"From late next month, the quintessentially Queensland images of Days Like This will be rolled out on New Zealand TV, cinemas, digital displays and online," Hinchliffe added.

Before COVID, over 1.5 million passengers flew between New Zealand and Brisbane.

## Stepping up Brissy

**SOLOMON** Airlines is preparing to introduce a second weekly service between Brisbane and Honiara as part of its Return to Flying program.

While the additional capacity is still subject to local regularity approval, the decision to expand passenger flights to Australia signals an important step in the Solomons' reopening strategy.

"Under the first phase of our Return to Flying program, we reintroduced domestic flights to 20 destinations and restarted our Lumi Tugeda Holidays program," said Solomon Airlines Chief Executive Officer Brett Gebers.

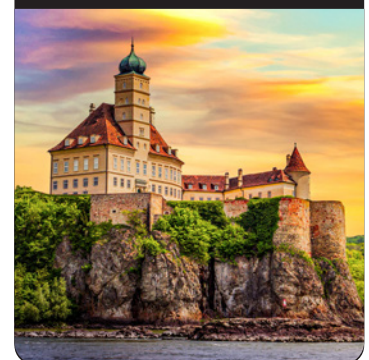
"Adding a second international flight between Brisbane and Honiara is another step towards a return to normality," he said.



## Earn commission in 2022 with Viking's river cruise sale

Earn commission this year when you book your clients on one of Viking's three most popular river journeys in 2022. For a strictly limited time, Viking are offering a special cruise only fare that allows your clients to explore Europe from only \$266 per day. Plus, your solo travellers will get 75% off the single supplement for the special cruise only fares in selected stateroom categories.

[Click here for more information.](#)







## Touring boosts growth

**YOUTH-FOCUSED** travel platform Global Work & Travel has launched a new tour division as part of the company's global expansion plans.

Partnering with five international brands to make the launch a reality, Global Work & Travel's new tour division will allow its customers to explore the world for the first time without attaching a work or study element to their plans.

"This tour product is a natural add-on for those in our network who have already done one of our so-called 'gap year' travel experiences," Global Work & Travel CEO and Co-founder, Jurgen Himmelmann said.

"Most of our customers work or study abroad once, given the nature of its commitment, but they're not immune to the travel bug and often aren't ready to stay put back home once they return. "Our new Tour offerings allow

our customers to keep on exploring, in a new, shorter, more familiar way," he added.

Brands brought on board include G Adventures, Australia's INTRO Travel and Topdeck Travel brands, as well as the Barcelona-based Stoke Travel.

The collaborations have seen more than 100 products across 19 countries added in markets such as Australia and New Zealand, Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Central America and Africa, with tours including Hilltribe and Villages in Northern Thailand, Bush Camps and Wildlife adventures in Southern Africa, cruises off the Croatian coast, as well as explorations of the capitals and cafes of Europe.

During COVID, Global Work & Travel has transitioned from a phone-based sales operation to fully online, and has two offices in Australia, as well as one in London and Vancouver.

## Scenic appointment

**MARK** Robinson has joined Scenic Group as its new Vice President of Cruise Operations, bringing more than 35 years of experience to the company.

Robinson will be charged with overseeing the day-to-day operations of Scenic's luxury river and ocean yacht fleet, as well as ensuring the smooth entry of new builds into the fleet.

He will report directly to Scenic Group's Chief Operating Officer Rob Voss, and arrives from Cruise Saudi, where he was responsible for developing the destination as a major cruise hub.



## New Hyatt Regency Sydney suites

**HYATT** Regency Sydney has introduced lavish new suites - the Sydney Terrace Suite and the Regency Terrace Suite.

Designed for entertaining and private dining, the suites are the most aspirational category in the hotel's accommodation offering.

The new suites combine more than 125m<sup>2</sup> of accommodation with 34m<sup>2</sup> of expansive outdoor terrace space, and promote flexibility and personalisation.

## Princess adds Rex

**PRINCESS** guests can now book Rex Airlines flights through its air travel platform, Princess' EZair.

Princess' platform offers real-time pricing of flights that are customised to when and where its cruises are operating, and includes protection to insulate clients against delayed or cancelled flights.



# SWITZERLAND

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## Seabourn 2023/24

SEABOURN Cruise Line has unveiled its new 2023-2024 itineraries for *Seabourn Encore* and *Seabourn Odyssey*.

The cruise line is inviting Australian travellers to explore their own backyard, as well as the Arabian Peninsula, Asia, India, and the South Pacific, with new itineraries available for booking.

In addition to individual cruises, *Encore* will also sail two combination options, including a 30-day holiday voyage from Dubai to Singapore, with stops at Mumbai and Bangkok, and a New Year's Eve overnight in Ho Chi Minh City; and a 32-day voyage from Hong Kong to Dubai during the spring in Southeast Asia, before sailing to Sri Lanka, India, Oman and Qatar.

## P&O takes pride of place in Sydney



CARNIVAL Corporation President Australia Marguerite Fitzgerald has revealed the entire country is now engaging P&O Cruises about individual restarts, following *Pacific Explorer's* triumphant return to Sydney.

The homecoming was hot on the heels of Sun's ending of a two-year ban of international cruise ships from Australian waters, with *Explorer* returning to a ceremonial water cannon salute, as well as a flotilla of private ships, including a P&O charter vessel.

*Explorer* passed through Sydney Heads at about 9.30am yesterday before sailing into Circular Quay around 10.30am, with her arrival marking the end of a 28-day voyage from Europe, where she had been idled for much of the past two years, waiting to come home to Australia.

"Even though it's the three eastern states who announced the protocols, all the states are in conversation with us about what it would look like to resume cruising," Fitzgerald explained to *Travel Daily*.

She also said P&O Australia's local call centres have been "overwhelmed" of late.

"I think what's really important about today is that it's a real signal that this isn't a false start... this is really the cruise industry resuming," Fitzgerald said.

"We continue to expect to see

guests coming back."

In the coming month-and-a-half, P&O will work even more closely than it has been with its staff and suppliers to ensure it is ready for *Explorer's* first cruise on 31 May.

"Over the next six weeks, we're going to be working to get provisions for guest cruises, so that means bringing the fresh food, additional equipment etc. back on the ship," Fitzgerald said.

"The other thing that we need to do is we need to get our crew ready to welcome guests.

"They haven't been serving our guests for the last two years, and a big part of the P&O proposition is the hospitality we provide."

Joining Fitzgerald on the cruise line's charter was New South Wales Minister for Transport David Elliott, who hailed the day as Sydney's reclamation of its "rightful place as the epicentre of local and international cruising in Australia".

"Our maritime workforce has been working hard to put new protocols in place and is ready to welcome local cruisers and visitors with open arms," he said.

**Pictured**, Fitzgerald waves in *Explorer*, and **inset**, the ship makes her way to the Overseas Passenger Terminal, escorted by a water cannon salute.

## Radisson in Danang

RADISSON Hotel Group is bringing upscale hospitality to Da Nang, with the opening of Radisson Hotel Danang.

The new hotel is perfectly positioned next to My Khe Beach, just a 10 minute drive from Da Nang International, and within reach of key business and leisure areas in the Vietnamese region.

Radisson Hotel Danang features 182 rooms and suites with panoramic views of the city, ocean, and the wider Son Tra Peninsula.

The seven room categories range from 28m<sup>2</sup> Deluxe Rooms to 70m<sup>2</sup> Ocean View Family Rooms, and there is also an exclusive Executive Lounge 20th floor space that promises extra services and all-day refreshments.

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## Double the tech wins



**AVIATION** technology company Monarc Global has scored a double-win at the Deloitte Technology Fast 50 awards held in Sydney.

Monarc took home first place in the overall Fast 50 Australia list, and was also recognised as the country's fastest growing technology company, as well as the Female Leadership award.

The company uses its in-house technology to provide solutions to aircraft operators and owners, which also includes a global distribution system for the travel industry, an innovation that recently saw it partner with MTA.

"Monarc Global is part of a wider landscape of other companies and founders who are paving the way for promising innovation within Australia," said co-founder Monica Zagrodney.

"This is a fantastic achievement for our team, since its inception in 2017 and armed with our mission to provide solutions for aircraft operators and owners and change the aviation industry to do better when it comes to business operations, particularly automated pricing.

Monarc joins past travel industry chart-toppers of the Fast 50 list such as Webjet.

**Pictured** is the Monarc Global Operations Team Chief Financial Officer Robert Easton, Head of Charter Operations Wasim Omar, Chief Communications Officer Kim Trinh, and Head of Sales/Operations Adam Rowe.

## LATAM new lounge

**LATAM** Airlines has opened a new international lounge in Arturo Merino Benitez International in Santiago with a focus on sustainability.

These include the use of 80% renewable energy for its operation, interactive games with conservation themes, and waste reduction through recycling.

The "renewed space" will be available for passengers of LATAM and its partner airline members.

## PEPR lands client

**OUTRIGGER** Hospitality Group has appointed PEPR Agency to manage its public relations for the Oceania market.

PEPR will assist the Outrigger team on further increasing brand awareness among Australian, travellers, as well as in the Fiji and New Zealand markets, for its collection of resorts across Hawaii, Fiji, Thailand, Mauritius and now the Maldives.

## Chimu overhauls

**CHIMU** Adventures has overhauled its South American product offering, refreshing the collection with new 'Signature' travel itineraries.

The new style features a range of premium tours which highlight the best of each region, with the six on offer exploring Machu Picchu, Galapagos, Patagonia, Buenos Aires to Rio, Salt Flats, and the full South American Circle.

All itineraries can be tailored pre- or post-tour to create a more in-depth experience, and all departure dates can also be chosen by guests.

## Lake Como guide and free Milan night

**ORMINA** Tours has developed a Lake Como Regional Guide and, for a limited time, is offering a free night in Milan.

The Guide showcases the best places to stay in Lake Como, as well as what to do, and how to best get there.

In addition, all bookings in the region will receive a free night in the five-star Galleria Vik Milano, or similar if unavailable.

The promotion is being run alongside Ormina's Book with Confidence offer, which requires only a \$150 deposit per person.

Full terms and conditions for the free night in Milan can be found **HERE**, while further information on the \$150 deposit per person can be found **HERE**.



## Window Seat

**WHILE** none of us would enjoy the sounds of aircraft landing and taking off when we're trying to sleep, the real question is how often would you be prepared to complain about the noise issue?

For one resident in Ireland, the answer is 34 times a day.

The unnamed individual has made more than 12,200 noise complaints to Dublin Airport over the course of 2021 single-handedly, accounting for nine out of 10 of all complaints received by the airport.

The same grumbling grouch reportedly submitted 6,227 complaints in 2020, showing they more than doubled their whiny efforts the next year.

While Dublin Airport stated it had implemented a noise management plan in an attempt to minimise noise pollution in recent years, complaints have gone up significantly over the same time thanks largely to this one disgruntled resident.

Another factor allowing for the rise has been the creation of a new online system called Webtrak, which among other features allows for a faster method for filing complaints.

## Camplify results

**CAMPLIFY** has ended the third quarter with a gross transaction value of \$13.03 million, as the sharing platform continues its pattern of growth and scale.

During the period, Camplify experienced more than 69.5% growth in GTV over the prior corresponding period, while global net revenue figures also grew during the same time, despite the spread of the Omicron variant, and the impact of the eastern Australia floods.

For the quarter, net revenue grew by 110.52% compared with the third quarter of the prior FY.





UNESCO World Heritage Sites and their economic implications, cruise is coming back, travel's surprise win and more in the April issue of *travelBulletin*.

**CLICK to read**

**travelBulletin**

## Euro traffic returns

**AIRCRAFT** traffic within Europe reached 81% of pre-pandemic levels last week, according to new figures released by the European Organization for Safety of Air Navigation.

The report also predicted that by the end of Apr 79% of volumes will return when compared to 2019 levels during the same period, fuelled by full service and low-cost airlines across Europe starting to significantly expand capacity.

Despite the rally, British Airways operated an average of 709 flights a day between 07 Apr and 13 Apr, still down 26% compared to the same week in 2019.

## MONEY

**WELCOME** to Money, *TD's* Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

**AU\$1 = US\$0.733**

**THE** United States dollar remained dominant over the Easter break, with key measure the USD index reaching new two-year highs.

Unfortunately, that meant the AUDUSD hit one-month lows, with the pair down 0.7%.

The AUD traded to the lowest levels seen since late Mar, and fell in other markets also.

*Wholesale rates this morning.*

US	\$0.733
UK	£0.564
NZ	\$1.084
Euro	€0.680
Japan	¥93.38
Thailand	฿24.60
China	¥4.636
South Africa	10.71
Canada	\$0.921
Crude oil	US\$113.2

## Ladies are raring to go



**GINA** Storey from Travelling Places recently combined with Aurora Expeditions, Avalon Waterways, Globus & Quark Expeditions to host a special ladies "Return to Travel" event at Picnic Real Food Bar a Tamborine

## Hyatt cuts Russia

**HYATT** Hotels has ended its relationship with Hyatt Regency Moscow Petrovsky Park over the ongoing invasion of Ukraine, the company confirmed late last week, in addition to suspending the "provision of services" at the Hyatt Regency Sochi.

The moves follow the freezing of new developments in Russia from IHG (*TD* 12 Apr).

## Qantas extra staff

**EXTRA** staff have been rostered on and Qantas and Jetstar head office managers are assisting at major airports to cope with the surge in travel and airline staff shortages, Qantas Group said.

The carrier has faced scrutiny in recent days over long airport queues which CEO Alan Joyce inferred was attributable to a lack of "match fitness" from travellers.

Mountain in Queensland.

The group (**pictured**) enjoyed some platters and wine as they chatted about the return of the travel sector and spent a couple of hours enjoying brief presentations from the various travel brands in attendance.

## EK innovation centre

**EMIRATES** has revealed its former Expo 2020 Dubai pavilion will be transformed into an innovation centre, where it will become a hub for the development of new Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT).

The airline will channel tens of millions of dollars into the project, which will also see the building become the headquarters for the carrier's foray into creating its own metaverse, which it hopes will underpin digital innovation and improve customer experience.

"We are excited about the opportunities in the digital space of the future and are committing a significant investment in financial and resourcing... that will deliver on revenue and brand experience," the airline said.

## Tourists killed in Oz

**FOUR** South Korean tourists were killed in a car accident last week in Qld when their vehicle failed to give way to a truck.

There are now renewed calls from Qld Police to emphasise the road rules for tourists before they visit Australia to ensure the safety of all drivers on the road.

**Travel Daily Events**

## COMING EVENTS

**TD Events** is the new way to showcase your product or service to the travel industry.

**Tue 03 May** - Silversea Cruises - details coming soon

**Thu 12 May** - Livn Group - details coming soon

**Tue 17 May** - Amadeus - details coming soon

## RECENT EVENTS

**Missed an event? Don't worry, you can catch up at any time.**

"The Tide Turns for Cruise" with CLIA MD Joel Katz and Jill Abel from the Australian Cruise Association - **CLICK HERE**.

Norwegian Cruise Line "The Great Cruise Comeback" - **CLICK HERE**.

Quark Expeditions showcase of *Ultramarine* - **CLICK HERE**.

AFTA CEO Dean Long Executive Interview - **CLICK HERE**.

Entire Travel Group with Brad McDonnell and Greg McCallum - **CLICK HERE**.

To organise an event for your company, enquire at [traveldaily.com.au/events](http://traveldaily.com.au/events)