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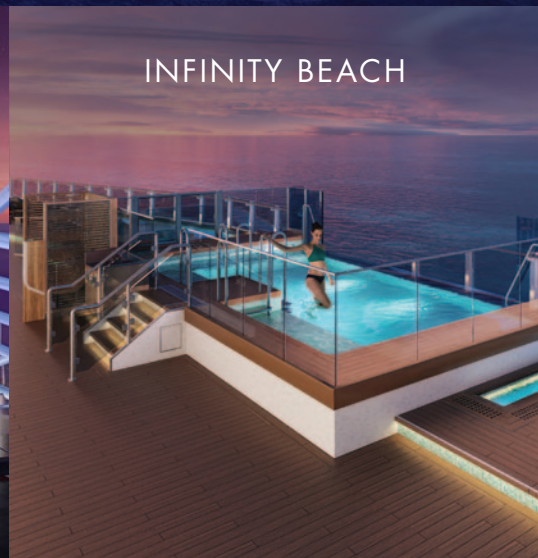
THE HAVEN SUNDECK



VIVA SPEEDWAY



INFINITY BEACH



Viva la Norwegian

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has unveiled *Norwegian Viva*, the second vessel in its innovative new Prima Class (**TD** 13 May 21).

The ship, currently under construction at the Fincantieri shipyard in Marghera, Italy, will accommodate 3,219 guests at double occupancy, and will mirror *Prima's* promised high staffing levels and space ratio as well as the exclusive 107-suite Haven enclave.

Activities will include The Rush and The Drop freefall dry slides, as well as the Viva Speedway, described as "the largest three-level racetrack at sea".

"*Norwegian Viva* sets the standard in the premium segment, illustrating our commitment to pushing boundaries," said Norwegian Cruise Line CEO Harry Sommer.

Viva is the second of six Prima Class vessels on order, with the ships to also feature cutting edge environmental technologies.

More on the **cover page**.

HA axes Brisbane

HAWAIIAN Airlines this morning confirmed the indefinite suspension of its Brisbane-Honolulu services.

HA has served the Qld capital since 2012, with Regional Manager Andrew Stanbury saying the decision to cut Brisbane had been difficult "but like many other airlines we find ourselves rebuilding our network in a vastly different operating environment".

Scenic plots Aussie season

SCENIC will operate its maiden *Scenic Eclipse II* season in local waters in 2024, as part of its newly unveiled 2023/24 ocean cruising program.

The company said the deployment would celebrate "the highly anticipated addition of *Scenic Eclipse II* to the Discovery Yacht fleet," with a special departure to be hosted by senior Scenic executives including the company's Chairman and Founder, Glen Moroney.

The overall program features 85 itineraries sailing to more than 50 countries across all seven continents, with the addition of South Pacific voyages complementing Antarctica, the Arctic, Mediterranean and the Americas.

New additions also feature the Caribbean, Scotland and the Canadian High Arctic.

The 2024 Australia program features the Moroney-led Chairman's Voyage which will depart on 22 Apr that year from Newcastle, where he established the company 36 years ago.

Anthony Laver, GM Sales & Marketing, said "bringing *Scenic*

Eclipse II home to Australian waters is a major moment for our guests, the Scenic team and will set the new benchmark for ultra-luxury cruising in the region".

Scenic Eclipse II is scheduled to debut in early 2023, with initial deployments in Antarctica to double capacity for "even more guests to enjoy the leading itineraries and luxury experiences that we provide," said Scenic Group Chief Operating Officer, Rob Voss.

Scenic had previously planned to debut *Eclipse* in local waters with a maiden Kimberley season last year (**TD** 02 Mar 2021), but ultimately pulled the deployment due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Savings of up to 20% are on offer for Scenic's 2023/24 voyages when booked and paid in full 12 months before departure.

More in **Cruise Weekly** today.

Intrepid's big impact

INTREPID Travel has introduced 22 new 'Impact Initiatives' within its tours for 2022, continuing its pledge to focus on building a more equitable and sustainable future in the travel sector.

The new experiences span 16 countries, and include a carbon-neutral whale watching tour in Iceland, visits to a Moroccan teahouse run exclusively by women, & a trip to a generation-bridging cafe in Vienna - learn more about Intrepid's responsible travel policy **HERE**.

Slam Dunked again

THE sale of Dunk Island off the North Qld coast has fallen through for the second time in three years (**TD** 29 Jun 2021), with current owners the Bond family saying they are in talks with another interested party.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has four pages of news including **Business Events News**, a front cover page from **Norwegian Cruise Lines** plus full pages from:

- Scenic
- Emirates

80% likely to travel

FOUR in five Australians say they are likely to travel overseas in 2022, according to a new report compiled by Tripadvisor.

While the intention to travel abroad is encouraging, the study also showed Aussies are behind British travellers (85%) and Singaporean (89%), but remained ahead of Americans (78%) and Japanese residents (58%).

Aussies demonstrated a slightly stronger appetite to travel overseas than they did before the pandemic, with international travel intention in 2022 up 3% on 2019, while domestic travel plans were up 10% this year on 2019.

A third of Aussies also said it's more important in 2022 than previous years to "pack as many activities" into a trip as possible.

Smith dogs new job

GREYHOUND Australia has announced the appointment of Dan Smith as its new CEO.

Smith has been in various roles at Greyhound's over the last decade, with his travel career also including roles at Qantas Holidays and Qantas - more appointments on **page four**.

HURTIGRUTEN EXPEDITIONS

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Journey Beyond takeover

THE acquisition of Journey Beyond by San Francisco-based Hornblower Group (**TD** breaking news) will position the Australian experiential tourism operator “solidly on the global stage,” the companies believe.

Hornblower, owned by New York-based private equity firm Crestview Partners, operates a range of brands including American Queen Voyages, combining US river cruise operator American Queen Steamboat Company and small ship specialist Victory Cruise Lines.

The business also runs a host of sightseeing, ferry and transportation services in New York, Florida, Washington State, Alabama, Oklahoma and more, as well as a City Cruises division to Ellis Island in New York City, Alcatraz Island in San Francisco and on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls.

The acquisition of Journey

Beyond significantly boosts Hornblower’s land-based portfolio, with brands such as The Ghan, the Indian Pacific, Outback Spirit, Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef, Horizontal Falls Seaplane Adventures & Melbourne Skydeck.

“Hornblower is extremely optimistic about the tourism industry and the rebound ahead, one in which Australian tourism is seen as both resilient and highly desirable,” the company said, adding that the deal gives Journey Beyond “the unique opportunity to leverage Hornblower’s unmatched technology and marketing expertise to further develop and deliver incredible tourism experiences in iconic locations in Australia and around the world.”

Journey Beyond’s head office will remain in Adelaide led by CEO Chris Tallent, with the business to work seamlessly with all trade partners during the transition.

How has the pandemic impacted the way the travel sector operates, and what will remain in the emerging post-covid world? We investigate taking travel back to the future in the latest *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read

travelBulletin

Crown bows to bid

CROWN Resorts’ board will recommend to its shareholders to accept that latest takeover bid from Blackstone made this morning, an offer which adds 60 cents per share value on the previous offer it made last year (**TD** 02 Dec 2021).

The recommendation will be contingent on a formal binding offer from Blackstone, which values Crown at \$13.10 a share, as well as receiving regulatory and stakeholder approval.

AA codeshare deal

AMERICAN Airlines has signed a codeshare agreement in Europe with Irish carrier Aer Lingus.

The agreement will see AA place its code on Aer Lingus services such as London Heathrow to Dublin and Birmingham to London Gatwick and Manchester, while Aer Lingus will share on US routes from Chicago O’Hare, LAX, Dallas-Fort Worth, and more.



Window Seat

AN ISRAELI businessman who badly damaged a Four Seasons hotel room on Park Lane in London and who was arrested topless covered in shaving cream has avoided a jail term.

Offer Tsofan, 52, set fire to cushions and towels, and also destroyed a set of Chinese chests, two televisions, a music system, a wooden furniture set, and multiple glass tabletops, causing close to \$200,000 worth of damage.

Smoke from the fires also set off the room’s sprinkler system, causing extensive flood damage.

The jury at a Southwark Crown Court found that Tsofan was not in a sound state of mind at the time of the offence, and was subsequently released from prison on bail.



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PCOA LAMENTS CANCELLATION

THE Professional Conference Organisers Association (PCOA) has been forced to postpone its planned annual conference, citing COVID concerns in most Australian states as the catalyst.

"With increasing case numbers, concern from key stakeholders about the safety and wellbeing of attendees, continued uncertainty around travel and potential isolation, and the threat to members' businesses and their future work," a spokesperson for the PCOA said.

"The PCOA Council agreed that it was the responsible decision to make at this time."

The industry body had planned to host PCOA21 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Hobart later this month, but it will instead be postponed by close to a year.

The venue will remain the same but the conference is now slated to go ahead on 11-13 Dec.



PCOA also thanked Business Events Tasmania, Tourism Australia and planned exhibitors for their role in the creation of PCOA21, stating they had "so far played a major role in what promised to be another successful, productive and memorable conference."

The delayed Dec event will focus on sustainability in the events industry, the opportunity

to reposition the role of event planners as partners and trusted advisors, the trend towards live experiences and human connection, negotiating fee structures and pricing, as well as how to reach new delegates in the information age.

Another key topic for investigation will be how technology is impacting events.

Register for the event [HERE](#).

MCEC gets tasty

THE Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC) has launched a new and improved menu for 2022.

Boasting Victoria's finest fresh seasonal produce, the new selection is inspired by MCEC's food philosophy, with an emphasis on bringing out the flavours of Melbourne's distinct culture and character.

The menu has been crafted uniquely from grab-and-go gourmet to sophisticated dining, and has been refreshed to include more diverse options with a focus on plant-based and gluten-friendly options to ensure each guest has an unforgettable experience.

The new-look beverage selection includes house-made cocktails using spirits from Victorian distilleries, as well as seltzers from Melbourne-based Moon Dog Craft Brewery.

MCEC Executive Chef Peter Haycroft said he is proud to be leading such a creative team in the kitchen to produce a more vibrant menu for large event guests.

Tassie magazine

TASMANIA'S new magazine, *Business Events Tasmania*, highlights what's new on the island, and how hard the state's tourism and hospitality operators have been working despite the immense challenges delivered by the pandemic.

"The magazine will continue to showcase business event offerings to inspire our audience to see why Tasmania has emerged through COVID as a business event destination with more unique experiences for conference organisers," Business Events Tasmania CEO Marnie Craig said.

"One of our state's greatest strengths is our sense of community and connectivity - in Tasmania we work together as an industry to create, and curate tailored experiences," she added.

Geelong guides future event planning

BUSINESS Events Geelong has gone digital with its all-new 2022 Planner's Guide.

The tool aims to assist event organisers in finding the perfect venue, experience, or service provider in the Geelong region.

Hosted on the Embrace Interactive platform, the dynamic guide includes information on each region, how to access the destination, and a list of service providers, venues, & activities covering Geelong, The Bellarine, Queenscliff, Point Lonsdale and Werribee.

Each venue and experience listing features capacity information, an overview of the offering, and direct links to social media pages and websites.

There are also several virtual site visits hosted in the guide, showcasing venues such as GMHBA Stadium, Rydges



Geelong, Novotel Geelong, Werribee Open Range Zoo, Provenance Wines, Lancemore Mansion Hotel Werribee Park, Waurin Ponds Estate, The Pier Geelong, Mt Duneed Estate, Lon Retreat & Spa, and more.

The 81-page interactive guide is the first-of-its-kind for the region, as for many years, the biannual Planner's Guide had been presented in hard-copy.

Convention Bureau Manager Mark Day said Business Events Geelong is proud to present its 2022 Planners Guide in its newly highly interactive and easy-to-use format.

Tas support funding

TASMANIAN event organisers will be able to apply for additional funding to support the state's events industry.

Funding of up to \$5,000 is on offer to support COVID-19 associated costs for events occurring through to Nov 2022, available via the extension of the Event Ready Grant Program.

Through Events Tasmania, the state government has committed an additional \$300,000 for round two of the program, which has been extended to accept applications up until 30 Jun.

Tasmania's Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events, Sarah Courtney, praised the state's events sector for its "immense resilience" during this time.

Thursday 13th January 2022

Japan extends ban

JAPAN has announced it will keep its travel ban in place until at least the end of Feb as the country continues to fight the spread of the Omicron variant.

"Thanks to the toughest border rules in the G7 nations, we've been able to keep the spread of Omicron to a minimal level, giving us time to prepare to deal with domestic infection," Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said.

Life before Omicron

AIR travel was showing solid signs of recovery prior to the emergence of Omicron, new IATA data shows, with passenger volumes for Nov 2020 improving by close to 2% on Oct 2020 levels, but was still down on Nov 2019.

Digital investment to support recovery

AIRPORT and airline CIOs are increasing their investment in digitalisation with the aim of speeding up the recovery from the pandemic, new findings from SITA's 2021 Air Transport IT Insights has shown.

Key to the investments is the automation of passenger health verification to create a more streamlined travel journey to boost passenger confidence, while other priorities include enhancing unassisted bag drops, the boarding process, bag notifications and new touchless or low touch technologies.

More than half of CIOs also flagged an increased investment to reduce carbon emissions.

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.

Tourism & Transport Forum's Manager - Policy, Media & Government Relations Lindsay Hermes will move on from the industry body at the end of next week. He will take up a Director of Corporate Affairs role with the Australian Banking Association.

Chris Watson Travel has attracted three heavy hitters this week to work for the Tamworth-based company. **Karen Magee** joins the team as Sales & Operations Manager from Tertiary Travel, while **Mark Haddad** has also joined from Tertiary as the new Product & Business Development Manager. **Melissiah Missio** was also welcomed aboard as Groups Manager, joining from Helloworld.

Niels Grevenstuk has become the new Commercial Head of **ATPI Sports Events**. He joins the corporate travel business with extensive experience in the sports and events sector, having previously worked at football club Ajax as Head of International Brand Partnerships.

Greg Carter has assumed the position of Chief Commercial Officer for **Albatros Expeditions** following an 18-month departure from the travel industry. Carter was previously in a Director/CEO role at the Mawson's Huts Foundation, and will maintain a part-time position at the charity while also working for Albatross.

Know your brands

LOGOS are the main way that companies distinguish themselves, and some logos are so famous that you don't even need to see the company's name to know who it is.

See if you can identify these four logos.

PUZZLE

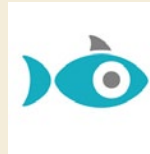
1



2



3



4



ANSWERS 13 JAN
Know your brands: 1 Kodak, 2 The Body Shop, 3 Snapfish, 4 American Airlines

We all travel in a yellow submarine



QUEENSLAND'S tourism appeal is now giving visitors another way to dip their toe in the water, with Down Under Submarines launching the country's first fully submersible hybrid tourist submarine on the Sunshine Coast.

The unique vessel (**pictured**) can dive to depths of up to 30 metres below the ocean's surface in the waters of Mooloolaba in The Sunshine State, with guests able to cruise aboard the vessel like a catamaran, as well as enjoy the marine views when it converts to a submarine.

"An experience of this kind

has never been seen before in Australia," Visit Sunshine Coast CEO Matt Stoeckel said, adding "it is more important than ever that we have fresh new product that helps set us apart as a destination, and Down Under Submarines is a unique selling point for our region."

The one-hour experience departs at sunset each day from Mooloolaba's main beach, and costs \$253 for adults for a full submersible experience, with a 20% discount on offer for the first 100 purchases.

CLICK HERE for more details.

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