

Enjoy:

- Support
- Success
- Freedom

Join us >



MTA MICHELLE YOUNG

Love *travel?*

Make it your business



Please vote for Bonza's Bruce!

EXCLUSIVE

A SUGGESTION by *Travel Daily* publisher Bruce Piper to Bonza's Carly Povey last week (**TD** 27 Oct) that the third Boeing 737 to join the fledgling carrier's fleet should be named "Bruce" may come to fruition - but only with the help of our industry readers.

The airline has given a heads up that Aussies will be asked to help name the plane in a 24-hour Instagram poll going live at 6pm AEDT today - and *Travel Daily* can exclusively reveal that 'BRUCE' has been added to the shortlist.

The poll will be available at [instagram.com/flybonza](https://www.instagram.com/flybonza) so follow now so you can place your votes tonight while scrolling the 'gram.

Travel agents can also now register on the new Bonza Travel Agent Portal (**TD** 20 Oct) in preparation for flights going on sale, with advisors the only non-app way to book - **CLICK HERE**.

CT Partners grows Board

DAVID Greenland from Reed & Mackay has been named as the new non-executive Chair of CT Partners, replacing the longstanding Barry Mayo from House of Travel who is retiring.

The move was announced last weekend in Bangkok at the 2022 CT Partners conference, which saw a strong turnout from more than 75 members and a record number of supplier partners.

Greenland leads a revamped CT Partners Board which has expanded to seven directors, providing broader representation in terms of gender diversity and the types of businesses holding positions within the organisation.

New Directors appointed to the Board include Wentworth Travel's Anna McMurtrie, Peter Muller from ATPi, TravelManagers chief Joe Araullo and Shane Barr from TAG - joining current Board members Fiona Prosser from Globetrotter Travel, FBI Travel's

Mark Chaskiel and Orbit World Travel's Michael Chase-Smith.

"Our biggest Annual Member Meeting yet was all about reinforcing CT Partners' USP as a truly connected community, particularly post-COVID," said CT Partners CEO Matt Masson.

"Everything we do is for our Member businesses, and our Annual Member Meeting was no exception this year, providing multiple learning opportunities and facilitating collaboration between supplier partners and industry peers on how we can best work together to achieve common goals," he said.

The event included inspirational keynote presentations including from Who Gives a Crap founder Simon Griffiths, as well as a range of networking activities such as a tuk-tuk safari through the streets of Bangkok (**TD** 28 Oct).

More from the CT Partners conference on **page six**.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features nine pages of news including our **Luxury** update, a photo page from **Viking Cruises**, plus full pages from:

- **The Travel Junction**
- **Abercrombie & Kent**
- **Collette Product Profile**

Arizona is so hot!

THE Travel Junction is today showcasing its new packages for travel to Grand Canyon National Park and Route 66 (**TD** 27 Oct), with deals leading in at just \$689 including three nights accommodation and car hire.

Commission of up to 12% is payable - see **page 10** for details.

A&K Adelaide/Perth

ABERCROMBIE & Kent is hosting events in Adelaide and Perth later this month inviting agents to rediscover the world of A&K, with registration details live now on **page 11** of today's **TD**.

NCL NORWEGIAN
CRUISE LINE®

PARTNERSFIRST
REWARDS

DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF NCL'S NEW REWARDS PROGRAM

Travel partners are at the heart of everything we do, so we're thrilled to provide you with a new and even more rewarding Partners First Rewards program. As a member you'll earn points on every booking that you make, which can be redeemed for a wide range of gift cards.

WHY JOIN?



EASIER TO EARN POINTS

Simply enter your booking ID & receive your points faster!



EASIER TO REDEEM YOUR POINTS

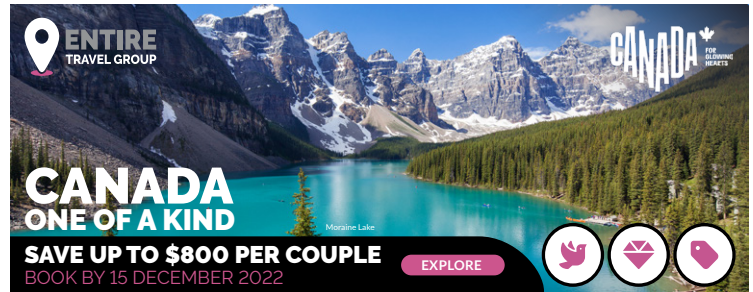
Select your gift card directly from our rewards catalogue



NEW TIERS GIVING YOU ACCESS TO MORE EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS

The more points you earn, the greater your benefits will be!

START YOUR REWARDS JOURNEY WITH NCL
VISIT PARTNERSFIRSTREWARDS.COM TO SIGN UP TODAY



Collette Japan trips

COLLETTE is today highlighting its Japan tours, which are surging in popularity following the easing of the country's border restrictions which has prompted huge interest in the destination.

Collette offers two itineraries in Japan - the Cultural Treasures trip which is perfect for first-time visitors to the destination, and the new for 2023/24 Japan Past & Present, a 12-night small group exploration taking travellers off the beaten track.

Collette's trips include travel by bullet train, a host of bucket-list experiences and intimate insights into Japan's culture and charm.

The operator also offers extensions in Korea as a post-tour option - for more details see the special product profile on the last page of *Travel Daily* today.



Searching
for
Inventory?

Over 1 Million
Hotels
Available on
Expedia TAAP
Right NOW

ENJOY TODAY

www.expedia.com.au/taap

telephone
1800 726 618

email
[expedia-au@
discovertheworld.com.au](mailto:expedia-au@discovertheworld.com.au)

Finnair out of Sabre again

THE distribution agreement between Finnair and Sabre will end on 30 Nov 2022, meaning that from next month AY content will no longer be visible on the Sabre or Abacus GDS platforms.

It's the resurfacing of a contract issue which first emerged almost three years ago (*TD* 27 Nov 2019), after the carrier and the GDS firm failed to reach a deal over a replacement of their earlier full content agreement.

That spat was ultimately resolved (*TD* 16 Jun 2020) but has now apparently re-emerged, with Finnair telling agents "we understand this may cause you certain disturbances in the next period, but we will provide you

VA back to NZ

VIRGIN Australia today resumed flights to Queenstown in New Zealand, marking the carrier's first services across the Tasman in almost 1,000 days.

Flights are operating from both Sydney and Brisbane today, with Melbourne also kicking off tomorrow, with VA CEO Jayne Hrdlicka announcing a sale of 15,000 Economy fares on the route starting at \$409 return.

"Australians and New Zealanders have a close bond and we are proud to be creating a new gateway between the countries for friends and family to visit each other, businesses to flourish and holidaymakers to seek adventure with more choice and great value airfares," she said.

Hawaii's Twin Fin

THE Twin Fin, a 645-room hotel in Waikiki, Hawaii, has opened today following a multimillion dollar renovation.

Formerly the Aston Waikiki Beach Hotel, it's part of the Highgate portfolio, with a variety of room types including two- and three-bedroom suites and decor which celebrates Hawaii's surf culture - see twinfinwaikiki.com.

with the best possible support".

Finnair flight bookings and ticket issuance is still available until the deadline, but from 01 Dec travel advisors will only be able to retrieve previously made bookings - without being able to issue tickets or service existing documents.

"We will continue discussions with Sabre in partnership spirit and good faith to find a solution," the airline added in an industry update issued this morning.

The carrier is recommending that all existing Sabre AY bookings should be ticketed prior to 30 Nov to avoid losing the bookings "especially at a time where availability is still scarce".

"We will continue to distribute via all the other GDSs - Amadeus, Travelport, Travelsky, Infini," the Finnair update added.

"We will continue to innovate and offer modern retailing and customer-oriented distribution channels, including the NDC program (via NDC Direct Connect, Finnair Agency Sales Tool - FAST, or certified NDC aggregators) and finnair.com," the carrier noted.

Outback Spirit sale

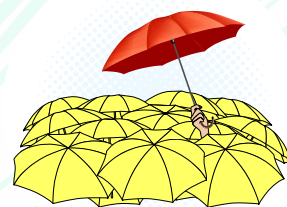
OUTBACK Spirit has launched an Outback Explorer Sale, offering savings of up to \$2,870 per couple on 2023 bookings confirmed by 15 Dec.

Outback Spirit is now fully integrated into the Journey Beyond portfolio as a commissionable offering for trade partner bookings, with the operator committed to driving industry recovery, according to Journey Beyond Chief Revenue Officer, Peter Egglestone.

"The Outback Explorer Sale entices those wanting to see Australia's most remote and remarkable landscapes to take the opportunity, by offering exceptional savings across a selection of our favourite 2023 adventures," he said.

"We invite our partner agents to incentivise guests with these savings," Egglestone added.

A variety of trips are available including the flagship Arnhem Land Wilderness Adventure which includes 12 nights in hotel, resort, safari camp and lodge accom including a stay at the iconic Seven Spirit Bay - see outbackspirittours.com.au.



Not a million hotels,
but a handful that matter.

Why spend time scrolling through millions of hotels to find that special one! Welcome to curated hotels for travel agents, making it easier to match the right hotel to the right customer.

Stuba. Curated hotels for travel agents.

start@stuba.com | +61 3 8779 8629



Window Seat

SIGN us up right now!

The luxury small ship experience which has long been offered by SeaDream Yacht Club is set to be further enhanced with the addition of a new branded inflatable shipboard slide (**pictured**).

While other upmarket cruise brands are fitting their ships out with helicopters and submarines, SeaDream is taking things to the next level with the new inflatable slide aboard its *SeaDream II*.

"SeaDream is always looking for opportunities to enhance our guest experience," said the line's Andreas Brynestad.

"Slides have become popular aboard yachts, and we know that our guests will enjoy this new amenity on their SeaDream yachting vacation," he said, with the slippery dip deployed from the ship's pool deck, almost 6m above the waterline.

Sister ship *SeaDream I* will also receive her own inflatable slide in the coming months in preparation for her upcoming Caribbean season, with both ships offering the option as a "more fun way for guests to enjoy the beautiful waters of the exclusive harbours and secluded ports we visit," the company said.



Farrell jobs promise

FEDERAL Tourism Minister Don Farrell has written to participants at the Tourism Jobs Summit which took place in Canberra during Aug - including Rick Myatt from the Australian Travel Careers Council - pledging to "continue to work with stakeholders on what government and industry can do together to ensure the future of this vital industry".

Myatt welcomed key initiatives announced by Farrell, such as a pilot program to build the confidence of tourism SMEs to fill vacancies by employing people with a disability, as well as a temporary increase in working hours for aged pensioners, increased migration numbers and additional funding to process the visa backlog.

He said while Farrell's messaging is very promising, "it is crucial for us that the government must be continually reminded of our travel sector's unique challenges so we are not lost in the wash when it comes to funding opportunities for specific skilling needs".

Leidos settles Cobham purchase

SYSTEMS integration specialist Leidos yesterday finalised its acquisition of the Cobham Aviation Services Special Mission business, part of the overall Cobham operations divested alongside the sale of the National Jet Express charter business to Rex Airlines (**TD** 15 Jul).

The deal marks the entrance of Leidos into the Australian aviation market, utilising "state-of-the-art command and control systems and sensors on board aircraft to deliver mission critical outcomes for the Australian Government".

The Special Mission business provides airborne border surveillance and search and rescue services, operating 14 specially modified aircraft on behalf of the Australian Border Force and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.



FIND OUT MORE

The Philippines EXPRESS

11 DAYS
STUNNING ISLAND HOPPING

FROM ONLY **\$2,399**

MWTours

Magellan meets in Cairns



HELLOWORLD Travel's Magellan Travel Group (**pictured**) gathered in Cairns, Far North Queensland last weekend for their annual conference, an event described by Andre Moten, newly appointed as HLO's Group GM of Helloworld Business Travel and Magellan Travel, as an "unmitigated success".

Delegates were addressed by Helloworld CEO Andrew Burnes, with scores of supplier partners also in attendance.

The event was themed "Reconnect & Reimagine" and as well as inspirational business sessions and networking opportunities also featured a fabulous day on the Great Barrier Reef courtesy of Quicksilver.

Magellan Marketing Manager, Monica Godfrey, posted her thrill on LinkedIn, saying: "we certainly achieved our goal of reconnecting", thanking delegates for their attendance, support and enthusiasm to be involved.



The tried and the tested. By you – and other travel agents

Wish you could see what's currently being booked by fellow agents? Now you can, our 'Trending' curation will show what's currently being booked by fellow travel agents – there's nothing quite like a recommendation. Let Stuba do the hard work for you.

Stuba. Curated hotels for travel agents.

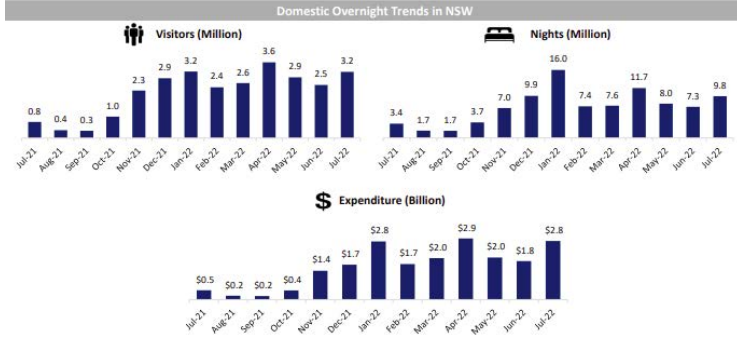
start@stuba.com | +61 3 8779 8629



agent.raileurope.com
your dedicated Rail Partner

RAILEUROPE

NSW visitor surge in Jul



THERE were four times as many domestic overnight visits made in NSW during Jul this year when compared to the same month in 2021, new figures from Destination NSW show.

The snapshot painted an encouraging picture for the state's visitor economy, with the \$2.8 billion visitor expenditure recorded for the month representing an increase of 40% on 2019 levels, largely driven by sharp rises in travellers forking out on accommodation and

culinary experiences.

The stark contrast between 2022 and 2021 was most noticeable for Greater Sydney, which enjoyed a 13-fold increase in domestic overnight visitation, well ahead of the 226% growth noted in regional NSW during the same period.

For the 12 months to Jul 2022, NSW received a total 27.3 million domestic overnight visitors, who collectively stayed close to 92 million nights and opted to spend \$20 billion.

New member added

NEXT Travels in Cessnock NSW has joined the Travellers Choice network this week, with owner Narelle Cook stating the move was part of a "fresh start" for the business following COVID.

"Joining...was an obvious decision for me because I'd seen the backup the group extended to its members before, during and after the pandemic," she said.

The travel agency was established in 2008.

Proximity over price

FLYING from an airport close to home or accommodation is a higher priority for travellers than the price of air tickets, according to International Air Transport Association (IATA) latest *Global Passenger Survey*.

Three in four travellers said that airport proximity to cut down on travel time was a priority, while only 39% of respondents listed price as the top concern.

The report also showed that two-thirds of travellers preference obtaining a visa online prior to travel, while 20% would prefer the consulate or embassy and only 14% at the airport.

83% of those surveyed also said they would share their immigration information to speed up the airport arrival process, while other key areas to help expedite travel included home pick-up and delivery of baggage (73%), and use of biometric tech instead of passports and boarding passes (75%).

EK, AC push button

AIR Canada and Emirates have gone live today on their planned codeshare partnership (**TD 13** Jul), offering passengers of both airlines seamless connectivity to 46 markets across the Americas, the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Indian subcontinent.

Codeshare tickets are available for sale today for travel from 01 Dec to points like Calgary, Edmonton, Karachi and Colombo.

SCENIC^o
LUXURY CRUISES & TOURS

The Ancient Wonders of Egypt, Jordan & Israel

2023/24 Brochure Out Now

Abundance of local culture

It's more than an escorted tour. It's a handcrafted luxury land journey in a class of its own.



Maximum of
34 guests



Two new
itineraries



Immersive Scenic
Enrich & Freechoice
experiences



Enjoy remarkable
hotels with Scenic
Special Stays

Qantas returns to sender



TOP tier frequent flyers and guests with a connection to Qantas' early Queensland airmail services today boarded a special flight from Brisbane to commemorate the first flight that took to the skies in 1922.

The Bombardier Q400 turboprop flight is following the 882km route taken by Qantas co-founders Paul McGinness from Charleville to Longreach and by Hudson Fysh from Longreach to Cloncurry in an open cockpit FK8 biplane, which back then took two days to complete.

A replica mailbag filled with 106 handwritten letters from schoolchildren in Charleville to kids in Longreach and Cloncurry was also on board the plane.

"Qantas has gone from that single biplane flight 100 years ago to the brink of a new era of aviation with our Airbus A350s on order, positioning us to fly people and parcels direct from Australia

to any city in the world," Qantas CEO Alan Joyce said.

Pictured: Joyce and Australia Post CEO Paul Graham celebrate the historic occasion.

Occupancy eyes 19

HOTEL occupancy in the Asia Pacific region is nearing close to pre-pandemic levels, new figures from Amadeus have shown.

Between Jul and Sep 2022, occupancy hit an average of nearly 60%, which is just three percentage points short of the same period in 2019.

Booking lead times is also nearing 2019 patterns, the report stated, with 2022 now virtually matching the booking behaviours with 64% of bookings made in the zero to seven-day window versus 60% of bookings made in this timeframe in 2019, suggesting an increasing traveller confidence in travel plans generally.

Taipei's the Palace!

JAPAN'S luxury Palace Hotel brand has flagged plans to debut in Taiwan in 2028, marking its first foray into overseas expansion.

The project will see the Ambassador Hotel Taipei close its doors to undergo a complete redesign and emerge as the Ambassador Palace Hotel Taipei.

"Through this partnership, we will work together to take the Ambassador brand to ambitious new heights, just as we have done with Palace Hotel Tokyo," Palace Hotel Co President Daisuke Yoshihara said.

The Ambassador Hotel was the first privately owned luxury hotel in Taiwan, opening in 1964.

G adds to 2023

G ADVENTURES has introduced a range of new active and classic tours in 2023 across in-demand destinations such as Mexico, Morocco and Iceland.

New adventures include a 15-day Many Sides of Mexico: Puerto Vallarta to Oaxaca exploration, taking travellers through Guadalajara, San Miguel de Allende and Mexico City.

Another trip added is the six-day Hiking Southern Iceland, taking guests on a close inspection of waterfalls, glaciers, mountains, beaches and sprawling ice fields, priced from \$3,599 per person.

To check out the full list of new adventures added, **CLICK HERE**.




There are bed banks, and then there's Stuba. The difference is curated.

Ever thought your search listing has thrown up some irrelevant results. Not anymore – with Stuba, our clever tech will offer hotels based on your previous searches and lifestyle choices. The more you use them, the more meaningful the suggestions. Now it's over to you.

Stuba. Curated hotels for travel agents.

start@stuba.com | +61 3 8779 8629




ELYSIAN

Luxury Eco Island Retreat
WHITSUNDAYS - GREAT BARRIER REEF

WHERE LUXURY SERVICE... Meets Eco Friendly

A BOUTIQUE (10 ROOMS) ADULTS ONLY. GOURMET FOOD EXPERIENCE ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF





AVAILABILITY CALENDAR 2022

	OCEANFRONT VILLA							OCEANFRONT VILLA							OCEANFRONT VILLA						
	M	T	W	T	F	S	SU	M	T	W	T	F	S	SU	M	T	W	T	F	S	SU
NOVEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6		
DECEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6		

STAY@ELYSIANRETREAT.COM.AU | ELYSIANRETREAT.COM.AU

100% SOLAR POWERED

Travel Daily
SHARPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON MONACO WITH TRAVEL DAILY TRAINING ACADEMY
[Click here to discover](#)



CT honours Peter Hession



LAST weekend's CT Partners Member Meeting in Bangkok (see **page 1**) saw the group celebrate the memory of its long-time GM, Ian Edwards, with a special award for Peter Hession from Peter Hession Associates, the Australia/NZ representative of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group.

Hession was named the inaugural winner of the newly instituted Ian Edwards Award, after he was voted by members as the supplier representative who "best embodied the spirit, cheeky sense of humour and commitment to looking after members" that Edwards was known for during his 12 years of service to the network prior to his untimely death (**TD** 05 Jan 2021).

Hession is **pictured** accepting his award from newly anointed CT Partners Board Member, Anna McMurtrie.



Accolades were also delivered for CT Partners' outgoing Chair, Barry Mayo, who was presented with a special gift from members (**above**) by his Board replacement David Greenland from Reed & Mackay.

Mayo was given a moving send-off by Greenland along with longstanding members Alan Wolf from Bay Travel and Orbit World Travel's Michael Chase-Smith.

The group highlighted how its members continued to outperform the wider market, with supplier partners confirming CT Partners was up in terms of

production for the three months to 30 Sep despite capacity constraints.

There were also plenty of wacky hijinks including an enthusiastically supported photo challenge during the conference's tuk-tuk race (**left**).



Oman Air renews SabreSonic PSS deal

OMAN Air has extended its Passenger Service System (PSS) agreement with Sabre, alongside a multi-year renewal of its global distribution system agreement with the technology firm.

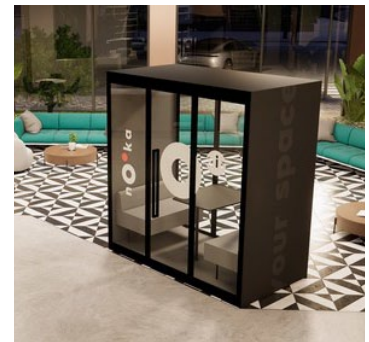
The exclusive PSS SabreSonic pact will see Oman Air "advance its digital retailing strategy, drive revenue growth and increase self-service capabilities," the companies said.

A proposed NDC API integration with the Sabre GDS will also "allow our travel partners to make optimal decisions for our guests," said Oman Air Chief Commercial Officer, Aboudy Nasser, with the move also supporting the carrier's aspirations to join the Oneworld airline alliance by 2024.

BA to Bermuda

BRITISH Airways has announced the launch of a new daily direct service between London Heathrow and Bermuda, with the Bermuda Tourism Authority thanking BA for its confidence in the destination.

Booths on demand



A NEW "smart office booth" for airport users to utilise while waiting for their flight promises to improve the travel experience.

Developed by startup Nooka Space, the new Nooka Air cubicle (**pictured**) can be booked online to provide passengers with a "fully equipped, wi-fi equipped, pay-as-you-go office pod".

Featuring soundproofing and ergonomic furniture, the booths are designed to improve productivity on the go, without being distracted by the noise and bustle of the airport.

Nine airports in Western Europe are in advanced negotiations to implement the booths, with the first sign-up being Avram Iancu International in Cluj, Romania.



Book and win with curated hotels from Stuba.

Scan me for details on how to win great prizes.



start@stuba.com | +61 3 8779 8629

Viking's grand Australian return!

AFTER almost three years, Viking's *Viking Orion* made a return to local waters, and to celebrate, Head of Sales & B2B Marketing Lee Siefken recently hosted a group of key trade and media partners on a five-night voyage aboard the ship. Guests travelled from Cairns to Darwin, with a call into Thursday Island. From a private dinner at Manfredi's Italian Restaurant to an afternoon of indulging at The Spa, the group were able to experience The Viking Difference, and the line's "no kids, no casinos" approach to cruising. The award-winning small ship will return to Sydney on 08 Dec for a series of 15-day voyages between Sydney and Auckland.

ENJOYING a traditional Nordic bathing ritual, Viking-style.



THE entire Australian famil tribe celebrated the perfect sunset on the deck of The Explorer's Lounge, featuring two Aussie guests Steve & Alan, who had been sailing with Viking for 95 days - and had no intention to get off just yet!



PROVING Viking is The Thinking Person's Cruise are Lee Siefken, Viking; Richard Taylor, The Travel Community Hub; Wendy Gunther, MTA Travel; Hannah Bennett, itravel; Nikki Glading, Virtuoso; Michelle Barker, Jayes Travel; Annette King, Travel Associates Sandy Bay; Auriole Carrington, Travel Associates Rouse Hill; and Phil Vidler, Internet Travel & Cruise.



NIKKI Glading, Virtuoso; Richard Taylor, The Travel Community Hub; and Lee Siefken, Viking.



THE group was treated to a decadent dinner in Manfredi's private dining room, and welcomed personally by *Orion's* General Manager Mike Mahn and Restaurant Manager Kaynurd Richards.



EVERY day is filled with enrichment, irresistible cocktails, and laughter, as demonstrated by Lee Siefken, Viking; Hannah Bennett, itravel; her travelling companion Kate, and Nikki Glading, Virtuoso.

VIRTUOSO EXPANDS GLOBAL TEAM

THE Virtuoso global network specialising in luxury and experiential travel has announced the appointment of Cory Hagopian (pictured) to the new role of Senior Vice President, Sales & Partnerships.

Hagopian, who commenced in his new global position this week, will oversee Virtuoso's Member Relations and Partner Teams, including Cruise, Hotels & Resorts and Destinations & Experiences, reporting to the company's Chief Operating Officer, Brad Bourland.

The move to Virtuoso comes after a long career in hospitality for Hagopian, who was most recently Accor's Fort Lauderdale-based Vice President of Entertainment & Executive Travel.

He's been with Accor for almost a decade, prior to which he spent over 12 years with Fairmont Raffles Hotels International as



Executive Director of Travel Industry Sales.

"Cory brings deep industry knowledge and extensive experience in leading and coaching sales teams," said Bourland, adding "his exceptional reputation and experience in the hospitality industry is a great addition to our talented executive team and we are excited to welcome him to Virtuoso".

In his new role with Virtuoso he will divide time between his home office in Florida and the group's New York HQ, overseeing teams in New York, Seattle and Florida, as well as remotely.

He will be introduced to the network at Virtuoso's upcoming Chairman's Recognition event in Munich, Germany, where he will join other senior leaders in celebrating the group's most engaged and top-producing agencies and advisors.

Virtuoso said Hagopian's "pivotal role" would see him responsible for setting and driving the strategy to increase the networks' global sales production "while also continuing to build on the strong partner and member relationships to further enhance the company's competitive position and shared value proposition".

Belmond reopening

MAROMA, a Belmond Hotel in Mexico's Riviera Maya on the Caribbean coast, will reopen in May 2023 after an extensive transformation - the group's first North American makeover under its LVMH ownership.

The new chapter for Maroma will reveal 10 new waterfront suites, a nature-focused wellness experience in partnership with Guerlain and a "new gastronomic era" under Mexican executive chef Daniel Camacho.

Coral global pact

CORAL Expeditions has expanded its partnership with Virtuoso, broadening its offerings and benefits to Virtuoso advisors in North America, the UK, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

The move follows a successful two year Virtuoso collaboration in Australia and New Zealand for the line, with Commercial Director Jeff Gillies saying "as part of this renowned network we look forward to offering Virtuoso advisors special amenities, values and experiences that will surpass their expectations" - more luxury cruise news in today's issue of *Cruise Weekly*.

Aman Jazz Club

THE recently opened Aman New York has announced the debut of The Jazz Club, celebrating its heritage location within Manhattan's iconic Crown Building.

The venue has its own "secret entrance" on West 56th Street, and invites both hotel guests and non-residents alike to enjoy a "classic New York experience reimagined by Aman".

Book via thejazzclub.com.

Regent offers pre- or post- Europe program

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises today announced a "Gift of Travel" land program including a free pre- or post-cruise extension on 57 destination-rich sailings across Europe between Apr and Nov 2023.

It's the first time Regent has offered included European land programs, with options available including hotel accommodation, transfers, selected meals and specially curated tours.

Highlighted three-night add-ons include Mystical Cappadocia from Istanbul, Turkey or London & Charming Cotswolds in the UK, as well as a four-night Authentic Madrid & Beyond based in Barcelona.

Guests who do not wish to take up the offer of the included land add-on can opt to take a credit of up to US\$1,500 per suite.

For more details call 1300 455 200 or see rssc.com.



VOYAGE COLLECTION

APRIL 2024 THROUGH MAY 2025

Regent
SEVEN SEAS CRUISES

LEARN MORE



ACCOMMODATION

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wed feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description with an image to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.



Centara Hotels & Resorts has opened **Centara by Centara Bangkok Phra Nakhon**, bringing value and comfort to the city's "historic district". Convenience and elevated comfort are at the heart of Centara's newest property, which opened late last month. The hotel is a contemporary urban sanctuary ideal for families, leisure, and business travellers, situated near bustling Khaosan Road, as well as Chao Phraya express boat piers.



The new **BDMS Wellness Clinic** will bring world-class sustainable wellness to **Anantara Riverside Bangkok Resort**. The Retreat is part of the award-winning Bangkok Dusit Medical Services network, and the first outpost of the Wellness Clinic.

Guests can choose from a range of aesthetic services in facial and body treatments that use the latest technologies under the close supervision of specialised dermatologists.



The Hyatt Place and Hyatt House brands have debuted in Monterrey, Mexico, under the new **Hyatt Place Monterrey Valle** and **Hyatt House Monterrey Valle / San Pedro** development. The hotel is the first dual-branded Hyatt property in Latin America, and is located in one of the

company's key markets. Located in Monterrey's San Pedro Garza Gracia neighborhood, the property is able to service multiple sectors.

New Langham brand

LANGHAM Hospitality Group has launched a new upper midscale brand called Ying'nFlo, targeting millennial and generation Z travellers.

The new line of hotels will be designed as "smart" and "sociable" lifestyle hubs, and supported with emerging musicians.

The first Ying'nFlo concept will launch in the colourful Wanchai district of Hong Kong this month, with plans to expand rapidly in the region.

30% off Antarctica

CHIMU Adventures is offering huge deals on its Antarctica scenic flights, with up to 30% off and free upgrades on offer.

There are two upcoming flights to the icy continent, each with savings for travellers who book before the end of Nov (or while inventory lasts).

The first flight departs on 27 Nov, and is a South Pole Scenic Flight, departing Melbourne; while the other is an Antarctica Scenic Flight, which departs 04 Dec from Sydney.

A Texa-lent result for United



TRAVEL Texas has supported United Airlines' Sydney-Houston relaunch in true southern style over the weekend (pictured).

The destination management organisation donned plenty of local flair, along with UA crew members and check-in staff.

The DMO's Marketing Specialist Europe & Oceania Tommy Woods said the increased capacity with United flying non-stop from Australia to Houston will see even more Aussie travellers booking trips to discover Texas next year.

LHR caps lifted

DFAT has advised that Heathrow Airport has lifted its passenger number cap, bringing an end to the self-imposed limit of 100,000 travellers a day cap implemented back in Jul.

When initially enacted, the cap was intended to be lifted in Sep, but was extended as the major UK air hub continued to struggle with processing long airport queues amid staff shortages.

The cap could be reinstated by Christmas, DFAT said.

Sommers arrives

TRAVELMANAGERS has added a seventh state-based Business Partnership Manager to its Support Team.

Jackie Sommers will serve as the Business Partnerships Manager for Victoria after completing a full week's induction at the company's office in Sydney.

Sommers brings extensive experience in multiple areas of the industry to the role, including having previously been a TravelManagers Sales Consultant.

She also previously enjoyed an extensive career at Flight Centre.

DL pilot strike

DELTA Air Lines pilots have threatened a strike "if necessary" as contract negotiations continue.

The Air Line Pilots Association said 96% of Delta pilots took part in the vote, and 99% of those favoured calling a strike "if necessary" to get a new contract.

Airline unions are seeking big pay increases and it is believed they could have leverage because of labour shortages during a rebound in travel.

However, Delta said the vote will have no impact upon its flight operations.

ARIZONA

THE GRAND CANYON STATE

34.0489° N, 111.0937° W

LIFE ON A GRANDER SCALE

VISIT THE BREATHTAKING GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK AND TAKE A NOSTALGIC DRIVE DOWN ARIZONA'S ROUTE 66

Come and experience life on a grander scale with our exclusive self-drive holiday packages

from
\$769
per person*

LUXURY TUCSON ARIZONA DESERT OASIS

3 NIGHTS

- 4-STAR EL CONQUISTADOR TUCSON A HILTON RESORT
- FORD FIESTA 4 DOOR OR SIMILAR, PICK UP AND RETURN TO TUCSON AIRPORT

Package Code: AU31480

from
\$689
per person*

STAY FLAGSTAFF ARIZONA, DISCOVER MOUNTAINS, DESERT & FORESTS

3 NIGHTS

- 4-STAR DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL FLAGSTAFF
- FORD FIESTA 4 DOOR OR SIMILAR, PICK UP AND RETURN TO FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT

Package Code: AU31481

from
\$1,539
per person*

DISCOVER DELUXE SCOTTSDALE ARIZONA, VALLEYS & CANYONS

3 NIGHTS

- 4-STAR HILTON SCOTTSDALE RESORT & VILLAS
- MITSUBISHI MIRAGE 4 DOOR OR SIMILAR, PICK UP AND RETURN TO PHOENIX AIRPORT
- COLOURS & CANYONS FULL DAY TOUR WITH MAVERICK HELICOPTERS

Package Code: AU31479

*Based on twin share accommodation. T's and C's apply.

©Getty Stock Images Eric Foltz

[BOOK NOW](#)

[LEARN MORE ABOUT ARIZONA, THE GRAND CANYON STATE](#)

[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AGENT INCENTIVES](#)

WITH UP TO 12% COMMISSION ON ARIZONA BOOKINGS, BONUS POINTS TOWARDS OUR YEAR-ROUND INCENTIVES AND EPIC GRAND PRIZE IN AUGUST 2023, THERE'S MORE TO LOVE WITH THE TRAVEL JUNCTION.

CELEBRATING
60
YEARS

| **Abercrombie & Kent**

YOU'RE INVITED TO REDISCOVER THE WORLD OF A&K

Featuring Luxury Tailor-Made, Small Group Journeys,
Luxury Expedition Cruising and Wings Over the World,
along with some very exciting announcements and prizes!

Adelaide - Mayfair Hotel 23rd November @ 6.15pm
Perth - Como, The Treasury 22nd November @ 6.15pm

RSVP HERE





Japan with Collette

Collette offers two exceptional tours of Japan, both are full of inclusions and are perfectly paced to maximise enjoyment and relaxation.

CULTURAL TREASURES OF JAPAN is perfect for first-time visitors to Japan.

Immerse yourself in the ancient and modern cultures of Japan, as it slowly draws you into its eclectic culture and charm. Starting with 3-nights in Tokyo, the tour spends 1-night in Hakone, 2-nights the beautiful Alpine town of Takayama, and 2-nights in Kanazawa before 4-nights in Kyoto. From Kyoto travellers enjoy a day trip by Shinkansen (bullet train) to Hiroshima. This 12-night tour includes 19 meals and all the first-time bucket list experiences - Saki tasting, Maiko show, Hida beef dinner, sushi making, gold leaf decorating and

Japanese Tea ceremony.

New for 2023-24 is **JAPAN PAST & PRESENT**, a 12-night small group explorations tour with a maximum of 24 travellers.

From neo-lit streets with people to quiet shrines filled only with silence, come face-to-face with nature thousands of years in the making. Travelling primarily by Shinkansen, begin with 3 nights in Tokyo before arriving in Ise-Shima to explore the shrine and meet the famed Ama Pearl divers. Travellers spend 3-nights exploring Kyoto, before an exceptional stay at a buddhist monastery on Mount Koya. In Hiroshima, we stay within easy walking distance of the Peace Park and hear first-hand accounts of the devastation. A walking tour

of Dotonbori, Osaka completes this cultural journey.

A 4-night extension to South Korea is an excellent post-tour option!

- ✓ Exceptional value for money
- ✓ Tours designed for first time or repeat visitors
- ✓ Dates available to April 2024 - many guaranteed
- ✓ Hand-picked accommodation in excellent locations
- ✓ Max 24 or 34 travellers
- ✓ Great balance of local and Western food
- ✓ Cancel for any reason up to 24 hours prior - see [HERE](#).

collette

Phone: 1300 792 195

Website: collette.com.au

Email: AUSales@collette.com to meet your local BDM

