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## Travel Daily First with the news

Tuesday 18th Oct 2022

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#### RAILEUROPE

#### Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features eight pages of news including more NTIA photos, a cover page from Tourism New Zealand, plus full pages from: • Abercrombie & Kent

• Helloworld

#### New HLO role for Andre Moten

ANDRE Moten has been named as Group General Manager of Helloworld Business Travel and Magellan Travel, formally bringing the two networks under his combined leadership.

Moten has been with Helloworld for almost two years, initially as Chief Commercial Officer Corporate, remaining with HLO after the company's inhouse business travel operations were sold to Corporate Travel Management earlier this year.

He was most recently GM of Helloworld Business Travel, with his career also including almost 19 years with Corporate Travel Management Australia/NZ.

His appointment coincides with a recruitment program seeking to lift HLO's member numbers via a new National Development Manager role (*TD* yesterday).

Today Helloworld is advertising for National Business Manager roles which are available within both Magellan and Helloworld Business Travel, representing HLO's retail, wholesale and Air Tickets offerings as well as the group's external suppliers - see the **last page** for details.

## Thai Airways to boost MEL

**THAI** Airways International is set to double its Victorian capacity, with the carrier confirming it will increase BKK-MEL to a double daily operation effective from Dec.

The move was described by Melbourne Airport CEO Lorie Argus as a "welcome return to pre-COVID levels of flying".

It's understood that both of the TG Melbourne services will operate using Airbus A350 aircraft, with connectivity through

#### **More NTIA winners**

**TODAY** our sister publication *travelBulletin* features a wrapup showcasing six more winners from last Sat's National Travel Industry Awards.

Our team has interviewed the team from Helloworld Travel Mackay, Mt Pleasant & Townsville; TravelManagers' Rose Febo; Jacinta Blundell from Helloworld Travel Buderim & Caboolture; and Quark Expeditions' Tenille Hunt for today's feature which is online at travelbulletin.com.au.

There are also more NTIA pics on **page seven** of today's **TD**.

#### Eclipse's NZ arrival

**CELEBRITY** Cruises has celebrated the arrival of its *Celebrity Eclipse* in Auckland today - the first Celebrity ship to cruise in NZ waters in 946 days. *Eclipse* now cruises to Australia, arriving in Sydney on Sat morning. to other south-east Asian, Indian and European destinations.

**MEANWHILE** Thai Airways, which continues to operate under a formal Rehabilitation Plan, has also taken the unusual step of advertising for a new Chief Executive Officer on LinkedIn.

Applications for the role close on 25 Oct, with the carrier seeking a Thai national with a master's degree, experience in aviation business and experience managing large organisations.

"We are excited to open a CEO role, looking for a strong leader with an eye for driving our business to success," the LinkedIn post noted, with a job description specifying a four year contract at career.thaiairways.com.

#### Uber shares rebrand

**UBER** is formally moving its brand into car-sharing after its acquisition of Australia's Car Next Door earlier this year.

The technology company's Australian users will see the change by mid next year, as it plans to bring car-sharing to international markets.

The scheme to rebrand Car Next Door to 'Uber Carshare' was announced last week during a visit by the tech company's CEO Dara Khosrowshahi to Australia.

The Car Next Door brand has been operating independently since Uber's takeover, but Khosrowshahi confirmed it will disappear early next month.

#### WIN a NZ famil!

**TOURISM** New Zealand is urging the Australian travel industry to engage all of its senses in Aotearoa, by seeking a place on an upcoming ultimate New Zealand famil.

TNZ said "the magic of this place is reserved for the curious, those ready to go a little further, ask more, immerse, embrace, respect, and discover".

If this sounds like you, head to the **cover page** to find out more.

#### Sell here, sail there!

**ABERCROMBIE** & Kent has launched an industry incentive offering its trade partners the opportunity to experience one of its upmarket expedition cruises.

Travel advisors who book three staterooms on any A&K luxury voyage before the end of Jan 2023 can win a free cruise for two - for more details see **page nine** of today's **Travel Daily**.



NTIA 2022

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Tuesday 18th Oct 2022

## **QR** exclusive rewards deal

QATAR Airways' loyalty club has linked with Visa as part of a new 10-year exclusive partnership, expanding the number of ways Privilege Club members can collect and spend Avios.

The deal will herald the rollout of Visa co-branded payment cards which can be used to access several new benefits, such as complimentary worldwide airport lounge access, travel insurance, and premium concierge services.

The two brands have worked on delivering loyalty benefits to travellers in the past, with the latest long-term exclusive tie-up aimed at leveraging the upcoming FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

Qatar Airways is the Official Airline Partner for the global tournament and Qatar Airways Privilege Club is the Official Frequent Flyer Program, while Visa is the Official Payments Services Partner.

"Visa connects our Privilege Club members to the world through their vast relationships and new opportunities for cobranded payment cards," the carrier's Chief Commercial Officer, Thierry Antinori said.

"This strategic collaboration is the latest development in our mission to provide an unmatched loyalty program with the greatest offerings available, complementing other recent initiatives like the adoption of Avios as the new reward currency," he added.

Qatar reportedly holds ambitions to launch more cobranded credit cards globally over the next couple of years.



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#### MEL claws way back

MELBOURNE Airport remains down on monthly pre-pandemic levels, with the hub releasing figures this week that show a 38% decrease in international pax and a 13% drop for domestic travellers in Sep when compared to the same period in 2019.

Just over 580,000 passengers passed through the international terminal in Sep, & encouragingly, despite falling shy of 2019, the month represented the highest monthly volume of int'l passengers since pre-COVID.

Reflecting on the shortfall on 2019, MEL CEO Lorie Argus said she was confident of building back numbers as more airlines return and add new flights.

"We've been working hard alongside the Victorian Govt to make sure the world's airlines understand what an incredible place Melbourne is and many carriers are listening," she said.

"UA will soon be flying daily between MEL and both LA and SFO, which is more than what they flew pre-pandemic, and in the coming months we will welcome back airasia X, Garuda & Qantas services to Dallas."





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of the long white cloud, while

of Islands before crossing the

Princess Cruises said the

in NZ is estimated to be over

Zealand ports this season.

restrictions in Hong Kong, announcing it will "substantially

two months.

RAILONLIN

CX boosting LHR

**CATHAY** Pacific has reacted

swiftly to the easing of COVID-19

increase" the number of flights to

this week.

the remainder will visit the Bay

Tasman to arrive in Sydney later

economic impact of its voyages

NZ\$100 million over the next six

months, with Princess vessels to

make a total of 129 visits to New





QT HOTELS in New Zealand and Australia is currently asking guests to barter with their most unusual possessions in exchange for a free stay - with one of the winning entrants donating a human uterus.

That's what happens I guess when you run a promotion alongside the pledge that "nothing is too strange" for submission, with one prize to be given out every day over the next year to those that can gift their weirdest proxy for regular currency.

Another winner submitted an unused hazmat-style

condom from Chernobyl (pictured), as well as an assortment of toenail clippings.





LAST weekend's arrival of Princess Cruises' Majestic Princess into NZ's Tauranga marked the first visit by an international cruise liner to a regional Kiwi port in almost three years.

The ship was welcomed by the local community (pictured), with about 65% of the passengers hailing from North America as the ship cruised Down Under from Vancouver via Honolulu and Papeete.

About 445 of the guests on board will disembark in Auckland today, taking the opportunity to extend their stay in the land

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of Competition Exemptions at the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission.

Menon joins ACCC

AFTA'S outgoing long-time

WESTERN AUSTRALIA WALKING ON A DREAM



London Heathrow over the next

**Chief Customer & Commercial** Officer Ronald Lam said an extra 31,500 seats would be offered, with up to four flights daily offered on some days in Dec.





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#### Air NZ serves it up

**NEW** Economy bookings made with Air New Zealand on its Tahiti. Perth and Honolulu services will have access to full in-flight services from 30 Oct.

Full service flights include meals, entertainment and baggage allowances, with the move to follow the axing of Seat and Seat+bag fares on Perth and Tahiti flights from 20 Oct, offering customers a choice between The Works (Economy), Premium Economy and Business Premier.

Customers who purchased a Seat or Seat+bag fare prior to 20 Oct will receive the full service offering if travelling after 30 Oct, with original ticketed baggage allowance, Airpoints Dollars and Status Points accrual to still apply to existing tickets.

"From talking with customers we've heard loud and clear there's a need for a consistent Air NZ experience, so the changes to our Seats to Suit product have been made to enhance the customer experience," GM Short Haul Airline Jeremy O'Brien said.

#### Tuesday 18th Oct 2022

#### Apollo optimistic

**APOLLO** Tourism & Leisure has updated its financial guidance for the full year ending Jun 2023, forecasting a record underlying net profit after tax in excess of \$20 million on a standalone basis.

The revised outlook is based on the first quarter of the latest financial year which saw revenue exceed targets in almost every market, costs kept in check, as well as higher than expected rental margins in Australia.

Apollo also pointed to strong forward bookings in New Zealand and Australia for the upcoming summer season as driving factors, while also cautioning that rising interest rates and the cost of living is likely to start normalising sales early next year.

THL said it should be noted that its profit forecast does not take into account the associated costs of its expected merger agreement with Tourism Holdings Limited, with the deal already jumping through regulatory hurdles with the ACCC and New Zealand's NZCC.

## **AFTA UPDATE**

from Dean Long, CEO



night, three years in the making and 1,200 travel professionals in attendance! For those in the room for last Sat's

National Travel Industry Awards ceremony at Sydney's International Convention Centre, there were some new approaches taken as we sought to reinvigorate the night.

It started with our MC, whose sole brief was to bring high energy and set a fun tone to ensure the evening could be enjoyable for all.

The NTIA offers the highest recognition for businesses and individuals in our sector.

That is why we removed the AFTA branding from the evening, ensuring that the NTIAs continue to be the pre-eminent awards program.

The NTIAs now recognise the best suppliers and intermediaries, and removing the AFTA brand ensures all businesses that operate in the industry can participate and be recognised. In working with our media

partner, Travel Daily and Travel

Bulletin, every winner shared their thoughts on winning, which we live-streamed through Facebook and Instagram from the ATAS Champions Lounge.

These videos allow the winners' thoughts to be heard right around Australia and importantly to be held in perpetuity.

You can access them now at travelbulletin.com.au and I would encourage everyone to watch what it meant for these amazing winners.

After the formalities concluded, we opened up the largest dance floor in NTIA history in the ballroom, where everyone could kick up their heels and continue the celebrations with their friends and colleagues.

With the new format of live streaming the speeches separately, it provided plenty of time for everyone to enjoy the evening's festivities.

As I said during my speech, our resilient travel community is our greatest strength, and moving forward AFTA will continue our focus on harnessing the skills and expertise across our network to benefit our industry, our clients and our businesses.

AFTA was proud to host the 2022 NTIAs, and we will remain focused on what best serves our great sector.

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Tuesday 18th Oct 2022

#### **Cheers to The Travel Community**





THE Travel Community Hub's Founder, Richard Taylor, hosted a group of members last week at the 'Travel Community Pub' in Sydney for their first in-person Fri night drinks gathering, which initially began as a Zoom gettogether during lockdown 2020.

One of the members in attendance, founder of Destination Webinars Charlie Trevena, said, "it's been a lovely space to stay connected and this is the first time we've had a reallife pub - and it's amazing".

#### What ya think kids?

IN CELEBRATION of its 70th anniversary, Holiday Inn has launched Kids Critics, a new campaign inviting kids aged 12 and under to review their hotel stays across Australia and New Zealand.

Alongside the marketing material, which features Australian personality Chezzi Denyer and her kids, little guests will be offered free ice cream at participating Holiday Inn properties until 30 Nov.

The brand also launched a survey to discover what its youngest guests and their parents seek from a hotel stay, revealing 74% of kids are happiest when enjoying special treats on holiday.

#### Join one of Australia's leading Travel PR teams!



Sydney-based travel and lifestyle PR agency, Barking Owl Communications is growing and looking for ambitious, motivated and enthusiastic talent to join our nest.

If you are interested in spreading your wings and are excited by an opportunity to work for a boutique agency with an amazing client line up (think cruising, Indigenous tourism, adventure, luxury) then contact us ASAP.

A flashy CV isn't important to us. We are looking for go-getters with PR experience who are passionate about the travel industry and take pride in delivering high quality work. Most importantly, we are a close-knit team of go getters who enjoy having fun and the occasional champagne along the way.

If you're looking for that spark, please send us an email at jill.collins@barkingowlcommunications.com.au



#### Spat gets uglier

**EMIRATES** President Tim Clark has called for Heathrow CEO, John Holland-Kaye, to resign following suggestions that the airport may reinstate its capacity caps at a later date.

The daily limits, imposed in Jul to mitigate disruption caused by understaffing (*TD* 13 Jul), are set to be lifted before the end of the month, however Holland-Kaye indicated the cap may return to prevent disruption over the Christmas period.

Clark labelled the airport CEO's decision as "inexcusable" and "delinquent", adding that "anybody who says anything like that is the wrong guy for the job". IATA Director General Willie Walsh echoed a similar sentiment,

Walsh echoed a similar sentiment, describing Heathrow's recent performance as "a disgrace".

#### **CAPA** events cal

**CENTRE** for Aviation (CAPA) has released its full program of events for 2023, including six major face-to-face events such as the Australia Pacific Aviation Summit to be held in Brisbane in Sep -**CLICK HERE** to see the rest.

#### Europa elevates

**MSC** Cruises has announced two new partnerships that are set to enhance the food and beverage offerings on its upcoming flagship, *MSC World Europa*.

Michelin-starred chef and TV personality Niklas Ekstedt designed the menu for the specialty restaurant, Chef's Garden Kitchen, which will feature the first-at-sea hydroponic garden.

Additionally, brewmaster and founder of Baladin Farm Brewery, Teo Musso, created a bespoke range of MSC signature craft beers that will be brewed in the ship's full-scale micro-brewery.

#### Aloha connections

HAWAIIAN Airlines and Southern Airways/Mokulele Airlines have announced a bilateral interline agreement to facilitate travel bookings and connections for passengers.

The alliance will allow pax to purchase connections from Mokulele-served airports to any Hawaiian Airlines destination worldwide in a single transaction, along with other benefits such as flight cancellation protections.



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#### **Biggest auction ever!**



**BRISBANE** Airport is dusting off the auction hammer as it readies for the return of its Lost Property Auction, which will see 500 weird and wonderful items sold to the highest bidder.

Valuable items left behind by passengers are held at the airport for 60 days and if unclaimed, are donated to local charities or offered to members of the public via an annual auction.

Along with an array of IT gear including laptops and phones, items up for grabs include hoverboards, a massage table, guitars, cricket bats, a coffee machine, 56 sets of headphones, and even an IWC Schaffhausen Top Gun Pilot watch, which retails between \$10k and \$30k.

Attendees can also score some exclusive airport items, including a behind-the-scenes personal tour of BNE, one year of free parking at BNE, and a Movement Area Guidance Sign from Runway 01/19 - a valuable piece of the airport's history.

All proceeds from the auction will be donated to *The Courier-Mail* Children's Fund, which provides vital care, services, facilities and aid to children in need across Queensland.

Last year's auction raised around \$17,700, which went to Braille House to fund 25 new book titles for children who are blind or have low vision.

"Brisbane Airport's online Lost Property Auction has always attracted wide attention from interested buyers, and the proceeds will continue to make an impact in the lives of children across Queensland," said Gert-Jan de Graaff, Brisbane Airport Corporation's CEO.

Items can be viewed and bid for online **HERE** until 06 Nov, or you can visit Lloyds Auctions in Acacia Ridge on 03 Nov to check out the collection in person.



#### Samoa doubles fun

WHEN it rains it pours for Samoa, with the Pacific island nation preparing for a huge cruise restart by welcoming two Holland America Line vessels on 18 and 20 Oct respectively.

The Port of Apia will see the Carnival-owned *Westerdam* and *Zuiderdam* call in at Matautu, hot on the heels of the country scrapping COVID-19 entry requirements on 22 Sep.

Westerdam is on a trans-Pacific cruise which is expected to end in Sydney on 08 Nov, while Zuiderdam is undertaking a South Pacific cruise which started in San Diego on 03 Oct.

#### LST access improved

**TRAVELLERS** using Launceston Airport will benefit from a new dual-lane road, which has been completed in time for Tasmania's summer tourism season.

The \$16.7 million project resulted in the widening of Evandale Road, which connects the airport and industrial precinct with the Midland Highway and from there through to the biggest city of Hobart.

The upgrade is expected to improve traffic flow, allowing travellers to arrive and depart from the airport faster, as well as create a better impression for visitors on arrival.



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## More NTIA winners are grinners!

Tuesday 18th Oct 2022

**TODAY'S** photo showcase from last Sat's National Travel Industry Awards in Sydney features more of the excitement from the NTIA photo wall, where there were plenty of celebrations throughout the night. More pics are also being loaded each day onto our Facebook album at facebook.com/traveldaily, while today's winner interviews are now live at travelbulletin.com.au.



LINDA Foster from TravLin Travel, winner of the News Corp Australia People's Choice category accepts her award from News Corp's Mike Connaghan.





**ANNABEL** Dolphin and her team from Helloworld Travel Mackay, Mt Pleasant & Townsville, winners of Most Outstanding Travel Agency - Leisure.



WHAT do you do if you can't make it in person to accept an award? Why simply use a cardboard cutout - which is how Nicole Laurie from Delta Air Lines was celebrated as she was named Most Outstanding Sales Executive - Air. CVFR Travel Group MD Ram Chhabra is pictured presenting her award to Delta's James Dun.

**DyLAN** Hearn from Back-Roads Global Touring took out the Most Outstanding Sales Executive - Land Supply category, presented by Stuba's Rebecca Day.

**RACHEL** Cleary from MTA - Mobile Travel Agents was thrilled to accept one of the lucky door prizes from Michael Kirkby of Singapore Airlines.





**TENILLE** Hunt from Quark Expeditions, named as Most Outstanding Sales Executive - Cruise with Quark Expeditions MD Robert Halfpenny.







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Tuesday 18th Oct 2022

### MONEY

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

#### AU\$1 = US\$0.629

**TRAVELLERS** to America will be feeling the pinch this week, as the Aussie dollar collapses against its US counterpart.

The AUD has slipped from a peak of US76.61 cents on o5 Apr to US61.92 cents on Fri, representing a 19% fall in value in just six months.

In fact, financial experts are predicting the slide will likely continue, with the AUD predicted to slump into the 5oc within weeks.

Spurring on the grim outlook for the AUD is the prospect of another big rate increase by the Federal Reserve in early Nov.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.629
UK	£0.555
NZ	\$1.113
Euro	€0.639
Japan	¥93.85
Thailand	ß23.98
China	¥4.532
South Africa	11.38
Canada	\$0.863
Crude oil	US\$85.61



Tailwind Air touches down in DC

IT WAS perfect conditions for Tailwind Air's first flight from Manhattan to Washington DC's Dulles Airport last week, with water cannons greeting the seaplane upon arrival.

The non-stop service to and from Washington's Dulles International Airport and Manhattan's Skyport Marina, a dedicated seaplane base, will be operated by Tailwind Air's fleet of Cessna Grand Caravans.

The seaplanes feature two pilots, eight Premium Economy leather seats, and an ability to land on water or at an airport. With the addition of Washington, DC, Tailwind Air now serves nine destinations from its growing Manhattan base.

"The ability to take off from a private terminal at a major international airport and land on the water in Manhattan will be a time-saving benefit for our customers," said Tailwind Air CEO Alan Ram.

**Pictured** cutting the ribbon on the latest route was Maria Laskowski, Director of Sales, Tailwind Air; Holt Lindenberger, Captain; Alan Ram, CEO, Tailwind Air; Brody Carlson, Co-pilot.

#### Azamara in Venice

AZAMARA is set to return to Venice, Italy to offer 32 voyages for its 2023 Europe season, starting with Azamara Journey's 12-night The Best of the Mediterranean voyage in Apr, which will access Venetian Lagoon ports of Chioggia and Fusina.

Other upcoming sailings to the historic canal city include a sevennight Italy Intensive voyage and a seven-night Amalfi & Dalmation Coasts voyage, plus an array of Venetian shore excursions.

#### Friends with benefits

**OVOLO** Hotels is offering guests 15% off their stay as well as 20% off any adventure with Experience Co (valid for six months) thanks to its new Friends with Benefits package.

The deal is available on direct bookings from 17 Oct to 31 Dec across all of Ovolo's Australian hotels, and allows guests to save on a range of adventure experiences, including skydiving, tree ropes and ziplining, reef tours, rainforest treks, island day trips, and more.

**CLICK HERE** for further information or to make a booking.

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## Abercrombie & Kent



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- Providing strategic account/agency management support to travel network members and respond to enquiries and requests for assistance and advice. From recognising trends in feedback, you will then be empowered to provide input to the strategic direction and management of the network program.
- Ensure the relevant network value proposition is delivered, communicated, and demonstrated to all members, by supporting contract analysis and modelling.
- Collaboratively build strategic business plans with network members and partners.
- Assist in staging events for planning, learning and development for members, including (but not limited to) an Annual Summit, Member Advisory Council meetings and monthly state meetings.

If this sounds like you and you're looking for a role that is dynamic, fast-paced and rewarding, then join us at Helloworld Travel as these roles do not become available very often!

Helloworld Travel is a diverse business with a range of divisions across the company which are constantly evolving and growing, meaning that we can offer our employees career opportunities, professional growth, and development.

To apply for these roles, CLICK HERE or email your resume to hr@helloworld.com.au





