

Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 26th Jul 2023



DISCOVER THE ISLANDS of **TAHITI**

EXCLUSIVE PACKAGES ON SALE!

OMNICHE HOLIDAYS



THE ISLANDS of TAHITI

*Travel restrictions & conditions apply. Wave Hospitality Group Pty Ltd, ABN 61 087 521 355, IATA no. 02359486

Jenny from the pod

FOLLOWING on from her cracking chat with Travel Associates' Kathy Pavlidis in episode one, Jenny Piper's new podcast series *The Chat with Jenny* has released its second instalment this week.

Episode two sees 1000 Mile Group founder Nicola Veltman sit down for a relaxed conversation to talk about the company's history, her family, passion for travel - listen to the pod [HERE](#).

CTM enjoys robust rebound

CORPORATE Travel Management (CTM) released its 2023 full year guidance this morning (**TD** breaking news), revealing strong sales momentum that will see it double its EBITDA in the second half of the year compared to the first six months.

The company now expects its 2023 EBITDA to land in the range of \$165 to \$170 million for 2023, fuelled by \$2.95 billion of annualised client wins & a strong client retention rate of 97%.

CTM has also averaged \$20 million a month of underlying EBITDA since Feb, alongside an impressive monthly profit before tax result of \$16.5 million.

Speaking with *Travel Daily* this morning, MD Jamie Pherous said the healthy forecast highlighted the key momentum that CTM is turning into profitability.

"We're not just winning and retaining but we're doing profitable business, there's no point in an inflationary environment winning business if it's not profitable," Pherous said.

The CTM chief added its momentum in a sluggish recovery environment was also testament to its value proposition, with its post-COVID recovery rate exceeding industry-wide markers, which are only around 70-80%.

TTJ dreams of WA

THE Travel Junction (TTJ) is giving agents the chance to win a case of some of WA's best boutique wines, and earn up to 15% commission on selected WA hotels - see [page seven](#).

Today's issue of *TD*

Travel Daily today features six pages of the latest news including our **Luxury** feature page, plus full pages from:

- The Travel Junction
- Collette

NETWORK DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

TRAVELLERS CHOICE, SYDNEY

Australia's leading network of independent travel businesses is expanding. As Network Development Manager, you will report directly to the Managing Director as an integral part of a highly respected national team.

- Establish, develop and maintain a pipeline of prospective members.
- Lead the member recruitment process.
- Contribute to strategic, tactical and competitive planning and implementation.

Ideally based in Sydney, this role will suit an energetic and results-driven individual, with strong industry relations, exceptional business recruitment experience and outstanding communication skills.

[CLICK TO SEE FULL DESCRIPTION OR APPLY](#)

For further information contact:
nstrudwick@travellerschoice.com.au

TRAVELLERS CHOICE

Collette on the road

TRAVEL advisors are invited to join Collette's upcoming roadshow, which will make its way around Australia next month, beginning in Perth on 15 Aug and ending in Melbourne on 19 Sep.

Attendees will learn about the operator's latest Classic and Small Group itineraries, while also enjoying drinks and canapes with the Collette team from 6-8.30pm.

Head to the **back page** for all of the exciting details.

ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL

LAST CHANCE DEALS

HAWAII TO SYDNEY
17 NIGHTS FROM
\$1,399*
PER PERSON

[LEARN MORE](#)

*T&Cs apply. Based on Brilliance of the Seas 4 Oct 2023.

Expedia TAAP

If you want the best rates

TURN TAAP ON

ENJOY TODAY

www.expedia.com.au/taap

telephone
1800 726 618

email
expedia-au@discovertheworld.com.au

BALI

SAVINGS UP TO **65%**

Instant TRAVEL

LOYALTY POINTS with every booking

24/7 SUPPORT including Live Chat

**2024
EARLY BIRD SALE**

Save \$500 per couple
On all 2024 departures
Book by 31 August 2023

**TRAVEL AGENT
INCENTIVE**

Receive \$100 digital Mastercard
for website booking!

**ENTIRE
GROUP JOURNEYS**



La Vie lands Syd hotel

NEW designer hotel, ADGE Hotel + Residences, is preparing to open in Sydney's Surry Hills next month, with La Vie Hotels & Resorts at the helm.

Owned by Cienna Group, the boutique hotel will sit alongside the former Cambridge Hotel, which will also rebrand to ADGE Hotel + Residences, and is currently undergoing renovations.

The former Cambridge Hotel is set to open early next year, with both properties offering a combined total of 242

guestrooms, featuring bold colours and eclectic furnishings, pod-style bathrooms, SMEG fridges and Nespresso machines.

Guests will be able to enjoy Korean fare from Soul Deli and dine at the intimate Japanese omakase restaurant, Raida Noda's Chef Kitchen; an Italian-style restaurant is also set to open.

"We are thrilled to be working with the team at Cienna Group to



open this wonderfully colourful, vibrant hotel, right in the heart of Surry Hills," La Vie Founder and CEO Jerry Xu said.

QF earns capacity

QANTAS has been granted 284 seats of extra capacity per week for the next five years on services to Indonesia.

The carrier has also picked up 528 seats of capacity per week to operate passenger services on the Fiji route, as well as 372 seats per week to operate on the Cook Islands route.

Win a HK hamper!

TRAVEL Agent Finder is offering agents the chance to win a Hong Kong hamper when they answer three questions on the city's new destination page.

The hamper includes a bottle of champagne and Hello Hong Kong goodies - more details [HERE](#).

Hop aboard this deal

MSC Cruises has revamped its Future Cruise program to allow agents to receive full commissions when clients make a new booking while on board.

Other changes to the program benefits include a reduced 'onboard-only deposit' starting from \$100pp, an extended 'best price guarantee' timeframe, and greater flexibility to change reservations prior to payment.

Future Cruise teams will be on board MSC's ships to provide information and offers to guests.

See today's issues of **Cruise Weekly** for more details.

Travel Daily

ON LOCATION

VENICE, ITALY

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of **Crystal Cruises**, with its upgraded **Crystal Serenity** currently en route to Dubrovnik, Croatia.

THE reborn Crystal Cruises is a brand new company, "but a company with a spectacular name in the business" said the line's Chairman and Brands Ambassador, Fernando Barroso de Oliveira, as he welcomed guests to a sailaway party as *Crystal Serenity* left Venice last evening.

Enormous suites and staterooms complement nine dining options, while about 80% of the crew are former Crystal staffers who continue their dedication to guest enjoyment and wellbeing.

Explore New Caledonia

You can now discover all of New Caledonia with domestic codeshare flights **all bookable in one Airalin ticket in the GDS.**



Only 2 hours from Brisbane
Less than 3 hours from Sydney
Less than 4 hours from Melbourne

**EARN
5%**
BSP commission
with Airalin



Ouvea (UVE)



Lifou (LIF)



Mare (MEE)



Isle of Pines (ILP)

Noumea

AIRALIN OPERATED FLIGHT
SB operates to/from Tontouta Airport

AIR CALÉDONIE OPERATED FLIGHT
TY operates to/from Magenta Airport



Weather warning

AUSTRALIANS who plan on travelling to the northern hemisphere in the next few weeks are being cautioned by DFAT to check the travel advice for their destination, as Europe, North America and Asia all endure dangerous extreme heat.

Travellers are being urged to keep up-to-date on current events in their destination and decide whether it's still safe to proceed with trips, as well as making sure their travel insurance covers extreme weather events.

In addition to the widespread heatwave, wildfires are raging across Greece, Spain and Italy; floods and landslides are forcing evacuations across south and south-east Asia; China is bracing for severe flooding; and Typhoon Egay (Doksuri) is bearing down on the Philippines and Taiwan.

Read Smartraveller's full list of advice about what to do in extreme weather, including heatwaves, [HERE](#).

Shareholders tick ETG buy

SHAREHOLDERS of Helloworld Travel have formally approved the planned acquisition of Express Travel Group (ETG) for \$70 million (**TD** breaking news), with a vote held this morning showing 99.75% support for the transaction (**TD** 22 Jun).

Before the successful vote took place, HLO Chairman Garry Hounsell addressed shareholders to convey some of the predicted benefits of the acquisition, including a way of rapidly expanding its retail network in Australia and New Zealand, a strengthened competitive position with ETG's ticket consolidation business on board, and a significantly positive forward impact on earnings.

Hounsell also pointed to "strong synergies" via its Smart Tickets solutions to benefit travel sellers.

"Having regard for all of these factors, the Helloworld directors believe that the proposed

transaction will create materially more value for Helloworld shareholders," he said.

ETG's portfolio of brands includes Express Tickets, Independent Travel Group, Select Travel Group, italktravel & cruise, Alatus and Creative Cruising.

Trenitalia on board

RAIL Online is now offering bookings on Trenitalia's full range of Italian train journeys - as well as some cross-border connections - with tickets available up to six months in advance.

Trenitalia operates a wide network that spans Italy from major cities to lesser-known destinations, as well as international routes such as twice daily services between Milan and Paris, via Lyon and Torino.

Trenitalia joins Eurostar services and connections in France and Germany, to name just a few.



Window Seat

OF ALL the places to become a tourist hotspot, an abandoned island with a dark history is not the destination that first springs to mind.

However, Poveglia Island, located between Venice and Lido in the Venetian Lagoon, has lately been drawing in those with a fascination for the morbid and mysterious.

Around 160,000 people died and were buried on the island between the 18th and 19th century, with the island once serving as a quarantine station.

There's even a creepy, dilapidated asylum, where it's rumoured that crazed doctors conducted strange experiments on the poor patients - it's haunted, obviously.

Shutter Island, anyone?

LET US COVER IT

Sell a Cover-More policy to enter the draw.

If your customer is selected and wins the value of their trip up to \$10k*

you win the same amount too.

Win up to \$10k* when your customer takes out a policy with Cover-More.
*T&Cs apply. Visit covermore-experiences/letuscoverit for further detail.

Cover-More



Rex inks content deal

REX Airlines has launched a new destination-based newsletter and website for its customers in a bid to inspire travellers to explore more of regional Australia.

The carrier inked a new deal with Publishing ByChelle to create *TrulyAus for Rex*, which will contain flight deals, travel stories, destination photography, as well as details on Indigenous experiences to enjoy, and info on reputable hotels and restaurants.

Rex Corporate Communications Executive, Jessica Makarewitsch, said the new content aligns with the company's overarching objective of encouraging more Australians to visit more of the country they live in.

"We particularly want to promote the 50 regional destinations that we fly to, and encourage all Australians to explore everything regional Australia has to offer," she said.

Interestingly, the new website



component also features advice for dog owners travelling the country, including places to stay with their furry friends.

The website also provides travellers and the trade with a hub of podcasts focused on Rex ports, "so that people can tune in and listen to great things to do and see before they arrive at their destination".

Visit the new website [HERE](#).

Auckland hotel listed

MULPHA Group will sell the Nesuto Stadium Hotel and Apartments as part of the group's ongoing capital recycling plan.

The 244-key property is located close by to the 12,000-capacity Spark Arena, and features a new Nook Restaurant & Bar, which was constructed during a recent hotel-wide renovation.

Wyndham appoints

WYNDHAM Destinations Asia Pacific has appointed Emma Todd as the new Resort Manager and Chief Activities Officer for Ramada Resort by Wyndham Phillip Island.

Todd brings over two decades of experience in the industry to her new role, most recently as Club Wyndham Seven Mile Beach's Resort Manager, which will now be filled by Hammond Cardon, who has joined from Elanor Hotels where he was the hotel's general manager.

VS 100% SAF flight

VIRGIN Atlantic has announced it will operate the world's first 100% Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) flight across the Atlantic on 28 Nov, subject to further regulatory approvals and testing.

Air bp and Virent will supply 60 tonnes of SAF blend to power the Rolls-Royce Trent 1000 engine on one of the carrier's Boeing 787 Dreamliners for the milestone flight, which will travel from London to New York.

The flight aims to prove that, through industry collaboration, 100% SAF integration is achievable for long-haul flights using existing engine and fuel infrastructure.

LA agency change

ALLIED Global Marketing has been chosen by the Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board as its global media planner & buyer.

The agency will be charged with accelerating LA's tourist recovery across key overseas markets.

Double Qantas Points

Your Qantas Business Rewards customers who activate and book an eligible flight by 30 July for travel by 30 September 2023 will earn double Qantas Points for their business. The more they book, the more they earn.**

Click the link below to find out more.

[Learn more](#)

T&Cs: ** To be eligible for this offer, Qantas Business Rewards Members must (a) register their ABN via the link provided and b) make an eligible flight booking between 12.01am (AEST) 17 July 2023 and 11.59pm (AEST) 30 July 2023, with a departure date before 11.59pm (AEST) 30 September 2023. The Qantas Business Rewards member's ABN and the traveller's Qantas Frequent Flyer membership number must be quoted at the time of booking. For more details click [here](#).

HURRY,
ENDS 30 JULY
2023



Silver Nova ready

SILVERSEA Cruises has taken delivery of its newest cruise ship, *Silver Nova*, which uses an innovative fuel cell system to cut emissions.

The ultra-luxury vessel offers 364 spacious suites across 13 categories, including a new generation of premium suites, plus a huge array of bars, restaurants & lounges.

Win with Blue Palace

LA COLLECTION is giving travel advisors the opportunity to win three nights' accommodation at Blue Palace, a luxury resort on the Greek island of Crete.

Advisors need to watch La Collection's new short webinar on the resort **HERE** and submit the answers to three questions asked during the session **HERE** by 15 Aug.

SERENITY NOW FOR CRYSTAL FANS

SOME of the pre-pandemic top-selling Crystal Cruises travel advisors from Australia are on board *Crystal Serenity* this week on a shakedown voyage between Venice and Dubrovnik.

The ship departed overnight, with guests including Murray and Robyn Sinfield from Home Travel Company as well as Savenio founder David Brandon (pictured).

The Aussie contingent is being hosted by A&K/Crystal executives Debra Fox, Tony Archbold and Michelle Mickan, who are also excited to experience the product.

Crystal co-owner Manfredi Levevre d'Ovidio will join the cruise tomorrow, and is expected to detail some of his ambitious plans for the newly relaunched brand under its association with A&K Travel Group.

Serenity and sister ship *Crystal Symphony* were acquired by A&K just over 12 months ago, and since then the team has worked



hard to bring the Crystal vision back to life under the brand promise "Extraordinary at Sea".

The US\$150 million makeover of *Crystal Serenity* includes larger staterooms and suites, expanded spa facilities, new and improved specialty dining venues and even a pickleball court.

But there are plenty of touches from the "old" Crystal as well which will thrill the brand's cohort of rusted-on aficionados.

Crystal's strong focus on cuisine

alongside health and wellness saw the reborn brand appoint Dalila Roglieri yesterday to the new role of Head Nutritionist.

A&K Travel Group CEO Cristina Levis, who is also on board, said Roglieri's "wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm for wellness will help to shape a new era of exceptional experiences...she will play a significant role in ensuring that our offerings align with discerning travellers' evolving tastes and needs".



Travel Daily

On Board: *Crystal Serenity* *Umi Uma* by Nobu

This venue offers a curated menu created by the famed Nobu Matsuhisa and is a highlight of the dining experiences onboard. Featuring Nobu's iconic Japanese-Peruvian fusion dishes, trying this innovative cuisine is a must. Umi Uma's beautiful decor along with Nobu's signature contemporary flavours, will leave a lasting memory. Reservations are required.

Virtuoso makes Zoe Dean marketing head

ZOE Dean has been appointed Marketing Director, Australia & New Zealand at Virtuoso Travel, representing a promotion from her previous role of Marketing Manager, ANZ.

The experienced marketing executive takes the promotional reigns of the luxury network after close to three years with the company, and also brings a wealth of

industry knowledge with her from outside the business, including stints in senior marketing roles with Uniworld and Wendy Wu Tours.

"I will continue to oversee marketing & events strategies that deliver success for Virtuoso alongside our community of advisors and preferred partners," Dean enthused about her promotion.

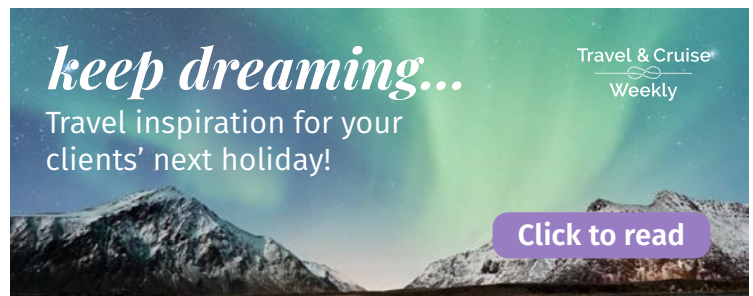
BNE → LAX

Starting 1 December, fly United® from Brisbane to Los Angeles.

UNITED AIRLINES
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER



© 2023 United Airlines, Inc. All rights reserved.



ACCOMMODATION

Send your accommodation updates to:
accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au



Located in the prime location of Sydney's vibrant Darling Harbour, **W Sydney** has unveiled its new dining concept in the lead up to its opening in Oct. The new BTWN venue will serve breakfast in the morning before turning into a social dining space with a cocktail bar from midday. At night, 2AM: dessertbar by Janice Wong will take over the space, considered a major drawcard for the hotel. W Sydney is now open for bookings.



After a prolonged period of renovation, **LUX Belle Mare, Mauritius** is reopening on 01 Oct. The reimagined resort overlooks the coastline of the Indian Ocean and is nestled on the East African island's east coast. Offering 174 suites and 12 villas, the resort also returns with five exclusive restaurants, including Indian, Chinese, and Mediterranean cuisines, plus more. Guests can also enjoy a wellness journey at the renowned LUX ME Spa.



The **Aloft Hotel El Segundo - Los Angeles Airport** has completed a comprehensive makeover on all its 249 guestrooms and public spaces. The refreshed property now displays a modern aesthetic that captures the vibe of the local community, with up-to-date decor and a new colour scheme, as well as new TVs and high-speed internet access in all rooms. Guests can also unwind at new common spaces, as well enjoy new equipment at the gym.



A multi-million dollar transformation has been finalised at the **Fairfield Orlando I-Drive Convention Centre** to enhance overall guest experience, which saw all 160 guestrooms and public spaces revamped. The new lobby bar is one of the key highlights of the refurbishment plan, as well as new technology and an updated layout of its conference space, which spans close to 280m².



Rydges Melbourne reopened last week, revealing its transformation with a refreshed approach to improve the guest experience. The new Rydges flagship has revamped all of its guestrooms, which include a kitchenette, laundry and separate lounge/dining spaces. Corporate travellers can use the 11 newly designed meeting areas, as well as new gym equipment.

keep dreaming...

Travel inspiration for your clients' next holiday!

Travel & Cruise Weekly

Click to read

What a rush in South Africa!



SOUTH Africa was on full display to an Aussie audience last night, as Channel 9 aired the epic finale of *RUSH*, its globe-trotting adventure reality show.

The adrenaline-fueled series, which followed 12 everyday Aussies as they embarked on missions in thrilling destinations around the world, reached a nail-biting conclusion in South Africa.

"*RUSH* was such a perfect fit for showcasing the feast for the senses that is South Africa," South African Tourism Australasia's Marketing and Communications Manager Yana Shvarts said.

SatIoT partnership

SATELLITE Internet of Things (IoT) operator Astrocast has extended its partnership with Airbus in a bid to provide the most reliable and cost-effective technology solutions in the aviation market.

"We are thrilled to deepen our partnership with Airbus and leverage its unique expertise in advanced satellite IoT technology...with Airbus' support, we will further solidify our position as the go-to satellite IoT operator," Astrocast said.



The Chat
with Jenny

A Conversation with
Nicola Veltman
1000 Mile Travel Group

CLICK HERE to listen

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WALKING ON A DREAM

EXPERIENCE AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY

EXPLORE WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S CAPITAL CITY NESTLED IN NATURE.

DISCOVER DREAMY OCEAN SUNSETS, WINE COUNTRY AND UNIQUE WILDLIFE IN PERTH (BOORLOO), A CITY THAT WILL LIGHT YOU UP WITH ITS CULTURE, CUISINE AND CREATIVITY.

PERTH | BOORLOO

PERTH & FREMANTLE 5 NIGHTS

LOCATION: PERTH / FREMANTLE

DURATION: 6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS

5 NIGHTS PERTH ACCOMMODATION

FULL DAY ROTTNEST ISLAND FERRY & BUS PACKAGE

HALF-DAY PERTH & FREMANTLE CITY EXPLORER

SWAN RIVER SCENIC CRUISE

CAR HIRE 6 DAYS PICK UP / DROP OFF PERTH

HELIo Package Code: AU39239

FLIGHT AND LAND PACKAGE:

from **\$1,799** per person*

LAND PACKAGE ONLY:

from **\$1,199** per person*

EARN UP TO **15%** COMMISSION ON SELECTED HOTELS

WIN THE WA WINE PACKAGE

Become the top selling advisor during our Western Australia campaign to win a case of some of WA's best boutique wines.

CALL OUR SALES EXPERTS **1800 003 903**

BOOK NOW THROUGH HELI0

DISCOVER WONDROUS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

*Price per person based on twin share. Subject to availability. No entry required for wine incentive, refer to website for full T&C's. Refer to HELI0 for availability and commission levels

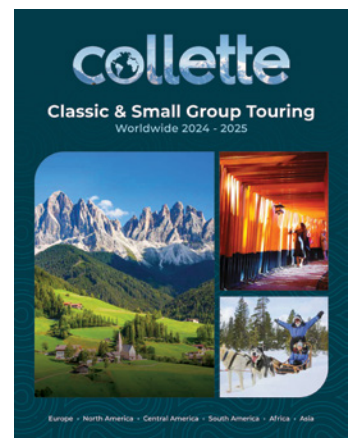
collette

ROADSHOW

Please join us at the
Collette Season 106 Launch!

Find out about the latest
Classic and Small Group itineraries,
plus see how we make it easy for groups!

Enjoy drinks and canapes
with our fabulous team from 6-8.30pm.



CLICK ON EACH LOCATION BELOW TO RSVP

PERTH	Tuesday 15 August
CANBERRA	Tuesday 22 August
GOLD COAST	Tuesday 22 August
BRISBANE	Wednesday 23 August
SUTHERLAND SHIRE	Wednesday 23 August
REDLAND BAY	Thursday 24 August
SOUTHERN SUNSHINE COAST	Thursday 24 August
CASTLE HILL	Tuesday 29 August
ADELAIDE	Wednesday 30 August
NEWCASTLE	Wednesday 6 September
GEELONG	Tuesday 12 September
RINGWOOD	Wednesday 13 September
MELBOURNE CBD	Tuesday 19 September