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Two Four Seasons

FOUR Seasons Yachts has placed an order with Fincantieri shipyard for the construction of a second ultra-luxury vessel, worth more than €400 million.

The new division of Four Seasons Hotels will take delivery of the newbuild in 2026, and is also expecting to receive the first ship of the class in Q4 2025 (*TD* 29 Sep 2022).

For more details, see today's issue of *Cruise Weekly*.

Luxury spend on the rise

NEW research released last night in Singapore at this year's International Luxury Travel Market (ILTM) has forecasted bigger spending from premium travellers, with 73% of those surveyed saying they plan to spend "much more on travel" in the post-pandemic environment.

The newest edition of ILTM's regular *Buzz vs Reality* report particularly focuses on the China market, which is only just now reopening with a huge swell of

pent-up underlying demand, particularly at the high end.

Of note for the Australian inbound market, the report found that sustainable and eco-friendly travel options have strong appeal, while health and wellness were also top priorities among those polled for the research.

Global trends included the continuation of a desire for reconnection via family or multi-generational trips (*TD* yesterday) - and also, interestingly, the increasing relevance of brand collaborations in which travel providers link with upmarket luxury goods and services.

While affluent Chinese travellers will also continue taking domestic trips, many are also now looking to depart on multiple international itineraries.

A significant minority of those surveyed cited Australia, the US, and Switzerland as their "ideal holiday destination" for 2023, with the report based on interactions with high net-worth individuals in China in Mar 2023.

APT unveils Alaska/Canada for 2024

APT has released more details about its Canada and Alaska program for 2024, offering travellers 28 tours across the two popular markets.

Highlights of the Alaska program next year include the 22-day Rockies Odyssey & Alaska Cruise, featuring a pre-opening visit to The Butchart Gardens, a First Nations experience in Whistler, and the opportunity to meet a Mountie in Banff, before hopping aboard the Rocky Mountaineer in Goldleaf Service.

Meanwhile, the 17-day Eastern Canada & New England Cruise takes guests from Toronto to Boston and includes a dinner overlooking Niagara Falls, a maple syrup making experience, and a magical multimedia show at Montreal's Notre-Dame Basilica.

The best pricing is now available with savings of up to \$3,000 per couple when booked by 30 Nov, which includes an early payment discount where applicable when paid in full 10 months prior to departures - more info see **HERE**.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features six pages of the news including our **Sustainability** page and a photo page from the **International Luxury Travel Market**, plus a front cover wrap from **Virgin Australia**.

Fly high with Virgin

VIRGIN Australia is offering up to \$1,000 in flight credit to use on future flights for new members who sign up to its Business Flyer loyalty program.

To qualify, sign up before 07 Aug and fly on eligible flights within 30 days - see the **cover page**.

NoMad goes local

LA COLLECTION has made its debut in the UK after being appointed to represent NoMad London in the Australia and New Zealand markets, which are a "priority" for the property.

Located in the heart of Covent Garden, the 91-key luxury boutique hotel opened in 2021, and features several restaurants and bars.

2024 TOURS

PRICE FREEZE

Offer ends 28 June
T&Cs apply

2024 tours at 2023 prices

Iberian Inspiration is ready to book

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JUNIOR ACCOUNT MANAGER TULLAMARINE, VIC

Full time

Europcar Australia has an exciting opportunity for a driven and self-motivated **Junior Account Manager** to join our Sales team based in **Tullamarine, Victoria** on a **permanent full time basis**. This position is suitable for a candidate seeking to develop and grow their Sales career. If you are a proactive individual who has a proven sales track record and effective account management experience, please click [here](#) to apply!

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TA experiences launch

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group's Travel Associates (TA) brand has launched its own collection of "Experiences by Travel Associates", described as one-of-a-kind handpicked luxury activities available as part of itineraries booked via the brand.

GM Australia/NZ, Rachel Kingswell, said the newly launched portfolio includes the Family Twist range of private, cultural and hands-on experiences available in 16 European destinations, such as a private perfume boutique in Paris, or a personal tour of the Galileo Museum and Santa Croce in Florence.

The collection also includes the PS private security and tarmac transfer experience at Los Angeles International Airport, an intimate behind-the-scenes tour of London's National Gallery, and VIP access and shopping benefits at a range of upmarket boutiques

and shopping malls in the UK, France, Spain, Italy & Portugal.

Dubai's Floganza "flying dress" photoshoot experience is also on offer, as well as a visit to the SHA Wellness Clinic in Spain's Sierra Helada National Park.

Kingswell said the curated experiences "are fantastic for clients who want something a little different...the demand for luxury travel is strong and it's essential to have the right, trusted advisor by your side to ensure you have the support you need to make your holiday exceptional".

Intrepid winners

INTREPID Travel has awarded 15 trips to travel agents across Australia and NZ as part of its biggest trade incentive since 2019 (*TD* 19 Apr), with winners taking away trips in Europe, Morocco and the Middle East.

Participants had to watch the "Good Trips Only" webinar and write in 25 words or less what the concept means to them - while at the same time selling as much Intrepid product as possible.

The top sellers were Liam Garvey, Flight Centre Kew; Wendy Gunther, MTA - East Toowoomba; Chris Ezzy, Peak Escapes; Chantell-Marie Inglis, RACV Travel & Experience; Debbie Knight, World Travellers - Napier; Lucas Arthur, Flight Centre - Albany; Wendy Harrison, House of Travel - The Crossing; Louise Kinkead, Flight Centre - Toronto; Linda Hogan, itravel - Surry Hills; Caroline Morgan, Flight Centre - Eastgardens; Adele Schwenke, Flight Centre - Whitford City; and Rob Di Benedetto, FC - Bayside.

Qantas US discounts

QANTAS has launched cheap fares to the US when booked by 26 Jun, including return flights from Sydney to Honolulu from \$999 and Sydney to LA return from \$1,199 - more info [HERE](#).



Window Seat

SUNBATHING is a typical holiday activity, but in true blue fashion, Aussies like to kick things up a notch - or rather, strip things down a bit.

Aussies and Kiwis are searching for nude beaches the most in the world, according to new data from swimwear experts Pour Moi.

Australian travellers may be interested to know that Florida's Haulover Beach Park is considered the best beach for nude sunbathing globally, while Spain was found to have the most nude beaches featured in the top 10 list.



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Travel Daily on location in Singapore

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of the International Luxury Travel Market (ILTM).

LAST night ILTM Asia Pacific kicked off with an informative opening session followed by a gala cocktail party at the Ritz-Carlton Millennia Hotel.

Delegates have today moved into full swing with thousands of pre-scheduled meetings taking place at the Marina Bay Sands convention centre, interspersed with scores of networking opportunities.

The show is this year welcoming almost hundreds of premium travel advisors from across the region, while brands on show include an array of global hospitality, cruise and destination exhibitors.

Rail Europe



Unlock European Trains with Grant Robertson

Express Across Italy

♦ **Trenitalia:** The *Leonardo Express* high-speed train runs 126 times each day between Rome Fiumicino Airport and Roma Termini. It takes only 32 minutes. Trains depart every 15 minutes and run between 0520 – 2323. For each paying adult, a 4 -12yo travels free of charge.

♦ **Did you know:** The *Frecciarossa 1000* is the new high-speed train of Trenitalia. It can reach up to 400km/h thanks to its 16 powerful engines distributed on all the coaches. The first high-speed train certified for its environmental impact, the materials used in its construction are almost 100% recyclable and it can achieve only 28mg/CO2 emissions per passenger/km.

♦ **Expert Tip:** For more detailed information on trains in Italy, navigate to the Planning Resources tab from the agent website home page, scroll down to Product fact sheets and select [Train](#).

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VA Indo capacity tick

THE International Air Services Commission has allocated VA 1,080 seats per week on the Indonesia route for a period of five years, ending 11 May 2029.

VA requested to retain the capacity to offer codeshare services with Singapore Airlines and Qatar Airways on the route.

CLIA member deal

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) is offering travel agents a mid-year membership bundle that includes a ticket to Cruise360 Australasia in Brisbane on 07 Sep.

The \$340 package includes a half-year CLIA membership and is available until 30 Jun - email info-aus@cruising.org to sign up.

GC "disappointed"

EXCLUSIVE

THE Gold Coast Airport concedes it has been left feeling "disappointed" by Jetstar's decision to dump its Gold Coast to Tokyo services in favour of ramping up capacity out of Brisbane (**TD** 19 Jun).

"We understand that Jetstar's decision was based on operational performance, rather than the popularity of the connection, as this service has been a longstanding driver of our tourism industry and always well patronised by locals," the GC hub told **TD**, adding that it will work closely with government and its tourism partners to secure new Asian services to the Gold Coast and grow existing international markets, including New Zealand, Kuala Lumpur and Bali.

Jetstar's Tokyo Narita service has been in operation from the Gold Coast since Dec 2008, and since its relaunch post-COVID in Aug 2022, 79,000 passengers have travelled on the route, with aircraft on the service averaging around 77% of capacity.

AFTA UPDATE

from Nina Hedges, Compliance Manager



AS WE approach the halfway mark of the year (yes, we are really there!), it's an important time to reflect on the year to

date. As part of this process at AFTA, we review the complaints we have received from consumers who are aggrieved with their experience with an ATAS business, and also direct contacts from our members who are proactively seeking expert advice on how they should best resolve complaints they might have received.

In both cases we welcome this engagement with our organisation and embrace the opportunity to guide and assist.

Our goal at all times is to ensure that service excellence is delivered, a fair and reasonable outcome is reached, and the business retains their reputation and their relationship with their customer.

We do receive a large number of complaints, which through one lens could be viewed as a negative, but at ATAS we are thankful to be involved in the

dispute resolution requests we receive from both the public and our members. Why? Because the information provided allows us to continually have our finger on the pulse of what is happening on the front line of our industry, and it also allows us to continue to move forward with our goal of elevating standards.

Our robust dispute resolution process ensures that if a travel business has not adhered to the ATAS Code of Conduct and Charter, we can hold them accountable and work with the business to ensure they enhance their processes and standards.

The process also allows us to identify systemic issues within the industry and then use this data to educate consumers and increase their awareness of how our unique industry works.

This is why meaningful accreditation matters and why as an association we are stronger together. We invite all of our members to reach out to us and allow us the opportunity to assist, and if you are not yet a member of our organisation we invite you to join us and be a part of Australia's largest and most recognised travel industry body.

WILD Awaits
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**LAST CHANCE!
ENDS 30 JUNE**

SAVE
up to
20%*
on selected tours

*T&C's apply

Lake Eyre National Park, South Australia

Take a holiday on us!

DESTINATION Gold Coast is inviting the travel trade to explore "Australia's favourite playground".

Two lucky travel advisors and/or trade support staff can win a holiday on the Gold Coast simply by writing in 50 words or less what they'd include in their ultimate getaway to the city.

The four-night stay will include \$500 flight credit, and will allow the winner to choose their dates, and bring a travelling companion.

Entries close on 30 Jun - to enter, [CLICK HERE](#).

EY lands in Lisbon

ETIHAD Airways has kicked off services between Abu Dhabi and Lisbon, Portugal, which will operate three times a week using Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft.

Initially announced as a seasonal route (**TD** 20 Feb), the new service will now run as a year-round operation due to strong travel demand.

Guests on board the inaugural flight enjoyed custard tarts, a traditional Portuguese delicacy, and gifts such as luxury chocolate by Emirati brand Mirzam.

Disney
Magic at Sea

**A SPECIAL NEW SEASON IS COMING
TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IN 2024**

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Silversea gets eco-certified

SILVERSEA Cruises has become the first tour operator to gain certification in environmental management in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador.

Since 2020, the ultra-luxury cruise line has sorted all waste produced aboard *Silver Origin*, before diverting all but organic waste out of the Galapagos Islands to the mainland to be recycled or processed in accordance with environmental legislation.

Cardboard, cartons, plastic, and crushed glass are flown to the mainland for recycling, while the remaining waste is transported to Guayaquil for recycling or processing.

Gabriela Naranjo, VP & GM Silversea Cruises Ecuador, said the certification represents the line's "long-term commitment to sustainability & conservation in the Galapagos Islands".

Green architecture

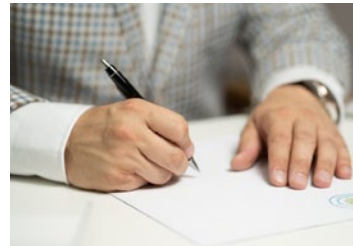
THE Hotel Klosterbrau in Seefeld, Tyrol in Austria opened 28 new 'natural' rooms and suites earlier this month, with the property claiming to use up to 95% local materials, including wood from the hotel's own forest, organic clay walls to regulate temperature, and lighting made from wood and hay.

SAF AFFORDABILITY CRITICAL TO TRAVEL

THE Chief Technology Officers (CTO) of seven major global aviation manufacturers, including Airbus and Boeing, have signed a joint statement highlighting the importance of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) in achieving net zero carbon emissions for civil aviation by 2050.

The companies revealed that they are working on three key areas to deliver the technical solutions required to reduce the air transportation sector's carbon emissions, including supporting policies and measures that accelerate the availability and adoption of qualified SAF.

Other areas of focus include developing advanced aircraft and propulsion technologies that enable net-zero carbon emissions while meeting safety and quality



standards, and implementing improvements in aircraft operations and infrastructure.

"Increasing the production and utilisation of SAF is a critical step for achieving the air transportation sector's net zero CO2 emissions goal by 2050," the statement reads.

However, the report points out that the production of SAF is currently estimated at less than 0.1% of the global demand for jet fuel today, with prices for the eco-fuel typically sitting two to

five times higher than the price of conventional jet fuel.

Supply is further impacted by competition from other sectors, such as surface transportation and heating, who are also looking to use renewable fuels.

The manufacturers assert that they support government policies and initiatives that prompt investment in production capacity, lower costs, and encourage industry adoption, and also point out the key role that Public-Private Partnerships can play.

"Recognising the technical challenges associated with decarbonising aviation, greater public policy and financial support to accelerate SAF production & distribution over fuels used for surface transportation is essential," the CTOs conclude.

SC plants future

VISIT Sunshine Coast (VSC) is "future-proofing" its green tourism credentials - one tree at a time - in response to increasing demand for sustainable travel.

In partnership with Queensland-based green technology company Reforest, Tourism & Events Queensland and Visit Sunshine Coast have launched a rainforest-led sustainability program for both industry and visitors.

MSC Cruises signs up for LNG supply

MSC Cruises has signed an agreement with Nordic energy company Gasum for the supply of LNG to its new flagship vessel, *MSC Euribia*.

The two companies also penned a Letter of Intent with the aim of working together on the supply of synthetic e-LNG made with renewable energy.

The use of LNG significantly lowers nitrogen oxide emissions as well as greenhouse gas emissions. "Securing a reliable supply

of LNG and e-LNG is of critical importance to our decarbonisation efforts," MSC Cruises Vice President of Sustainability and ESG Linden Coppel said.

"Partnering with Gasum will enable us to access new and cleaner fuels needed to make net zero cruising a reality."

The new agreement supports MSC Cruises' strategy to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from its marine operations by 2050.

Connect with your clients and ramp up your social media content

Looking for ready-made social media content? *Travel & Cruise Weekly* have ready made agent toolkits featuring email signatures, images, and social media tiles to inspire your clients.

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The luxury buzz is back in Singapore

ATTENDEES at this year's International Luxury Travel Market (ILTM) in Singapore experienced the joy of reconnection last night during the event's opening cocktail party, which featured flowing Champagne and conviviality as the largest post-pandemic luxury gathering so far. While ILTM did take place in 2022 it was a more subdued gathering because at that stage many borders were still closed including key markets like China and Hong Kong - which now look set to spark a potential tsunami of international visitation.

Travel Daily took these pics at the opening event last night, prior to the show's formal opening this morning which is today seeing hundreds of exhibitors showcase their wares to luxury travel buyers from across the region.



THE Travel Associates ILTM contingent.



THE good-looking Aurora Expeditions team: Amelya Grey, Steve McLachlan and Hayley Peacock-Gower.



ADAM Townson, Travel Associates Head of Product with Bruce O'Brien, Travel Associates North Sydney.



CAROLIN Henze, St Regis Abu Dhabi with Fiona Cogar of Sanctuary Retreats and Travel Associates' Shannon Fogarty.



THE Dorchester Collection's Parris Fotias with Nikki Glading, Flight Centre's GM Member Portfolio for The Luxury Travel Collection.



JO FRANCIS, Global Travel Solutions with Jodie Everett, MTA Mobile Travel



DANIELLE Cush, Lisa Knight, Alison Lord, Melissa Gray and Nicole Tucker from Travel Associates.



ANASTASIA Kotanidis, Seabourn Cruise Line; Jennifer Ridgeway, Travel Stylers; and Robyn Davies, WOW Travel.



FIONA Dalton from Virtuoso with ILTM's Lynne Ireland from Inspired Luxury.





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MONEY

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

AU\$1 = US\$0.685

THE Aussie dollar has dropped slightly against the Japanese yen after soaring to near one-year highs over the weekend.

The Aussie continues to perform well in other markets, rising by 0.2 cents against the Canadian dollar, a full cent against the greenback, and scoring two-year highs with an eight-cent increase against the Chinese yuan.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.685
UK	£0.535
NZ	\$1.105
Euro	€0.627
Japan	¥97.24
Thailand	฿23.83
China	¥4.909
South Africa	12.47
Canada	\$0.905
Crude oil	US\$76.61

Titanic tourist trouble

A GROUP of tourists are missing after their submersible craft used to visit the wreck of the *Titanic* went missing off the south-eastern coast of Canada.

Rescue teams are currently using radar in an urgent bid to locate the OceanGate submarine, with passengers reportedly having 96 hours of oxygen supply.

"We are deeply thankful for the extensive assistance we have received from several government agencies and deep sea companies," OceanGate said.

British billionaire Hamish Harding is believed to be among the missing passengers.

Vacationing in Vietnam



BAMBOO Airways and Melia Hotels recently hosted a group of travel agents on an exciting famil to Vietnam.

The agents were flown in Business class from Sydney to Ho Chi Minh City on Bamboo Airways' brand-new Boeing 787.

Led by Bamboo Airways NSW/ACT Sales Manager Graham Ware, the group enjoyed a jam-packed week exploring Nha Trang, Hanoi and Halong.

Highlights of the trip included a stay at Vin Pearl Halong, embarking on a day trip to the bay, and a hosted dinner at Sofitel

Flighties slam QF

QANTAS is facing criticism from the Flight Attendants Association of Australia for using New Zealand-based cabin crew on its newly launched Auckland to New York route (*TD* 14 Jun), instead of drawing on its Aussie workforce.

Staff have claimed that the carrier made the decision because Kiwi flight attendants have fewer rest entitlements, however, Qantas has denied this.

Legend Metropole Hanoi.

One of the agents in attendance, Domenic Michaelis from Flight Centre George Street Sydney, said "at a time when travel has been ravaged by inflation, Vietnam is such a great value-for-money option and so rich in culture.

"I was overwhelmed with the love and passion of the tourism sector over there," he enthused.

Jet demand takes off

BOEING is forecasting global demand for 42,595 new commercial jets by 2042, valued at a total of US\$8 trillion, marking an expansion of 3.5% per year.

According to the company's *2023 Commercial Market Outlook* report, new single-aisle airplanes will account for more than 75% of all new deliveries, while new widebody jets will comprise nearly 20%.

The report also predicts that APAC will represent around 40% of global demand (half of that in China), with South Asia's fleet to see the fastest growth in the world at 7% annually.

Yellagonga upgrade

WESTERN Australia's Yellagonga Regional Park is set to undergo an \$8.5 million revitalisation over four years, beginning with a redevelopment of the heritage-listed Luisini Winery, located at the park's southern entrance.

The winery, which has been closed to the public since 1989 will be transformed into a multi-purpose tourist site.

Stuba sources Mal

MALCOLM Lindop has been appointed to the newly created role of Sourcing Director at Stuba.

He is based in the company's London office, and is charged with driving direct contracting and curated hotel collections, including in Australia.

New Saudi cruise line

AMBITIONS to make Saudi Arabia a major cruise hub have been placed at full throttle, with Cruise Saudi revealing this week that it plans to launch a new cruise line in the country.

Local reports have revealed that Aroya Cruises will initially sail itineraries around Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman, focusing on Arabian preferences.

A formal launch is expected in the next couple of months.

Virgin space launch

THE long-awaited first commercial flight carrying fee-paying passengers for Virgin Galactic is set to take off in Aug.

Richard Branson's push into orbit is expected to operate monthly from Aug, with tickets currently costing A\$655,000.