



Australia and New Zealand 2024/25 voyages on sale soon.



Queen Elizabeth Australia, New Zealand
and South Pacific voyages only

Cunard World Club Members:

On sale from 9am AEDT 15 March 2023.

General Public:

Available to book from 9am AEDT 16 March 2023.

Queen Mary 2, Queen Victoria, Queen Anne,
Queen Elizabeth (Asia and Alaska)

Cunard World Club Members:

On sale from 0:01 AEDT 16 March 2023.

General Public:

Available to book from 0:01 AEDT 17 March 2023.

[Learn more](#)

Highlights of Queen Elizabeth's 2024/25 Australia and New Zealand season.

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25 nights

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QUEEN ELIZABETH

Australian Circumnavigation
Sydney roundtrip | 30 nights

18 Oct - 17 Nov 2024 ♦ Q431B



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South Pacific
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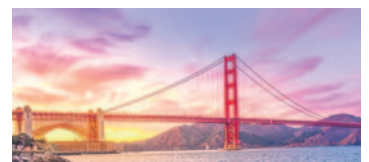


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Travel Daily

First with the news

Monday 6th Mar 2023

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Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features five pages of the latest news plus a cover page from Cunard.

Time to Think NCL

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is encouraging travel agents to think of the brand when booking clients on international cruises.

The line's new Think NCL campaign aims to remind agents that NCL cruises from 400 destinations with 18 award-winning ships across over 600 itineraries - access itineraries [HERE](#) and marketing tools [HERE](#).

Cunard 2024/25

CUNARD is showcasing its Australia and New Zealand voyages aboard *Queen Elizabeth* for 2024/25, including the 25-night San Francisco to Sydney trip, which departs 22 Sep.

The voyages go on sale from 15 Mar - for more exciting details, see the [cover page](#).

CATO plots accreditation

EXCLUSIVE

THE Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO) has launched a new accreditation program which it says is designed specifically for the land supply sector, saying it's implementing the scheme in response to feedback from a survey of its members last year.

Detailed internally to the CATO membership almost three weeks ago, the "fit-for-purpose" initiative will become effective from 01 Apr 2023 as the organisation's membership renewals are processed.

CATO MD Brett Jardine told **TD** the program is "a scheme for our members to demonstrate to the industry and to their own customers that they take their sector of the industry seriously".

While about half of CATO's current membership is part of the Australian Travel Accreditation Scheme (ATAS) administered by AFTA, Jardine noted that "the physical structure of a tour

operator or wholesaler is very, very different to that of retailers".

"And so the view of the members is that we've been kind of corralled into being part of something that's one-size-fits-all - and COVID was proof that when talking to Government, you can't have a discussion on behalf of everybody," Jardine said.

"More than 50% of CATO members are not currently part of ATAS...why should they miss out on an opportunity to participate in something?" he added.

To be accredited under the new CATO scheme, members must hold an ABN or be formally represented locally by a GSA; acknowledge and abide by the CATO constitution; and adhere to the CATO Member Code of Conduct (CMCC) ([CLICK HERE](#)).

"The annual renewal of CATO membership is acknowledgement that a participant (member) is aligned with, understands and complies with, all aspects of the CMCC, and is compliant with all obligations relating to financial reporting relative to the country in which the member is domiciled," the document states.

There is no requirement to submit annual financials to attain CATO Accreditation, which will not be available for travel agents.

A CATO Accredited logo is also being developed, with the association noting that the scheme had been "developed specifically for tour operators and travel wholesalers by CATO as the peak industry body representing the land-supply sector, whereas AFTA's primary focus is representation of retail travel agents".

Harrison on talent

TOURISM Australia MD Phillipa Harrison is the latest senior industry executive to appear in the ongoing interview series from recruitment firm Tourism Talent.

In a special video, Harrison speaks about the last few years of the pandemic, the workforce issues currently facing the tourism and travel industry and Tourism Australia's ongoing strategies, with the interview now live at traveldaily.com.au/videos.



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Window Seat

THE aviation world has been rocked by another 'pee-gate' controversy in the air, this time taking place on board an American Airlines flight from New York-New Delhi.

A 21-year-old American student has been barred from flying with the carrier for life after he was accused of urinating on another passenger over the weekend.

American Airlines crew informed the pilot about the unruly incident after which the pilot contacted Delhi authorities and sought security, where the heavily intoxicated man was met with a cordon of airport staff who escorted him into custody (we presume at a safe distance).

According to a Delhi Police spokesperson, the victim of the non-consensual peeing incident neither wants his name to be made public nor does he want to register a formal complaint.

Amazingly, a similar urination scandal rocked Air India on the same route only a matter of months ago, with a drunk man late last year accused of peeing on a fellow passenger.

The incident caused a major inquiry to take place after the airline failed to react quickly enough to punish the predatory peeing perpetrator.

Emirates launches holidays

EXCLUSIVE

EMIRATES Holidays has debuted in Australia, with the carrier's tour operating division promising guests a "one-stop holiday planning service".

Members of the EK Skywards loyalty program were emailed details of the new offering late on Fri, with a range of offers including the option to lock in package bookings for a \$250 deposit and free cancellation up to 25 days prior to departure.

A toll-free Australian phone number connects to a call centre, with all packages including EK flights and product offering a wide array of holiday options based on the airline's network.

"With over 20 years of experience in the travel industry, we at Emirates Holidays are passionate about creating the finest travel experiences for you to some of the most exclusive resorts and beautiful locations in

the world," the company stated.

"Our travel consultants specialise in Indian Ocean, Europe, Asia, America and African getaways," the dedicated Emirates Holidays Australian website also noted.

EK is offering Skywards loyalty points on full holiday packages of three nights or more, and notes that being part of the scheme "gives you access to a world of rewards including well-worth-it upgrades on your flights".

Emirates isn't the only airline moving into the holiday packaging space, with Qantas ramping up its Qantas Holidays operation - relinquished by Helloworld almost four years ago now (**TD** 21 Jun 2019) - and also now active in the deals space through its acquisition of a majority stake in TripADeal (**TD** 25 May 2022).

Penrith tourist boost

THE NSW Government has allocated \$15 million to progress the development of the Penrith Lakes precinct as a key tourism, recreation and sporting destination, as part of a wider parklands revamp program.

MEL delays likely

INDUSTRIAL action planned at Melbourne Airport by refuelling company Rivet could cause major delays on Wed, with workers likely to refuse to refuel planes for 24 hours.

Travellers on a number of airlines flying international and domestic could be affected, with the company employed to assist Qantas, Singapore Airlines, Qatar Airways, and Cathay Pacific.

Workers are demanding better pay, work loads and the employment of new staff.



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This role is based at our APAC head office in Bourke St, Melbourne.

To learn more visit

<https://www.hurtigruten.com/group/people/>

Africa via SIN

ETHIOPIAN Airlines is offering special fares from Australia to Africa via Singapore, in line with the return of ET flights between Addis Ababa and Singapore.

Valid for sale until 15 May, prices ex BNE/MEL/SYD/PER lead in at \$1131 to a host of African destinations, with the Singapore-Australia sectors served by Qantas and Jetstar - for more details contact World Aviation Systems on 1300 600 001.



SINGAPORE REDISCOVER

SAVE UP TO \$300 PER COUPLE
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SINGAPORE
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Best Global Summit yet!



MORE than 400 Intrepid people from across the globe gathered at The Edge, Federation Square in Melbourne on Sat for Intrepid's Global Summit.

The day began with a powerful Welcome to Country, followed by an inspirational speaker lineup of staff, leaders, partners and visitors, as well as the launch of Intrepid's new brand campaign,

including an exclusive viewing of new brand film *Good Morning Morocco*, which showcases the African nation's best attractions.

"This felt like the most meaningful and important Global Summit in Intrepid Travel's history," Intrepid Travel General Manager, North America, Tom Smith (pictured 2nd from right) enthused.

Uncover NSW: TA

TOURISM Australia is inviting travel agents to join Aussie Specialist Trainer Caroline to explore New South Wales in part seven of the tourism body's Uncover our Regions webinar.

Taking place on Thu 09 Mar at 11am AEDT, the episode will feature a lineup of guest speakers from Port Macquarie, Port Stephens, Hunter Valley, and Tweed, with prizes up for grabs - **CLICK HERE** to register.

Five days to CLIAs

EXCITEMENT is building in the cruise industry with just five days to go until Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) hosts its 20th Cruise Industry Awards for Australasia.

Around 500 people from across the region - including 73 finalists - will convene at Luna Park Sydney on Sat 11 Mar for the cruise industry's first awards celebration in more than three years.

Accor shakes it up

ACCOR has expanded its leadership team across Australia, New Zealand, French Polynesia and Fiji with the announcement of several new appointments.

Anne Gill will lead the Accor Pacific commercial team as Senior Vice President (SVP) Commercial, Premium, Midscale and Economy, for Accor Pacific; taking over from Renae Trimble, who has been promoted to CEO of Accor Plus after clocking up almost 15 years with the company.

Other appointments include Steven Lake as SVP Finance, Premium, Midscale & Economy (PME), Accor Pacific; Philip Basha as CFO, PME, for Middle East, Africa & Asia Pacific, and Angela Howard as SVP Talent & Culture, PME, Accor Pacific.

Additionally, Shelley Perkins has been promoted to SVP of Talent & Culture, PME, for Middle East, Africa & Asia Pacific, and Claire Haigh as VP Communications, PME, for Accor Pacific.



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Vanuatu damage

VANUATU remains under a state of emergency due to the impacts of Cyclones Judy and Kevin, with flights remaining grounded and further travel disruptions expected.

The severe weather events have caused widespread damage, including to major infrastructure, along with fallen power lines, storm debris and power outages.

Intrepid Comoros

INTREPID Travel has announced its debut trip on the Comoros Islands, located off the coast of Eastern Africa.

The nine-day Comoros Wildlife Expedition, which begins departures in Aug, gives travellers the chance to see a range of wildlife, from humpback whales to the Livingston Flying Fox.

It is just one of 16 new wildlife trips and experiences Intrepid has launched for 2023, along with a refresh of its existing 140+ tours.

Massive points giveaway

FLYBUYS members who convert points to VA's Velocity points by 30 Apr will go into the running to win one of 402 prizes, under a new promotion the two companies are billing as "the largest in their history".

Every manual transfer of 1,000 Flybuys points to 500 Velocity points throughout Mar and Apr will earn one entry into the draw, while members who turn on the 'Auto Transfer' function in their Flybuys account will have entries quadrupled, scoring four entries into the draw for every 1,000 Flybuys points auto-transferred.

One person will take out the top prize of five million Velocity points, with second place scoring five million Flybuys points, while 100 winners will walk away with \$100 Coles vouchers, two single entry VA lounge passes, and 10,000 Velocity point packages.

"Velocity members have more ways than ever before to collect

Flybuys points by buying everyday necessities, which they can then transfer to Velocity to redeem on flights," Virgin Australia said.

Quest Collingwood to open on 31 Mar

THE 83-room Quest Collingwood Apartment Hotel has been confirmed to open its doors at the end of Mar, originally scheduled to launch in Nov last year (**TD** 25 May 2021).

The first of five hotels that parent company The Ascott Limited will open in 2023, the Collingwood property will offer guests a business centre, meeting facilities, and a fitness centre.

"We're perfectly positioned to capture growing levels of leisure demand in domestic travel," Quest noted, timing the launch for the Formula 1 Rolex Australian Grand Prix and International Comedy Festival in Melbourne.

KrisFlyer bonuses

TO CELEBRATE the reopening of China, Singapore Airlines has announced a whole host of offers for KrisFlyer Members, including 50% bonus KrisFlyer miles on return flights to China.

Loyalty members can also enjoy 50% off pre-purchased excess baggage on flights to China.

Flights must be booked before 12 Mar for travel until 31 Oct; agents must book using an NDC-enabled Technology Partner and enter each pax KrisFlyer number.

MK to South Africa

AIR Mauritius is offering fares from SYD/MEL/BNE/ADL to Johannesburg or Mauritius leading in at \$1,676 return in Economy class.

The South African offer is also available ex PER for \$1,756, with Business class fares from the east coast via Perth and Mauritius starting at \$7,175 return.

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BROCHURES

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Destination Canada - Selling Canada 2023

Australian travel agents can now download the latest issue of *Selling Canada* from the Canada Specialist Program website (CSP). The 50-page edition features tourism updates from Destination Canada and its partners, as well as imagery and itinerary ideas from coast to coast. The digital magazine also showcases seasonal stories on luxury ski holidays, winter wonderland experiences, culinary tours, northern lights adventures, and a spotlight on responsible touring. There is also a Canada reference map accessible via QR code, and details on the newly revised CSP.

IATA pushes back

THE International Air Transport Association (IATA) is speaking out against the Dutch Govt's decision to reduce Schiphol airport's capacity (*TD* 28 Jul 2022).

Currently restricted to 500,000 flights a year, the new decree would see the number shrink down to just 460,000 flights from Nov, with IATA arguing the political decision conflicts with EU Regulation 598/2014 on noise-related operating restrictions at EU airports.

The Association also claims that no meaningful consultation was undertaken with the broader aviation industry, and that flight reductions in the Netherlands is about to be "imposed as a first resort rather than a last resort".

"The job-destroying hostile approach to aviation that the Dutch Government has chosen is a totally disproportionate response to managing noise," IATA General Director Willie Walsh fumed.

Ponant NZ voyages

PONANT and Relais & Chateau have renewed an agreement that will see two gastronomic voyages sail in NZ, hosted by Relais & Chateaux chefs, Norka Mella Munoz and Jimmy McIntyre.

The luxury voyages will depart later this year and see a French lifestyle theme throughout the tailored itineraries, which will traverse the Wharekauhau Country Estate and Jimmy McIntyre of New Zealand.

Flight Centre ambo

THE Flight Centre Foundation has helped fund the purchase of WIRES' eighth Wildlife Ambulance, as the travel group marks World Wildlife Day.

"Many of our customers travel across the country to see Australia's unique wildlife, and like them, we believe it is truly something worth protecting, Flight Centre's Head of People, Allisa O'Connell said.

MW Tours pours on the knowledge



MW TOURS National Sales Manager, David Reid, recently hosted a group of MTA agents for a dedicated coffee cluster and update at Hotel Indigo Adelaide.

It has been a busy couple of weeks for MW Tours, which hosted an update for agents in

Sydney last Tue, alongside the China National Tourist Office (CNTO) (*TD* 28 Feb), as well as appointing a new marketing agency last Fri (*TD* 03 Mar).

Pictured enjoying the brand update are: Tina Johnson, Eleanor Lamdin, Angela Smith, Yvonne Cadd, David Reid, and Carmela Matricciani.

Saudia launches four

SAUDIA, the flag carrier of Saudi Arabia, has launched four new international destinations: Beijing, China; Birmingham, UK; Kano, Nigeria; and Johannesburg, South Africa.

The route expansion follows SAUDI's collaboration with the Saudi Air Connectivity Program.

Biden critical of fees

US PRESIDENT Joe Biden has called on all carriers to follow the lead of American Airlines and eliminate family seating fees as part of customer service plans.

Frontier Airlines also recently introduced a new policy where children under 11 can sit next to an accompanying adult without extra charges, provided they are willing to switch flights if needed.

Brissy is calling!

BRISBANE is calling on all Australian travellers to visit the city as part of its latest Summer is Calling tourism campaign.

The marketing push shines a spotlight on Crystalbrook Vincent, MAYA Mexican, Ciao Papi, New Farm Park, Moreton Island/Mulgumpin and cycling to Howard Smith Wharves as just some of the tourism attractions the Qld capital has to offer.

The campaign has been launched by the Brisbane Economic Development Agency is running in partnership with Expedia, and is seeking to drive \$18 million in bookings to Brisbane, running across TV, online video and social media.