Unlock the Suite Life at Hilton Sydney



Don't settle for ordinary, elevate your stay with our Suite Escape package. Indulge in Champagne and petit fours delivered to your room, buffet breakfast in glass brasserie and a late check-out of 12pm.





Click here to book your stay



Travel Daily First with the news

Thursday 4th Jul 2024







THE KIMBERLEY

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of Scenic, aboard Scenic Eclipse II.

TODAY Scenic Eclipse II has continued northward to WA's Hunter River, with guests enjoying another active day.

Morning and afternoon Zodiac cruises took in the spectacular rock formation at the mouth of the river, as well as two stunning waterfalls which plunge almost 100m from the clifftop into the water.

It's part of North Kimberley Marine Park, with some Scenic passengers taking advantage of the ship's two onboard helicopters to gain a truly unique aerial perspective.

Check out the action on Instagram @cruiseweekly.

VA override restructure

VIRGIN Australia has confirmed changes to its travel agency commercial framework have come into effect from 01 Jul. part of a reported cost-cutting move.

A spokesperson for VA told TD that updates to its framework from the start of the month include changes to its economic partnership model with the carrier's travel agency partners.

"[The decision] brings equitable incentive payments across all sectors of the industry, and this means we will pay our travel

Win a Disney cruise

CRUISECO and Creative Cruising have partnered with Disney Cruise Line to offer sellers a chance to board a cruise famil.

To be in the running for the four-night sailing, agents must make a min of two Disney Magic booked & deposited before 31 Jul with Cruiseco/Creative Cruising.

agencies equally and fairly for the segment they operate," VA said.

Effectively the changes will mean all agencies in the same segment will be paid even override rates across retail, corporate and online.

While reports from Finance News Network speculate VA's decision may adversely impact the revenue of agency partners such as Flight Centre Travel Group (FCTG) and Corporate Travel Management (CTM), the restructure of bonus volume payments could result in other agencies seeing greater overrides.

FCTG declined to comment when contacted by TD. AB

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily has seven pages of news, a cover wrap from Hilton Sydney, our Business Events News page, plus a full page from Infinity Holidays.

Travel Daily is 30!

TODAY marks exactly 30 years since the first edition of *Travel* **Daily** wass published by founder Mike Heard on 04 Jul 1994.

It's been a long road since then, through the ups and downs of 9/11, bird flu, the Asian financial crisis, the incredible growth of outbound and inbound travel, commission cuts, M&As, the GFC, industry rationalisation, new business models, the cruise boom and of course COVID-19.

Taken on by Bruce and Jenny Piper in 2004, and now in the hands of a new generation after the Pipers took on private equity partners, the **TD** team remains committed to continuing to serve the industry by bringing you the news you need to know.

Hilton elevates stays

IT'S time to elevate hotel stays with a Suite Escape Package from Hilton, which includes late check out and more - see front page.





Radwanski jumps aboard

ADAM Radwanski, Silversea's Managing Director for Asia Pacific, is the latest industry leader to join the speaker line-up at new industry event. Travel24.

Radwanski will join a panel discussion focusing on the future of ocean cruising and the opportunities and challenges within the sector.

More speakers will join Radwanski in the coming weeks.

Prior to his current role at Silversea, Radwanski held leadership roles at Qatar Airways for more than a decade, including Senior Manager of Australasia.

Focusing on the next 24 months in the tourism sector, Travel24 will be jam-packed with thoughtprovoking panel discussions, keynotes and presentations, featuring a great line-up of travel experts and thought leaders including Minister for Trade and Tourism, Don Farrell; diversity advocate and TedX speaker, Azure



Antoinette; ATIA CEO, Dean Long; Accenture's Head of Cultural Forecasting, Michelle Newton; and plenty more.

The one-day conference will take place on 08 Aug at the Sofitel Sydney in Darling Harbour. DF

San Fran packages

PICK from eight airfare and stopover packages in San Francisco with Infinity Holidays, which include late check out times and a range of added value.

Packages start from \$2,899ppts, see the back page for details.

The industry experts you need to hear from. Get your tickets now!



CATO Touring comp

THE Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO) is giving agents the chance to win a free 12-month subscription to its new Touring Academy (TD 26 Jun).

The new platform uses a certification model for advisors to master the art of selling landbased holidays around the globe.

Winners will be announced on 15 Jul, with a runner-up to score 50% off enrolment - details HERE.

Travel on the stage

MUMBRELLA has announced three major speakers for its Travel Marketing Summit and Awards, which will take place on 07 Nov at Pier One Sydney Harbour.

Virgin Australia's Chief Marketing Officer, Libby Minogue; Intrepid Travel's Chief Customer Officer, Leigh Barnes; and Contiki Oceania's MD Toni Ambler and Marketing Director Maria Parisi will all take the stage to share their insights on brand-building.





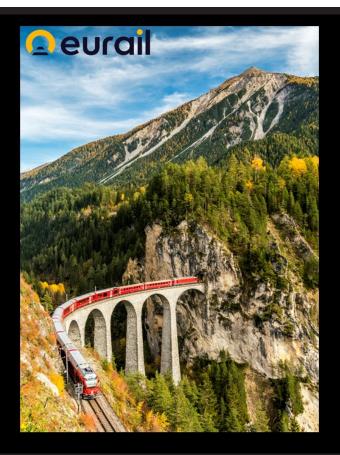
SINGAPORE

Today's issue of Travel Daily is coming to you from ILTM Asia Pacific in Singapore, where day three of the luxury travel conference is underway.

ILTM draws to a close today with just one media event in the morning, a breakfast hosted by PuLi Hotel, before delegates are let loose on the showroom floor one last time to peruse the various stands at their pleasure.

For readers who haven't done so already, make sure you check out yesterday's special ILTM luxury page for all of the coverage and interesting segment updates from day one.

Travel Daily will be on the 9pm Qantas flight back to Sydney, unfortunately not in the luxurious section of the bus.



Book your Eurail Pass with Rail Online

- Eurail Pass covers 33 Countries (Including the UK)
- Discounted Youth (under 28) and Senior (60+) Passes
- Children under 12 travel free with an Adult
- No Booking Fees & Self-Manage your bookings with Immediate Refunds
- Eurail Pass holders enjoy additional perks, such as discounts on ferries, buses, and attractions, as well as reduced rates at select hotels and hostels.
- B2B Payment Types VAN, Mint, PayPal, TravelPay, Payment Gate
- **Earn 7% Commission for Eurail Passes**
- **Fantastic Prices & Local Customer Support**



RailOnline

www.rail.online info@rail.online







Window Seat

FOOD and travel tend to go hand-in-hand today, most travellers are foodies and food tourism is a significant part of the industry, so much so that it takes a fair bit to surprise a bunch of journalists about to sit down to yet another "gastronomic adventure" on their latest trip.

But ILTM managed to surprise (as for delight, the jury is still out on that) when it took media to Fysh at Edition - a restaurant run by Josh Nyland, a man the ABC once declared 'the most interesting chef on the planet'.

And he really didn't disappoint, taking the ideal of head-to-tail eating, where you eat as much of the animal as possible, to fish.

Media sat down to plates made in part of fish bones, but the ideas didn't end there.

Charcoal grilled Manjimup marron was partnered with fish bone noodles, a tuna wellington also turned up, covered in a tuna bordelaise, but the most unique dishes were left to the desserts.

The Valrhona chocolate tart raised a few eyebrows with its Murray Cod fat caramel, with one diner saying, "I think I can taste the fish, but my brain might be playing tricks on me."

Youth to dominate luxury

BY 2030, 80% of luxury travellers will be represented by Gen Z, Millennial or Gen Alpha demographics, according to Candice D'Cruz, Vice President of Luxury Brand Management Asia Pacific at Hilton.

Speaking at a special media breakfast during ILTM, D'Cruz also emphasised the fast growth of the personal wealth of these combined demographics.

"By 2030, the global population of those three [demographics] together will be over four billion, the highest percentages versus the previous generations in terms of luxury consumption, so we have to make sure that we take into consideration this younger audience," she said.

D'Cruz suggested these groups wanted travel to be three things; novel, experiential and special.

Positive actions and options in wellness, food and beverage, arts and culture, and sustainability were all key to creating novel, experiential, and special opportunities for the cohort.

"These customers are very unforgiving - they are very well travelled, and they want to make sure that 'surprise and delight' and 'connection' are kept at the epicentre of everything that brands do," D'Cruz explained.

"Why? Because they're young, definitely...they are the first generation of digital-first.

"For them, when they are having physical or human

connection, they want it to be super special and they want you to get it right from get-go, they want it to feel experiential."

D'Cruz continued to explain that Southeast Asia would be key to the luxury market moving forward and that it would outpace emerging markets over the next 10 years.

"Southeast Asia will overtake the likes of the Middle East and Latin America when it comes to luxury consumption," she said.

"Hilton is using the latest trends to guide growth, ensuring the business takes advantage of the increased consumption in SE Asia," she added.

D'Cruz also revealed that over the next five years, there would be strong growth in the amount of Hilton properties in Asia. *DF*

Explore Upgraded

SMALL adventure tour operator Explore Worldwide has just released its new Upgraded collection, taking travellers on 18 new tours across countries like Turkey, Jordan, Peru, Vietnam, Botswana and Morocco.

To support the communities at each destination, guests will now stay in locally-owned and run hotels, which will be typically four-star properties, rather than just three-star.

The properties will also generally be located right in the heart of the action.

"We created this collection of premium accommodation tours to retain the authenticity of our standard Explore trips, but with a little more comfort to come back to at the end of a day's adventures," said Michael Edwards, Explore MD.

"The trips are still very immersive and experiential, and we've worked hard to bring them in at a very competitive price point...they're ideal for the traveller that would like extra comfort, or something a bit special," he added.

ATIA awareness

THE Interim Australian Centre for Disease Control has called on ATIA members to help ensure Australians know how to protect themselves from the risk of contracting MERS while travelling.

A MERS information card is available for travellers, which explains what to do during and after travelling to an area affected by MERS - see **HERE** for info.

ATIA is also advising members to relay the importance of travellers to New Zealand being aware of the need to complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration (NZTD) - which includes babies and children.

The NZTD collects travel, customs, immigration and biosecurity info, It's free to complete and can be submitted is 24 hours before landing in NZ.



eRoam, Intuitive & Easy for Everyone!

Imagine having extra hours every day to craft extraordinary holidays and still have time to catch up with friends over lunch or have me time!

With eRoam, you can streamline your bookings and enjoy more free time.

Ready to reclaim your day?

Discover eRoam now!





CVFR building bridges



CVFR Consolidation Services this week hosted a partner event with carriers in Brisbane.

Taking place at the Blackbird Restaurant and overlooking the Story Bridge, CVFR said it enjoyed "overwhelming support from our dedicated agent network" at the gathering, which included representatives from Korean Air, Eva Air, Singapore Airlines, Batik Air, China Southern, China Eastern and China Airlines.

McKinley fire worry

HOLLAND America Line says it is assessing the viability of cruise tours in the short term due to wildfires in Denali National Park.

According to Alaskan fire service authorities, the entrance to the national park has been closed as crews work to contain a wildfire.

Marriott flies high

LUXURY Group by Marriott International has partnered with Blade Urban Air Mobility to introduce exclusive new experiences at a selection of its properties in New York City.

The Luxury Group will give guests the opportunity to fly directly to and from John F. Kennedy International Airport and Newark Liberty International Airport to their hotel destinations using Blade's helicopter service.

Available between 01 Jul and 02 Sep 2024, the complimentary round-trip Blade airport helicopter transfers are available to book **HERE**.

"A huge thank you to [our airline partners]...who came to support this event, and helped to make it such a memorable and successful evening," CVFR said. AB

Pictured: A group of agents sitting and enjoying the event.

HERA is our hero

ACCOR has lauded its new travel advisor loyalty program, HERA, at ILTM, sharing more than 10,000 members have joined since the exciting initiative launched in May.

Of those 10,000, more than half are new to Accor, giving the brand a big opportunity to engage with a new set of travel advisors.

"We are over our target, and we believe we will continue to go over our target," enthused Pascal Visintainer, Accor's Senior Vice President Global Sales, Luxury and Lifestyle.

"The program is on a dedicated online platform where travel advisors can find all the info they need to sell the product.

Accor also stated it has ambitious growth targets in place to grow the program.

Sanford is back in

JUST seven months after voluntarily withdrawing from ATAS (**TD** 31 Oct 2023), Sanford Travel has rejoined the ATIA-led accreditation scheme.

Sanford is part of Helloworld Business Travel and was a National Travel Industry Awards finalist in 2016 and 2017.

NCL SAYS OBRIGADO TO TRADE PARTNERS



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) recently hosted its top trade partners to a series of specially themed dinners in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne to thank them for their unwavering support and partnership in line with NCL's Partners First philosophy.

Agents were transported to Brazil with an evening that included caipirinha and caipiroskas cocktails on arrival and a delicious churrasco feast (a fireside roast originating from Southern Brazil).

All guests also took home a little taste of Brazil with a special Caipirinha cocktail kit and engraved glass.

Brazilian cuisine is just one of the many unique dining options available across 12 of NCL's award-winning ships. At Moderno Churrascaria, NCL's authentic Brazilian steakhouse, guests can enjoy exotic cocktails and a bountiful selection of salads, before indulging in

an authentic choice of delicious skewers of slow roasted meats brought directly to the table.

Damian Borg, NCL's Director of Sales, Strategy and Operations APAC said, "These dinners are an opportunity for the NCL team to simply say thank you and to show our appreciation of how much we value the support of our Partners First Rewards members."



NCL has a host of cruise options throughout the Americas including South America. During Jul and August, Partners First Rewards members will receive double dollars for any bookings made on an NCL Americas sailing including Hawaii, Alaska, Mexico and Caribbean.

PICTURED TOP: back row: Sheena Smith (NCL Business Development Specialist VIC); Dean Marshall, Flight Centre Southland; Emily Roff, Flight Centre Bayside

front row: Ashlea Blake, Blake Travel; Samantha Whitty, Flight Centre

Area Leader; Steven Jackson, Flight Centre Cranbourne.

MIDDLE: Carolyn Friend, Geelong Travel; Kirilly Plum, Destination HQ; Lara Anderson (NCL Business Development Manager Vic & TAS); Heather Bowler, Helloworld Casey Central.

BOTTOM: Claudia Hackney, Flight Centre Picton; Sam Morgan, (NCL Business Development Specialist, NSW, ACT & WA); Toni Laulu,



page 4

Flight Centre NSW Area leader; Lauren Duncan, Flight Centre NSW Area leader; Lauran Ryan, MTA BDM NSW; Michelle Schulze, TravelManagers NSW South.

Famil IN FOCUS is our feature showcasing some of the photos from recent industry famils & events. If you want your famil to be featured, email advertising@traveldaily.com.au.

Travel Daily e info@traveldaily.com.au t 1300 799 220 w www.traveldaily.com.au





Discover our River Cruise Special Report

Click here

New Tahiti campaign

TAHITI Tourisme has launched a new brand campaign & website.

The 'Feel What We Feel Here' campaign offers travellers an immersive glimpse into the profound connection Tahiti locals share with the awe-inspiring landscape and each other.

The campaign is anchored by a hero film, inviting viewers to experience the destination.

The campaign resonates with the mindset of "mana" - the life force that unites all beings in The Islands of Tahiti - as well as the destination's desire to promote sustainable and inclusive tourism by preserving local traditions.



New BKB incentive

BKB Holidays and Outback Spirit are inviting travel advisors to win a trip with its latest incentive.

Travel sellers who book an Outback Spirit departure for next year through BKB will automatically go into the draw to win a trip for two people.

The prize offers an eight-day Outback Spirit Gems of the South West tour for two passengers, with all bookings before 30 Sep eligible to win the competition.

Uber gets nautical

UBER has entered into the water transport segment, introducing new boat services in six European hotspots.

Uber Yacht, a luxurious private yacht experience, is now available to guests in Ibiza, while Uber Boat will launch in Venice and Mykonos, as well as locations throughout Greece, including Athens, Corfu and Santorini.

Additionally, those who are visiting Paris during the Southern Hemiphere summer can pick up Uber Cruise to take a trip down the river Seine.

Viva adds a little sunshine



VIVA Holidays and the South Australian Tourism Commission recently hosted a winter famil, which saw four lucky top-selling agents experience the unique offerings of Adelaide, the Clare Valley, and the Flinders Ranges.

Advisors were able to experience the cosy vibes on a famil that included four days of unique South Australian experiences, including a memorable visit to Rawnsley Park Station in the Flinders Ranges.

Highlights included a hosted

JNTO keen to meet

AGENTS keen to meet with key Japanese suppliers at the upcoming 2024 Japan National Tourism Organisation roadshow are urged to join the waitlist.

Three events are scheduled for **Sydney**, **Brisbane** and **Auckland** on 26, 27 and 29 Aug respectively. Click the city above for details, with registrations closing 13 Aug.

Each event will run from 6-9pm and feature eight-minute scheduled appointments to allow small groups to enjoy networking

time with targeted suppliers.

Attendees will also be able to enjoy Japanese cuisine and traditional entertainment including a karate demonstration while building their knowledge of Japan as a tourist destination.

CLICK HERE to for more details.

hike and breakfast tour, and a 'Sunset on the Chace Tour' (pictured) to witness the sun set over the million-year-old ranges.

The group also experienced a Yalumba Unlocked Experience in the Barossa Valley, and a visit to one of Australia's oldest working sheep station, Bungaree Station, where guests also enjoyed a unique farm stay.

The incentive rewarded the top selling-advisors of accommodation nights booked in South Australia with Viva.

Attending the famil were Poppie Cole, Helloworld Mudgeeraba; Erin Grosse, Helloworld Dapto; Kimberly Daley, Travel Experience. com Atherton; and Evelyn Swayne, Kingscote Travel. *MS*

A&K tailors savings

ABERCROMBIE & Kent (A&K) is offering savings of up to 10% on its Tailor-Made Journeys.

The promotion is valid on new bookings made between 01 Jul and 31 Aug, for travel periods between now and 14 Dec.

Exclusions include canal barge cruises, trains, private plane and vessel charters, internal and international air, trekking permits, and a number of select journeys.

The offer is not combinable with any other discounts.

CLICK HERE for more information on the deal.

Tourism ups quality

OVER the first 12 months of operation, the Australian Tourism Industry Council's (ATIC) Quality Tourism Framework grant program has been completed by over 350 tourism businesses.

The initiative, into which the Federal Government pumped \$8 million last year, is designed to assist regional tourism businesses improve accessibility and sustainability across experiences.

"The support from the Labor Govt regarding the development of small and medium business via the Quality Tourism Framework is crucial to the competitiveness, sustainability, and reputability of the nation's visitor economy," ATIC Deputy Chair, Shaun de Bruyn said.

"These results demonstrate the industry's commitment to providing quality tourism experiences, developing their product to reach new markets,"

To date, 4,500 tourism companies have used ATIC progs.

Sent From heaven

RAIL Europe has welcomed Robert From (**pictured**) as its new Chief Growth Officer.

The ex-Google leader will be responsible for customer acquisition retention, ancillaries, and monetisation, arriving as the company prepares to launch a new booking experience for its customers on both its website an app by the beginning of next year.

From brings more than 15 years of experience in scaling technology and businesses.





business events news

Thursday 4th Jul 2024

businesseventsnews.com.au

Climate solutions

SYDNEY Showground will work to help event planners to better understand their environmental impact of their events through a new partnership with Clima.

Clients will be able to 'opt in' to have events appraised by the climate solutions organisation, which will then provide a report on how greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced or eliminated.

Planners can also opt to become 'Climate Conscious Certified' by offsetting their emissions and contributing to carbon projects.

Sydney Showground and Sydney Olympic Park Authority continue to work towards achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

TNZ targets \$140m

BUSINESS events will play a major role in Tourism New Zealand's (TNZ) strategy to grow year-round visitation, the organisation has indicated.

Speaking from Business Events Industry Aotearoa's MEETINGS event in Rotorua. Tourism New Zealand General Manager NZ and Business Events, Bjoern Spreitzer, said TNZ was targeting NZ\$140 million in high impact conferences in the 2025 Financial Year.

Spreitzer said business events were worth \$403 million in 2023, with delegates spending \$100 more per day than leisure visitors.

EVENT TECH TO DRIVE RETURNS

EVENT planners in Australia are eager to upgrade their event technology in order to drive greater revenue returns through more impressive production values, a new survey indicates.

The Cvent Event Industry Report 2024 Australia edition provides planners with the latest trends and market insights to help them navigate a changing landscape.

Overall, the general consensus is that event planners will ramp up output, drawing on technology to offer more engaging and impactful experiences, with 95% set to boost event expenditure.

Among survey respondents, 52% said they would increase the number of in-person events, with 50% eager to boost hybrid, 48% preferring webinars and 41% keen to push virtual events.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) was



identified as a leading tech option ripe for wider use, particularly to create personalised schedules and content, while augmented reality will work to bring virtual and in-person delegates together.

Sustainability was another area requiring a greater presence, with 81% of planners keen to set

a sustainability target for events and 66% eager to track the carbon footprint for individual attendees.

Cvent Australia Head, Jack Ukil, said generating revenue from events remained a challenge, which underscored the growing importance of aligning events with business objectives. ML

Nu Skin in Brissie

MORE than 1,500 delegates from cosmetics brand Nu Skin China recently descended on Brisbane as part of the company's annual incentive trip.

The company's top sellers were welcomed by a dedicated activation at BNE Airport before embarking on an itinerary to enjoy the city's most popular attractions.

In recent years, the Nu Skin incentive trip has seen delegates head to Hawaii, Toronto and Bali.

GCCEC turns 20

THE Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre has chalked up 20 years since doors first opened in 2004.

The \$167 million facility sought to address the city's need for a dedicated venue for large-scale gatherings including events and concerts.

Highlights of the GCCEC's run to date include a sellout Rihanna concert in 2011, two hostings of Australian Tourism Exchange and multiple environmental accolades and certifications.

Encore is Crown'd

ENCORE Event Technologies has been selected as the exclusive in-house event production partner for all three Crown Resorts in Sydney, Melbourne, and now also Perth.

The company will manage a wide range of events across the luxury hotels. including corporate galas and conferences, as well as private celebrations, collaborating closely with the Crown Resorts team to create unforgettable events.



UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL: Join Our Mentoring Program and Ignite Your Success!

TIME is a Career Advancement Path for all Employees in Travel, Tourism, Hospitality, Cruise and Aviation Industry including Regional, and Rural Areas across Australia

WHAT TIME CAN • Further develop your management and leadership potential DO FOR YOU...

- Develop confidence and networking opportunities
- Strategic career planning
- Increase your knowledge of organisational culture & processes

For more information visit - www.travelindustrymentor.com.au



APPOINTMENTS

Send your new appointments to: appointments@traveldaily.com.au

Tom Smith has extended his post at aviation services group Aeria Management Group, taking a promotion to take on the group's top job as Chief Executive Officer. Moving up from his role of Chief Operating Officer, Smith will oversee the upcoming aviation hangar project at Bankstown Airport, as well as the implementation of a new commercial district at the regional air hub in Sydney. He was previously with Qantas for eight years, most recently managing real estate and property development for the carrier.

Emily Potter has taken on the role of Global Sales Coordinator at Shangri-La Group, based in Sydney. The sales professional boasts experience across many tourism segments, previously holding a business development role at Regent Seven Seas Cruises. Potter also has a variety of experiences at various hotels, including the Harbour Rocks Hotel, and overseas stints at Hotel St Moritz Queenstown and Danubius Hotel Regents Park in London.

The Star Entertainment Group has announced the departure of Hamish Macdonald as Group Company Secretary, and has flagged the appointment of **Kate Williams** as an additional Company Secretary. She is currently the Deputy Company Secretary and will, subject to all necessary regulatory approvals, be appointed to the position. Williams boasts experiences in the legal, regulatory, and governance sectors.

Annalee Ilievski has been appointed as Aviation Product & Experience Manager at Sydney Airport. Ilievski makes the transition from her previous role as its Aviation Program Coordinator, a role she held for just over 10 months. Prior to working at Sydney Airport, she was instrumental at the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023 as the tournament's Travel Project Coordinator, and she also boasts a 14-year tenure at itravel, where she was Head of Commercial.

Aloft Singapore Novena has appointed a new General Manager, with Tan Kim Seng to start from o1 Aug. Seng brings over four decades of experience to the new position, including across some of the most internationally acclaimed properties in the world. He was most recently the Chief Operating Officer of Meritus Hotels & Resorts and the Asia Pacific Managing Director for IFH Worldwide. He is also currently the Independent Representative at Board of Club Wyndham Asia.

IHG Hotels & Resorts has welcomed Jesper Larsen as the new General Manager for its upcoming property InterContinental Ha Long Bay Resort and Residences. Larsen has a wealth of knowledge in the region with over 20 years of experiences from across Greater China, Japan, Vietnam, as well as Europe. He will oversee the Vietnam-based hotel's group operations and position the hotel to align with other properties in the country. These include the growing IHG pipelines in the region, including Regent Phu Quoc, Crowne Plaza Vientiane, and more.



A finger lick'n good idea



CHICKEN-LOVERS can now indulge their cravings at the world's first KFC-inspired lodge right here in Australia.

The fast-food outlet has cooked up the ultimate Christmas in Jul experience in the NSW Blue Mountains, with the Colonel's Lodge promising guests a "visual, and literal feast of festivities".

The wood-panelled lodge is adorned with seasonal decorations and KFC Christmas in Jul merchandise, with a 'Lodge Butler' on hand to prepare Kentucky 'yule-fried' chicken throughout the stay.

Customers who spend \$30 or more in the KFC app this month will go into the draw to win one

AirAsia X to Africa

AIRASIA X is set to become the only low-cost carrier in Malaysia to offer direct flights to Africa, with a new service to Nairobi, Kenya's capital, taking off on 15 Nov.

The route will serve as a crucial link in connecting Asia to Africa, with AirAsia X to also offer a flythru connection to connect Kenya with 130 destinations across Southeast Asia, Northern and Central Asia, and Australia.

of three trips to the Colonel's Lodge for them and three mates, with every transaction earning one entry to win. JM

American zeroes in

AMERICAN Airlines is set to receive 100 hydrogen-electric engines to power its regional jet aircraft, resulting in close to zero inflight emissions.

The carrier signed a conditional purchase agreement with clean aviation innovator ZeroAvia, which is flight-testing a prototype for a 20-seat plane.

ZeroAvia is also currently designing an engine for larger aircraft such as the Bombardier CRJ700, which AA operates on certain regional routes.

The US airline has also increased its investment in ZeroAvia, participating in the company's Series C financing round.

"This announcement will help accelerate the development of technologies needed to power our industry and uphold our commitment to make American a sustainable airline so we can continue to deliver for customers for decades to come," said American's CEO Robert Isom.

Travel Daily www.traveldaily.com.au

Travel Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Produced each weekday since 1994, Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication.

EDITORIAL

Editor - Adam Bishop Deputy Editor - Matt Lennon Cruise Editor - Myles Stedman Journalists - Janie Medbury, Matthew Wai

Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper Publisher - Damian Francis Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Head of Sales & Marketing - Sean Harrigan Advertising - Laura Aghajanian & Dante Muranty advertising@traveldaily.com.au

Head of Operations &

Contributing Editor - Anna Piper

t 1300 799 220

ACCOUNTS

accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760

info@traveldaily.com.au



Travel Daily is a publication of TDaily Pty Ltd ABN 34 108 508 765. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of Travel Daily no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Damian Francis.



Make your stopover a stayover in San Francisco

Pick from 8 incredible airfare and stayover packages, including late checkout and other great inclusions, and stay longer in SFO.

Play your way in Vegas with SFO Stayover.

Flights & 3 Nights

PACKAGES INCLUDE:

United Airlines flight Sydney to San Francisco with onward flight to Las Vegas, 3 nights at The Westin St Francis San Francisco and a SFO Explorer by Go City 2 day pass.

HELIO CODE: AU46807

FROM

\$2,899pp twin share*

Explore Cancun with SFO Stayover.

Flights & 3 Nights

PACKAGES INCLUDE:

United Airlines flight Sydney to San Francisco withonward flight to Cancun, 3 nights at The Westin St Francis San Francisco and a SFO Explorer by Go City 2 day pass.

HELIO CODE: AU46848

FROM

\$3,299p twin share*

Take on Florida with SFO Stayover.

Flights & 3 Nights

PACKAGES INCLUDE:

United Airlines flight Sydney to San Francisco with onward flight to Orlando, 3 nights at Handlery Union Quare Hotel and San Francisco Golden Gate Bay Cruise.

HELIO CODE: AU46808

FROM

\$3,149_{pp twin share*}

View all packages