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## Travel Daily ON LOCATION

### Alice Springs

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of AAT Kings, which is hosting its Kings Canyon, Uluru and Kata Tjuta tour this week.

ALICE Springs enjoyed a light sprinkling of rain overnight, ahead of our big journey to Yulara this morning.

The group will explore Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park, and visit the cultural centre to learn about the local community, before travelling to the base of Uluru this afternoon.

After following the Kuniya walking trail to the Mutitjula Waterhole, we will witness the famous Uluru sunset before relaxing and replenishing with a delicious BBQ dinner under the stars tonight.

## FJ joins oneworld alliance

THE oneworld airline alliance has overnight added Fiji Airways as its 15th full member.

Fiji's flag carrier will transition to full membership from its previous connect partner status immediately, a process that will see all benefits passed onto travellers within the next year.

Joining the alliance, which counts Qantas as a member, will enable Fiji Airways to provide oneworld Emerald, Sapphire, and Ruby customers with a range of benefits, including earning and redeeming miles, accruing status points, as well as access to priority check-in and boarding and lounge access.

The Fijian carrier's top loyalty customers will also gain access to all oneworld priority perks, such as the use of 700 business and first class lounges globally.

"As a full member airline, we are excited to enhance the travel experience for oneworld alliance

frequent flyers, offering greater accessibility to Fiji and the South Pacific, and ensuring seamless connections...across the alliance network," Fiji Airways CEO, Andre Viljoen, said.

Fiji Airways is headquartered at Nadi International Airport and currently serves 26 destinations in 15 countries, including oneworld hubs at Sydney, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, and Tokyo.

Fiji Airways joins oneworld after recent speculation in the US press that Hawaiian Airlines will also join once its US\$1.9 billion merger with Alaska Airlines has been completed. AB

### Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features nine pages of travel news including our Sustainability page, a cover wrap from Tourism New Zealand and a full page from Silversea.

## Pure New Zealand

TRAVEL agents are invited to curate their dream self-famil to The Land of the Long White Cloud by joining Tourism New Zealand's Explore New Zealand Discount Programme - see the cover page for all the details.

## VA snubs Sydney

FRESH from being approved for additional capacity on the route (TD 30 May), Virgin Australia has confirmed it will operate up to seven return services a week between Brisbane and Port Vila from 09 Jul.

While many in the industry thought the added seats between Australia and the popular Pacific tourist destination would pave the way for Sydney flights, VA has elected to follow the strong demand for Brisbane departures.

The move also marks the Australian carrier offering the most capacity to Vanuatu since launching flights 20 years ago.

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## Win an Ama cruise

AMAWATERWAYS is giving Australian and New Zealand agents the chance to win one of four places on a European river cruise famil later this year, when they attend one of three training webinars on 12 Jun.

Those who participate in the 30-minute sessions will learn about the cruise line's ships, itineraries and services, and will also be in the running to score one of nine \$100 gift cards.

Register [HERE](#) for the webinar.

## P&O sails into the sunset

**FROM** Mar next year, Carnival's P&O brand will be wound up as part of a bold new strategic plan to boost capacity for the flagship Carnival Cruise Line brand (**TD** breaking news).

The sensational decision will see *Pacific Encounter* and *Pacific Adventure* both rebranded and absorbed into the Carnival fleet from Mar 2025, while the future of *Pacific Explorer* looks less certain, with Carnival Corp only

revealing that she will exit the P&O fleet in Feb 2025.

Striving for greater efficiencies in the Pacific region was also cited by Carnival Corporation CEO, Josh Weinstein, as key motivation for the restructure.

"Given the strategic reality of the South Pacific's small population and significantly higher operating and regulatory costs, we're adjusting our approach to give us the efficiencies we need to continue delivering an incredible cruise experience year-round to our guests in the region," he said.

Importantly, the news of P&O's retirement will not impact current itineraries, with Carnival confirming it will operate "business as usual", however, guests will be notified in the coming days of any changes to future bookings.

After the transition takes place, Carnival Cruise Line will boast six ships in the local market, with *Encounter* and *Adventure* to bolster sailings operated by *Carnival Splendor*, *Carnival Luminosa*, *Carnival Splendor* and *Carnival Adventure*.

Carnival also confirmed that some "small" technology upgrades will take place on the transitioning P&O ships before joining Carnival Cruise Line, including making the HubApp available to guests.

P&O Cruises Australia customers will also be invited to participate in Carnival's loyalty program. *AB*

## An enriching offer

**FORGET** one good reason, there are "\$6,000 worth of reasons" for sailors to book their next voyage with Silversea, which has reinstated an enriching offer.

Agents can snag up to \$6,000 savings per suite for their clients on bookings made by 31 Jul.

More details on [page 10](#).



## ACCOUNT MANAGER, DIRECT CHANNEL Full Time - Sydney

Malaysia Airlines has an exciting opportunity for an Account Manager, Direct Channel to join our Australian and New Zealand Team.

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## It's graduation time

THE Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) is reminding the industry of its upcoming Sydney event, which will celebrate the graduation of Program 53 and 54 and the induction of Program 57.

Danielle Galloway, the Global Managing Director for Flight Centre Travel Group's Luxury and Independent brands (pictured), will be the guest speaker for the evening, which takes place 19 Jun from 6-8pm in Bondi Junction.

Places are limited - contact [time@travelindustrymentor.com.au](mailto:time@travelindustrymentor.com.au) for more information.



## Gray Dawes chooses joint Aussie chiefs

GRAY Dawes Group has appointed Justine Martin and Ben Moylan as joint General Managers, with both recruits to take charge of the brand from the company's Sydney and Melbourne offices respectively.

The recruitment news follows a major push on the Australian market by the UK-headquartered travel management business, which made its local entry in Jan last year by purchasing the Aussie travel management company MP Travel (TD 19 Jan 2023).

Since then, Gray Dawes has rebranded its acquiree (TD 07 Jul 2023) to enable a more cohesive end-to-end strategy for clients.

Martin will be charged with spearheading sales, account management, IT and product support for the Australian market from Victoria, while Moylan will have a slightly different emphasis, looking after customer service, human resources, finance, and



commercial needs from NSW.

As well as looking after their respective territories and remits, the two GMs will ultimately share responsibility for the overall management of the Gray Dawes Travel's business Down Under.

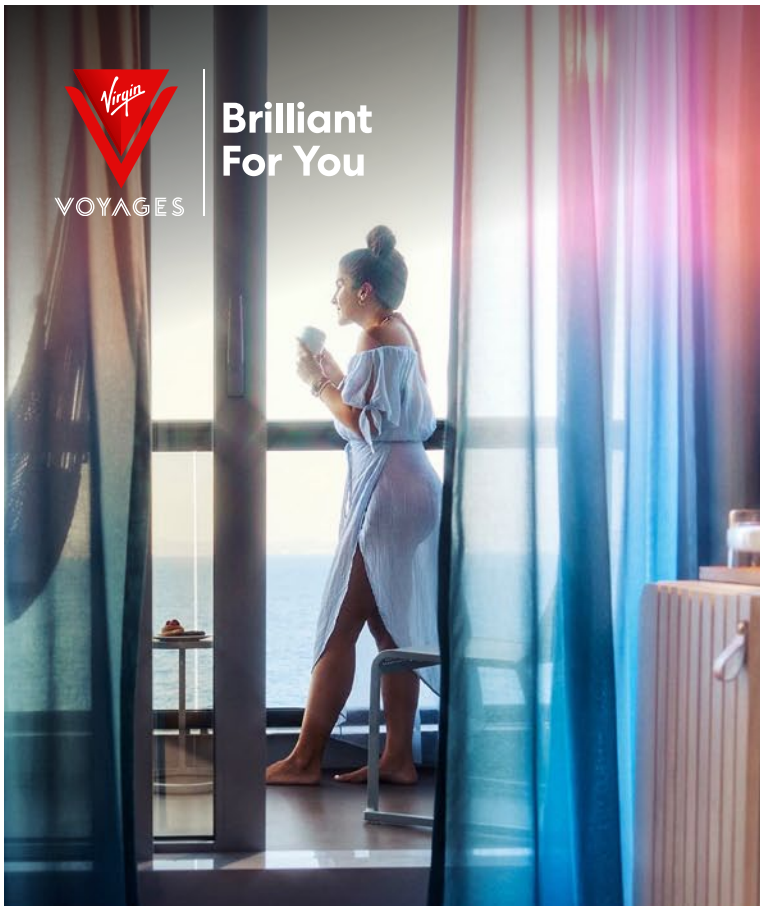
"Justine's and Ben's appointments as GMs represents the next step in our global growth plan as we work to cement our unique service delivery strategy," Gray Dawes Group CEO, Suzanne Horner, enthused.

"Out-of-hours, for example, is simply no longer a thing for Gray

Dawes; we are now 'always on' - there for our clients, where they need us, when they need us, and Australia is key to fulfilling that model," she added.

Martin has spent the last 17 years in various account management roles at the former MP Travel operation, while Moylan is newer to the business.

Prior to joining in Sep 2022, he was an account manager with Concierge Business Travel, and has also worked in various sales roles with companies like Qantas and QBT Travel. AB



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## It's D-Day for 2025

THREE D-Day river cruises have been confirmed for 2025 by Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours.

Departures will take place on 11 Jun, 23 Jul and 24 Sep, with guests sailing aboard the luxurious *Amadeus Diamond* round trip from Paris, stopping in regional towns along the way to Normandy to see the culture of regional France and WW2 history.

The trio of new voyages for 2025 follow a successful debut in 2023, with bookings previously selling out in less than two weeks.

Cruises include eight days of river cruising along the Seine, three onboard WW2 seminars, two days of touring Normandy and D-Day landing sites led by a historian, and all meals.

A welcome and farewell cocktail reception are also included, as well as free onboard wi-fi.

The voyages are priced from \$6,474pp, twin share.

For further information on the sailings, see [HERE](#).

## Scenic's new Discoveries

SCENIC Group is ushering in a new era of ultra-luxury expedition cruising with the launch of its 2026 Worldwide Discoveries Collection.

Spanning departures from Oct 2025 to Mar 2027, the exciting new range of voyages will be offered on board the brand's two Discovery Yachts, *Scenic Eclipse* and *Scenic Eclipse II*.

Travellers can take their pick from more than 163 itineraries visiting 278 ports in 50 countries, encompassing destinations across Europe, the Mediterranean, Americas, the Arctic and Fjords, and Antarctica.

Highlights include voyages to witness the Solar Eclipse in Greenland and Iceland, and sailings on the world's most iconic rivers, from Europe's Guadalquivir and Seine rivers to the Thames and the Delaware, York and Cape Fear rivers in North America.

The new collection also gives



guests the ability to create 'ultimate journeys' with Scenic's cruise combinations, allowing them to extend their time in destinations like Nice and Malaga.

"With the expansion of our Scenic fleet to two Discovery Yachts, the release of our new Worldwide Discoveries Collection marks a major milestone in Scenic's almost four-decade journey," said Anthony Laver, Scenic Group's GM Sales & Marketing APAC.

Learn more about the Scenic Eclipse 2026 Worldwide Discoveries Collection [HERE](#). JM

## New rail unveiled

INTREPID Travel has launched three brand-new rail journeys under its new 'travel theme', which includes a total of 43 train-focused adventures.

Among the fresh itineraries is an 11-day Trans-Mongolian Railway Adventure, which begins with a bullet train journey from Beijing before traversing remote landscapes to Ulaanbaatar via rail.

Alternatively, travellers can opt for the new 10-day rail-only journey from Paris to Rome, which crosses the Swiss Alps, and is priced from \$5,570pp.

Rounding out the new offerings is the 'Express to the Orient: Paris to Istanbul' itinerary, which follows an historic train route from France to Turkey over 15 days, with stops to explore Strasbourg, Munich and Vienna.

Vintage steam train rides in India and a family holiday through Italy are among some of the other experiences included under Intrepid's new rail theme.

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The North Cape Line offers an elevated experience aboard the newly refurbished *MS Trollfjord*. Your clients will be immersed in Norway's extraordinary coast and culture, from the capital Oslo to Europe's northernmost point, North Cape.

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\*T&Cs apply. Up to 1550 AUD OBC per cabin (10,000 NOK) is based on a suite. See website for full terms and conditions.





## Princess loves liquor

**GUESTS** on board Princess Cruises' *Sun Princess* can now indulge in a new collection of wines and spirits, crafted in collaboration with famous names, including rapper Pitbull, country singer Jason Aldean and Brazilian artist Romero Britto.

The all-new 'Love Line Premium Liquors' line-up includes the Voli 305 Vodka by Pitbull, which aims to "embody the vibrant energy of Miami nightlife"; Love Prosecco by Britto, which offers "a refreshing experience with every sip"; and a Melorosa Sauvignon Blanc, Red Blend and Cabernet Sauvignon by Jason Aldean.

The new drops will roll out across the cruise line soon.



## BNE about to make its Escape?



**ESCAPE** Lounges, a UK-based airport lounge operator, is reportedly preparing to debut in Australia, with its eyes set on Brisbane Airport as the first stop.

The Plaza Premium Lounge at the hub will cease operations on 31 May, paving the way for a new player to occupy the space.

Despite murmurs of its Brisbane debut, the company and Brisbane Airport remained tight-lipped when approached for comment by *Travel Daily*, with neither entity opting to confirm or deny the rumours.

If it goes ahead, guests can expect a host of top-notch facilities and services, including a range of food and beverages, dedicated spaces for work or relaxation, high-speed wi-fi, charging stations, and flight information display panels.

Escape Lounges currently houses six lounges in the UK - one in each terminal at Manchester Airport - and 12 in the US since its expansion in 2015, with two in the pipeline in Portland and Tulsa.

**Pictured:** Escape Lounges at Manchester Airport Terminal 1.

## Travel like a legend

**TTC** Tour Brands' youth operator, Contiki, has rolled out its new brand campaign, 'Live the Legend', designed to spark the interest of young travellers.

"More than just a marketing campaign, 'Live the Legend' is a call-to-action for young Aussies and Kiwis to embark on epic adventures and create their own legendary stories," said Andrew Young, GM Sales at TTC Tour Brands Oceania.

The marketing push will feature across various digital platforms including Meta, TikTok, Snapchat, Pinterest, Spotify, and YouTube, in addition to traditional out-of-home placements.

The campaign invites Contiki guests to share their best travel stories to win a \$5,000 voucher.



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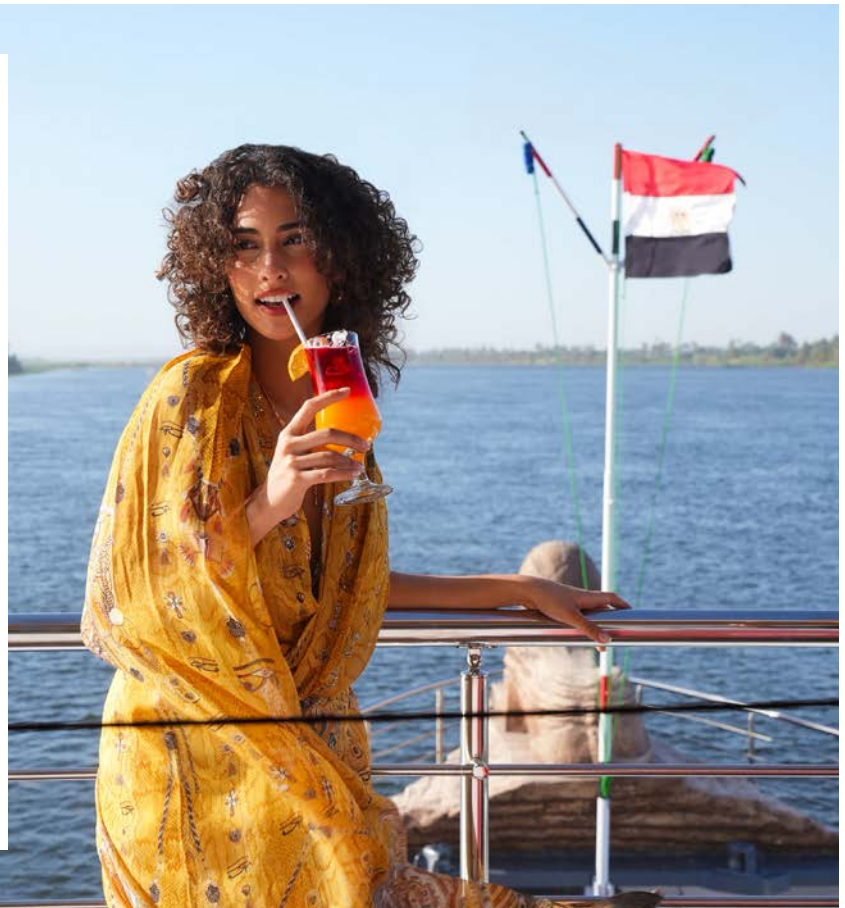
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## EK hits another run

**EMIRATES** has extended its global partnership with the International Cricket Council (ICC) for an additional eight years.

Already in its third decade, the collaboration now includes 28 ICC men's and women's events until 2031, including the Cricket World Cup, T20 World Cup and Champions Trophy.

"Our partnership with the ICC is one of the most established in our global sports sponsorships portfolio and we are pleased to reaffirm our commitment to the sport and to enthusiasts worldwide," said Adnan Kazim, EK's Deputy President and CCO.

The announcement comes ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024, which will take place in the West Indies and the United States next month - an event at which the carrier will be highly visible and active.

## Velocity with friends

**VELOCITY** Frequent Flyer has launched a new competition to combat what it calls "Australia's friendship recession" by offering a trip to Hamilton Island for one winner and 100 of their friends.

Entries are earned by accruing one Velocity point this month, with a maximum of 10 entries granted per Velocity member.

The grand prize includes return flights to Hamilton Island and three nights at the Reef View Hotel travelling from 20-23 Mar 2025 along with use of non-motorised watersport gear.

## Back from the grapevine



**THREE** Aussie agents were front and centre at the 40th annual Main Street Festival in Grapevine, Texas recently as winners of a recent USA sales incentive.

The 'Sell Your Way to the USA' promotion recently concluded with three lucky winners - Jodie Garner, Helloworld Travel Stanhope Gardens; Cherie Johnson, Flight Centre Richmond and Alfina Maugeri, Flight Centre Baulkham Hills.

Hosted by the Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau, the agents enjoyed a VIP craft brewing experience at Liberty Park Plaza among other local attractions in the Texan town.

A one-hour drive north to Oklahoma included a visit to the First Americans Museum and a visit to Stockyards City and a meal at the Cattlemen's Steakhouse.

The three agents are **pictured** above with Heather Egan from Grapevine CVB.

## Via Travel goes west

**BOUTIQUE** Australian group tour operator Via Travel has introduced a new itinerary in Western Australia, with numerous guaranteed departures through to Oct 2024 and a 15% discount on select Jun-Aug departures.

The '13-day West Coast Encompassed Australia Tour' departs from Perth and heads north, with overnight stays in Geraldton, Kalbarri, Monkey Mia, Carnarvon and a variety of remote camps and rustic stations. Highlights of the itinerary include swimming with whale sharks in Ningaloo Reef, a sunset cruise at Shark Bay, bottlenose dolphin watching and stargazing in outback parts of Australia.

Via Travel Founder, Stuart Wesierski, said the beauty of Australia's west coast is still wildly under-appreciated - seats on the tour are priced from \$5,295ppts.

## AA handles badly

**OF ALL** the US carriers, American Airlines is the one most likely to mishandle your luggage, according to research by MyBaggage.com based on the US Department of Transport's Air Travel Consumer Report.

Between 2021 and 2024, more than seven million pieces of luggage were reported as mishandled, with American Airlines guilty of bungling 8.71 bags per 1,000 pieces of luggage.

Envoy Airlines, a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Airlines, came in at number two after mishandling 224,236 bags within the three-year period.

Other dishonourable mentions in the top 10 list of baggage-mishandling carriers include regional airline Republic Airways, Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and PSA Airlines - another subsidiary of American Airlines.

## VS inks three deals

**VIRGIN** Atlantic has inked a new codeshare partnership with El Al, with the tie-up to see the British carrier offer more connections between the UK, US and Israel through its London Heathrow and Tel Aviv services.

Meanwhile, a VS codeshare with Saudia has also gone live, enabling better access between Saudi Arabia and the British carrier's network, while SAS Scandinavian Airlines has also signed an agreement to allow VS loyalty members to earn and redeem points from 01 Sep.



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## Wendy wows in Zhangjiajie



**MORE** than 100 travel agents from Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom have taken part in Wendy Wu Tours first ever 'megafam' to the Changsha and Hunan Provinces in China.

The group explored a mix of city and regional locations over six days, with a focus on Zhangjiajie National Park, which offers a taste of Chinese culture beyond the typical tourist trail.

While in the park, agents experienced the world's tallest outdoor 'Bailong' elevator, took in stunning views on top of Tianmen Mountain, and got their thrills on the cliff-hanging walkway and the 430-metre long glass skywalk.

Other favourite moments included a cross-country bullet train journey, and a nighttime tour of Orange Island Park, China's biggest inland island, located in the Xiangjiang River and famous for its oranges.

Company founder, Wendy Wu, escorted the journey, alongside Australian Head of Sales, Belinda Ward and Australia's Head of Product, Sonia Orrego.

Ward said, "our message was clear - China is back, and better than ever".

"[It's] a fascinating place, and we made sure everyone had a wide variety of experiences to ensure their product knowledge is on-point for clients considering this destination for their next trip," Ward added.

The famil took place at a time when Wendy Wu is seeing an increase in bookings month-on-month, with an emerging interest in China's national parks and regional destinations.

In support of this demand, the company has added two new tour itineraries in China for 2024 and 2025 - 'Gems of China', and 'National Treasures of China' - both of which feature Zhangjiajie as part of their itineraries. *JM*

**Pictured** Shane, China Southern; Anita Yadav, FC Ivanhoe; Lingling Yang, where2travel Glen Waverley; Hoffman, WW guide; Melissa Crew, FC Bayside Frankston; Alana Tanos, Travelrite Balwyn; and Shannah Landells-Hohaia, HLO Southland.

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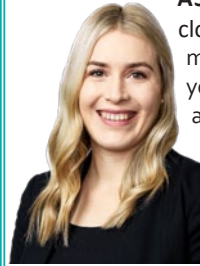
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Travel Daily

## ATIA UPDATE

from Ingrid Fraser, Director of Public Policy & Advocacy



**AS WE** edge closer to the middle of the year, there are a number of changes taking effect from Jul, so here's what you need to know.

You may have heard yesterday's announcement that minimum and award wages are increasing by 3.75% from 1 Jul, and the Superannuation Guarantee will also increase to 11.5%.

Hopefully you've also heard about the Workplace Advice Line that ATIA members have free access to - and if not, I'm here to remind you.

If you're unsure about the new wage rates or need advice on other workplace matters, **CLICK HERE** to find out how to access the ATIA Workplace Advice Line.

Jul also brings new rates of incentive payments for employers taking on trainees, meaning eligible employers will be able to access \$5,000 to help subsidise the costs of employing a trainee.

ATIA is here to support

members who might want to take on a trainee but don't know how.

We're teaming up with an expert in the traineeship space for an upcoming webinar on the process, employer subsidies, and any other burning questions you might have - keep your eyes peeled for the details.

The changes to traineeship rates don't end there, as the government has commissioned an independent review into the future of the subsidy system, which ATIA is contributing to.

Given the 80% decline in traineeship commencements, ATIA has called for critical changes (details **HERE**) to support the training and retention of skilled workers within the sector.

We've also been advocating for travel consultants, travel agency managers and tour guides to be included on the skilled migration list in our Migration Core Skills Occupations List (**CLICK HERE**).

This is vitally important given the current skills shortages and future demand.

Lastly - you have one more day to get your NTIA nominations in, so don't miss out on the chance to nominate your peers **HERE**.

## NYC more from less

**NEW** York City recorded its highest-ever annual spending figure from tourism in 2023, with visitors parting with US\$48 billion since the pandemic.

The figure is coming from fewer visitors, with 62 million arriving in 2023, down 7% on 2019 levels.

## Go City expansion

**SIGHTSEEING** pass Go City has expanded into eastern Europe, with the company introducing its all-inclusive product in Prague.

The new Go City Prague Pass enables holders to enjoy more than two-dozen attractions, including a hop-on-hop-off bus.

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### Art in the ocean

**TO CELEBRATE** World Ocean Day on Sat 08 Jun, SeaLink North Queensland and the Museum of Underwater Art (MOUA) have teamed up to launch a special tour to the MOUA 'Ocean Sentinels' installation at John Brewer Reef.

Esteemed marine scientists and conservationists will head to Townsville to participate in the tour, giving guests the opportunity to hear from leading experts about what we can be done to help care for the world's oceans and reefs.

Travelling on Sealink's fast ferry, guests will also explore the only underwater art installation in the southern hemisphere - eight Ocean Sentinels sculptures by Jason deCaires Taylor.

For the price of \$299 per adult, the experience also includes snorkelling tuition and snorkel gear hire, as well as morning and afternoon tea, and a buffet lunch - more information **HERE**.



## IATA'S NEW SOLUTION TO RAMP UP SAF

**IN A** move to fast-track the uptake of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), a dedicated registry is being developed by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Due to launch in the first quarter of 2025, the SAF Registry will act as a trusted system to account and report emissions reductions from SAF.

The Registry is already backed by 17 airlines (none from Australia), the International Airlines Group (IAG), and six national authorities, as well as Airbus, Boeing and GE Aerospace.

IATA's Director General, Willie Walsh, emphasised that "SAF is key to aviation's decarbonisation".

"The SAF Registry will help meet the critical needs of all stakeholders as part of the global effort to ramp-up SAF



production...[and] in doing so, will help create a global SAF market by ensuring that airlines have access to SAF wherever it is produced, and that SAF producers have access to airlines regardless of their location."

The Registry will also assist airlines in meeting regulations and SAF mandates, and provide transparency to authorities regarding emissions reductions.

SAF is anticipated to account for up to 65% of the total carbon mitigation needed to achieve net-zero carbon emissions in air

transportation by 2050.

**MEANWHILE**, Vietnam Airlines has completed its first commercial flight powered by SAF.

The carrier's Airbus A321 was filled with an SAF blend supplied by Neste at Changi Airport in Singapore, ahead of its return flight to Hanoi last week.

"We are working with our supply chain partners to extend the usage of SAF in the future, helping to reach net-zero emissions and climate change prevention targets," said Nguyen Chien Thang, EVP of Vietnam Airlines.

### MSC shores up its eco commitment

**MSC Cruises'** LNG-powered ship, *MSC Euribia*, connected to shore power at the Ostuferrhafen cruise terminal in Kiel for the first time on the weekend, as part of the line's debut summer season from the north German port.

Kiel's local power grid supplied electricity for all of *Euribia's* operations while docked, eliminating the vessel's direct emissions at the port with her engines switched off.

Bunkering of LNG fuel was also undertaken at Kiel,

marking the first time these two processes have taken place at the same time.

"We now need more ports across Europe and beyond to provide shore power so that we can further reduce local air emissions," said Michele Francioni, MSC's Chief Energy Transition Officer.

She explained the cruise line's plans to retro-fit three more ships with shore power connectivity this year, including *MSC Magnifica*, *MSC Musica*, and *MSC Splendida*.

### Eco Summit is on

**ECOTOURISM** Australia's Global Sustainable Tourism Summit kicks off today with a 'sustainability tour' of Scenic Rim, and a welcome function at the rooftop bar of Pullman Mercure Brisbane King George Square.

With more than 260 tourism industry professionals in attendance, the two conference days begin tomorrow, before the Summit wraps up on Wed 05 Jun with a 'World Environment Day' cocktail function.

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## Meet Maya, a cinema in the sky



**HERALDING** the future of premium air travel, a next-generation business class suite was unveiled at the 2024 Aircraft Interiors Expo in Hamburg, Germany last week.

The brainchild of Collins Aerospace and Panasonic Avionics, Maya seeks to redefine comfort, passenger immersion, accessibility and sustainability.

Sure to be a hit among tech-savvy travellers, the suite's standout feature is an Astrova Curve 45-inch ultra-wide, ultra-high-definition OLED display with headphone-less audio system.

The screen is three times larger than typical screens, according to Panasonic Avionics, uses the same screen format as cinemas, and offers a viewing experience 50% more immersive than sitting in a theatre.

The tech-packed suite also offers advanced seating architecture and Arise comfort technology, which automatically optimises cushion pressure, regulates temperature, and reduces "peak vibration disturbances" during flight.

"Maya is the fusion of enhanced

physical, digital and smart technologies that exponentially enhance the cabin experience in ways individual solutions are unable to accomplish on their own," said Ed Dryden, President of Interiors at Collins Aerospace.

"Unprecedented customisation and user control provides uniquely personal in-flight experiences - bridging historical gaps in accessibility, enabling multi-dimensional comfort and facilitating immersive in-flight entertainment," he added.

The Maya suite is as sustainable as it is luxurious, utilising recycled, reusable and plant-based materials along with STARlight composite structures to reduce production waste and improve product circularity. *JM*

## Albatross 2025 out

**NOW** is the ideal time to book Albatross Tours' summer 2025 program, which includes three brand-new tours.

The European specialist is offering a \$350pp earlybird discount until 31 Jul, **HERE**.

## Window Seat

**A HOLIDAY** to Australia may not be on the cards for former American President, Donald Trump, in light of the felony conviction which was handed down late last week.

Apart from the obvious implications that come with being convicted as a felon, Trump could be banned from visiting Down Under.

He may also have a hard time visiting 36 other countries, including New Zealand.

Section 501 in Australia's Migration Act gives the Federal Immigration Minister the power to refuse a visa to someone who fails the character test - and having a "substantial criminal record" (being sentenced to a term of 12 months of prison or more) falls under that umbrella.

Although Trump, who is yet to be sentenced, could face up to 20 years in jail, legal experts say any length of imprisonment is unlikely, given he has no criminal record and very few people who have committed the same crime received any jail time at all.

While time behind bars could thwart Trump's travel aspirations, he's undoubtedly more concerned with the upcoming election.



## MONEY

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

### AU\$1 = US\$0.669

**MAY** marked the Australian dollar's best monthly performance against the US dollar in five months, with our currency managing to close above 66 US cents, despite the four-week period getting off to a slow start

The substantial increase is sure to come as welcome news for Australians who plan on travelling to the United States in the coming months.

*Wholesale rates this morning.*

<b>US</b>	\$0.669
<b>UK</b>	£0.522
<b>NZ</b>	\$1.080
<b>Euro</b>	€0.613
<b>Japan</b>	¥104.6
<b>Thailand</b>	฿24.46
<b>China</b>	¥4.842
<b>South Africa</b>	12.39
<b>Canada</b>	\$0.911
<b>Crude oil</b>	US\$78.62

## Aranui's b'day bash

**ARANUI** Cruises will run a series of celebrations this year, including a special birthday cruise in Nov, to mark its 40th anniversary of cargo cruising.

For the rest of the year, guests on board *Aranui 5* will take part in birthday celebrations during every Polynesian Night and receive limited-edition gifts.

Meanwhile, the birthday cruise will include a Polynesian night at Nuku Hiva, complete with a ceremony, fireworks and a feast.



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