

Japan & South Korea Dreams

PRICES FROM
\$5,799
PER PERSON TWIN SHARE
LAND ONLY
*Surcharges may apply

VIEW DEAL

Crystal's new ships

CRYSTAL has inked an agreement with Italian shipbuilder Fincantieri for the construction of two new cruise ships, plus an option for a third. The first of the 690-pax vessels is scheduled for delivery in the second quarter of 2028.

Cathay returns to Cairns

HONG Kong's flag carrier will resume seasonal flights to Cairns from 17 Dec, marking a return to the route for the first time since 26 Oct 2019 (**TD** 30 Apr 2019).

Cathay Pacific revealed this morning it will operate between the Far North Qld hub and Hong Kong three times a week, between 17 Dec & 29 Mar 2025.

Cairns Airport CEO, Richard Barker, said the upcoming launch followed strong diplomatic efforts to strengthen ties between the two cities, including a delegation mission last year backed by Queensland's Attracting Aviation



Investment Fund.

Barker also suggested that while the flights will be seasonal, there is scope for the services to be extended beyond 29 Mar 2025.

The latest news caps a positive month for the recovering Cairns hub, with AirAsia Indonesia planning to launch its first-ever flights between Cairns and Bali from 14 Aug (**TD** 07 Jun).

Yesterday also saw JQ reveal it will fly the Cairns-Sunshine Coast route from 03 Dec (**TD** 27 Jun).

MEANWHILE Cathay Pacific will boost the frequency of its Brisbane and Perth services by 75% from 28 Oct, returning to pre-pandemic flight levels.

The Perth-Hong Kong route will increase from six to 11, while Brisbane-Hong Kong will be upped from six to 10, with sales open now for flights between Oct 2024 and Mar 2025.

Cathay Pacific's decision to boost frequencies will add an extra 32,384 seats to Brisbane.

"These additional flights will bring more international tourists to Queensland and carry more of our state's high value exports to Hong Kong," BNE said. *AB/JM*

MH rewards agents

MALAYSIA Airlines is giving agents the chance to win flights as well as multiple cash vouchers valued at a total of \$14,000, as part of two major trade incentives.

Agents who book flights to India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal from 01 Jun to 31 Jul 2024 will enter the draw to win one of three sets of two return economy tickets to South Asia, with weekly cash vouchers also up for grabs.

Additionally, travel sellers who book flights to the Maldives, Chiang Mai, Da Nang and London from 15 Jun to 31 Jul 2024, will also go in the running to score return flights to South Asia, along with cash vouchers.

Agents must register to win, and make bookings with unique 'OSI' code during the incentive period - **CLICK HERE** for details.

MEL rail on the way

THE path forward for the long-anticipated Melbourne Airport Rail Link (**TD** 24 Nov 2023) has finally been set out, with a new mediator's report making three key recommendations, and confirming the project is "viable and necessary".



THREE ADVISORS
WILL WIN \$5,000
AND A VIKING
OCEAN VOYAGE
FOR TWO

*Here's how you can
be one of them*

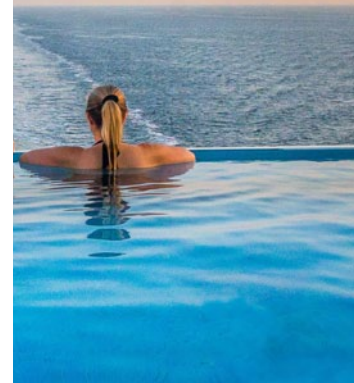
CLICK HERE



DON'T MISS
VIKING'S SPECIAL
OFFER FARES ON
2024-2025
OCEAN VOYAGES

*Strictly limited and
available until sold out*

CLICK HERE



Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features six pages of news including our **Corporate Update**.

THE ISLANDS of
TAHITI AIR TAHITI NUI



SAVE UP TO
\$9,950*
PER COUPLE
BOOK BY
13 JULY 2024

T&Cs apply

TAHITI DISCOVER A DIFFERENT WORLD

→ VIEW PACKAGES



SPEAK TO OUR TEAM OF TAHITI SPECIALISTS TODAY.



Discover our River Cruise Special Report

[Click here](#)

Big smile for a sale

SYDNEY'S heritage-listed Luna Park is up for sale, with owners Brookfield hoping to fetch a \$70 million transaction.

The site has seen \$40 million spent on development over the past four years, including a new Immersive Big Top installation.

Bonza faces breach claims

THE administrator for the failed Bonza business has claimed the carrier's directors continued to allow the airline to take bookings, despite doubts over its ability to pay back mounting debts.

Hall Chadwick's latest report concluded the directors should have appointed an external administrator "much earlier" than 30 Apr, with Bonza likely to have been insolvent at least two months prior.

"We consider that there may be potential breaches of Section 180 of the [Corporations] Act," Hall Chadwick noted.

The report also suggested there was doubt the company would be able to fulfil bookings it received from Mar onwards, and that the directors knew, or ought to have known, that parent 777 Partners would cut all funding.

"In those circumstances, a director acting reasonably would have taken steps to cease the business or appoint an external administrator," the report said.

Hall Chadwick also noted that of the four directors, only CEO Tim Jordan and CFO Lidia Valenzuela have provided information to the investigation, with US-based Steven Pasko and Adam Weiss, so far, declining to cooperate.

Bonza is likely to be liquidated at a creditors meeting next week, with money owed to staff and customers unlikely to be paid.

The carrier lost around \$80 million this financial year, and also owes \$2 million in tax. *AB*

Speaker pushes limits

TRAVELLERS Choice has announced record-breaking Polar adventurer James 'Cas' Castrission as the keynote speaker for its upcoming conference in Sydney in Nov.

This year's event is themed 'Travelution', and the independent agency network is confident Castrission can bring a competitive edge to members by helping them embrace the "explorer mindset" during its latest annual gathering.

Castrission operates MyAdventure Group, which helps business operators understand what makes people capable of achieving the extraordinary and how to push their own limits.



PARTNER WITH US +

ACCESS BONUS COMMISSION

[CLICK HERE](#)

INSPIRING VACATIONS

Silversea opens to all

GENERAL sales have opened for Silversea's World Cruise 2027, which is scheduled to call in 80 destinations in 35 countries.

The move follows a pre-sale launched last week, with the luxury line's World Cruise in 2027 to make calls in Australia.

titan travel

\$1,250 saving per person

Book by 31 July 2024. T&Cs apply

[View itineraries](#)

Magnificent Turkey Tour - Istanbul to Antalya

9 days from ~~\$4,295~~ \$3,045

Price based on 7 May 2025
Other dates available

Solomon to Santo

SOLOMON Airlines will step in to replace Air Vanuatu's weekly nonstop service from Brisbane to Espiritu Santo, with the service resuming from 04 Jul.

Flights will allow travellers to bypass Port Vila to access Santo's renowned beaches and water sports opportunities, and land at 12.50pm local time.

Sell flights to India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh or Nepal and win return flight tickets plus your share of **AUD 7,000 in gift vouchers.**

[Find out more](#)

T&Cs apply

malaysia airlines

Your Gateway to Asia & Beyond

Travel Daily
SHARPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON TAIWAN & EVA AIR
Travel Daily Training Academy



Taiwan 30
THE ISLAND OF SOUL
EVA AIR
Click here to discover

FJ enters loyalty sphere

AUSSIE travellers flying with Fiji Airways will now have the option to access a bona fide loyalty program, thanks to a new tie-up with American Airlines revealed by the carrier this morning.

Fiji Airways will join AA's AAdvantage rewards program later in the year, at which time travellers who join will receive benefits such as priority check-in and boarding, complimentary baggage allowance, as well as preferred seats allocation.

"We are excited about the positive impact this collaboration will have on both our airlines and our guests who will benefit from the exclusive perks," Fiji Airways CEO, Andre Viljoen, said.

Presently, Fiji Airways only has a subscription loyalty model in place through its Tabua Club, which offers exclusive member benefits for an annual fee.

Part of the motivation for Fiji Airways to adopt the AA loyalty

program is an ambition to grow the number of US travellers to the Pacific destination, which the country believes has good growth scale potential.

The airline already operates routes to Los Angeles and San Francisco, but has previously hinted it would like to expand to hubs such as Dallas and Seattle.

Fiji Airways' deal with AA follows a recent announcement that it will become the 15th full-member of the oneworld alliance in 2025 (TD 04 Jun). AB

Ama goes early in '26

AMAWATERWAYS has opened reservations early this year for the 2026 season on all its cruise products, including pre- and post-cruise land packages.

The cruise line offers guests sailings in Europe, Egypt, Asia, Colombia, as well as special Africa safaris and wildlife voyages.

Melbourne off to Bali

BALI is where most Victorian travellers are heading this school holiday weekend, according to new Melbourne Airport figures.

While a sunny winter getaway is at the top of the list for international trips, Sydney and Brisbane is where the lion's share of travel traffic will head domestically from Melbourne.

Melbourne Airport is preparing to welcome more than 1.7 million passengers over the holidays, representing a 9% increase on the same period last year.

The surge includes a prediction about the busiest day at the Melbourne hub since the pandemic, with traffic flows on 05 Jul anticipated to be 18,350.

Melbourne Airport has advised travellers booked on MEL departures to add 30 minutes to their plans amid construction which is underway on Naarm Way Stage 2, which is likely to result in some extra build-up of traffic in the forecourt area.

Ritz-Carlton sails Asia

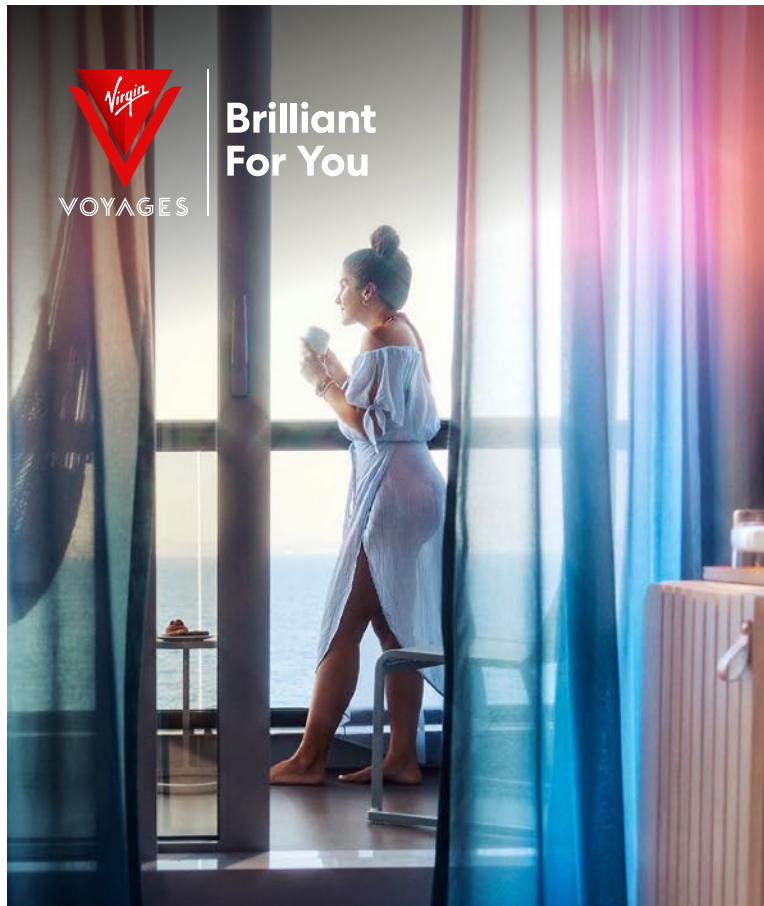
TEN itineraries in Asia operating between Dec 2025 and May 2026 have been confirmed by The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection (RCYC) on board its third vessel *Luminara*.

Voyages will range from 10 to 15 nights in duration and depart from three major Asian ports: Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo.

The new premium cruise player will call in Vietnam, Philippines, South Korea, Thailand and more.

In each destination, guests can either select from a group shore excursion, pre-designed private excursion or a fully customised land adventure.

Luminara will be the largest of The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection's fleet on its launch in 2025 with space for 452 pax in 226 suites.



Virgin
VOYAGES

Brilliant
For You

SWING INTO SAVINGS

70% OFF
2ND SAILOR

WITH FREE BALCONY UPGRADES
— ON MOST 2024 SAILINGS —

START SELLING

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



Dubai Mall expands

DUBAI Mall is set to undergo a \$610 million expansion, including 240 new luxury stores and food and beverage outlets - in addition to its existing 1200 retail spaces and 200 eateries.

"This expansion reflects Dubai's ambitious vision to remain at the forefront of global innovation and culture, further solidifying our city's position as a top global destination," Emaar Properties founder Mohamed Alabbar said.

The 1 million sqm shopping centre is renowned for being the largest in the world by total area, and as 2023's most visited place on Earth, with 105 million visitors.

Apart from its stores, Dubai Mall is attached to the iconic Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, and features a 155-million-year-old dinosaur skeleton, the world's largest mall aquarium, an indoor virtual reality park, a digital art museum, and a 26-screen cinema.

Walk the Outback

SMALL Group Walking specialist, Park Trek Walking Holidays, has released a new itinerary exploring the Larapinta Trail in Central Australia.

The seven-day 'Eastern Larapinta Highlights & Mount Sonder' journey includes glamping style accommodation, communal meals every day, and a maximum of 10 walkers.

The first departure leaves 05 Aug and is priced from \$4,350pp, with only a few spots remaining.

Infinite possibilities in the US



MORE than 50 travel advisors gathered at the Crystalbrook Kingsley in Newcastle earlier this week to hear from Infinity Holidays about the endless possibilities for travellers looking to explore the United States.

Leveraging its ongoing partnership with Brand USA, Infinity showcased 26 road trip itineraries, as well as City Break programs, which are available across all 50 states.

Guests also learned about Brand USA's trade programs, Visit California's new 'Ultimate Playground' campaign, the year-round activities available across Colorado and Arizona, Anchorage's nature offerings, as well as the benefits of a visit to Washington DC.

Additionally, Infinity Holidays provided an update on the Helio program - a one-stop client package that offers ease of booking and clearly defined commission structures. *JM/SH*

Pictured: Back row - Dylan Grogan, Infinity Holidays; Lexie Militas, Brand USA; Kevin Looney, Infinity Holidays; Millie Brown, Colorado & Arizona; Nic Hawksley, Infinity Holidays.

Front row - Teena Hollwey, Infinity Holidays; Eve Huezco, Visit California; and Claire Mountaine, Washington DC & Anchorage.

SA resort up for sale

JAYCO founder Gerry Ryan has listed a luxury hotel and glamping resort in the Monarto Safari Park in South Australia up for sale.

The caravan businessman has floated the property for \$50 million, which has undergone extensive renovations in recent years after Ryan bought it from Zoos South Australia in 2019.

Close to 80 rooms and 20 glamping tents are on offer at the nature-inspired resort, as well as conference facilities, a gourmet restaurant, and swimming pools.



Window Seat

WHILE Paris is confident the upcoming Olympic Games will provide a huge boost for tourism, there is a fear environmental protesters may soon cause a bit of a stink.

Social media activists have unveiled their intentions to launch a dubious-sounding 'defecation demonstration', which will see protesters poo in the Seine to prove, ironically, how dirty it is.

So serious is the protest movement that a website has been created to help calculate what time people should poo in the river so it will flow into Paris at noon the next day if they live in the countryside.

With only weeks to go before the major sporting event kicks off, activists may pose a very smelly headache for Games organisers, who have scheduled multiple water events for the Seine.

We smell an upcoming PR disaster in the making.

Delays yesterday

BUSINESS Publishing Group is aware of an issue with one of our platforms yesterday which caused some delays for a small number of our readers in receiving the newsletter.

The issue has now been resolved and we apologise for any inconvenience.

End of Financial Year Sale

For a limited time only, explore Alaska, Antarctica, Iceland, Greenland and more with HX. Plus, receive €150 Onboard Credit.

Alaska

ALASKA & BRITISH COLUMBIA

Wilderness, Glaciers & Culture

Save \$2,901*
Now from
\$7,398pp*

Book today!

agentportal.hurtigruten.com
or call 1300 159 127

Save \$3,778*
Suites from
\$12,188pp*



+ €150 Onboard Credit

Change the way you see the world.

CORPORATE UPDATE

Accor meets shifting needs

ACCOR has linked with executive travel managers and buyers from 17 international corporations around the world to form the Accor Global Leadership Council (GLC), a new advisory board designed to redefine the future of corporate travel.

The motivation for the new body is the rapidly changing expectations of the average business traveller, especially around personalisation, loyalty benefits, the evolving importance of sustainability, and pricing.

At its first meeting in Paris, the delegates of the GLC agreed to an initial priority platform for review across three key areas: the well-being of corporate travellers, cost reduction, and carbon budgets.

"It is essential for both our clients and hospitality businesses to adapt to new demands and priorities," Accor Chief Sales Officer, Sophie Hulgard, said.

"The GLC is a critical forum for sharing insights and collaborating



on solutions that meet the changing needs of business travellers and delegates."

Outside of its debut agenda, the GLC will also look to connect business leaders responsible for corporate travel across industries with senior execs from Accor.

These currently include financial services, engineering, manufacturing, transportation, energy, and professional services.

The formation of the advisory follows broader corporate travel trends which suggest companies are placing a greater emphasis on seamless technology integration and employee comfort. *AB*

Holyoke to lead SME

FORMER Airbnb executive David Holyoke will join Serko as its Head of Unmanaged Travel, beginning from next Mon.

In his new role, Holyoke will drive Serko's expansion efforts in the small and medium enterprise (SME) travel sector, drawing on an extensive background in corporate travel.

Objectives include enhancing Serko's product range, improving the user booking experience and strengthening the company's partnerships with Booking.com and Booking.com for Business.

"We have already achieved so much in bringing a leading SME travel product to market, highlighting the enormous potential ahead of us," said Serko Chief Executive, Darrin Grafton.

"David's proven track record and expertise will be incredibly valuable in unlocking that opportunity," he added.

Prior to joining Serko, Holyoke held the role of Head of Commercial Strategy at Airbnb.

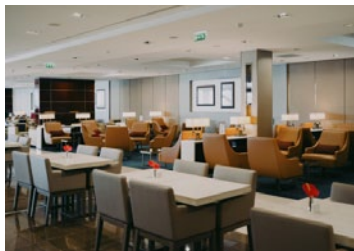
EK lounges in Paris

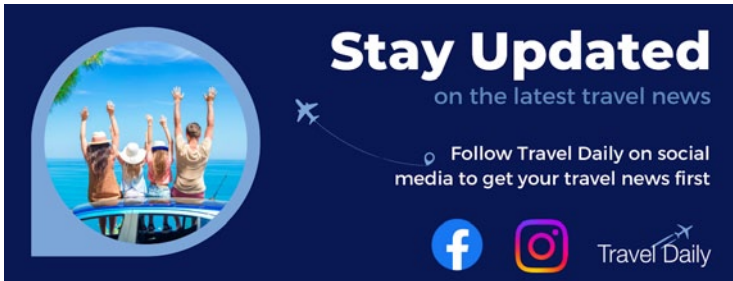
FIRST and business class Emirates guests, along with Gold and Platinum Skywards members, can now access the airline's new lounge at Paris Charles de Gaulle.

Located at Terminal 2C, the lounge (**pictured**) caters to up to 165 guests, who can enjoy free wi-fi and views over the runway.

Guests can also partake in a sumptuous dining selection featuring local delicacies, cheese boards, and premium wines and champagnes from French regions including Bordeaux.

The new lounge complements a partner facility in Terminal 1 operated by Extime.





Stay Updated

on the latest travel news

Follow Travel Daily on social media to get your travel news first

Travel Daily

Agents check in with Capella



CAPELLA Hotel Group concluded a week-long east coast roadshow by inviting travel agent partners to decompress at a sophisticated soiree.

The event took place at Capella Sydney's McRae Bar, designed in the style of a classic Victorian-era den, where guests can reminisce about the golden age of fine libations and former glamour.

Guests enjoyed an up-close look at Sydney's 1900s-era history of rum and robbery as told by the event's host, crime historian Max Burns-McRuvie from Journey Walks, who kept guests enthralled with tales of Sydney's bootlegging underbelly.

Earlier in the week, the trade roadshow visited Melbourne,

Sydney and Brisbane and included presentations from Capella Sydney, Capella Singapore and sister brand, Patina Maldives.

Pictured above at the party are Melissa Ferguson, Mary Rossi Travel; Anita Ngan, Capella Singapore; Megan Catterall, Luxe by itravel; Sophie Treasure, Virtuoso Australia and NZ; Victoria McNeill, Mary Rossi Travel; and Afrah Abdulla from Patina Maldives.

New Malay Mercure

ACCOR has opened its newest Mercure branded hotel in Malaysia, located within the Trion@Kuala Lumpur complex, which includes serviced apartments and retailers.

Mercure Kuala Lumpur Trion offers 228 rooms, an all-day restaurant, swimming pool, cafe and fitness centre, along with six function rooms and banquet hall catering for up to 200 guests.

The new property is committed to zero single-use plastics, utilising disposable paper amenities, reusable soap bottles and 3M water filtration.

"The newly opened Mercure Kuala Lumpur Trion will offer guests an unparalleled experience that blends comfort, convenience, and cultural immersion," said Accor Chief Operating Officer Premium, Midscale, and Economy Division, Garth Simmons.

Explora experiences

MSC Group's Explora Journeys has unveiled two new Destination Experiences led by renowned explorer and brand ambassador, Mike Horn.

From 10-20 Nov, guests can join Horn aboard *Explora I* on a round-trip sailing from Barcelona, which will visit Cadiz, the Canary Islands and Gibraltar.

Horn will guide guests on a hike up the formidable Haria Extreme ultra-marathon trail in Lanzarote, as well as lead them on an exploration of La Palma down rugged coastal paths to hidden hamlets and sea caves.

SPECIALS

Send your special deals to:
specials@traveldaily.com.au

Oaks Hotels, Resorts and Suites is inviting travellers to enjoy the winter season by offering savings of up to 30% off on stays of two nights or more with its 'Getaway Are Better When You Get Away with Oaks' offer. Locations include Queenstown in New Zealand and various regions in Australia. Valid until 28 Jun, the promotion is available for travel periods until 20 Dec - **CLICK HERE** to learn more and book.

To celebrate the winter school holidays, **SEA LIFE Sydney** is offering families with children half-price tickets for their kids to SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium, Sydney Tower Eye, Madame Tussauds Sydney and WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo. Available until 21 Jul, parents can take advantage of the special offer by clicking **HERE**.

For a short period of time, Aussies travelling away from Brisbane can save 10% on parking fares at **Brisbane Airport**. Just in time for the bustling school holiday season, the hub is inviting travellers to use code "OCLGNS104292134" to access the promotion. **CLICK HERE** to find out more details and secure discounted parking spots.

To celebrate its 131st anniversary, cruisers can take advantage of a 'Birthday Sale' on Norway Coastal Cruises with **Hurtigruten**. Book before 16 Jul to enjoy the offer of up to 50% off Original Coastal Express Voyages, and up to 35% off on Hurtigruten's Signature Voyages for departures throughout the 24/25 season. Call 1300 151 392 to find out the full details of the Birthday Sale.

With over 330,000 tours, transfers and experiences available around the world, **Gateway Travel** is offering travel advisors a chance to travel for free. Combine a travel group of at least 16 people to earn a trip, as well as commission for assembling the group. The offer is valid until the end of the year. Email info@gatewaytravel.com.au for more details.

Up to \$1,500 of savings are available on **Topdeck's** winter itineraries across its 'Experience More Europe Winter' promotion. Eligible tours include the 29-day 'Play & Pause: Great European' from \$7,169 per person, and from \$5,759pp, travellers can also enjoy the 22-day 'Play & Pause: Central & Eastern Europe' package. Call 1300 886 332 to book.

Viking is featuring Cologne as its destination of the month, with limited-time savings available on select river voyages in the German city. The historic city offers cruise passengers many attractions to see, from architectural marvels, rich history, to beer culture. Book now and set sail from just \$2,495 per person - call 138 747 for more details.

'Stretch your stay' with a luxurious two-night escape at **Delamore Lodge** in New Zealand. With up to 25% of savings available, travellers can access packages which include airport transfers, a welcome drink, gourmet breakfast, and more. The offer is valid on select dates until 30 Sep - call +64 9372 7372 for full booking details.

Help Travel Advisors
 discover your destination

Travel Daily Training Academy



[CLICK HERE FOR AN INFO PACK](#)

An Ovolo Occasion for Skal



THIRTY Skal Melbourne members and guests recently got together for a networking event hosted by Ovolo Hotels' Cluster General Manager, Roberto Russo.

As well as sharing stories of his career with attendees, Russo discussed the current challenges faced by hotels, but said he is optimistic these will be overcome.

"It was a fabulous day and we had the honour of inducting three fabulous members, Sally-Anne Matthews from Bunnik Tours, Bennet Dalton from Makeupmyroom and

Kerry Williams from Accessible Accommodation," shared Rich Kellaway, Skali Int'l President. **Picture:** Accommodation Australia General Manager Dougal Hollis; Diana Devlin from Sabre Corporation; and Kellaway.

Chatting to Etihad

ETIHAD Airways has launched a new chatbot feature on its website to help guests prepare their required travel documents.

"This online feature is fed automatically by the very latest information supplied by IATA's Timatic solution, which is the world-leader in providing real-time information on travel document requirements for international air travel, relied on by the travel industry and government authorities worldwide," said Etihad Chief Operations Officer, John Wright.

Instead of searching on their own, guests head to Etihad.com and click on the 'Get in touch' section of the help page, then choose the 'Travel Guidelines' and 'Transit Information' tabs on the chat's menu option.

BNE lounge moving

PLAZA Premium Lounge will close its doors in its current location at Brisbane Airport on 30 Jul as it prepares for a new life in a new part of the terminal.

The subscription airport lounge brand will move to Level 3 near Gate 77, offering travellers a variety of dining options, barista coffee, and shower facilities.

The relocation comes ahead of planned openings of new lounges in the international departures hall from AA and Delta Air Lines.