

# REJUVENATE ON YOUR DREAM SELF-FAMIL

The Explore New Zealand Discount Programme gives approved travel sellers access to discounted flights, accommodation and experiences. Apply today and start curating your dream self-famil.



Secret Spot Hot Tubs  
Rotorua

APPLY NOW

**100% PURE  
NEW ZEALAND**  
[traveltrade.newzealand.com](http://traveltrade.newzealand.com)



## Today's issue of TD

*Travel Daily* today features six pages of the latest travel news, plus a cover wrap from **Tourism New Zealand**, and full pages from:

- Air Mauritius
- ATIA Beyond Borders

## The Ghan strikes trouble

A CATTLE truck has collided with Journey Beyond's The Ghan 60km north of Alice Springs, causing damage to the iconic train which operates scenic rail journeys between South Australia and the Top End.

There were no reports of serious injuries on board the train, which was carrying 222 passengers at the time of the incident, and investigations into what caused the dramatic accident yesterday morning are still underway.

Responding to enquiries from *Travel Daily*, Journey Beyond confirmed all guests were able to safely disembark the train and travel by coach to Alice Springs.

"In Alice Springs, guests enjoyed an Off Train Experience at Simpsons Gap, followed by dinner under the stars at the Telegraph Station before spending the night at the Alice Springs terminal," a spokesperson said.



While initial media reports suggested the train may be out of action for some time, Journey Beyond said at this stage, The Ghan's Wed departure from Adelaide to Alice Springs "will not be impacted".

"Pacific National is conducting final checks this morning to obtain clearance for travel, and once clearance is obtained, the operations team will work on a revised schedule for the train and guests to complete the journey."

All rail services in the area have been suspended, with disruptions to the rail network expected for at least today and tomorrow. *AB*

## Rejuvenate in NZ

REJUVENATE on your dream self-famil in New Zealand with Tourism NZ.

The Explore New Zealand Discount Programme gives approved traveller sellers access to discounted flights and more - see the **cover page**.

51.2220° N, 113.8567° W



**Adventure World**  
*Travel with Purpose*



**Authentic.  
Custom.  
Canada.**

Discover More ▶

Yamnuska Wolfdog Sanctuary, Canada

**2025**  
EUROPE CAR LEASING

Pre-Register NOW




DriveAway

Click Here

JOURNEY BEYOND

Final week  
to Become a  
Beyonder



Win a place on one of three Journey Beyond Mega Families!

HOW TO WIN

\*T&C'S APPLY

Wendy Wu Tours.

**— CHINA —  
SAVE DOUBLE**

ONE WEEK ONLY

**SAVE \$3,200 PER COUPLE**



ENCHANTING CHINA - 17 DAYS GO BEYOND TOUR  
CHINA: THE BIG ONE - 28 DAYS GO BEYOND TOUR



**WIN THE ULTIMATE WIMBLEDON 2025 EXPERIENCE WITH EMIRATES**

[Find out more >](#)



OFFICIAL PARTNER



## Feel it all in Mauritius

FEEL Mauritius' island energy, experiencing the destination's life, pulse, and energy.

Calming, euphoric, curious, adventurous, Mauritius is a place to embrace every mood.

See **page seven** for more information on Mauritius.

## Big switch across the ditch

**QANTAS** Group's budget carrier Jetstar will introduce three new services across the Tasman from Jun next year.

The carrier will mark its first flights to Hamilton on New Zealand's North Island, launching services three times a week from the Gold Coast starting 18 Jun, and four times a week from Sydney commencing 16 Jun.

Jetstar's services to Hamilton will provide travellers with convenient access to popular holiday destinations like Rotorua, the Bay of Plenty and Hobbiton.

The low-cost carrier will also introduce new services between the Gold Coast and Dunedin (**pictured**) on the South Island from 24 Jun, operating three times a week.

"The new routes unlock more than 115,000 new low fares seats a year between the Gold Coast and Hamilton and Dunedin, while also helping to connect the city's large population of Kiwi ex-pats to their home country," Jetstar Group Chief Executive Officer, Stephanie Tully, said.

The decision will enhance connectivity to Australia's largest international visitor market, with almost half a million Kiwis crossing the ditch to visit Queensland alone in the 12 months to Mar 2024.

The figure set a second consecutive visitor spend record, with \$821 million in overnight visitor expenditure notched up.

To mark the launch, Jetstar has



announced a 24-hour 'Route Launch Sale', with fares starting from \$155 one way.

The news follows rival Virgin Australia confirming a codeshare agreement with Air NZ across the Tasman (**TD** 26 Aug). **AB**

## South Australia orders Chinese takeaway

**CHINA** Southern Airlines will recommence flights between Guangzhou and Adelaide from 12 Dec, close to five years after pausing the service in 2020 (**TD** 13 Feb 2020).

The major Chinese carrier will operate the service three times a week, adding close to 800 seats a week to the gradually recovering Chinese market.

The South Australian Govt estimates the upcoming China Southern flights will generate close to \$70 million in economic activity annually, and create more than 255 tourism-related jobs.

In 2019, ABS showed there were 66,000 visitors to South Australia from China, injecting \$384 million into the state's visitor economy.



## Go Beyond Borders

**THE** Australian Travel Industry Association's Beyond Borders 2024 travel summit will dig into the future of the travel of the travel industry, told by its leaders.

Hear from Luxury Escapes' Adam Schwab, Tourism Australia's Philippa Harrison, and more - **p8**.

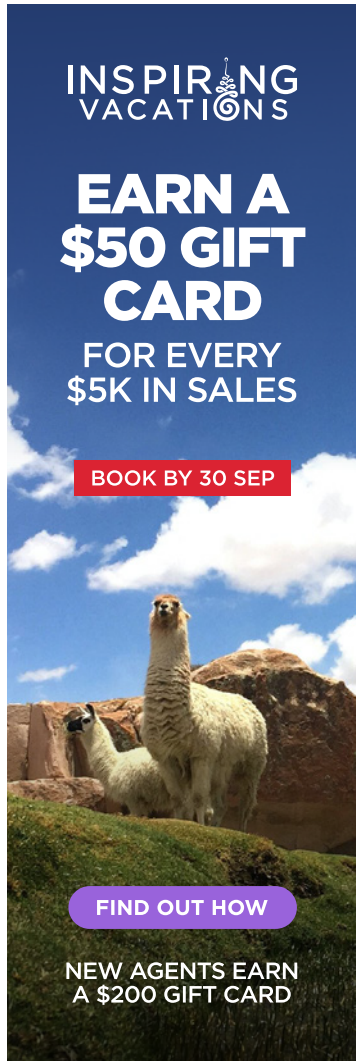
INSPIRING VACATIONS

**EARN A \$50 GIFT CARD FOR EVERY \$5K IN SALES**

**BOOK BY 30 SEP**

**FIND OUT HOW**

**NEW AGENTS EARN A \$200 GIFT CARD**



ROYAL BRUNEI AIRLINES

Celebrating

**RB 50**  
ANNIVERSARY  
1974-2024



We're thrilled to mark **50 Golden Years** and introducing **CHENNAI SERVICES**

**Find out more**

[www.flyRB.com](http://www.flyRB.com)



CANADA FIJI FIJI AIRWAYS

© Destination Vancouver

© Sofitel Fiji Resort & Spa

**SAVE UP TO \$1,000\* PER COUPLE**

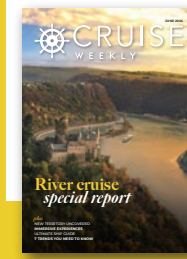
Book by 11 Oct 2024

**SNOWFLAKE TO SUNBAKE THE ULTIMATE CANADA & FIJI GETAWAY**



**CONTACT US ABOUT OUR FIJI HOLIDAY OPTIONS FROM CANADA**





## Discover our River Cruise Special Report

[Click here](#)

## School's now in session



**COLLABORATION** and education were the themes of the day as itravel recently brought together its agents and supplier partners for an afternoon of learning and fun at Dawes Point.

The 'iLearn: LIVE 2024' event welcomed dozens of itravel agents, head office personnel and suppliers including Celebrity Cruises, Explora Journeys, Holland America Line, Scenic, Silversea, Uniworld Boutique River Cruises, TTC Tour Brands, Bunnik Tours, Entire Travel Group, Intrepid, Titan Travel, Club Med and NIB.

The agenda consisted of a flurry of short and sharp product updates, focusing on insider knowledge, emerging trends and future opportunities.

Agents also had plenty of time for independent networking, insights and business development with key suppliers that caught their interest.

The highlight of the day

however was the entire group coming together for a team building activity hosted by Hidden Door Activities.

The task involved each person painting an individual canvas artwork, each of which were then combined to form a beautiful branded mosaic, with the finished piece now taking pride of place in itravel's office.

Ittravel COO, Joe Karbo, labelled the day a great success in "bringing together our network and trusted suppliers for an afternoon of valuable learning and networking".

"These events highlight our commitment to providing our members with opportunities to stay ahead of industry trends, explore new offers, and foster connections with both suppliers and fellow agents," Karbo added.

Agents and suppliers attending on the day are **pictured** above in front of the Dawes Point wharves.

## QF more distrusted

**QANTAS** has failed to claw back any ground regarding trust with consumers, with a new Roy Morgan survey showing the carrier is now less trusted than it was in Mar (**TD** 08 Mar).

The Flying Kangaroo has moved from third place to second on the list of most distrusted brands, with the report examining the 12 months to Jun showing the brand only beat home Optus as the most scrutinised company.

Topping the list of most trusted brands was the typically strong performer, Bunnings.

## AIA to raise NZ\$1.4bn

**FOLLOWING** a high-profile stoush with airlines over who should foot the bill for major expansion plans, Auckland Airport has launched a NZ\$1.4 billion equity raising to help fund its NZ\$6.6 billion belated plan.

New Zealand's largest hub has been eyeing a major infrastructure update for some time, which includes a NZ\$2.2 billion upgrade of its domestic terminal, but had been hopeful of raising a large portion of the funds by lifting levies on airlines.

However, Air New Zealand and Qantas led the charge to resist the charges, which were originally planned to double by 2027.

The raised capital will initially be used to reduce debt and provide flexibility to fund construction, Auckland Airport said.

The new domestic terminal is scheduled to open by 2029.

**Travel Daily**  
ON LOCATION

**VIKING YI DUN**

Today's issue of **TD** is coming to you courtesy of Viking Cruises, operating its inaugural China Discovery voyage aboard the *Viking Yi Dun*.

**AFTER** visiting Pingtan and Xiamen over the weekend we will make the most of the ship's facilities with a day at sea today.

There's been plenty of activity, with guests enjoying included and optional shore excursions - such as the possibility of an extended three-day exploration of Fuzhou province.

The culinary offerings on *Viking Yi Dun* have included traditional Viking favourites, but there have also been themed buffet evenings, including a selection of Chinese street specialties last night, and Viking's seafood night featuring plenty of Alaskan king crab.

## EY jumbo to CDG

**ETIHAD** Airways will add Paris to the list of destinations served by its Airbus A380 from 01 Nov as the carrier increases its schedule to twice-daily, with both morning and evening flights to be offered.

The superjumbo service will be complemented by a Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner on the route.

Paris joins London, New York and Singapore as destinations served by Etihad's six A380s.

Discover the all new *River Cruise Special Report*

**CRUISE**  
WEEKLY

[Click here to view the issue](#)



*The Chat*  
with Jenny



Travel Daily  
A conversation with Kylee Kay

PROUDLY SPONSORED by  
*Regent*  
SEVEN SEAS CRUISES  
AN UNRIVALLED EXPERIENCE

CLICK HERE to listen

## TM reveals big changes

**THE** 2025 TravelManagers conference is headed to Bali (pictured) at The Westin Resort Nusa Dua, and will be moved to midweek, Executive GM Michael Gazal has announced (**TD** breaking news Sat).

The TravelManagers executive broke the news on stage on Sat, as he brought this year's conference in Cairns to a close.

Next year's TravelManagers conference will start on Tue 16 Sep 2025 and finish the night of Thu 18 September 2025.

The move to a midweek conference was born out of a desire to hand attendees their weekends back, including both



PTMs and suppliers.

**MEANWHILE**, Sat night saw TravelManagers present its annual awards, at its conference-closing gala dinner at Cairns Convention Centre.

Louise McCarthy was again named PTM of the Year, after also winning the award in 2023.

New South Wales' McCarthy beat out other top state representatives, including Sally Seward (Western Australia), Bec Alafaci (Queensland), Emma Lucas (Victoria), and Melanie Whyte (Tasmania/SA).

For more images from the conference, see **page five**.

## Intrepid lends a hand

**INTREPID** Travel's foundation has launched an emergency Typhoon Yagi appeal, in response to the devastation caused by the severe tropical storm which impacted Southeast Asia earlier this month.

The emergency Vietnam Typhoon Yagi Appeal will support affected communities in northern Vietnam through Intrepid's local partner, Blue Dragon Children's Foundation, with all funds raised through the appeal to go directly to grassroots organisation

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation provides immediate relief to thousands without shelter, food and electricity due to flooding and landslides - **CLICK HERE** for more.

## QT Singapore open

**QT SINGAPORE** is now open, marking QT Hotels & Resort's first location in Asia.

The hotel features 134 premium suites, a signature restaurant Cygnet, a pool, and multiple bars.

The hotel's guest rooms offer luxurious suites and king rooms in several styles.

Rooms feature a large en suite bathroom and separate walk-in rain shower, as well as iPad-controlled room functionality, Chromecast, wireless Bose speakers, and more.

Meanwhile, the Rooftop at QT serves guests cocktails by a unique labyrinth pool.

## Tassie tourism boost

**THE** Tasmanian Government has announced an additional \$31 million in tourism funding over the next four years to keep the state's visitor economy on track.

Extra funding will see \$12 million allocated towards the 2030 Visitor Economy Strategy to deliver faster growth, while \$5 million has been dedicated to a new Aviation Fund to leverage more opportunities with airlines and increase capacity and access.

Another winner is Tourism Tasmania, which will receive \$4 million to undertake refreshed marketing campaigns that build upon the tourism brand in domestic and global markets.

A focus of marketing efforts will be on driving activity into regional destinations during winter.

Around \$10 million has also been allocated to the hospitality sector to enhance visitor appeal.

The extra funding announcement arrives only two months after Tourism Tasmania revealed it is reviewing its creative agency arrangements to reinvigorate its tourism marketing appeal (**TD** 11 Jul).

Last month, the state's peak tourism marketing body also launched a new campaign in partnership with Air New Zealand (**TD** 13 Aug).



## Window Seat

**THE** next time you complain about the age of an airline's fleet, keep in your thoughts the British Antarctic Survey, which is currently preparing for its annual autumn ferry flight from Canada to Antarctica - an epic 12-day, 13,700km journey which is set to be completed in a 60-year-old aircraft.

Deputy chief pilot Vicky Auld will be piloting a four-engine de Havilland Dash-7, designed in the 60s, described as the 'Land Rover of the skies'.

"They're overengineered, adaptable and rugged, designed for bush flying," Auld told the BBC.

"Whether it's on skis, floats or big tundra tyres, with their short take-off and landing, you can get into places that you just couldn't think about with other aircraft."

The cockpit is cramped and narrow, fitted with a mix of old and new technology, however most of the dials have been replaced by modern "glass cockpit" electronic screens, and the aircraft has also been upgraded with weather radar and an autopilot.

While that might make it easier to fly, it doesn't make the flights any more comfortable - **TD** wonders if it has business class?



## 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 DO FOR YOU...**

- Further develop your management and leadership potential
- Develop confidence and networking opportunities
- Strategic career planning
- Increase your knowledge of organisational culture & processes

For more information visit - [www.travelindustrymentor.com.au](http://www.travelindustrymentor.com.au)



## TravelManagers celebrates in Cairns



**THE** TravelManagers team prepares for Sat's gala dinner.

**THE** 2024 TravelManagers conference in Cairns wrapped up over the weekend, giving PTMs and suppliers the chance to let their hair down.

On Fri night, attendees enjoyed drinks and a wide variety of modern Australian food stations at Salt House at Marina Point.

The following night, guests celebrated this year's success of PTMs with an awards night, which saw Louise McCarthy named as PTM of the Year, successfully defending her title from 2023.

Next year's conference is set to be hosted in Bali - see **page four** for further details.



**TRAVELMANAGERS** Executive General Manager Michael Gazal with guest speaker Cathy Freeman.



**THE** sharply-dressed TravelManagers duo, COO Grant Williams and Chief Executive Officer, Joe Araullo.



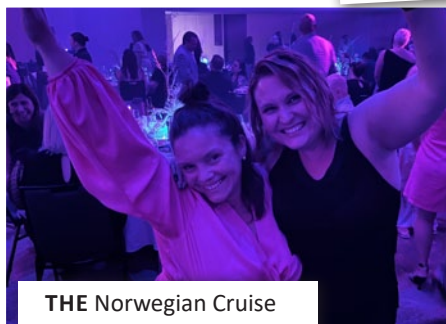
**SOME** of the top PTMs of the year celebrate their success



**THE** Intrepid team of Simon Small, Megan Lowe, and Caitie Taylor with Tauck's Jerry Pilgrim.



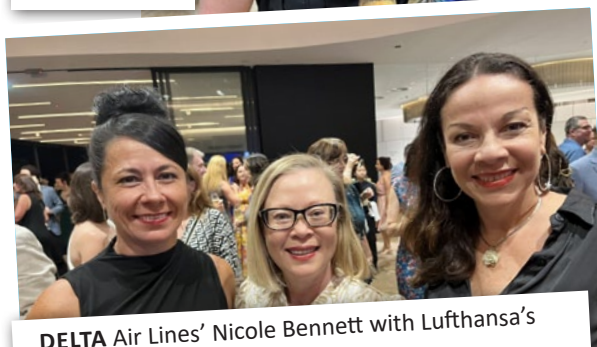
**ANASTASIA** Kotanidis from Seabourn Cruise Line with NTIA finalist Alexa Papoulias from Abercrombie & Kent.



**THE** Norwegian Cruise Line team prepare to party.



**TRAVELMANAGERS** Chief Operating Officer, Grant Campbell and PTM of the Year, Louise McCarthy.



**DELTA** Air Lines' Nicole Bennett with Lufthansa's Lorna Groves and Eliana Martinez.



**CARNIVAL** Corporation was typically well-represented at the conference, including Anastasia Kotanidis, Seabourn Cruise Line; Jordarna Clayton, Carnival Cruise Line; Lauren Togher, Cunard Line; Helen Courias, Holland America Line; and Elly Eves, Princess Cruises.



**Stay Updated**  
on the latest travel news

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

Travel Daily

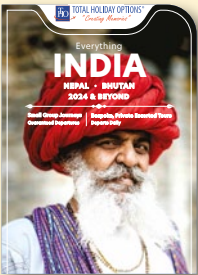
## BROCHURES

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



### Bunnik Tours - 2025 Africa

Bunnik Tours has released its Africa 2025 small group tours brochure. The continent is a particularly small and boutique destination for Bunnik, which decreases its usual maximum group size of 20 to just 12. The 2025 Africa program includes Bunnik's popular 21-day Kenya & Tanzania tour, perfect for travellers seeking to witness the great migration. For a more unique experience, Bunnik offers a 13-day short tour of Madagascar which can be added onto existing itineraries to create the ultimate African getaway. The popular Egypt, Kenya & Zanzibar tour has also been renamed back to 'Cairo to Zanzibar'. The brochure also include a range of independent and extension packages, allowing explorers to discover more hard-to-reach places in these extraordinary regions.



### Total Holiday Options - Everything India

Total Holiday Options' new Everything India 2024 & Beyond brochure provides a holiday for every kind of traveller to South Asia. The brochure details Women Getaways, Solos Journeys, and more. Every small group journey has a 100% guaranteed departure. For seasoned travellers, seeking a family getaway or planning a special occasion, THO's bespoke journeys are perfectly suited for those who like to explore the country with private chauffeur-driven vehicles. THO also offers a vast range of accommodations, including four-star deluxe, to five-star silver, five-star gold, and five-star diamond.

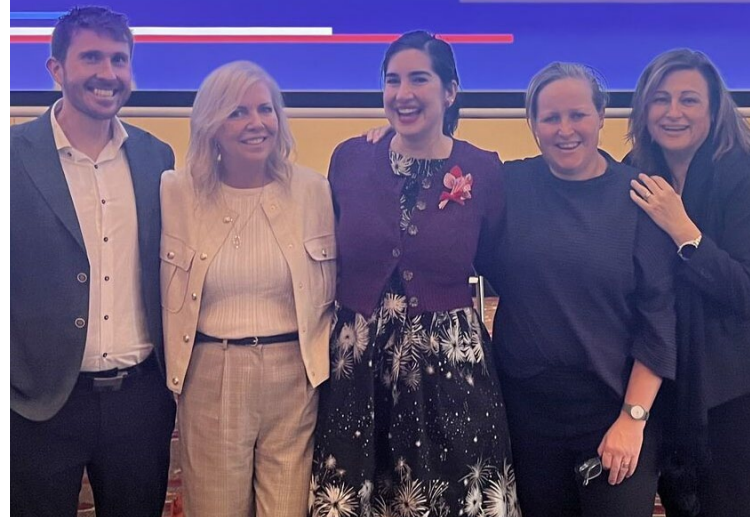


### Grand Pacific Tours - NZ Coach Holidays 2025/26

New Zealand Coach Holiday specialist Grand Pacific Tours has launched its 2025/26 New Zealand Coach Holidays brochure, with departures available from Sep 2025 to May 2026. Travellers can tour in style, and choose between an Ultimate Small Group Tour, boasting a business class level of comfort with only 20 luxury leather seats, or a Signature Mid-Size Group Tour, enjoying premium economy comfort, on board a coach with 32 seats.

Travellers can select an itinerary from their extensive product range to suit the desired holiday duration from nine to 19 days, and one of their 230+ guaranteed departure dates. The brochure is available to view and download from Grand Pacific's website, and printed brochures will be available to order from TIFS in Nov.

## Air Tickets shares its secrets



**MORE** than 300 agents from across the Helloworld Group recently attended a series of events focused on tips and tricks associated with airfare retailing.

Hosted by Air Tickets and the Helloworld Training Academy, the five events in five states covered GDS shortcuts for fares and best pricing, fare conditions, families, polices, mixed-class fares, round-the-world fares and upselling.

The sessions were co-hosted by Travelpart with support also provided by Qantas, Lufthansa, Malaysia Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Air New Zealand, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Cathay Pacific and Qatar Airways.

The masterclasses provided insights to improve efficiency and maximise revenue with practical, applicable skills to boost knowledge in the often complex world of selling and ticketing air.

Agents attending represented the flagship Helloworld branded agency group along with Magellan Travel, My Travel Group and Helloworld Business Travel. Helloworld Group GM

Consolidation, Rohan Moss, said the company had received "terrifically positive feedback" from both attendees and airline partners following the series. *ML*

**Pictured** above at the informative sessions is the Air Tickets team of Jake Hilbert, Kelley Matson, Jacqueline Poulos, Helen Clark and Di Mufic.

## Taking on big guys

**CAIRNS** Canyoning and Cairns Waterfalls says it is aiming to "take on the big guys" with its new Experience True Adventure moniker and umbrella brand.

The rebrand has also seen the company add two new products - Barefoot Tours and the Ultimate Party Bus - to its repertoire.

Experience True Adventure co-owner, Bazz Goes, told the *Cairns Post* he was excited his company can expand its operations.

"We have diverted from just canyoning and waterfalls into transport and more so we can entertain our visitors from dawn to dusk," Goes said.





Food



Sea & Beaches



Nature



Family

# Feel our island energy

## Feel the life, pulse and energy of Mauritius!

Calming, euphoric, curious, adventurous. It's a place to embrace every energy.

Mauritius is big enough for extraordinary adventures and small enough to do it all in one holiday. So, come and hike through National Parks with a local guide, climb mountains, taste food influenced by every community on the island or slow down and pause during a yoga session at sunrise.

Our diverse and inclusive island is the perfect destination for authentic interactions and meaningful experiences.



Romance



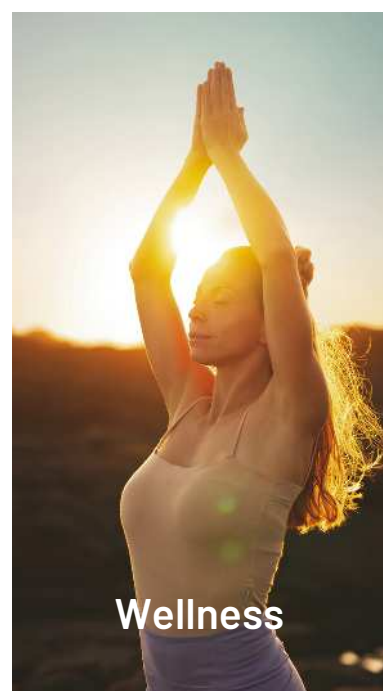
Golf



Culture



Adventure



Wellness



# Travel Summit Beyond Borders 2024

The Future of The Travel Industry, Told By Its Leaders

- For **everyone in the industry**, from final-year tourism students to business leaders.
- **Valuable insights and accessible content** for seasoned pros and newcomers.
- **Panel sessions** focused on travel's innovations and challenges leading to 2030 and beyond.
- **Networking opportunities**

Hear from some of the industry's most influential leaders including:



**Adam Schwab**  
Luxury Escapes



**Phillipa Harrison**  
Tourism Australia



**Graham 'Skroo' Turner**  
Flight Centre Limited

Presented by:



**Richard Taylor**  
ATIA



**Roslyn Ranse**  
Travel Agent Achievers



**Charlie Trevena**  
Destination Webinars

To find out more from Richard and view the current line-up of all our speakers, click [HERE](#).



**October 25th, 2024 | ICC Sydney**  
**9am-5.30pm**