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JOURNEY BEYOND

TT&OS APPLY

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features five pages of the latest travel industry news, including our regular **Corporate Update**, plus a cover page from **Journey Beyond** and a full page from **Disney Cruise Line**.

Luxperience gives thought

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group's (FCTG) marquee luxury event Luxperience has announced a cast of well-known leaders to spearhead its Thought Leaders Forum taking place on 19 Nov. The session will be headlined by Adele Labine-Romain, a tourism industry expert who was most recently the travel and tourism lead at Deloitte Australia, and a Partner with Deloitte Access Economics.

The keynote presentation will be moderated by co-founder of *Australian Traveller*, Quentin Long, and will explore the way luxury travel is perceived by the industry & new luxury travellers.

Following the opening chat, this

year's program will also include two panel discussions featuring a range of prominent speakers.

These include: Journey Beyond COO Sture Myrmell; Heritage Expeditions Commercial Director Aaron Russ; Scott Dunn GM Mike Harlow; and Space Perspectives Head of Global Sales Edyta Teper, to name just a few.

Luxperience Event Director Lynn Ormiston said the Thought Leaders Forum will play a key role in setting the tone for the event.

Luxperience will be held 19-22 Nov at ICC Sydney, Darling Harbour, & the following edition will take place 07-10 Oct in 2025.

Barking for Portland

TRAVEL Portland has re-appointed Barking Owl to be its destination marketing organisation for another year.

The agency will manage trade training and agent famils, as well as other trade activations.

Disney cruise charm

SOME have asked the question, what can you do on a Disney Cruise Line Voyage?

It turns, quite a lot - see the **back page** to learn more.



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Great Southern Mel

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Journey Beyond said the new three-day, two-night itinerary offers greater flexibility and is perfect for those wanting to explore Melbourne - see **cover**.

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365 Glacier Express

AGENTS are now able to book their clients on The Glacier Express 365 days in advance, thanks to a new partnership between the popular scenic rail journey and International Rail.

Seats on the Glacier Express could previously only be booked 90 days in advance, which often caused stress for agents who were incorporating the experience into an itinerary.

International Rail's new 'Glacier Express Classic' from Zermatt to St Moritz (or vice versa) package includes pre- and post-accommodation, available from \$1,239pp for second class travel.

The package includes one night three-star accommodation in Zermatt and St Moritz, including breakfast and upgrade options.



QF sweeps Broome

QANTAS has kicked off development of a new lounge at Broome International Airport, due to open in Dec.

The new Broome Regional Lounge is set to be double the capacity of the existing lounge, following consistent strong demand from premium travellers to the WA town.

Qantas Chief Customer & Digital Officer Catriona Larritt said the new space, which will feature vibrant colours inspired by Dampier Peninsula, underscores the carrier's continued investment in WA.

"We are thrilled to bring this new, elevated lounge experience to our customers in Broome, a popular destination on our network," Larritt said.

The existing lounge will stay open during the redevelopment of the new Broome Regional Lounge, which is part of Qantas' \$100m investment to upgrade its global lounge network.

ALL, KrisFlyer up rewards

SINGAPORE Airlines Group's (SIA) rewards program, KrisFlyer, has expanded its partnership with ALL, Accor's loyalty program.

The latest collaboration allows members of both programs to enjoy benefits across Accor's network of over 5,600 hotels and resorts globally, as well as flights to more than 120 destinations serviced by Singapore Airlines.

Members will gain access to exclusive bonus offers and easy conversion between reward points and KrisFlyer miles.

Until 30 Sep, members who convert KrisFlyer miles to reward points will earn 50% more points - so for every 4,500 KrisFlyer miles converted, 1,500 reward points will be awarded, instead of the usual 1,000 points.

The points can be redeemed in more than 100 different ways, from hotel stays and dining at Accor properties worldwide, to access to experiences available



only on ALL.com, including major concerts and VIP sporting events.

Meanwhile, members converting reward points to KrisFlyer miles will also receive a 50% bonus, with 1,500 KrisFlyer miles granted for every 2,000 reward points converted, rather than the standard 1,000 miles.

These miles can be used for flights, cabin upgrades, and unique travel experiences.

"The enhanced partnership between KrisFlyer and Accor will provide members with greater access to rewarding flight and stay experiences," said Bryan Koh, Divisional Vice President Loyalty Marketing at Singapore Airlines.

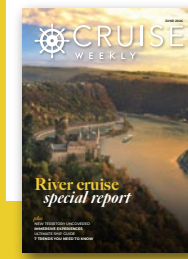
For more details - see [HERE](#). JM



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QF, JQ kick goals

QANTAS and Jetstar are adding up to 13 additional flights and up to 6,000 seats to and from Melbourne to help get fans to the footy finals next week.

Fares are available starting from \$270, with the potential for more flights to be added next week.

Azamara offers two ships

AZAMARA will return to Australia and New Zealand at the end of the year, offering eight sailings across two ships.

Azamara Pursuit will arrive in Fremantle on 18 Dec after a nine-night cruise from Singapore, and will set sail on a 14-night voyage around WA and SA on 20 Dec.

During Jan and Feb 2025, *Azamara Pursuit* will sail two more voyages between Australia and New Zealand - 14- and 18-night itineraries that visit 13 ports - and a 14-night cruise from Sydney to Fremantle.



Guests can enjoy two new shore excursions, 'Oysters In Eden' and a 'Rickshaw Tour Of Fremantle', as well as an exclusive concert by operatic pop tenor Mark Vincent in Adelaide Town Hall.

Meanwhile, the cruise line's latest ship, *Azamara Onward*, will make her second voyage to Australia and New Zealand, arriving in Auckland on 15 Feb on her world cruise.

Over 15 nights, *Azamara Onward* will visit seven destinations in New Zealand and call on Hobart and Eden on her way to Sydney, before embarking on a 22-night voyage from Sydney to Singapore on 20 Feb 2025 via Victoria, SA and WA ports. *JM*

CATO's new Dance

THE Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO) has welcomed Global Dance Tours as its newest full member.

The premium dance tour operator offers tailor-made dance, performing arts, and music tours, with over 150 years of combined experience.

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BNE inks Amadeus

BRISBANE Airport has selected Amadeus to power 300 agent-assisted check-in desks across its domestic and int'l terminals.

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CORPORATE UPDATE

Rising costs slowing down

GLOBAL business travel and events prices are starting to moderate following a period of significant increases in recent years, according to a new report published by CWT in partnership with the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA).

Detailed in the *2025 Global Business Travel Forecast*, the good news for the corporate travel sector is that while costs will continue to rise through to 2025, the pace of spikes will start slowing down from later this year.

The reason for the stabilisation of costs is attributed to improving market conditions and a more balanced growth trajectory.

“Businesses can expect to navigate a more predictable pricing environment through 2024 and 2025, allowing for better budget planning and cost management,” CWT President & Chief Executive Officer, Patrick Andersen, noted in the report.

While the forecast is cause for optimism, Andersen also cautioned that price regularity will remain “fragile” due to geopolitical factors, inflationary pressures and ESG concerns.

Air ticket rises are expected to slow by the biggest margin. *AB*

BCD appoints Wei

BCD Meetings & Events has appointed Minte Wei (**pictured**) to the role of Associate Director of Supplier Relations for APAC.

She will be charged with spearheading the company’s supplier relations strategy, as well as improving BCD’s partner network relationships.

Wei will report to Senior VP of Global Supplier Relations & Partner Network, Christine Erickson, and will also work closely with MD of APAC, Sanjay Seth, to collaborate with preferred suppliers in the market.

Most of her previous experience has been spent in the hospitality sector, where Wei specialised in evaluation roles, but was most recently with IHG in sales.



GlobalStar cuts risk

MAGNATECH Travel Management Solutions has signed a deal with GlobalStar Travel Management, which will see the latter’s network of travel management companies benefit from Magnatech’s risk messaging and workflow solutions.

Under the terms of the deal, GlobalStar Partners will gain access to preferential member rates for the SafeToGo and MTWorkflows platforms.

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Resort comes out of its shell



NRMA Parks and Resorts has announced the opening of Turtle Sands, its newest nature-based accommodation.

Situated on Mon Repos Beach near Bundaberg on Queensland’s Southern Great Barrier Reef, the holiday destination allows guests to get up close and personal with the region’s population of nesting turtles on dedicated turtle tours.

The \$28 million ecotourism project, which features a sustainable design and is run off-grid, is committed to preserving and enhancing the resident population of endangered loggerhead sea turtles.

As part of its Turtle Protection Promise, the holiday park will minimise the use of lights after dark, stay off the beach at night, and avoid nesting sites.

Guests can stay on camping and caravanning sites, or book one of the state-of-the-art villas, a premium beach house, or a glamping tent, and take a dip

in the custom designed turtle-shaped pool.

Visitors will also enjoy easy access to rainforest walks and coastal hikes, and prime viewing of the ‘humpback highway’, where they can witness whales migrate along the coast.

“Turtle Sands is set to offer our guests and NRMA members an incredible experience celebrating and supporting the conservation of marine turtles in their natural environment and creating a beautiful year-round beachfront resort easily accessible to everything the Bundaberg and Southern Great Barrier Reef has to offer,” said NRMA Parks and Resorts CEO, Paul Davies.

“Our commitment in bringing the Turtle Sands project to life is to offer our guests carefully considered, environmentally sustainable access to one of nature’s most amazing moments: turtles nesting and thriving at Mon Repos.” *JM*

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Time is running out for travellers to save 10% on select **Trafalgar** worldwide tours and flights for 2025, such as the seven-day 'European Highlights' itinerary from Amsterdam to Paris, or the 14-day 'Balkan Adventure' from Bucharest to Belgrade. Find out more about the limited-time offer by calling 1800 597 162.

Glenross Living in Kalutara, Sri Lanka is offering a 25% discount on bookings for stays until 30 Apr 2025. Guests who take advantage of the luxury hotel's new deal will receive a complimentary chocolate box on arrival and breakfast, a yoga session every morning, and enjoy access to sauna and steam room facilities. For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Now is a great time for travellers to book their 2025 adventure, with **Globus family of brands** announcing a sale on hundreds of overseas tours across Cosmos and Globus. For the rest of Sep, up to \$200 savings per person are available for bookings made with Cosmos [HERE](#), while couples can save up to \$1,100 with Globus [HERE](#).

Accor Plus is celebrating its 30th anniversary by offering a 30% discount on its memberships until 29 Sep. The hotel loyalty subscription program allows members to unlock benefits across a network of over 1,000 Accor hotels and 1,400 hotel restaurants in the Asia Pacific region. The deal is valid for a range of 12-month membership types - learn more [HERE](#).

Cruisers can now take 10% off **Murray River Paddlesteamers'** three-, four- and seven-night sailings aboard its famous paddlesteamer, *PS Emmylou*, from Echuca in Victoria from Jan to May 2025. The deal, which is on until 31 Oct, means twin-share fares are available from \$1,620 per person for a three-night voyage. Call 03 5482 5244 to book.

PATA chases mice in China

THE Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) is preparing to deliver an innovative capacity-building program for the Asia Pacific tourism sector next week in Macao, China.

Developed in collaboration with MGM, the program is themed 'Macao MICE forward: innovate, sustain, excel - smart solutions training for sustainable MICE'.

The training initiative, which takes place over two-and-a-half days next week, aims to equip current and future MICE



professionals with the knowledge and tools they require to succeed in an increasingly competitive business environment.

Attendees will learn about sustainability, marketing strategies and the integration of tech and AI in the MICE industry.

Hyatt marks 101st

HYATT Centric Delfina Santa Monica has opened as Hyatt Hotels Corporation's 101st hotel in the Golden State, located just steps away Santa Monica Pier in Los Angeles.

Guests will also be within walking distance of other iconic spots, including Third Street Promenade, Venice Beach Boardwalk and the retail district.

The hotel will undergo a US\$16 million refurbishment beginning this season, which will see its 315 guest rooms refreshed, as well as the introduction of an all-new three-meal restaurant and bar.

The renovation, which will be carried out in phases to minimise disruption to guests, will also encompass nearly 1.393m² of meeting space, including a 418m² roof-top ballroom offering panoramic ocean views.

Additionally, the hotel boasts a fitness facility, including an outdoor pool and whirlpool.

"Our latest Hyatt Centric hotel opening in a key market like Los Angeles demonstrates our focus on destinations that resonate most with our guests and World of Hyatt members," said Mike Waddell, SVP Global Franchise Operations at Hyatt.

To celebrate its opening, Hyatt Centric Delfina Santa Monica will offer guests 15% off when staying a minimum of one qualifying night between 18 Sep 2024 and 31 Oct 2025, with code '15OFF'.



Window Seat

SOARING demand for travel is great for our industry but can cause a headache or two when footy finals time comes.

The North Queensland Cowboys needed urgent talks this week with the NRL to book a charter plane to Sydney for its semi-final with Cronulla, because the team was unable to get 36 seats needed for players and staff on flights departing from Townsville.

The reason was because hundreds of the team's fans had already booked the seats.

Amid the prospect of the NRL side flying via Brisbane or elsewhere en route to Sydney, the NRL stumped up \$100k to secure a private jet service.

The issue then evolved to the point where the NRL approved a feasibility study into buying its own corporate plane to avoid repeats of this situation.

"If it's only slightly more money than what we're paying now, it doesn't matter because the comfort and convenience which would be given to the players for their welfare far outweighs any additional costs," ARL Chair Peter V'landys told the *Sydney Morning Herald*.



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