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Plus the top 70 agents with the highest ticketed revenue (base fare) each week will win either international return flights, Virgin Australia Lounge memberships or Velocity Points.

HOW TO TAKE OFF

Simply sell and ticket any Virgin Australia (795) marketed and operated flights ex Australia during the Promotion Period 3 April 2018 - 1 May 2018 for travel between 3 April 2018 - 30 June 2018 on domestic and Trans Tasman flights, 3 April 2018 - 13 September 2018 on all other international flights and enter the below OSI entry into the GDS at the time of PNR creation:

Sabre: 3OSI VA VAIN VA/Giveaway/State/Agent's first name and last name/personal work email address

Galileo: SI:VA*VAIN VA/Giveaway/State/Agent's first name and last name/personal work email address

Amadeus: OS VA VAIN VA/Giveaway/State/Agent's first name and last name/personal work email

Please note: When entering your personal work email address in the OSI field, in replacement of @ in your email address please use //. If you have an underscore () in your email address, replace _ with --



For details of each weekly prize and full terms and conditions please visit

virginaustralia.com/giveaway



FIND OUT MORE

Terms and conditions apply. Entry is open to Australian residents aged 18 years or over who are employed as a travel agent at a travel agency office located in Australia, have a valid individual work email address (generic agency or shared email addresses are not valid) and use a GDS to make bookings, excluding online travel agents and their employees and are a member of the Velocity Frequent Flyer Program (Entrants). Virgin Australia prime/operating flights only on (795) ticket stock. Weekly Prizes will be allocated to 30 Retail agents, 10 Regional retail agents and 30 Corporate TMC agents. Weekly and top prizes will be given out at the end of the incentive period. Top 35 Grand prize winners can only win a maximum of 1 weekly prize over the incentive period. The top 35 grand prize winners will be the highest sellers for the full promotional period. Flight prizes are valid for departure from the winners' closest airport served by Virgin Australia. Flight prizes to New Zealand, Los Angeles and Hong Kong are valid for travel on Virgin Australia operated services only. All winners will be notified by phone by 14 May 2018.





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Great VA giveaway

VIRGIN Australia is offering over 20 million Velocity points among other prizes for travel agents selling VA tickets, with the top 35 selling agents between 03 Apr and 01 May to receive a whopping 500,000 points each.

There are also prizes of international flights, Velocity points or lounge memberships for the top selling 70 consultants each week during the promotion - see the **cover page**.

Volleyball thanks Andrew Burnes

VOLLEYBALL Australia has paid tribute to Andrew Burnes and the entire Helloworld Travel network for their dedicated support and partnership with the sport.

The Volleyroos said HLO played a vital role in their recent success on the Gold Coast, "supporting the most gender equal sport in Australia" - see **page nine**.

Outbound travel slowing

MONTHLY figures released yesterday by the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate a flattening in international travel, as measured by "short term resident returns" during Feb.

The arrival and departure figures showed a monthly decline of 0.1%, following no change between Nov and Dec, and a drop of 0.1% in Jan 2018.

Overall outbound travel is just 1.1% higher than in Feb 2017, with the trend estimate for growth flattening to levels not seen since 2008 during the Global Financial Crisis.

Year-on-year departures by Australian residents have dropped to New Zealand (-2.5%), Indonesia (-5.6%), the USA (-2.4%), China (-0.7%) and Singapore (-5%), while conversely there was strong growth in travel to Vietnam (+23%), India (+12.7%), and Japan (+13.1%).

Lower levels of outbound growth were seen for the UK (+3%) and Thailand (+5.9%).

In terms of arrivals, there was also little month-on-month growth during Feb, although visitation increased 4.8% overall when compared to Feb 2017.

China was Australia's key source market during Feb 2018, with over 225,000 Chinese arrivals making it the biggest month ever for visitation from China.

That was almost three times the number that arrived from the UK, in second place at 85,700.

Australia's fastest growing source of visitors during Feb was India, with 28,000 arrivals, up 19.3% compared to Feb 2017.

There was also growth from the USA, up 10.3%, while the Chinese market grew 6.8%.

Visitation to Australia declined from Malaysia, down 9.4%, and Singapore which dropped 5.2%.

Intrepid appoints

INTREPID Travel has appointed Tara Harrison to the newly created role of senior PR and communications manager for Asia and Pacific.

Melbourne-based Intrepid, which is the world's largest adventure travel company, has grown 17% in the last 12 months and is bolstering its public relations efforts to keep pace.

Harrison's most recent role was as editor of *Travel Weekly*, and she will work alongside other Intrepid PR team members including Kate Parker, Gillian Monahan and Cerisse Denhardt.

More appointments on **page 6**.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has eight pages of news, a front cover page for **Virgin Australia**, a photo page for **Addicted to Maldives** plus full pages from:

- Volleyball Australia
- AA Appointments jobs

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Allianz BNE deal

ALLIANZ Global Assistance (AGA) has signed a new three year agreement with Brisbane Airport Corporation to offer travel insurance directly through the www.bne.com.au website.

Described as a "first of its kind partnership", the pact will launch early next month, offering customers the option to purchase AGA travel insurance to protect their journey, alongside other services such as pre-booked discount parking and checking flight arrivals and departures.

Allianz said its data indicated that travel insurance was often purchased as an afterthought, with 39% of customers buying the week before departure, while 19% purchased on the day before or the day of departure.

AC grows support team

AIR Canada is strengthening its support for the local travel trade, recruiting three new staff at its Australian HQ as it prepares to ramp up operations ahead of its year-round flights between Vancouver and Melbourne.

Revealing Air Canada's trade focus exclusively to **Travel Daily**, general manager Australia & NZ Vic Naughton said the airline had increased its Sydney-based workforce by a third this month.

The appointments include Imeleta Aluni, account sales and services coordinator, Eunice Maligalig, revenue & sales optimisation coordinator and Petri Johan Lehto as inside sales support coordinator, all reporting to Fei Revel who was promoted to sales planning executive.

Each of the new recruits has vast experience, coming across from other airlines.

AC's long-standing executive and current pricing manager Rick

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TAUCK

Experience pass

ASX-LISTED Adventure tourism company Experience Co has launched a new "one-stop-shop" travel experience pass.

Dubbed Xpass, the product brings together Experience Co's various operations including Raging Thunder, Cairns Hot Air Balloon Co, Cairns Canyoning, Fitzroy Island Adventures, Reef Island Adventures, GBR Helicopters, Big Cat Green Island Reef Cruises, Tropical Journeys and Skydive Australia.

The company, which listed on the ASX last month, is for the first time showcasing its newly integrated products at Australian Tourism Exchange in Adelaide this week, with ceo Ant Ritter telling **TD** there's something for every client, ranging from "mild to wild".

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VIEW OFFERS

NCL US\$1k offer

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has extended its offer of up to US\$1,000 of onboard spend, with the bonus now available on bookings of select sailings made from today until 30 Apr.

The limited time offer is available on Australia, NZ, Asia and South Pacific *Norwegian Jewel* departures between 13 Dec 2018 and 13 Feb 2019.

More info on 1300 255 200.

Pomery has also taken on the new position of sales manager - leisure Australia and NZ.

Naughton said Air Canada's agent relationships had always been great, but was conscious that some resources were lacking.

"We needed to improve the resources. We have punched above our weight with what we had, but I believed we could do more if we had more."

Since taking the local lead role for Air Canada last year, Naughton said he realised the Star Alliance carrier needed to offer additional support for agencies, he said.

"Our reputation is formidable in the trade, but I wanted to elevate that and be as trade-friendly as we can, and be an airline that supports travel agents."

"In some cases, we've probably had to knock back business as we didn't have the resources, so now we are better equipped to be even more competitive," he said.

The airline now has seven staff in its head office and three sales execs in NSW, Victoria and Qld.

New Rydges Darwin

EVENT Hospitality and Entertainment Limited has entered into an agreement with the Territory Property Group to manage the Darwin Central Hotel under the Rydges Hotels brand.

The rebranding will be effective from 01 Jul, with the property featuring 132 rooms.

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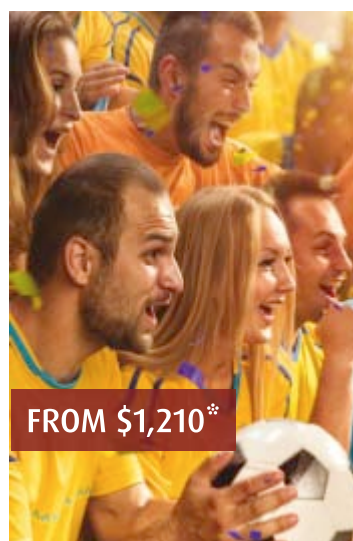
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Indian opportunity for NT

A NEW report from Tourism Research Australia has evaluated the potential for tourism from India for the Northern Territory, noting a potential to capitalise on the existing strong Indian VFR market in NSW and Vic.

Currently Indian travellers to Australia make up about 3% of

total international arrivals, but less than 1% of NT visitation.

Key recommendations included raising awareness of the Territory among both the Indian travel trade and consumers, with travel agents seen as a key source of information on NT options.

The extreme price-sensitivity of Indian travellers means it is "vitally important to moderate the costs of travel to/from and within the NT in order to reduce the financial barrier," the report also notes - see tra.gov.au.

ATE to Perth in 2019

TOURISM Australia is wrapping up the 2018 Australian Tourism Exchange in Adelaide today, and has confirmed that next year the national tourism product showcase will be held in the Western Australian capital.

ATE2019 will take place from 08-12 Apr at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, with WA Tourism Minister Paul Papalia saying it "gives us an extraordinary opportunity to position ourselves as Australia's western gateway".

Aqua webinar

ASIA-PACIFIC Travel Marketing Services is highlighting an upcoming webinar providing an update on Hawaiian hotel group Aqua-Aston Hospitality.

The online education session will take place at 8.30am AEST on Thu 26 Apr 2018 - for more info or to register [CLICK HERE](#).

Woolworths joins QF online store

QANTAS has expanded its partnership with Woolworths, with the supermarket giant's products now available through the Qantas Online Mall.

QF points are only available for online Woolworths purchases made through the mall, with a launch offer of four points per dollar valid until 21 Apr.

Trafalgar AWS out

TRAFALGAR has this week released its Autumn, Winter and Spring program for 2018/19.

The new brochure combines both Trafalgar and Costsaver in a single "upside down" format, featuring the brands' most comprehensive low season offer with 32 Trafalgar and three Costsaver trips in 23 countries.

Prices are up to 30% less than in summer - for more information call 1300 78 78 78.



Window Seat

POTHEADS have a fresh crop of itineraries to pick if exploring California's budding industry, with West Coast Cannabis Tours rolling out a few new packages.

The San Diego-based company has developed new hands-on courses that "give a chance to learn a new skill while in an elevated mood of heightened awareness", the firm says.

Options include Canvas and Cannabis classes with an art instructor and another program that "teaches the techniques & dexterity needed to produce finely rolled joints and sushi".

There is also a new Herbal Enhanced Yoga program - "a relaxing adventure that shows how smoking, or even 'dabbing' concentrates, can be integrated into a healthy lifestyle".

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Sustainable stays

AUSTRALIAN travellers are willing to spend more to book eco-friendly stays and almost 80% say they want to travel sustainably, according to research by Booking.com.

The website's Sustainable Travel Report says 31% of Australians believe they often or always travel sustainably, but 48% say they don't or rarely do.

While the term "sustainable travel" is subjective, the report says almost half of travellers consider it to mean staying in eco-friendly or green accommodation.

Booking.com says the top reasons Aussie travellers give for choosing eco-friendly options are to help reduce environmental impact (34%), to have a locally relevant experience (32%) and wanting to feel good about an accommodation choice (24%).

Impressive natural sites were given as the inspiration to travel sustainably by 57% of people.

Thoughtful traveller

WORLD expeditions has launched a new guide designed to help people understand how to travel responsibly.

The Thoughtful Traveller is the newest edition of the company's *Responsible Travel Guidebook* which was first published in 2000, with content influenced by a recent survey which showed strong demand for guidance on sustainable travel.

"Travellers want to know they're travelling sustainably and responsibly when they travel with us – and they want to know what they can do at an individual level," said World Expeditions' responsible travel manager Donna Lawrence.

"We believe we have a responsibility to educate our travellers, our trade partners and the wider travelling community about the concepts of responsible travel and the new guide is a great way to do that," she said.

"Ice-cream tourism" worry

EXCLUSIVE

CONCERNS about over-tourism have led to Trafalgar's global ceo Gavin Tollman coining the term "ice-cream tourism".

Speaking with *Travel Daily* this week about the topic, Tollman said the expression refers to the influx of tourists that arrive in ports off "huge cruise ships".

Citing the experiences of a family friend who operates hotels on Italy's iconic Amalfi Coast, Tollman said the local regretted being one of the key proponents to encourage cruise lines to the region several years ago.

"He said to me, all that happens is you bring mass population that add nothing except usually buy an ice-cream, and they drop the ice-cream and drop their napkin and that is their entire impact."

"So you get this huge amount of overcrowding without any positive effect," Tollman said.

Separately, The Travel Corp exec added recent stats that indicated that of the 32 million travellers that entered Barcelona last year, only 25% stayed in a city hotel.

"When you hear statistics like that you really do understand how if you are a local and you are trying to make a living, having tourists that come but

don't do anything for the local community can be aggravating and frustrating.

"At Trafalgar we want to do the exact opposite," Tollman said.

He told *TD* Trafalgar had a three-step solution to counter over-tourism concerns.

Step 1 is direct action, involving "thinking things through with conscious thought and taking preventative measures as to how we can mitigate the impact we have in the places we go".

"It's working with locals. It's taking plastics out of the supply chain. It's leaving at certain times so you're not creating traffic."

Step 2 is dissemination, which incorporates offering travel outside peak times of year and into shoulder and low seasons.

"For tourism to really be seen as a long-term positive influence in communities, it cannot be seasonally driven," he explained.

And Tollman's third step is based around visitor dispersal and "removing the bottleneck of visitations of just the places you go and see".

"For me, getting off the beaten path and connecting with regional communities we visit is hugely positive and a great thing about why we travel".

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SPTE Adelaide exchange



SUSTAINABLE tourism continues to be a strong focus for the travel industry, with the South Pacific Tourism 2018 Exchange driving home the message at its Adelaide event last week.

Buyers and sellers from Australia, Fiji, France, Italy, Netherlands, UK, USA, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Korea were in attendance, and were updated on the Organisation's plans to maintain sustainable tourism in the region.

South Pacific Tourism Organisation ceo Christopher Cocker said "Our greatest assets are our people, environment & culture and we must protect and promote them through sustainable development.

"Hence this year, we are

spreading the message that while we are proud to share our culture with the world, and welcome tourists and travellers to discover and experience our destinations, that they also respect our assets."

The organisation also welcomed its first Pacific Ambassador, Miss Pacific Islands, Matauaina Gwendolyn To'omalata to the event, who spoke about the impact of climate change and how the region must work together to keep it safe.

"We are the custodians of our islands and we must make an effort to advocate for our tourism industry to go green," she said.

Delegates at the Adelaide event are **pictured**.

For more information on the event, **CLICK HERE**.

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Accor results strong

RESULTS released this week by AccorHotels show the group has sustained strong growth in the first quarter of 2018, with a revenue increase of 0.6%, and 9.5% like-for-like.

Chairman and ceo Sebastien Bazin said business was strong in the majority of regions, with Europe and Asia benefiting from a "buoyant environment."

"Our new businesses are gradually gaining momentum.

"To complement this, the Group is pursuing its strategy of growth and consolidation of its ecosystem through targeted acquisitions," Bazin added.

Discover WA tour

GUESTS aboard SeaLink's 10 Day South West Western Australia tour will have the chance to experience the region at its best when the cruise departs Perth on 05 Oct.

The tour will visit Rottnest Island, the Margaret River Region, Pemberton, Albany and Wave Rock/Hyden and includes accommodation, full breakfast and two course dinners daily, most lunches, all tours, cruises and entry fees, as well as luxury air-conditioned coach transfers.

Prices start from \$3,735pp, for more information, **CLICK HERE**.

DNSW backs films

POPULAR long-running Sydney Film Festival will continue to celebrate global excellence in Australian film over the next two years following renewed funding from Destination NSW.

The festival, which has been a key cultural event on the NSW events calendar for 65 years, will once again collaborate with Vivid Sydney, reinforcing the harbour city's position as the creative capital of Asia-Pacific.

The Festival runs 06-17 Jun.

Tokyo Narita guide

A NEW English language tourist website & app has been released by Narita Airport in a bid to provide travellers with information and directions to tourist attractions that can be accessed direct from the airport.

CLICK HERE to view.

SQ Google Home

CUSTOMERS travelling on Singapore Airlines can now use the voice-activated Google Home device to obtain the most up-to-date information on their flights.

The carrier is the first in SE Asia to utilise the technology and is an extension of its beta Chatbot Kris, which launched on the airline's Facebook page in Dec.



Sales Support Agent (Maternity Relief) Melbourne

We take pride in our people - a dynamic and culturally diverse workforce is why we are one of the finest and fastest growing airlines in the world.

Reporting to the Sales Support Supervisor, the successful candidate will be responsible for effectively supporting the sales force to achieve revenue targets and to ensure the commercial success of Qatar Airways in Australia and New Zealand. This role will support and assist travel agents with their bookings and special requests, as well as the training of fares and Qatar Airways policies and procedures.

Detailed knowledge of Amadeus is essential for this role. This will be a maternity relief position that carries a maximum-term contractual period of 12 months. This a part-time position working 7.1 hours a day (9:00am - 4:30pm), 5 days a week (Monday - Friday).

Apply online before 30 April 2018 by visiting
careers.qatarairways.com

Thursday 19th April 2018

Natural Habitat brox

ADVENTURE World has released its 2018-19 Natural Habitat Adventures brochure following its appointment as exclusive GSA for the brand earlier this year (**TD** 19 Jan).

The brochure offers 18 "eco-conscious expeditions" and nature-focused small groups, including polar bear trips in Churchill, Canada, grizzly bear encounters in Alaska and African wildlife safaris.

"Natural Habitat Adventures allows travellers the opportunity to discover the planet through the most valuable nature travel experiences in the world and we know travel agents will rejoice in the opportunity to sell this fantastic brand to their clients," Adventure World managing director Neil Rodgers enthused.

Natural Habitat Adventures is a partner of the World Wildlife Foundation (WWF) as part of its conservation commitment.

NZ reputation high

AIR New Zealand has been named the most reputable company operating in Australia for the second year in a row in the annual Australian Corporate Reputation Index.

The kiwi carrier was placed ahead of Toyota in second place, followed by Qantas and Virgin Australia which both lifted their positions from last year.

The index is compiled by Reputation Australia which says airlines and car manufactures dominate its list.

QR, Air Italy c'share

QATAR Airways will begin codesharing with Air Italy on 24 Apr, allowing the Middle Eastern carrier to place its QR code on flights from Milan-Malpensa Airport to Italian points including Catania, Rome, Naples, Olbia, Palermo and Calabria.

Qatar Airways flies from Doha to both Milan and Rome.



Industry Appointments

WELCOME to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thursday feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry email appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

Specialist New Zealand wholesaler **ANZCRO** has unveiled its new team of sales executives with a combined experience of more than 60 years. **Belinda Tari** is the company's National Sales Manager, backed by **Kylie Wapp** as Vic/Tas Sales Executive; **Stephanie King**, WA Sales Executive; **Sheree Crossan**, Qld/Northern NSW Sales Executive; **Elle Willmott**, NSW/ACT Sales Executive; and **Sonia Sukacz** as Groups Coordinator/SA Key Accounts Sales Executive.

Club Med has announced two new appointments, with **Ally Solomou** joining as Business Development Executive NSW & ACT after several years as a consultant and assistant manager at Flight Centre, & **Anita Sedlan** making an internal move to the new role of Omni Channel Sales Expert.

The **Perth Convention Bureau** has appointed **Niccole Davey** as Executive Director Stakeholder Relations, effective 01 Jul. She was previously Director of Business Development - Associations.

Hawaii-based **Aqua-Aston Hospitality** will expand under the direction of new chief development officer **Chris Port**, who joins from the Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants group.

The **Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong** has enlisted Chilean-born **Roberto Riveros** as Chef de Cuisine at Ozone, the world's highest bar. He has worked at top restaurants including Barcelona's Lasarte, with three Michelin stars.

Mark Simmons will lead sales initiatives for **Swiss-Belhotel International** as the group's new Senior Regional Director of Sales for Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Macao cuisine hits the streets



MACAO'S 2018 Year of Gastronomy has hit the streets of Sydney in the form of a brightly coloured food truck which will be serving up Macanese cuisine over the next few days.

The Taste of Macao Eat Art Truck made its debut yesterday in First Fleet Park at Circular Quay where locals had a chance to sample some of Macao's favourite staples including its famous Portuguese egg tarts.

Led by Sydney chef Julian Cincotta, the truck will be at Circular Quay again today from 12-3pm before heading to Central Station tomorrow, Chatswood on

Sat and Manly Wharf on Sun.

Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) gm for Australia and NZ Helen Wong said the truck would show Australians what to expect when dining in Macao.

"Not only does Macao have an impressive list of Michelin-star restaurants, the Asian centre is renowned for its street food, and this will be a perfect way for Sydneysiders to sample such cuisine," she said.

Wong is **pictured** at the truck's launch, second left, along with MGTO director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes and chef Julian Cincotta with team members.



Opportunity at Vietnam Airlines Sales & Marketing Team

Vietnam Airlines is recruiting a sales professional for its AU Sales & Marketing Team based at its Sydney CBD office.

The new Sales Rep will work in collaboration with other sales team members in all sales and marketing opportunities with the aim to maximize revenues and potential for Vietnam Airlines.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Participate in the team's data analysis and evaluation;
- Process new sales leads and propose plan to secure new business;
- Coordinate and participate in sales meetings, sales presentations & other market development activities;
- Action on inquiries from the travel agents and corporate clients;
- Support and participate in agency helpdesk activities when required.

The successful applicant will have the following skills and attributes:

- Experience in the airline/travel industry with a business administration or economics background;
- Working knowledge of airline major GDS & CRS with Sabre an advantage;
- Proven analytical skills including information gathering, evaluation and interpretation;
- Proven ability to work under pressure and to deadlines, to work independently and as a team.

Interested applicants with full work rights are invited to forward their resume and cover letter by Friday 27 April 2018 to Ms. Thuy Nguyen via admin.au@vietnamairlines.com.

(We regret that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview)

Addicted to Maldives sets sail in Sydney

ADDICTED to Maldives held its first “Barefoot & Beautiful” exclusive event on board super yacht *Quantum* in Sydney last week. The event brought together 10 luxury Maldives resort partners with some of Australia’s best luxury travel advisors to showcase the destination to the Australian market.

“We wanted to bring a little piece of Maldives magic to Sydney Harbour, in an effort to inspire and educate our agents on the destination,” said Di Lechner, founder & director of Addicted to Maldives.

Guests spent the afternoon “Barefoot & Beautiful” sipping fresh coconuts, rosé and champagne, whilst enjoying a unique opportunity to enhance their Maldives knowledge.

The event also saw Addicted to Maldives launch its new and rewarding Agent Incentive program “Maldives Elite”.

Maldives Elite offers members the opportunity to earn increased commissions, take part in yearly famils to the Maldives and participate in regular education sessions, offered by the Addicted to Maldives team. This year’s Maldives Elite Top Agent will be rewarded with a five-night stay at luxury resort, One&Only Reethi Rah including return international flights.

See www.addictedtomaldives.com.



ANTHONY & David Goldman along with colleagues Kal Ruediger & Marienne Guberina from Smartflyer Australia.



ADDICTED to Maldives co founders and directors Di & Paul Lechner get Barefoot & Beautiful at the front of the yacht.



DYLAN Counsel, general manager of Anantara Kihavah, and Varun Mahajan get into the spirit of the day.



DJ FELINE provided chilled island beats for the afternoon.



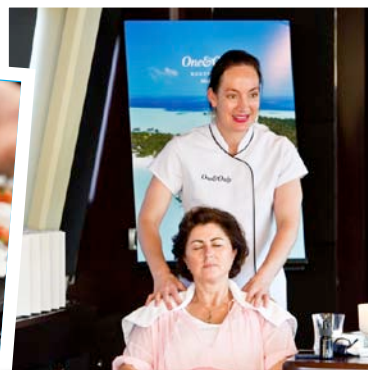
FRESH oysters complemented the crisp rosé.



SMARTFLYER Australia's Gloria Gammo, Maria Paradisis, Marienne Guberina and Kate Scott.



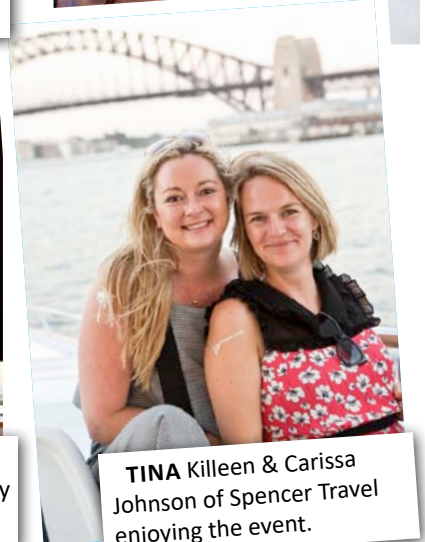
ADDICTED to Maldives founder & director Di Lechner, provides a little insight into what sparked her addiction to the Maldives.



LIBBY Orrock from Savenio enjoying a massage at the One&Only Barefoot & Beautiful Spa.



A MALDIVIAN welcome with fresh coconuts.



TINA Killeen & Carissa Johnson of Spencer Travel enjoying the event.

Thursday 19th April 2018

Visit Sunshine Coast laud Irwin legacy

RECOGNITION of the late Steve Irwin, who will next week be honoured with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Los Angeles, has been applauded by Visit Sunshine Coast.

Irwin will be the only posthumous star awarded in 2018 by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for his contribution to the entertainment industry via his wildlife documentaries.

He and his wife Terri Irwin put Australia Zoo on Queensland's Sunshine Coast on the map as a well known tourist attraction.

"To be included among the stars of Hollywood is great recognition of the positive impact on tourism that Steve and the Irwins have had over the past two decades," VSC ceo Simon Latchford said.

MGallery for Japan

ACCORHOTELS will open its first MGallery-branded property in Japan in Q4 of this year.

The new-build MGallery by Sofitel Kyoto "comes as demand is increasing for boutique lifestyle hotels with a unique personality and story," Accor said.

Quest Orange EO

CONSTRUCTION has kicked off for the new Quest Orange in NSW.

The property is being built on the corner of Kite and McNamara Streets and will feature 77 units, comprised of a mix of studio, one-, two- and three- bedroom apartments.

The newbuild is earmarked for completion in Jun next year.

Expressions of interest regarding the opportunity to franchise the new Quest Orange are still open at questfranchising.com.au.

Asian Trails move

SOUTHEAST Asian ground operator Asian Trails Laos will relocate its entire team to a new office in Vientiane from 23 Apr.

The company warns that communication with its head office in Laos will be limited to email between 20-23 Apr during the move and that customers should expect delays in response to reservations and enquiries.

Communication should be made via res@asiantrails.com.

Effective next week, Asian Trails Laos will be located at 4th Floor, Premier Building, PO Box 5422, Sethathirah Rd, Phiavatt Village, Sisattanak District, Laos.

Win flights to anywhere on Royal Brunei Airlines' network

Royal Brunei Airlines is celebrating four years of flying from Melbourne to London with the 787 Dreamliner.

Show us in a photograph or meme how you would best celebrate with Royal Brunei Airlines on the 787 Dreamliner to London. Make sure you include the RBA Dreamliner in your entry (you can take a screenshot of the pic below).

The most creative entry will win two return Economy Class tickets from Melbourne to anywhere on the Royal Brunei network.

Send your entries to rba@traveldaily.com.au by COB 30 April.



Terms and conditions apply.

WB Yas Is opening

WARNER Bros World Abu Dhabi will open to guests on 25 Jul.

The indoor theme park features 29 rides & attractions spread over six lands - DC's Metropolis and Gotham City, along with Cartoon Junction, Bedrock, Dynamite Gulch and Warner Bros Plaza.

The attraction is located at Abu Dhabi's entertainment and leisure hub, Yas Island, with general admission from AED230 (\$80).

QF extends contract

UTC Aerospace Systems has inked an eight-year contract with Qantas to provide BR175 engine nacelle asset support and repair services to the airline's fleet of 20 Boeing 717-200 aircraft.

The arrangement is through Prime Solutions which has been a partner of Qantas since 2000.

Support will be provided in Perth and Canberra and at UTC's service centre in Singapore.

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Volleyball Australia would like to thank Andrew Burnes and the entire Helloworld Travel network for their dedicated support and major partnership with Volleyball Australia.

Helloworld Travel played a vital role in our recent success on the Gold Coast supporting the most gender equal sport in Australia.



Photos Michael Wilson

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