

# Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 14th August 2018



## Ditch the Office Grind

BE A BETTER YOU #GOMOBILE

If you need a better work/life balance call us today for a confidential chat 1300 682 000.

Contact us today

## Oceania upgrades

**OCEANIA** Cruises this morning announced a US\$100 million refurbishment program for its four smaller vessels, promising the makeover will result in "better-than-new" ships.

The move is part of the NCLH brand's OceaniaNEXT initiative, with CEO Bob Binder saying the re-inspiration of the Regatta-class ships will "set a new standard of style and elegance for small ship cruising".

The first ship to debut with its new look will be *Insignia* on 07 Dec this year, followed by *Sirena* next May, *Regatta* in Sep 2019 and *Nautica* in Jun 2020.

The makeover includes stripping all staterooms and suites "down to their studs," along with refurbished public spaces and technology upgrades including movies on demand, live TV and itinerary information.

More details in today's issue of **Cruise Weekly** - subscribe free at [cruiseweekly.com.au](http://cruiseweekly.com.au).

## Webjet boosts B2B focus

**LISTED** online travel agency Webjet has this morning announced a significant expansion of its WebBeds business-to-business hotel wholesale operation, including the appointment of former GTA sales chief John Stucci to head up the business in the Pacific region.

The WebBeds portfolio includes Lots of Hotels, FITrooms, JacTravel, Sunhotels and totalstay, and today's announcement also confirms a Sydney base for WebBeds Pacific, where Stucci will work alongside recently appointed head of commercial Grant Sumich (**TD** 15 May).

Sumich joined the firm from

Rezdy, and prior to that spent nine years at GTA as head of sales.

Also new to the WebBeds senior team is Anthony Rumpel who was also formerly with GTA in Australia and Thailand.

Stucci said he was thrilled to be joining WebBeds, which "has the energy and drive of a start-up but the experience and know-how of an organisation that features some of the industry's most respected global brands & faces."

"We can't wait to make WebBeds the go-to accommodation partner for the travel trade in Australia, New Zealand and beyond," he said.

WebBeds is urging hoteliers, attractions and other suppliers to make contact to "see how they can benefit by working together in the B2B channel," while travel agents are being offered exclusive agent rates, benefits and educational - more info via [contact.pacific@fitrooms.com](mailto:contact.pacific@fitrooms.com).

## Vale Frank Clark

**THE** travel industry is this week mourning the death of Frank Clark OAM, former md of Swire Travel and a long-time member of North Sydney Skat Club.

Clark, who handled travel arrangements for the Australian Cricket Team and was awarded an OAM for his services to sport and the community, will be remembered for his "charming personality, friendship and witty limericks," according to club president Scott Thomson.

Clark's funeral will take place at 1:15pm this Fri 17 Aug in the North Chapel at Sydney's Northern Suburbs Crematorium.

## Today's issue of TD


**Travel Daily** today has nine pages of news and photos, plus full pages from:

- TMS Talent/inPlace
- Travel Industry Expo

## Don't miss TIE!

**MORE** than 60 exhibitors are gearing up to showcase their wares at next week's Travel Industry Exhibition in Sydney, with prizes, free seminars, networking and more - for info and to register see **page 11**.

**LUFTHANSA GROUP**



**Economy Class**  
**Europe**  
Valid from July 23 to August 17, 2018 for travel from November 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019  
\*Travel via Singapore; subject to availability. Inclusive of YQ, fares exclude taxes, fees and surcharges.

from **\$1,000\***

Fare Details

## Sell travel your way

from anywhere in the world

Earn. Travel. Live. More.



Enjoy travel more

1800 019 599

**TravelManagers**  
As individual as you are  
[join.travelmanagers.com.au](http://join.travelmanagers.com.au)

## Introducing the Qantas Distribution Platform.

Transforming airline retailing, booking and servicing capabilities.

Find out more



**QANTAS** | DISTRIBUTION PLATFORM



**The World at Your Feet!**

Great tours to great places.  
New 2019-2020 tour brochure  
out now. Call for a copy.

[traveldirectors.com.au](http://traveldirectors.com.au)

**travel directors**

**WORLDWIDE ESCORTED TOURS**

AFRICA | ASIA | CENTRAL ASIA  
EUROPE | LATIN AMERICA  
MIDDLE EAST | RAIL JOURNEYS

**1300 856 661**

**MORE INFO**

## Quest expansion

**QUEST** Apartment Hotels will continue its expansion on the east coast after securing a deal with property developer Pellicano to operate three new properties.

The new hotels are scheduled for completion in 2020 and will be part of mixed-use developments in Geelong, the Melbourne suburb of Preston and the Gold Coast suburb of Robina, according to *The Australian Financial Review*.

They will give the hotelier an extra 328 rooms and are in addition to two other Pellicano-developed properties Quest operates in Melbourne's Dandenong and the Brisbane suburb of Woolloongabba.

The Quest group has more than 150 properties in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, and recently announced plans to expand into the UK with a property to open next year in the city of Liverpool (**TD 02 Nov**).

## TA seeks digital partner

**TOURISM** Australia (TA) has opened a tender process to select a digital agency to help drive its online presence globally.

The national tourism body has called for submissions from agencies able to "maintain and enhance" its global digital platforms as it looks to respond to changing consumer behaviour and technology trends.

"Significant time and effort is spent creating inspirational and motivating content and campaigns for consumers across the world," the organisation said in its call for tenders.

"The key objectives of the partnership would be to ensure Tourism Australia's digital platforms seamlessly connect and engage consumers with this content as well as drive an increase of qualified traffic to our industry and distribution partners," it said.

TA said it would be seeking expertise in the design, building and maintenance of websites, mobile apps and multi-channel marketing programs globally, including its programs in China.

Having launched a digital transformation in 2014, TA uses the Adobe Marketing Cloud to support its digital marketing, along with a series of associated technology tools.

"The successful digital agency will understand the complexities of the connections between these tools and how Tourism Australia can innovate and enhance our existing investments," TA said.

The move follows a similar TA tender in Apr for a new brand and creative agency, potentially involving development of a new tag line (**TD 16 Apr**).

Tenders for the digital agency close on 17 Aug - for full details **CLICK HERE**.

## UAE case dismissed

**AUTHORITIES** in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have dismissed a case against a UK resident who was reportedly arrested after consuming a glass of complimentary wine provided on an Emirates flight.

British media report that Swedish dentist Ellie Holman was detained on 13 Jul but released on the weekend after authorities decided not to pursue the matter.

The legal group Detained in Dubai highlighted the case saying it exposed confusion around alcohol laws in the UAE.

Emirates has declined to comment on the case, but referred to a statement by Dubai Attorney General Esam Issa Al Humaidan, who did not refer to alcohol but said Holman had attempted to enter the country on an expired Swedish passport.

He said Holman had verbally insulted an immigration officer and taken photographs.





## Barcelona pressure

**THE** Mayor of Barcelona, Ada Colau, is facing pressure to resign over her handling of the city's tourism backlash, with opposition parties claiming she has failed to address over-tourism concerns.

London's *Daily Telegraph* reports that political rivals will meet tomorrow to discuss the issue, which has returned to prominence after a US visitor was assaulted by local street vendors last week.

## Nanuku mates rate

**FIJI'S** Nanuku Auberge Resort is offering a 50% discount to Australian and New Zealand travel agents and wholesalers.

The deal includes breakfast and a couple's massage, and applies to a maximum three-night stay.

The offer is valid until 20 Dec 2019, with bookings possible up to 90 days prior to travel.

**EMAIL** and quote code EXPLNA.

## Cebu makes MEL debut

**PHILIPPINE** low-cost carrier Cebu Pacific makes its debut in Melbourne today, introducing direct services to Manila in competition with established carrier Philippine Airlines.

The launch of thrice-weekly services gives the carrier a second Australian destination after its introduction of flights from Sydney in 2014.

The services will target Australia's 300,000-strong Filipino community, including more than 68,000 based in Melbourne.

"We are excited to offer the Filipino community in Melbourne another compelling reason to visit the Philippines more often and to entice Australian tourists to discover why the Philippines is in must-visit travel bucket lists," said Cebu Pacific vice president for marketing and distribution Candice Iyog.

"Our direct flights from

Melbourne to Manila will give travellers from Australia seamless connections to other destinations in the Philippines at year-round low fares."

Melbourne Airport's chief of aviation Simon Gandy said Cebu Pacific's services would strengthen Victoria's relationship with the Philippines.

"The Melbourne-Manila route is an important one as it supports not only tourism but connections between family and friends living in both cities," he said.

"Cebu Pacific understands the potential in the Melbourne market, which is why it is using its largest aircraft type to service the route, creating an increase of approximately 50% in additional cargo capacity between Melbourne and Manila."

Flights will operate on Tue, Thu and Sat aboard Airbus A330 aircraft, departing MEL at 1705.



## Window Seat

**NEW** research from Europcar UK suggests that 23% of drivers argue with their SatNav.

Drivers became most irritated when they were directed to a field, river or a dead end, according to the study.

Europcar's managing director Gary Smith however found a way to remain philosophical about the findings.

"There's no doubt that the reliance on SatNavs is increasing...perhaps arguing with an inanimate device – rather than the passengers – is preferred," he said.



## HOW WOULD YOU DO ABU DHABI?

Create your dream Abu Dhabi itinerary for a chance to win one of 30 seats on our mega famill!

Enter now

Abu Dhabi  
YOUR EXTRAORDINARY STORY

hala  
abu dhabi

الإتihad  
ETIHAD  
AIRWAYS  
ABU DHABI



## OceaniaNEXT to launch



**OCEANIA** Cruises' newest initiative, OceaniaNEXT, is set to wow guests on board four of its existing ships following a range of major enhancements.

*Regatta, Insignia, Sirena and Nautica* will all undergo the refurbishments, and begin

making their debut from 07 Dec.

**Pictured** is a render of the Concierge veranda room to feature on board the *Insignia*.

More renders can be viewed on the **Travel Daily** Facebook page [HERE](#), with more information on **page one** of today's issue.

**JOURNEYS & AFRICA**  
6 night holidays including flights from \$1699pp  
journeysafrica.com.au 1800 624 268

**MAURITIUS**  
AIR MAURITIUS

## Solomon Discovery

**THE** newly formed Solomon Islands Discovery Cruises (SIDC) has revealed details of six adventure itineraries planned for 2018-2019 on board *MV Taka*.

Six- and seven-day cruises depart from Honiara and highlight the Florida and Russell Islands archipelagos.

Itineraries feature visits to remote villages and include the opportunity to discover marine life with daily dive and snorkel options.

Tourism Solomons ceo Josefa Tuamoto welcomed the small ship adventure itineraries.

"Lindblad Expeditions left a big hole when it decided to redeploy its small ship operation to the Galapagos two years ago," Tuamoto said.

The cruises are timed to connect with Solomon Airlines' Brisbane-Honiara services and prices for the 24 Aug seven-day departure lead in at \$2,499pp quad share.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more.

## Globus pledge

**GLOBUS** has announced it will donate a bale of hay via Rural Aid for every booking made under its Globus, Cosmos, Avalon Waterways and Monograms brands throughout Aug.

The company has joined a number of other tourism operators for the cause, including Chimu Adventures which launched its "A Bale A Booking" initiative last week.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Myanmar Mercure

**GRAND** Mercure has announced the opening of its first property in Myanmar, overlooking the famous Shwedagon Pagoda.

The Grand Mercure Yangon Golden Empire "encapsulates the cultural touchstone of the destination and heritage" and offers 175 guest rooms and suites featuring hand-painted ceilings inspired by sapphires, emeralds, gold and rubies.

## Fly to Mykonos in 2019

We are pleased to announce our seasonal 2019 schedule, starting **29 May 2019**, for flights to and from Mykonos (JMK). The service between Doha and Mykonos will be operated by an Airbus A320 aircraft.

The four-weekly Mykonos service will complement our existing three-daily flights to Greece's capital, Athens, four-weekly flights to Thessaloniki, and will provide unparalleled connectivity and travel options.

### Flight Schedule\*

29 MAY 2019 - 31 AUG 2019

DOH-JMK	QR 311	dep 0715	arr 1210 (Wed)
JMK-DOH	QR 312	dep 1310	arr 1750 (Wed)
DOH-JMK	QR 311	dep 0805	arr 1300 (Thu, Sat, Sun)
JMK-DOH	QR 312	dep 1400	arr 1840 (Thu, Sat, Sun)

\* As per GDS. All times local. Schedule is subject to change.



**QATAR**  
AIRWAYS  
القطرية  
GOING PLACES TOGETHER



## Cruising over Canterbury



**THE** South Island region of Canterbury in New Zealand provided a stunning backdrop for a group of lucky TravelManagers, who were whisked away last weekend by Emirates and Christchurch Airport to experience the beauty of the region firsthand.

The group enjoyed a range of activities, with highlights including a helicopter flight from Akaroa to Christchurch, piloted by ex-All Blacks rugby legend Richie

McCaw, who now works with Christchurch Helicopters.

**Pictured** are: Andrew Hallinan, Leanne Talbot, and Fiona Perry, TravelManagers; Lara Pierce, Emirates; Joy Kinsey, TravelManagers; Dougal Monk, Christchurch Helicopters; Judith Smith, Virginia Stace and Brendon Mahony, TravelManagers; Mel Wong, Christchurch Airport; Richie McCaw, Christchurch Helicopters; and Sandii Pink, TravelManagers.

## Wall sleep canned

**AN AIRBNB** comp offering the chance to sleep overnight on the Great Wall of China (**TD** 03 Aug) has been cancelled, following concerns the event could do damage to the structure.

Airbnb stated that it "deeply respected the feedback" before cancelling the event.

## Vivanta to LHR

**THE** Indian Hotels Company has announced it will open the first Vivanta-branded hotel in the UK at the end of 2021.

The Vivanta Hotel will be located opposite Terminals 1, 2 and 3 at Heathrow Airport and will offer 108 rooms, along with a diner, bar, lounge and gym.

## Radisson Dubai

**THE** first Radisson-branded property to be located on a golf course is set to open its doors in Dubai at the end of 2019.

The Radisson Hotel Dubai DAMAC Hills will be positioned on the Trump International Golf Club Dubai and will offer guests a selection of 481 one- and two-bedroom units.

The complex will also feature two restaurants, a gym, spa, kids' club, swimming pool, as well as 600m<sup>2</sup> of meeting space.

## Delta benefits prog

**DELTA** Air Lines, together with joint venture partner Air France-KLM is set to launch an aligned benefits program for corporate customers.

The Global Corporate Priority program will go live in Q4 2018 & aims to improve the customer experience by offering better seating choice, priority boarding, and service recovery.

## Vynn UNWTO deal

**SOUTH-EAST** Asia venture capital firm Vynn Capital has partnered with the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in a bid to promote the region's tourism through facilitating entrepreneurship and innovation.

Under the partnership, the companies will work together to encourage hotel and property groups, along with food companies, to develop digital strategies that "create real solutions for the much-needed digital transformation of tourism".

## Safer Thai tourism

**A NEW** body has been formed in Thailand that will oversee the country's safety and security standards related to tourism, according to the *Bangkok Post*.

The National Tourism Safety and Security Committee was assembled following a fatal boat accident in Phuket and aims to restore tourist confidence.

### 2019 EARLY BIRD SPECIALS

SAVE UP TO \$1,800<sup>PP</sup>

ASK US ABOUT OUR LATEST INCENTIVE!

[WENDYWUTOURS.COM.AU/AGENTS](http://WENDYWUTOURS.COM.AU/AGENTS)

**ON NOW!**

## Join in the daily draw and stand a chance to win \$250 Gift Voucher\*

when you sell any RB ticket to London between 6 August - 2 September 2018

\*Conditions apply

**ROYAL BRUNEI AIRLINES**

**REGISTER HERE**

[WWW.FLYROYALBRUNEI.COM](http://WWW.FLYROYALBRUNEI.COM)

## Norwegian reveals refresh



**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line has completed a series of extensive refurbishments across three of its ships, *Norwegian Breakaway*, *Norwegian Sun* & *Norwegian Star*.

Among the updates are enhancements to *Breakaway's* Bliss Ultra Lounge (pictured),

refreshed staterooms and public spaces on board *Sun*, as well as the addition of three new venues on *Star*, the Sky High Bar, Bliss Ultra Lounge and Spice H2O.

For more images, see today's issue of *Cruise Weekly* at [www.cruiseweekly.com.au](http://www.cruiseweekly.com.au).



### Sales Executive Reservation and Ticketing Consultant

Vietnam Airlines are recruiting TWO Sales Professionals for its Australia Branch; both positions are based at our Sydney CBD office.

Our successful candidates will have great opportunity to work for a fast growing international airline with a supportive team and receive full salary while being given on-the-job training.

The successful candidates will have proven track record in an airline sales and/or airline ticketing role, possess a positive approach to problem solving, be a great communicator at all levels and can work under pressure and to deadlines.

A detailed position description and requirement for each of the two positions will be sent to interested candidates on request.

**Qualified candidates with full work right are invited to submit their application by Friday 31 August 2018 to Ms. Thuy Nguyen via [admin.au@vietnamairlines.com](mailto:admin.au@vietnamairlines.com)**

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

## United corporate

**UNITED** Airlines has unveiled its United Corporate Preferred program, a fresh way to offer travel benefits to its top-tier business customers.

The multi-level program offers perks at three levels, including United Corporate Preferred, United Corporate Preferred Plus and United Corporate Preferred Elite, with eligibility determined by a corporation's contract status, revenue contribution and loyalty with the airline.

Benefits include preferred upgrades and standby flights, plus a range of discounts and promotions - **CLICK HERE**.

## LHR concerns grow

**VIRGIN** Atlantic is the latest airline to voice concerns over immigration queues at Heathrow Airport, according to *The BBC*.

The airline has reportedly called for action from the UK Border Force to reduce waiting times, after some customers were left waiting more than two and a half hours before clearing immigration.

The Border Force is currently gearing up for next year's Brexit, including the instigation of a recruitment drive.

## Caravans contribute

**A NEW** report released by the Caravan Industry Association of Australia has found the caravan and camping industry is generating approximately \$20.4 billion in revenue each year for the national economy.

The report, which revealed that 90% of visitor expenditure takes place in regional Australia, also stated the caravan and camping industry welcomed more than 11.9 million domestic trips throughout 2017.



## Money

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

**\$1AUD = US0.727**

**VISITORS** to Turkey should exercise caution as the Turkish lira continues to fluctuate wildly against its US counterpart.

The currency saw a 7% drop against the USD overnight as trade tensions continue between Turkey and the USA, however the Turkish central bank has reduced local reserve requirements in order to boost liquidity and maintain stability.

Elsewhere, the Aussie dollar has dropped 0.4% against both the Euro and the GBP, coming in at new 18-month lows according to strategists at World Business Solutions.

*Wholesale rates this morning.*


US	\$0.727
UK	£0.569
NZ	\$1.105
Euro	€0.637
Japan	¥80.52
Thailand	฿24.26
China	¥5.010
South Africa	R10.465
Canada	\$0.954
Crude oil	US\$67.20

## Getaway to Fiji

**THE** Nine Network's *Getaway* travel program has kicked off a new eight-segment Fiji special, with the next episode scheduled to air on Sat 22 Sep at 5:30pm.


Over the series, presenter Charli Robinson will explore some of the country's newest resort openings and cultural experiences as well as sampling some of the local fresh food offerings.

CEO of Tourism Fiji, Matthew Stoekel, said the aim was to "show Australians the incredible experiences Fiji has to offer".



A VERY MERRY  
**TOY STORY**  
LAND  
CHRISTMAS  
MEGA-FAM




©Disney/Pixar



**Disney** DESTINATIONS

**WANT TO WIN A SPOT ON A  
VERY MERRY TOY STORY LAND  
CHRISTMAS MEGA-FAM TO  
WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT  
IN FLORIDA?**

Visit [wheredreamscometrue.com.au](http://wheredreamscometrue.com.au)  
to register and for more info



## Champagne joins million \$ club



**CHAMPAGNE** Travel was officially welcomed into maxQ Consolidation's Million Dollar club recently during a celebratory lunch in Western Australia.

The exclusive club is an initiative that recognises the sales efforts of maxQ's business partners.

Champagne Travel currently has three locations in WA; Mandurah, Halls Head and Warnbro.

**Pictured:** Hai Duong, general manager of maxQ; Michelle Hartland, managing director of Champagne Travel and Christopher Goddard, managing director of Maxim's Travel Group.

## Quay to the beach

**THE** NSW Government will boost the number of bus services connecting Circular Quay and Bondi Beach from 23 Sep in a bid to "ease congestion" between two of Sydney's most famous landmarks.

The move will "boost capacity by 10,000 on the weekends for families and tourists visiting Bondi Beach," said NSW Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Andrew Constance.

The bus will run as often as every three mins during the peak.

## Jupiter adds one

**THE** construction of Viking's latest ship, *Viking Jupiter*, is one week ahead of schedule, making it possible to undertake an extra Mediterranean voyage during the off season.

The extra cruise is available as either a seven-day Athens to Rome trip, or a 15-day voyage ending in Barcelona, departing the Greek capital 16 Feb 2019.

Prices for a Veranda Stateroom start from \$3,195 per person.

## Sabre tech events

**SABRE** has launched a new conference series for hoteliers in the Asia Pacific called DNA: Digital Next Arena.

The events will cover the major issues surrounding digital transformation in the sector and also investigate ways that harnessing data can enhance the guest experience.

For more info email [HERE](#).

## New Raffles dining

**RAFFLES** Singapore has unveiled a range of new dining experiences created by several celebrity chefs including Alain Ducasse, Anne-Sophie Pic and Jereme Leung.

The new culinary options incorporate tributes to the hotel's 130-year history.

## Hainan Azul stake

**CHINA'S** Hainan Airlines (HU) has sold its remaining stake in Brazilian carrier Azul Brazilian Airlines for US\$306.25 million.

The decision to sell was motivated by a desire to improve liquidity and focus on core assets.

HU's share of the airline was purchased by a number of American investors.

**MEAWHILE**, Azul Brazilian Airlines (AD) has reported a US\$61.6 million net profit for the second quarter of 2018, a stark turnaround from the US\$99.39m loss posted in the corresponding period last year.

Despite negative external influences such as rising fuel prices and a weakened Brazilian currency, the carrier managed to increase its revenue primarily via its seven new Airbus A320neos.

## ITB Asia focus

**ASIAN** travel trade event ITB Asia has flagged plans to focus on the US\$180 billion Muslim travel market this year.

The conference will launch a new dedicated Muslim Travel Hub and Pavilion to host panel discussions from 17-19 Oct 2018 at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre in Marina Bay Sands.

It is estimated by 2020 there will be over 156m Muslim travellers, a 30% growth rate since 2016.

## Experienced Retail Consultant

**Are you tired of chasing monthly commissions?**

**Are you frustrated discounting your knowledge and experience?**

**Are you sick of working long hours and weekends?**

Our office hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm (and yes you can walk out at 5pm!!) however we can be flexible for the right person.

We offer a generous remuneration based on experience and ability.

We are looking for an experienced retail consultant with ideally culturally themed graduate studies and extensive personal travel in Europe and the US to assist our clients with their travel arrangements when they book on one of our tours and to manage the tour booking. An ability to work in a small team environment and a bright personality are essential. The position allows growth into product development for the right candidate.

Academy Travel is Australia's largest small group, culturally themed tour operator located in Sydney CBD. We operate approx 70 tours per year primarily to Europe and USA. Our clients are educated, well travelled, high net worth over 55's who are looking for exceptional service and experience. One of our core strengths is our high rate of repeat customer.

**For more information please forward your resume to Stuart Barrie at: [stuart@academytravel.com.au](mailto:stuart@academytravel.com.au)**



**ACADEMY TRAVEL**

TAILORED  
SMALL  
GROUP  
JOURNEYS

## BunnikTours®

**Bunnik Tours** are the small-group-touring specialist with tours to Europe, Middle East, Asia, Africa and the Americas. For industry professionals with a passion for travel and innovation we have an exciting opportunity to join our team.

### Business Development Manager - NSW

Are you motivated to achieve sales targets and love the challenge of a growing business?

The role is based in Sydney with the key objective of growing Bunnik Tours' presence with travel agencies in New South Wales.

Find out more about this role and join a company with a reputation for service, innovation and quality.



**APPLICATIONS CLOSE 24 AUGUST 2018**

## Bicton 20th fundraiser



**BICTON** Travel celebrated 20 years of business with a gala charity ball on Sat, held at Perth's Hyatt Regency Grand Ballroom.

Close to 400 clients, travel industry partners and staff came together to celebrate, with the Bicton Team raising \$51,045 during the event for Camp Quality, a charity which assists children whose lives have been touched by cancer.

Founder Carole Smethurst

opened the event by thanking industry partners who had donated door prizes and silent auction items.

"Whilst tonight is recognising the milestones that Bicton has achieved it's more important that we do all we can to assist this great cause," she said.

"For every \$1,000 raised we can assist one more child in Western Australia."

The Bicton team is pictured.



**QLD & NZL Territory Sales Manager (Brisbane Based)**  
**NSW & SA Territory Sales Manager (Sydney Based)**

We are Topdeck, a name that's been around in the youth travel space since 1973. We do epic Euro-trips, Big Game safaris, American road trips, sailing voyages, pyramid expeditions and Asian adventures for travellers between 18-39. Being a part of the Topdeck Team means you will have the opportunity to inspire young people through life changing travel experiences. We are looking for someone to join our dynamic team that aligns perfectly with our brand and values... if this sounds like you and the idea of designing and managing a portfolio of trips and travel experiences sounds exciting then keep reading!

As QLD & NZL Territory Sales Manager or NSW & SA Territory Sales Manager you will have responsibility for sales in all trade channels within your region. Relationship focused with a strong commercial background, you will lead a highly successful sales team and assist in developing and implementing sales strategies to achieve company targets. You will be a leader and motivator, have extensive sales management experience with a proven track record in driving high performance with a passion for youth travel.

**To learn more about either of these exciting opportunity and to apply please check out:**

<https://www.topdeck.travel/all-jobs>



## AFTA update

From AFTA's chief executive, Jayson Westbury



**THE** drought that has taken hold across rural Australia is perhaps in one way or another so far away from anything any of us in the travel industry might be thinking about unless we live or work in the country. It is so often easy for those that live in the cities to be oblivious to the devastation drought causes family, businesses and communities. And when it comes to taking a holiday or travel, it becomes even easier to not think about it. So given that the situation has become such a matter of public interest and many fantastic Australian companies are now offering up financial support, I thought it would be appropriate to dedicate this week's column to the drought.

While the resources of AFTA do not allow us to make large-scale financial donations, what we can do is help raise the awareness for all those in the travel industry who might want to help make a difference and support farmers along the way. Many local schools, including the one which my own children attend, have found innovative ways to support the campaign for drought relief, and while government is doing what it feels it should, private donations and support will always be greatly appreciated and go a long way to making things better. Money becomes the other thing that dries up in a drought and it is times like this when we all need to do our bit to help.

Farmers and Australians who choose to remain on the land and provide the food for our country and beyond need to know that city folk are willing to support them when the chips are down. From my reading of the situation the chips are well and truly down. It can be difficult to decide how to best help in donating money for drought relief and there are many charities and organisations set up to help. I think the best way to choose is to simply do a Google search of "drought relief donations 2018". You will get plenty of hits and from there if you want to get involved you can decide the path you want to take if that's what you want to do.

For me personally, I have elected to donate to the Red Cross appeal – but this is of course a personal choice. To all the families connected to the travel industry in one way or another with this drought, know that our thoughts are with you and support is on its way. It is not until you stop and take notice, that you realise just how serious the situation has become.

### Scenic EU earlybird

**AGENTS** have until 31 Aug to secure a 2019 earlybird deal on a Scenic European river cruise for their clients.

The offer includes free flights to Europe for pax on Scenic's itineraries of 11 days or more.

Travellers can choose the 15-day cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest priced from \$6,695 per person twin share or the 11-day Normandy and Gems of the Seine from \$6,645 per person.

On board and onshore activities, complimentary beverages and butler service is included.

For more information, call Scenic on 138 128.

### FCM appoints

**SCOTT** Alboni has been appointed as the global marketing manager for FCM Travel Solutions.

Alboni joins from Corporate Travel Management where he was marketing director EMEA.

### Avis fleet milestone

**AVIS** Budget Group has announced its fleet has surpassed the 100,000 connected car threshold across the globe.

Connected cars allow Avis customers to manage their rental through the company's app, including unlocking the vehicle.

The company said the milestone would "improve the traveller experience, increase operational efficiencies for the company and benefit smart city planning".

### Staywell Sth India

**STAYWELL** Holdings has announced the opening of the hotel Park Regis Aveda in Kumarakom, Southern India, following a rebranding.

Located on Kerala's Malabar Coast, the 44-room hotel offers private cottages, villas, suites, an open poolside restaurant, Ayurvedic spa along with a fitness centre, banquet hall, business centre and recreational area.



## Oz Focus trains in Tassie



**THE** Oz Focus team returned to Tasmania last week to complete three training sessions for agents.

The training sessions saw 30 consultants attending in Ulverstone, 20 in Launceston and 29 in Hobart, who heard from 11 suppliers covering products such as the Tiwi Islands and Tasmania, along with Christmas Island and Fraser Island.

Hobart attendees are pictured.

## NZ Int'l guest drops

**INTERNATIONAL** guest nights fell 8.2% in Jun 2018 compared with Jun 2017, when the Lions rugby tour boosted guest nights, according to Stats NZ.

Falling international guest nights caused a 1.8% decrease in total guest nights spent in short-term accommodation, compared with Jun 2017.

## EXHIBITOR SPOTLIGHT

TIE

### SHANDONG TOURISM

Shandong; the hometown of Confucius, one of the birthplaces of ancient Chinese civilization. Innumerable vestiges of China's long history, which make Shandong Province a virtual museum of the country's past, mingled with evidence of its frenzied transformation into a modern society.

**stand #** T16

**website** [www.travelshandong.com](http://www.travelshandong.com)

**email** [tours@travelshandong.com](mailto:tours@travelshandong.com)



Travel Industry Exhibition (TIE) runs 21-22 Aug, Dockside, Darling Harbour, Sydney

## WIN A LUXURY RIVER CRUISE



This month, Scenic and *Travel Daily* are giving readers the chance to win a luxurious river cruise. Experience a 15-day cruise in a balcony suite. The prize includes:

- Jewels of Europe river cruise for 2 people departing Oct 2018
- All-inclusive cruise including butler service, complimentary beverages all day, everyday, all meals, and all tipping & gratuities

**SCENIC**  
LUXURY CRUISES & TOURS

To win, answer every daily question correctly and have the most creative answer to the final question. Send your answers to [scenic@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:scenic@traveldaily.com.au)

Q10. Unforgettable Douro departs from which city?

## New dir for Te Pae

**GILLIAN** Officer has been appointed as director of sales for Te Pae, Christchurch's new Convention Centre.

Starting this week, her new role will be to secure events for the opening of Te Pae from late 2020.

Officer was previously the director of sales - conventions and outcatering at SkyCity in Auckland and held similar roles at the Wellington Convention Centre and The Edge, Auckland Convention Centre.

## Best Western Vib

**BEST** Western Hotels & Resorts marked the arrival of its boutique hotel concept, Vib in Springfield, Missouri, with a grand opening.

The 92-room property features areas for work and play with amenities inc USB and power ports, free wi-fi, food and coffee from Wheelhouse, a bar, eight gaming stations and a social space with fireplace.

## New river cruises

**RIVIERA** Travel has launched an Australian brochure for its 2019 season of European river cruises, with new ships and a fresh Switzerland package.

The 108-page brochure includes a seven-night Rhine Cruise to Switzerland with departures in May, Jun and Aug 2019.

Another highlight is the 14-night Heart of Europe sailing from Cologne to Budapest, priced from \$3,959 per person twin-share and a Budapest to Black Sea sailing, from \$5,969ppts.

## Thai operates at UTP

**THAI** Airways International, Royal Thai Navy and Eastern Economic Corridor Office have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) last week.

The deal gives Thai Airways the right to operate at U-Tapao Int'l Airport in the Eastern Special Dev Zone, and to operate a future aircraft maintenance campus.

### EDITORIAL

**Editor in Chief and Publisher** – Bruce Piper

**Managing Editor** – Jon Murrie

**Editor** – Jasmine O'Donoghue

**Contributors** – Adam Bishop, Sarah Fairburn, Anastasia Prikhodko, Jenny Piper, Christian Schweitzer

[info@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:info@traveldaily.com.au)

### ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan and Lisa Martin

[advertising@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@traveldaily.com.au)

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Jenny Piper

[accounts@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:accounts@traveldaily.com.au)

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd  
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia  
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia  
Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

*Travel Daily* operates by paid subscription to people within the travel industry - sign up at [www.traveldaily.com.au](http://www.traveldaily.com.au).

CRUISE  
WEEKLY

travelBulletin

business events news

Pharmacy  
Daily

Should I accept  
a Counter Offer



Click to read our  
latest Blog

Travel & Hospitality | Tailored Recruitment



### CRM & Loyalty Manager - North Sydney \$65K to \$75K + super

Analyse CRM data with this online booking platform to devise effective engagement strategies & loyalty programs to achieve company goals. Ideally you will have a proven track record executing marketing campaigns & a creative flair. **Call Ed or Click [HERE](#)**

### Cruise Account Manager - Sydney or Melbourne \$62K to \$70K + super

Located in Sydney or Melbourne you will work directly with the Cruise clients to propose, prepare & deliver shore excursions. Operational/ customer service exp. on cruise ships & experience preparing group proposals required. **Call Susan or Click [HERE](#)**

### Japanese Speaking Corporate Consultant - Melbourne - Contract role

Global TMC, part of a multinational corporate travel management company who deliver tailored solutions for different cultures & business sectors. 12 mth contract for a Japanese speaker with strong customer service. **Call Adrian or Click [HERE](#)**

### Business Development Manager - Brisbane OTE \$90K

Leading travel company in Asia specialising in tailor-made, private guided tours throughout Asia, are on the hunt for an experienced BDM to develop strong relationships & build the business, sourcing new markets & sales channels. **Call Sean or Click [HERE](#)**

### Japanese Travel Expert - Brisbane \$50K to \$60K + super

Dream role a Japanese speaker! Japanese tour operator branching into other parts of Asia. Organise high service 'trips of lifetime' for discerning customers. Must have previous consulting exp. & have lived & worked in Japan. **Call Sean or Click [HERE](#)**

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

Click **HERE** to register as a Job Seeker







# JOIN US NEXT WEEK!

## MEET WITH 55+ EXHIBITORS INCLUDING:

- AYANA Resort & Spa Bali
- Brisbane Marketing
- Conventions & Incentives NZ
- Dubrovnik Tourist Board
- Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours
- Shandong Tourism
- Spicers Retreats
- Sri Lanka Tourism

TWO DAYS OF SEMINARS, PASSPORT TO PRIZES, NETWORKING  
DRINKS & THE EXPERIENCE HUB

---

**REGISTER USING THE CODE 'TDVIP' FOR YOUR CHANCE  
TO WIN A \$600 BARANGAROO HOUSE VOUCHER**

**REGISTER FOR FREE HERE**