Travel Daily First with the news

Thursday 14th June 2018



Travel Daily

on location aboard Oceania Regatta

Today's issue of TD is coming to you off the coast of Alaska, where we are heading north on an Oceania Regatta cruise.

OCEANIA Cruises offers a wide array of shore activities in each destination, and this voyage is no exception, with scores of options in Ketchikan, Sitka and in Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

Passengers under the "O-life" program have shore excursions included in each port, which can be upgraded at a cost for more active or adventurous choices.

Tours range from walking trips around town to guided fishing, wildlife viewing and cultural experiences - while zip lining, canoeing, adventure karting and flightseeing are also on offer for the young or young-at heart.

See oceaniacruises.com.

\$165m revamp for ADL

ADELAIDE Airport will embark on a \$165 million expansion of its main terminal, upgrading its international arrival and departure areas and expanding its retail and dining space.

Work is expected to begin within two weeks after the appointment of Watpac as project builder, with completion expected in 2021.

The expansion of areas for international travellers is a key focus, with larger spaces for immigration processing, expanded security screening, extended luggage belts and a larger duty free precinct.

Retail spaces and dining areas

Hurtigruten saving

BENTOURS is offering lastminute savings of 15% off Hurtigruten cruises, with a 12-day option available from \$2,500pp.

See page 10 for details.

will be increased by over 80%.

Virgin Australia's lounge will be relocated as part of the works, while a new common user premium international lounge will be added.

There will also be new VIP facilities for international guests.

The airport's md Mark Young said the project was in response to "extraordinary growth".

"Since we opened the existing terminal in 2005, our overall passenger numbers have increased by close to 50%," he said.

"Our international passenger numbers alone have almost tripled over the same period".

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news, including a photo page for Air Canada plus full pages from:

- Voyages to Antiquity
- AA Appointments jobs
- Bentours

Bernardi leaves TP

TRAVEL Partners executive general manager Simon Bernardi has announced his departure from the role to concentrate on inbound business Australia and Beyond Holidays (AABH), where he is a managing partner.

Bernardi told TD he had enjoyed his four years at Travel Partners - which was acquired by Flight Centre last year (TD 07 Aug) - and was proud of the achievements made while there.

"It was great working with Jeff Hakim and the team on what was initially a three month consultancy," he said.

"Travel Partners has a great model with great people and will deliver real benefits to their network under Flight Centre ownership," Bernardi said.

He added that he was excited to be fully engaged with AABH, which had recently appointed GSAs in the Middle East and India and was experiencing "solid support" from int'l customers.







EOFY BONUS

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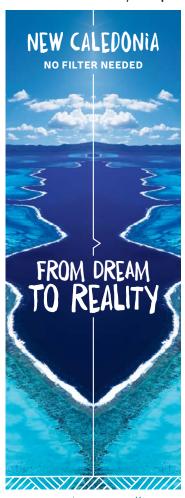




Voyages to Greece

VOYAGES to Antiquity is offering Greek island and Croatia cruise-tours involving sailings aboard Aegean Odyssey.

They include a 12-night Classical Greece & the Aegean Islands option and a 12-night Dalmatia & Ancient Greece itinerary - see p8.





Green light for W Sydney

MARRIOTT International has confirmed the return of its designer brand W to Sydney, revealing plans for "The Ribbon" development now underway in Darling Harbour (TD 13 Jul 2016).

The 593-room hotel will occupy a striking building designed by Hassell architects, tucked between motorway flyovers on a site once occupied by the Imax cinema.

Set for an opening in 2020, the hotel is being developed by the Grocon Group, funded by Greaton Group, and is one of almost 20 properties under development in Australia for Marriott brands.

"Sydney – with its glamorous energy, cultural diversity and statement architecture - is the perfect match for W Hotels," said Anthony Ingham, global brand leader for W Hotels Worldwide.

"Wherever my travels take me, I am asked again and again when W is returning to Sydney, and I am thrilled to finally be able to

answer the question."

The hotel will feature a "Wet Deck" pool area with "Instaworthy" views of Darling Harbour, as well as a restaurant and two bars - including W's "see-and-beseen" Living Room.

It will also have an Away Spa and Fit gym, plus 925m² of event space with a grand ballroom.

W Sydney will be the brand's third hotel in Australia, with W Brisbane now open (**TD** 01 Jun) and W Melbourne due in 2020.

W previously operated a hotel on Sydney's Woolloomooloo finger wharf, now run by Ovolo.

Marriott Int'l snr director of hotel development for Australia, NZ and the Pacific, Richard Crawford, said the hotel would "shake off convention".

"The property will be a gamechanger for Sydney and an absolute market leader when it comes to luxury hotels in the city," he said - see pics page four.

Prince Akatoki plans

STAYWELL Holdings and Prince Hotel Inc have announced a new five-star brand, The Prince Akatoki, offering "refined Japanese hospitality and culture".

The brand will be applied to future developments in cities like London, New York and Shanghai.







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Air NZ Magic Leap

A NEW partnership between Air New Zealand and spatial computing platform Magic Leap will present New Zealand to potential pax in a new way.

The platform, which blends the digital and physical world, takes the user on a "fantastical journey throughout New Zealand" in an effort to highlight the landscapes and experiences unique to NZ and entice more visitors.

It will debut later this year.



TFF backs funding boost

THE Tourism & Transport Forum (TFF) Australia is urging the NSW Govt to maintain its investment within the tourism and transport sectors in order to maintain the state's position as the country's largest visitor economy.

Ahead of next week's 2018-19 State budget release, TTF chief executive Margy Osmond emphasised targeted investment was critical to ensure NSW was able to meet the challenge of future population growth.

"To ensure NSW realises the full potential of its visitor economy, the government must invest in tourism infrastructure, enhance nature-based tourism experiences, promote regional tourism, and support the growth of the NSW cruise shipping by providing long-term certainty around planning and investment for the cruise industry," she said.

The TFF is pushing for increased access to Sydney Airport and has recommended the Government complement recent additional

World Exp famil

WORLD Expeditions is giving agents the chance to win a \$15k famil to Antarctica with media personality Dr Karl Kruszelnicki.

The all-expenses paid experience includes a berth on the 12-day Antarctic Cruise with Kruszelnicki on board M/V Ortelius, return Economy airfares ex-SYD or MEL, plus \$500 spending money.

Agents receive one point for every World Expeditions Travel Group trip sold, departing between 01 Jun 2018 and 30 Jun 2019; CLICK HERE for info.

rail services to the CBD with more bus services to the airport.

"Journeys between Sydney Airport and the CBD are often a visitor's first and last experience of Australia and it is critical that visitors and locals alike can access Sydney Airport in a timely manner," Osmond added.

The Forum also outlined the importance of investment in integrated transport options to help increase visitor numbers across New South Wales by encouraging them to explore regional areas.

Travelmarvel prize

AGENTS who join Travelmarvel's new Facebook group and post their most creative Canada-inspired photo or 30-second video will have the chance to win a trip to Western Canada this Oct.

Material must be posted by Thu 21 Jun and include the hashtag #CanadaFamil18.

The winner will be announced on the page on 25 Jun - to join the fun, **CLICK HERE**.



Window

THE excitement of the FIFA World Cup, which kicks off in Russia this week, is not yet apparently rubbing off on some of the country's workers.

Smiling is not a common facial expression in Russian culture, so in order to ensure a warm welcome for the more than 1.5 million visitors expected during the tournament, employees in key industries are undergoing special training in how to smile and be polite.

Russian Railways and the Moscow Metro are among the organisations taking part, with the BBC reporting that "train conductors are being taught how to smile at foreigners... in an effort to tackle the stereotype that the country's people are unfriendly".

The opening match of the World Cup is between Saudi Arabia and Russia tonight, and if the host nation wins it may give the locals a reason to express their happiness.



+ Reminder: It is on next week! 2018 Switzerland Travel Experience in June











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.

Travel Daily has welcomed **Anastasia Prikhodko** to the team in the role of Journalist. Anastasia brings with her several years of journalism experience in business events and travel, community newspaper and not-for-profit sectors.

Mobile Travel Agents (MTA) has promoted **Kerryn Taylor** to the role of marketing communications manager. Prior to this Taylor spent 11 years with Eurostar International.

Airservices Australia has announced two key appointments. **John Weber** has been made chair of Airservices for a three-year term and **Fiona Balfour** was reappointed to the board for a further two years.

Robert Kasch has joined Wellcamp Airport as commercial manager-Cargo. Kasch has been involved in the industry for more than 25 years covering different roles across Australia and the USA.

Qualmark New Zealand has appointed **Gregg Anderson** as general manager. Anderson has worked with the company since 2016 as a Tourism Business Advisor.

Carrie Hurihanganui will return to Air New Zealand towards the end of Jul to take up the newly created role of Chief Ground Operations Officer. Hurihanganui joins from NAB, prior to which she was Group GM Regional Airlines and Airline Operations for Air New Zealand.

CCL 2020 record

CARNIVAL Cruises is set to release its 2020 program, showcasing a record number of 77 sailings from Australia to the South Pacific, NZ and Australia.

The program, which goes on sale in Jul, includes the first full year of sailings for *Carnival Splendor* departing from Sydney.

Also new for the program is a selection of 28 short cruises offering Aussies and Kiwis trips over five days or less.

World Exp Africa

WORLD Expeditions has released its latest Africa and Middle East brochure, featuring 16 new itineraries.

Highlights include new family trips, routes on Kilimanjaro, treks in Uganda, Morocco and Ethiopia, visits to cultural festivals, as well as new walking, cycling and wildlife safaris.

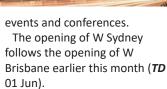
A broader range of accommodation styles is also now available to travellers.



RENDERINGS have been released of the upcoming W Sydney at Darling Harbour, following confirmation from Marriott that the property is reintroducing the brand to the city in 2020 (see **page two**).

The unique building will tower over tourist hot spot Darling Harbour, and offer guests sweeping views over the city and harbour area.

The hotel offers a range of amenities to both leisure and business visitors to Sydney, including 925m² of event space which aims to attract a range of





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Middleton hotel

THE West Australian Government is set to choose a hotel operator for a new property at Middleton Beach in Albany, having completed an expressions of interest process.

The process saw submissions from local, national and international hotel chains.

The Government will soon kick off an EOI process to find a developer for the project.

NSW export training

NEW workshops have been scheduled by the NSW Government for 2018/19 that will aim to develop tourism businesses' ability to attract more international visitors.

The NSW First Program focuses on product development and creating "export-ready products", and this year's edition has been expanded to include more workshops and webcasts.

View the full details HERE.

CTrip, Booking.com

CTRIP has further cemented its business relationship with Booking Holdings by appointing its chief executive Gillian Tans to the role of observer on the Ctrip board of directors.

The appointment follows a commercial partnership that saw Nth American users of Booking. com's subsidiary OpenTable linked to Ctrip users.

The two companies continue to share combined hotel inventory.

TRYP makeover

BRISBANE'S TRYP Fortitude Valley is undergoing a renovation which will rejuvenate its six courtyard rooms.

The rooms in the street art hotel will have artificial grass installed, along with custom-made bench seats, festoon lighting and gates between every second courtyard.

Guests will be able to book adjoining rooms and open the gate to create a shared space.

Building ties in Hong Kong



THE Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) recently hosted 18 Australian wholesalers and agents to experience Hong Kong's tourism attractions as part of Contract Hong Kong 2018.

The whirlwind trip included visits to the Kee Wah Bakery, Harbour Grand Hong Kong and Hong Kong Disneyland.

The four-day jaunt, held in early Jun, also saw the group meet with local Hong Kong trade partners including hotels, ground operators and attractions.

"Contract Hong Kong enables us to connect our trade partners with in-market product reps so they can get the most upto-date information firsthand," said HKTB's trade marketing and business tourism mgr Lisa Lee.

"As our front line ambassadors. it's important that we provide our trade representatives with new and exciting experiences to showcase to their consumer."

Pictured: Gareth Evison, Cruise 1st; Cris Cali, Virgin Australia; Kath Doody, Hong Kong Tourism Board; Danielle Gorman, Expedia; Barbara Boyce, CTS New Zealand; and Vicky Chalkiadaki, Excite Holidays.



MEL makes three for Air Canada

IT'S not every day passengers at Melbourne Airport get to play on an "ice rink" and take selfies with burly hockey players and friendly Mounties, but then an Air Canada inaugural is always a special occasion.

With the launch of its new Melbourne-Vancouver route, operating three times a week using a Boeing 787

Dreamliner, Air Canada now offers year-round non-stop services to Canada from three Australian ports.

The new route, which complements AC's daily Sydney and Brisbane services, is further cementing Vancouver as a fast, friendly and convenient year-round gateway to North America, with Air Canada offering connections to more than 120 destinations across Canada and the United States.

Australian flights are specifically timed to optimise connectivity to the airline's extensive US network, which includes popular cities such as New York, Chicago, Boston and Las Vegas.

Air Canada is the only international network carrier in North America to receive a four-star ranking from independent research firm Skytrax, which has also named Air Canada the Best Airline in North America for six of the last eight years.

For more information visit www.aircanada.com.



Thursday 14 July 2018









A GREAT partnership: Vic Naughton, general manager Australia & New Zealand, Air Canada, and Ryan Both, head of commercial aviation, Melbourne Airport.



Vancouver creates a unique cultural connection.



PLAYERS from Melbourne Mustangs & Melbourne Ice helped celebrate Air Canada's launch.



Top performers visit Taiwan



CVFR Consolidation Services top-performing agents of China Airlines were recently treated to a trip to Taipei with China Airlines and CVFR with Tourism Taiwan.

The group spent six days exploring Taiwanese culture, food and must-see places in Taiwan.

Pictured in the back row: Aung Myint, Waratahs Travel; Guru Charan, Guru Travel; Tejpal Singh, CVFR Consolidation Services;

Oprah godmother

HOLLAND America Line has named Oprah Winfrey as godmother of it new ship Nieuw Statendam, which is due for delivery on 01 Dec.

Winfrey will christen the vessel in a private ceremony at a later date which is yet to be revealed.

She will also set sail on a threeday Girls' Getaway dep on 30 Jan and host special presentations and events during the cruise.

Mary Mansour, AM World Travel; Marlen Abi-Khalil, Planet Blue Travel; Meharish Bawa, Gurkhas Travel and Zahid Islam, Payless Travel International.

In the front row: Napoleon Guines, Travellounge; Thi Lan Chi Trinh, CBD Travel; Manpreet Kaur Walia, Journey Hub Travel; Sofie Lee, Shangri-la Boutique Hotel general manager; Anne Wu, A&M Great Adventure Travel; Ping Chen, China Airlines.

Tas Visitor Centre

THE Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens will welcome a new Visitor Centre, which is set to improve the visitor experience and generate additional revenue to ensure the financial sustainability of the gardens.

The Tasmanian Government has announced it will dedicate \$3.6 million to the project in this year's budget.



This month, Travel Daily together with Malaysia Airlines are giving agents the chance to win two tickets to Kuala Lumpur flying with Malaysia Airlines return from ADL/BNE/MEL/PER/SYD.

In celebration of the resumption of Malaysia Airlines new Brisbane to Kuala Lumpur flights commencing Wed June 6, you and a friend will fly Economy Class to KUL with Malaysia Airlines.

To win, have the most correct answers to the questions throughout the month, and the most creative response to the last question. Send your answers to mhcomp@traveldaily.com.au

Q8: MH operates to two Malaysian cities ex PER. What are they?



Terms and conditions apply

Freycinet callout

THE Tasmanian Govt is inviting the public to comment on the draft Freycinet Peninsula master plan, which has been prepared to deliver an environmentally, economically and socially sustainable Freycinet visitor experience for the next 20 years.

The plan identifies five key initiatives: a visitor gateway hub; an entrance corridor, experience nodes, a network of transport connections, and a staged approach to sewerage treatment.

Comments should be received by 9am on 23 Jul.

No Viking paper tix

VIKING Cruises will no longer send paper e-tickets with cruise documentation.

Guests can find their flight details in the printed booklet received in their cruise docs.

Regional training

VICTORIA'S Minister for Regional Development Jaala Pulford has announced a grant of \$150,000 from the state government's Regional Skills Fund for a new training program.

The initiative will help equip tourism operators with tools, knowledge & key contacts needed to capitalise on the growing number of Chinese tourists.

Savenio symposium

LUXURY travel agency network Savenio will bring together around 40 of its independent travel designers for the inaugural Savenio Symposium to be held in Brisbane on 06-07 Jul.

The event will include talks from a range of supplier partners and look at issues including upselling to luxury, working smarter and luxury cruising.

THE WHO'S WHO OF SUPPLIERS ARE IN THE 2018 AFTA TRAVEL PAGES SUPPLIER DIRECTORY.

VIEW HERE



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