Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 13th November 2018



Travel Daily on location in Orlando, Florida

Today's issue of TD is coming to you from the 2018 Very Merry Toy Story Land Christmas Famil, hosted by Disney Destinations.

IT IS the last night in Orlando, Florida, for the lucky winners of the Disney mega famil.

But before they go, the agents have a fun-filled day of exploring Disney's Animal Kingdom ahead of them.

Despite the FastPass+ service being booked nearly 60 days in advance for the Avatar Flight of Passage ride, the agents will be skipping the queue today to experience the hugely popular attraction for themselves.

Tomorrow, agents will get the chance to roam any one of the four kingdoms before they depart for the flight home.

EXP adds Indigenous product

AUSTRALIA'S Indigenous tourism offerings have been boosted today with the launch of a new Great Barrier Reef trip from ASX-listed Experience Co (EXP), which for the first time embraces the region's historical connections.

EXP CEO Anthony Ritter told *TD* the "Dreamtime Dive & Snorkel" aimed to address a serious lack of product that celebrated Australia's Indigenous history.

"The fact is that 80% of tourists don't engage in any form of Indigenous experience while in Australia, simply because of the lack of choices available," he said.

"Experience Co is privileged in its capacity as Australia's leading adventure tourism company to

Today's issue of TD

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

• TMS Talent/inPlace

help turn the tide," Ritter added.

The new product will see EXP's "Dreamtime Indigenous Rangers" share stories handed down from ancestors who lived on the coast near the Great Barrier Reef tens of thousands of years ago.

The full-day excursion ex Cairns includes a glass bottom boat tour, cultural presentation, snorkelling and lunch along with optional diving and helicopter tours.

The local traditional owners will provide travellers with a deeper cultural understanding of the diverse Sea Country ecosystem, the company said.

The fast-growing business has undertaken a wide range of acquisitions since its public float three years ago, and also recently appointed Tourism Australia Chairman Bob East to its board.

Other EXP offerings include skydiving, white-water rafting, canyoning, island tours and hot air ballooning - more on **page 4**.

Alitalia boosts agent commission

ALITALIA is targeting the Australian travel trade with a distribution revamp which will see 5% base commission paid on all tickets issued in Australia.

The payout is valid for any fares issued on Alitalia plates with an AZ flight number, including domestic and intra-Europe flights.

The new arrangements apply for sales effective 12 Nov 2018.

Local GSA Aviation Online has also highlighted the expanding Alitalia network, including new long-haul flights from Rome to Mauritius and the Maldives as well as Havana and seasonal services to Johnannesburg.

More details on 1300 551 080.

IASC WestJet tick

THE International Air Services Commission has approved the new codeshare deal between Qantas and WestJet on the US and Canada routes (*TD* 29 Oct).











NZ boosts AR pact

AIR New Zealand has expanded its codeshare agreement with Aerolineas Argentinas, with the AR code appearing on Air New Zealand services ex AKL to BNE, PER and ADL as well as DUD, CHC, WLG and ZQN.



Stanbury to lead Hawaiian

HAWAIIAN Airlines (HA) this morning announced the appointment of Andrew Stanbury as its new Regional Director for Australia & NZ.

Stanbury (pictured) joins HA after more than six years with Fiji Airways (**TD** 28 Sep 2012) where he was initially regional GM for Australia and most recently Executive General Manager for Global Sales.

Prior to that he held a range of roles at Air New Zealand.

Stanbury replaces Gai Tyrrell, who was appointed as HA's local chief four years ago (TD 17 Nov 2014), stepping aside this year

Bentours, Tempo appointments

COX & Kings has appointed two new business development managers to promote its Bentours and Tempo Holidays brands in NSW.

Graham Muldoon joins C&K from his previous role at Fiji Airways, while Marilu Vitale, ex Discover the World, will look after Southern NSW and the ACT.

MEANWHILE Bentours has launched a \$500 flight credit offer valid on select Hurtigruten expedition cruises to Antarctica, the Chilean Fjords, Patagonia, the Falklands and South Georgia.

Agents can also earn bonus commissions on FIT and group bookings - 1800 487 844.



to take up a new role heading up the Globus Family of Brands in Australasia (TD 09 Jul 2018).

Hawaiian Senior Vice President for Global Sales and Alliances. Theo Panagiotoulias, welcomed Stanbury to the carrier, saying "his strong leadership, strategic direction and deep expertise of the Asia-Pacific market will allow us to continue expanding as we introduce more travellers to our beautiful islands in the warmth of our authentic Hawaiian hospitality".

Stanbury will take up his new role effective 02 Jan 2019.

GA back to London

GARUDA Indonesia has reopened reservations for its onagain, off-again non-stop route between Jakarta and London.

The thrice weekly 777-300ER flights stopped last month but will recommence on 27 Nov 2018, according to GDS screens.

CX A350s for SYD

CATHAY Pacific looks set to deploy its new A350-900XWB aircraft on the Sydney-Hong Kong route next year, with GDS indicating A350s will replace A330s on CX111/110 flights from 27 Oct 2019.



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RSSC enhancements CMV launches 2019/20

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises will now serve dinner at its pool grills on all four of its ships.

Ship credit can also be spent on ship-based purchases prior to departure from 01 May 2019.



INDEPENDENT cruise line Cruise & Maritime Voyages (CMV) has announced its selection of 2019/20 Australasian itineraries, which features a world-first cruise visit to the South Australian port of Wallaroo.

Guests will have the chance to sail on board the cruise line's newest ship, Vasco da Gama. which is scheduled to make maiden voyages to Kuri Bay in Western Australia, Portland and Philip Island in Victoria, as well as a stopover in Borneo.

"Cruise & Maritime Voyages has a high level of repeat patronage so we wanted to offer a range of new options on board Vasco da Gama, and accommodate the increased demand for our cruises," said CMV Australia's Managing Director, Dean Brazier.

NZ ups AKL-OOL

AIR New Zealand will boost capacity by 60% on its Auckland-Gold Coast route from Feb 2019.

The airline will add a new Mon return service using an A321neo and will also migrate existing Tue, Fri, Sat and Sun return services to the larger A321neo aircraft.

"The Gold Coast is a popular destination for Kiwi tourists and Australia is New Zealand's largest source of inbound visitors, so it's fantastic to be able to increase capacity to meet this demand," said Air NZ CRO Cam Wallace.

"Our 2019/20 itineraries will make compelling tourist regions such as Tasmania, Australia's North West, and Southeast Asia more accessible and more affordable for guests to experience," Brazier added.

Formerly known as Pacific Eden, CMV purchased Vasco da Gama from P&O earlier this year (TD 08 Mar), intending to homeport the vessel in Adelaide and Fremantle from 2019 and become the first cruise ship to visit four South Australian ports in one voyage.

Vasco da Gama's first Australian voyage is scheduled to depart Sydney on 01 Dec 2019, with bookings open to the public from Thu 15 Nov.

For information, head to CMVAustralia.com.

Frontliners at sea

NEXT year's Helloworld Frontliners Forum will be held on board Ovation of the Seas, Helloworld Travel Group GM - Retail and Commercial John Constable announced on Sat at the Frontliners Forum in Fiji.

The ship (pictured) will depart Sydney on 10 Nov, 2019 on a three-night sampler cruise.





Window

AS THE old expression goes, it's bad luck to kick an accomplished violinist off a flight to Baltimore, or at least it sounds as though it should be one anyway.

Violinist Emmanuel Borowsky was recently asked to leave a Southwest Airlines flight after the carrier refused to help him store his \$80,000 violin.

The musician said he was apprehensive about checking in his instrument and asked if he could place it in a spare seat.

However Borowsky claims he was told "either the violin goes in the hold, or you get off".

"The airline have normally been really accommodating to all musicians and their instruments," he said.

It seems Southwest Airlines asked the passenger to play the world's smallest violin.

AirPlus + Tramada

TRAMADA Systems has signed an agreement with corporate travel payments provider AirPlus International to enhance its product offering for agents.

The Tramada technology platform now captures better quality data and improves an agent's ability to track a corporate client's travel expenditure.



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Spotlight on air profits

AUSTRALIAN airports have pointed to the soaring profits of the major domestic carriers in a renewed call to maintain the current regulatory regime for the country's privatised gateways.

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) has lodged a supplementary submission to the **Productivity Commission inquiry** into airport regulation (TD 22 Jun), countering claims made by airlines and other organisations in earlier submissions.

Having called for the current "light handed" regulatory approach to be maintained, the AAA has rejected claims by the major carriers that airports exert monopoly powers to maintain high charges.

The AAA points to the 41% profit increase Rex announced in Aug and Virgin Australia's highest underlying profit in a decade, as well as the record first-quarter revenue achieved by Qantas.

"These data indicate that Australian airlines are in robust economic good health," the AAA's submission says.

"Virgin and Qantas seem to have been able to increase prices in excess of the rate of inflation."

MEANWHILE, the AAA National Conference takes flight in Brisbane today, with about 800 delegates from airports around the country in attendance.

AAA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie said this year's event would feature a wide range of speakers designed to ignite new thinking and celebrate recent successes in the industry.

"The AAA National Conference is a great opportunity for airports to share how they're delivering more for the travelling public and discuss the key challenges and issues that face the industry in the future," Wilkie said.

The event is at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.



Choose Well.

Queen claims Victory

THE American Queen Steamboat Company has confirmed it will purchase Great Lakes cruise operator Victory Cruise Lines, including its ships Victory I and Victory II.

The 200-passenger vessels currently operate cruises among the Great Lakes and associated waterways, as well as in eastern Canada and New England.

Purchased from Sunstone Ships Inc, the Victory brand will be retained alongside American Queen's existing river cruise operations on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and the Pacific Northwest of the US.

"We are pleased to purchase the Victory I and Victory II which will fuel the continued success and growth of American Queen Steamboat Company," said American Queen Chairman and CEO John Waggoner.

"We look forward to working closely with Victory Cruise Lines' new and existing travel partners."

Travel Daily on location in Cairns, Qld

Today's issue of TD is coming to you from Cairns courtesy of Experience Co.

EXPERIENCE Co's wide range of offerings in Far North Queensland are enough to satisfy any adventure seeker.

It all started with jumping out of planes, with the company set up in Wollongong, NSW in 1999 and now offering skydiving in 18 locations in Australia plus three in New Zealand.

In FNQ scenic flights, tandem skydiving and 4WD tours are available, along with canyoning and hot air ballooning.

Today after the official launch of the new Dreamtime Dive & Snorkel (page 1) our group will head to the river for some white water rafting.



Win the ultimate AS Roma experience

Kick a goal every time you sell Qatar Airways.

Simply book and ticket Qatar Airways between 1 October 2018 and 30 November 2018 for your chance to

Four top-selling agents will each win:

- Two return flights with Qatar Airways to Rome
- Four nights' accommodation in Rome in a luxurious hotel
- Travelex money card to the value of AUD500 VIP hospitality tickets to the AS Roma v Bologna game, currently scheduled for 17 February 2019

Plus, top-sellers can win instant spot prizes!

Register your bookings on the entry form provided by Qatar Airways Sales Support or email auincentives@au.qatarairways.com for an entry form.



OFFICIAL AIRLINE PARTNER

Incentive period finishes 30 November 2018. One winner will be selected from each of the following states/territories: NSW/ACT, VIC, SA, WA. The agent from each state with the highest amount of points at the end of the incentive will win. The winners will be determined at 5pm AEST on 13 December and winners will be contacted via phone and/or email on 14 December. Qatar Airways reserves the right to withdraw this incentive at any time without prior notice. No correspondence will be entered into regarding allocation of prizes; the judge's decision is final.

For full terms and conditions and entry form please email auincentives@au.qatarairways.com



Sydney Oct occupancy down

NEW supply in Sydney's hotel offerings is continuing to outpace demand, according to preliminary monthly STR data for hotels in Sydney, during Oct.

The daily data indicated that compared to the same period in 2017, supply has increased 3.5%, yet the demand has only increased by 1.7%.

Occupancy has decreased by 1.8% and is now at 84.9%, with the daily rate increasing by 0.3% to \$240.14.

Revenue per available room has also decreased 1.5% to \$203.93.

STR analysts also reported that the Sibos 2018 conference held 22-25 Oct at the International Convention Centre Sydney produced the best performing week, with Wed 24 Oct achieving 95.9% occupancy and a RevPAR of \$281.94.

The full Oct results will be released later this month.

Hard Rock Reverb

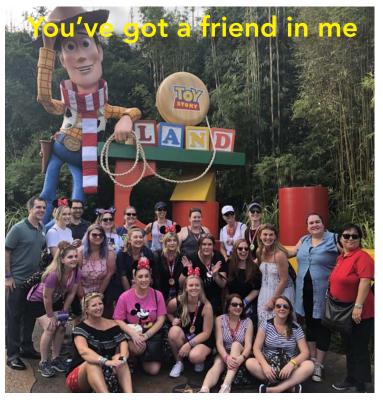
HARD Rock International is set to launch Reverb by Hard Rock in Atlanta in Feb 2020, marking the brand's entrance into the select service hotel category.

The property will be designed as a contemporary hub for music enthusiasts and feature 200 rooms which include private and shared rooms, a Constant Grind Coffee and Bar, live musical performances, a co-working space called MEET, and a multifunctional work-out space.

Thai visa fees cut

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand has temporarily waived fees for visas on arrival (VoA) for tourists from China, India, Taiwan and about 20 other countries.

There has been a slump in Chinese visitation to Thailand since the death of more than 30 tourists in a boat accident off Phuket in Jul. with the 2.000 baht VoA fee waived until 31 Jan 2019.



AGENTS participating in the Very Merry Toy Story Land Mega Famil felt as if they were shrunk to the size of a toy for the day as they entered Disney's Hollywood Studio to experience the brand new Toy Story attraction.

The land is a re-creation of Andy's backyard from the animated film and features largerthan-life nostalgic toys.

Hosted by Disney Travel Business Development Manager Michael

Cassis, the day kicked off with Toy Story Mania, a newly expanded 3D experience that allows visitors to throw virtual cream pies at moving targets on a screen.

"It's so exciting to be able to share the incredible new Toy Story Land - now open at Disney's Hollywood Studios - with the lucky agents," Cassis said.

The famil wraps up today. Woody's new friends are pictured above.



Travel Daily

Tuesday 13th November 2018

MONEY

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

AU\$1 = US0.717

AUSSIE travellers to the US will have to stretch the greenback a little bit further this week as the Aussie dollar continues to dip against the US currency.

The situation may start to improve a touch from next week when Australia releases its unemployment and quarterly wage figures.

Wholesale rates this morning

oresure ruces	erns merring.
US	\$0.717
UK	£0.558
NZ	\$1.068
Euro	€0.639
Japan	¥81.66
Thailand	ß23.79
China	¥4.996
South Africa	10.38
Canada	\$0.950
Crude oil	US\$60.19

Azamara 2021 out

AZAMARA Club Cruises has launched its 2021 collection. which offers itineraries to four continents and 37 overnight stays between Jan-Mar 2021.

Azamara Pursuit will make her debut in Australia and New Zealand in 2021 (TD 24 Oct), with the newest ship in the fleet scheduled to visit 18 ports in total including Sydney, Melbourne, Auckland, Napier and Akaroa.

The luxury cruise line has also confirmed it will head back to Japan in 2021, offering new country-intensive voyages to the Asian destination.

Viking goes digital

VIKING Cruises has released the first issue of its new digital magazine called Viking Explorer Society News.

The 51-page publication includes the latest itineraries, feature articles & special offers.

CAPA's icing on the cake



THE sales team from CAPA Centre for Aviation recently hit the road in Sydney to hand deliver prizes to the winners of its TD competition held in Sep.

The gongs included VIP tickets to the CAPA-ACTE Global Summit



& Corporate Lodging Forum to be held 03-04 Dec in Sydney.

Pictured receiving tickets and



Qantas (inset above), and Greg Wilken, from TravelEdge (left). Other winners not pictured included Kishore Pokala from Campus Travel and Pani Reti from

Account Manager Afizan Aziz

(top), Bianca Schouten from

Travel By Wyndham.



*Advertised fares are for Business and Economy Class return travel departing from Melbourne inclusive of taxes and surcharges, correct as of 2 November 2018, subject to currency fluctuation and availability. Offer ends 26 November 2018. Fares require a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 9 people travelling together on all flights. Business Class fares to Europe and Dubai are for travel commencing between 14 January and 30 October 2019. Economy Class fares to Europe are for travel commencing between 14 January and 27 March, 8 April and 31 May, and 23 September to 30 October 2019. Economy Class fares to Dubai are for travel commencing between 14 January and 27 March, 8 April and 6 June, and 15 July and 30 October 2019. Higher levels apply for other travel periods. Flight restrictions, day-of-week surcharges, inbound blackout periods, amendment and cancellation fees apply. Additional travel periods, destinations and fares are available from Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney and Perth. Further terms and conditions apply. For full terms and conditions, please refer to your GDS, visit emiratesagents.com/au, or call Emirates on 1300 303 777. Offer subject to change.

Travel Daily

Tuesday 13th November 2018

globalCARS deals

CAR leasing and rental company globalCARS has released a range of 2019 earlybird offers, including savings up to \$1,114 on Peugeot's European self-drive holiday leases of 21 days or more.

For more info, see the website at globalcars.com.au.



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business events news

Travel Daily CRUISE travelBulletin





MEL pax up for Oct

MELBOURNE Airport has revealed it serviced more than 3.3 million domestic and international passengers in Oct, showing positive growth of 2.9% compared to 2017.

Close to 970,000 international travellers passed through in Oct, showing growth of 8.4% on the same period in 2017, while more than 2.3 million flew both ways domestically.

The growth was attributed to high tourism demand and the "attractiveness in Melbourne as a destination".

Disco fever for Syd

SYDNEY'S Lyric Theatre is set to welcome the musical Saturday Night Fever in Mar 2019, with the production set to bring "more than 14,000 overnight visitors" to the city to see the show.

The production is also expected to inject around \$6.5 million into the NSW economy.

Wirecard Au move

GLOBAL digital financial technology company Wirecard has expanded into Australia and New Zealand, offering local businesses a range of e-commerce services and omnichannel solutions.

Services include options to digitise payments worldwide, including contactless payments, point-of-sale applications and digital commerce.

CBC on Fly Corporate first



CBC Travel was invited on board Fly Corporate's inaugural flight from Wollongong yesterday, marking the regional carrier's launch of services from the steel city to Melbourne and Brisbane.

Flights out of Wollongong's Albion Park airport depart at 6.15am with an 8.00am arrival in Melbourne, while the return service leaves Melbourne at 8.35am and is scheduled to touch down in Wollongong at 10.10am.

Afternoon flights leave Wollongong at 1.55pm with a 3.40pm arrival in Melbourne, with a return service leaving Melbourne at 4.15pm and arriving in Wollongong at 6.00pm.

Eight weekly services between Wollongong and Brisbane are now also available, operating Sun, Mon, Wed and Fri.

"Having an airline flying direct from Wollongong is convenient and cost effective for both our corporate and leisure clients," said CBC Travel's Jodie Anastas.

It takes the hassle out of driving to Sydney, finding parking, and allows for trips to Melbourne and Brisbane to be much more accessible," she added.

Pictured: CBC's Kate Innes, Anita Jones, and Jodie Anastas.









Melbourne's dual addition



THE newly opened dual branded Novotel Melbourne Central and ibis Melbourne has officially opened its doors, offering guests a total of 483

Win a Barilla cooking class



This week is Italian Cuisine week and thanks to the Italian National Tourist Board, *Travel Daily* readers can join Barilla in Sydney for an authentic hands-on Italian cooking experience. Casa Barilla will take you on a culinary journey through Italy's gastronomic regions. Each hands-on class is intimate, with only 16 people, and interactive: you learn, you cook and you eat! The class includes a cocktail and antipasto on arrival, all food and wine with your meal, plus a generous goodie bag to take home. Prize is for two people and valued at \$200.

To enter, send a photo of what represents Italy to you to italia@traveldaily.com.au. The most creative entry will win.





midscale and premium economy rooms in the heart of the CBD.

The integrated property, located on Little Lonsdale Street, is close to a range of popular restaurants such as Goldie Asian Canteen + Brews and Pretty Boy Italian Steakhouse, and offers "an option for all travellers to have a five-star sleep at affordable prices".

Guests of the hotel can earn points and privileges via the Le Club AccorHotels, with prices starting at \$110 per night at the ibis and \$179 per night for the Novotel - see accorhotels.com.

Aus head to Sing

THE Singapore Tourism Board has released the Q2 Tourism Sector Performance Report, detailing that international visitor arrivals (IVA) from Australia grew to 533,000, a growth of 2% on the same period in 2017, sitting behind China, Indonesia, India and Malaysia.

Total international visitor arrivals into the country grew by 8%, reaching 4.6 million.

Tourism Receipts (TR) as a whole for the country reached S\$13.4 billion for the period, with TR figures from Australia increasing 8% over the same period in 2017, to S\$597 million.

Hotel industry figures were also strong, with gazetted room revenue in Q2 increasing by 9.4% year-on-year, reaching a total of S\$1 billion.

AFTA UPDATE

from Jayson Westbury



TRAVEL Daily
readers from NSW
may be aware there
has been a new
Opposition
Leader elected

by the party, Michael Daly, the member for Maroubra.

This is a result of former leader Luke Foley having allegedly been caught with his hands in the wrong place and as such, being forced to resign.

The story is one that most would think is fiction, but it is the way politics rolls these days and it seems there always needs to be a sub-plot at play as we watch political leaders crash and burn.

In fact, Foley has now advised that he will not contest the NSW Election that will take place on the 4th Sat in Mar next year, meaning he will be looking for a job.

So there is a new Labor leader for NSW with a short road ahead before the election.

Meanwhile, newly minted Liberal Prime Minister Scott Morrison is also now facing a short road to an election which is likely to be held any time between late Jan & May of next year.

Many of the polls taken are not showing the big lift the Coalition needs to win an election, but then again all this is just one whoopsa-daisy away from change. Meanwhile, the Victorian State Election is set to take place on Sat 24 Nov, which is less than two weeks away.

For the political watchers in the industry there is plenty to talk about, and some incredible stories to be told, but what this all means for the travel industry is anyone's guess.

Each of these elections, regardless of the outcomes, starts and causes a demise in consumer confidence, which usually does impact upon people's intention to travel.

A federal election always has more impact than a state election but the fact we have a perfect storm of elections over the next six months may see some decline in consumer sentiment, and this does unfortunately knock on to travel bookings.

We can only hope that perhaps the Australian electorate is so tuned out from all this change and carry on that perhaps the very thing they need is a holiday and we see a boom time ahead.

Whatever your views on politics, I think Australia is looking at some changing times ahead and unlike my normal style, I can't really call any of these elections at this point.

We will just have to wait and see what happens.

Wildlife Safari brox

WILDLIFE Safari has released its Africa brochure, offering itineraries exploring Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Botswana and more.

Guests can choose from a range of options, including luxury tented camps and resorts - call 1800 998 558 for more info.

Cook Is from \$289

AIR New Zealand is offering direct flights from Sydney to Rarotonga in the Cook Islands from \$289 per person one way including a bag, until 28 Nov.

Flights are also available for Brisbane and Melbourne via Sydney - for more information, check GDS.



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ETG's Captain Mo takes flight



EXPRESS Travel Group's Airline & Operations Support Manager Mohammad Nasiry hosted an educational trip to Japan last week for some key agents in the ETG network.

Japan Airlines partnered in the famil and hosted participants by

providing flights.

Participants are pictured with Norie Sugisaki from JAL and Express Travel Group's Nasiry (left), taking up the opportunity to try on the JAL uniform at the Japan Airlines Museum in Tokyo, Japan.

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Enter for your chance to win a 12 day safari to **Botswana – including flights!**

Fly on South African Airways, Best Airline to Africa and travel with Australia's Best Speciality Wholesaler, Bench Africa, on the Highlights of Botswana Mobile Safari.

To win, all you need to do is have the most creative photo showing your 'Africa' face – the over the top, super excited or emotional expressions that many people make on seeing the incredible experiences that Africa offers. It can be from a trip you took to Africa or even from here (using your imagination)!





Send your entries to bench@traveldaily.com.au

Sunrise in Sth Africa

SOUTH African Tourism and Aussie breakfast program Sunrise are coming together this week to highlight South Africa's scenery, wildlife and culture.

The program will feature a bike tour in Soweto, a visit to Nelson Mandela's house, a safari adventure at Makutsi Safari Springs and the Neighbourhoods Market in Johannesburg.

LA Rams Hawaii

THE Los Angeles Rams and the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) are partnering to promote tourism to the Hawaiian Islands.

As part of the deal, the Rams will play a 2019 pre-season game at Aloha Stadium in Hawaii.

HTA signage will be present at Rams gamedays and be featured on Rams digital and social platforms - for more, CLICK HERE.

Brussels LOOP

BRUSSELS Airlines has added new features to its loyalty program LOOP, designed for the increasing number of customers flying with Brussels Airlines.

Passengers can now earn LOOPs on long haul flights and spend them immediately on their next Brussels Airlines operated flight.

Serenity redesign

CRYSTAL Serenity is sporting an extensive refurb following an almost four-week dry dock.

She now features new dining options and open-seating dining; spacious, butler-serviced Seabreeze Penthouse and Seabreeze Penthouse Suite accommodation and redesigned lounge & entertainment venues. Crystal Serenity set sail from

Lisbon on 10 Nov on her first voyage since the redesign.

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