

Travel Daily

First with the news

Monday 3rd September 2018

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Cruise360 special

OUR sister publication *Cruise Weekly* has today published a special edition covering the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia Cruise360 conference on Fri.

CLICK HERE to download and see also **page three** for more.

Qantas Dreamliner boost

QANTAS stepped up the expansion of its Boeing 787-9 services over the weekend, launching daily *Dreamliner* flights from Brisbane to Los Angeles and onward to New York, as well as its first direct offering between Melbourne and San Francisco.

The carrier has now based four of its new 787s in Brisbane as it begins to replace ageing 747s on key routes and is set to operate flights from the Queensland capital to other points starting with Hong Kong from Dec.

"The *Dreamliner* also opens up the potential to drive tourism to Queensland over the long term given the increased range of the 787," said the ceo of Qantas Group Alan Joyce.

"There are a number of new destinations we're considering for new direct services from Brisbane, including Seattle, Chicago and San Francisco in the US, as well as Vancouver and

cities in Asia," he said.

The carrier's new MEL-SFO services now operate four times a week aboard 787s, departing on Wed, Thu, Sat and Sun.

Qantas International ceo Alison Webster said the direct flights would help connect Melbourne's start-up sector with California's Silicon Valley.

"This will reduce travel times by at least two hours which means less time in the air and more time to explore or work in San Francisco," she said.

"Travel between the US and Australia continues to grow – with a 13% increase in visitors to Australia in the past year."

Today's issue of TD

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

- Flight Centre
- AA Appointments jobs

Accor adds chatbot

ACCORHOTELS Australia has introduced an integrated Facebook chatbot to assist with hotel reservations, customer service queries and other info.

Called AccorBot, it allows users to book hotels without leaving Facebook Messenger.

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Boeing safety advice

BOEING has issued new maintenance recommendations to operators following an electrical short circuit incident on an Etihad Airways Boeing 777-300ER flight from Abu Dhabi to Sydney in Oct.

An Australian Transport Safety Board report details the recommendation for inspections of wire bundle runs in the forward cargo compartment to mitigate the risk of wire chafing.

TA's \$10m Asia campaign

TOURISM Australia is targeting high value travellers in India, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia for the first time in a coordinated promotion showcasing "unusual, unfamiliar and unexpected" attractions and experiences (**TD** breaking news).

The campaign was launched in Indonesia on Sat by newly appointed Minister for Trade, Tourism & Investment, Simon Birmingham, who said the region's proximity, emerging middle class, improving aviation capacity and increasingly competitive air fares presented enormous tourism opportunities.

The UnDiscover Australia campaign will particularly seek to dispel myths around time and distance by highlighting the short and affordable flight time to Perth, making Australia an appealing weekend destination.

Tourism Australia md John O'Sullivan said "Fashionability plays a big part in destination choice, particularly amongst travellers in Asia.

"One of the challenges we constantly face is that people

from this region feel they know everything about us...this campaign will shine a spotlight on some of our undiscovered and hidden holiday gems, showing there's much more to Australia than just our well-known icons," O'Sullivan said.

The campaign will initially run for four months, with potential to be extended to additional markets in the future.

In 2017 travellers from the region accounted for more than 1.3 million international arrivals into Australia.

Inspiring 19/20 out

FOUR new tours have been added to the 2019/20 Inspiring Journeys Australia and New Zealand brochure.

New adventures include a seven-day Tasmania's Footsteps and Trails trip which will allow travellers to explore Bruny Island, Wineglass Bay, and Hobart's Museum of Old and New Art.

A seven-day WA journey has also been added that showcases the Margaret River and nature walks in Rottnest Island.

EK A380 Brisbane

EMIRATES yesterday welcomed back its A380 aircraft on its EK434 and EK435 flights from Brisbane and Dubai.

The move replaces Boeing 777-300ER aircraft which were deployed on this service since Jun "as part of a routine operational review" (**TD** 16 Jan).

The return of the A380 adds 945 seats per week and makes Emirates the only airline to operate the aircraft in Qld.

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Travel Daily
on location in
Rab, Croatia

Today's issue of **TD** is coming to you courtesy of APT aboard the new **Queen Eleganza** which will cruise Croatia in 2019.

OVER the weekend our cruise has visited ports including Zadar and Sibenik as the **Queen Eleganza** journeys north, with the voyage wrapping up in Opatija tomorrow afternoon.

In Sibenik the APT group visited the beautiful Krka National Park, which features a series of waterfalls surrounded by perfectly preserved ecosystems.

An evening in Zadar saw passengers take in some of the local restaurants and nightlife, as well as view the waterfront area which features an intriguing "sea organ" which creates eerie sounds based on the movement of the waves.

On the Edge of a reveal?

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises' vice president and managing director Australia and New Zealand Susan Bonner is staying tight-lipped on whether Celebrity Cruises plans to bring an Edge class ship to Australia, telling **Travel Daily** to "watch this space".

Bonner recently took over as local head, joining from Celebrity Cruises' head office in the US where she was part of the **Edge** build team.

Speaking to **TD** at the Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia Cruise360 conference on Fri, Bonner hinted "put the pieces together".

"There are four Edge class ships that have been committed to," Bonner explained.

"The rest of the world loves Australia, Australians love innovative hardware, I'm from the Celebrity brand and I was part of the Edge build team," she said.

Bonner told **TD** her goal in the

new role was to see some of Australia's infrastructure issues resolved "so that when we are given the opportunity to have additional, brand new hardware, like an Edge class ship that capacity constraints are not even part of the issue," she said.

Bonner also said she would like to "have a really amazing relationship with the trade".

"That's going to be the key to our success in building and finding the additional guests that we require as we put additional capacity here," she said.

Bonner added she would also like to make sure the company left its mark in the sustainability space.

Interest in VA stake

CHINA'S HNA Group is reportedly considering a sale of its minority stake in Virgin Australia as it offloads assets to reduce debt.

Bloomberg reports that other VA shareholders including Singapore Airlines and Nanshan Capital are considering a bid for HNA's stake of around 20%, should it decide to sell.

The news service cites unnamed sources and says HNA and UA shareholders would not comment publicly on speculation.

HNA - owner of several carriers including Hainan Airlines - has already sold non-core assets including its stakes in Hilton and the NH Hotel Group (**TD** 07 Jun).

Window Seat

SOMETIMES it's hard to believe there is only one of these attractions in the world.

Passengers aboard APT's new **Queen Eleganza** last week had the opportunity to visit the Adriatic port city of Split, and some on board particularly enjoyed the local retail experience including a credit card-punishing visit to Zara.

However en route to the shops, those in search of more cultural pursuits were thrilled to discover Froggyland - a one-of-a-kind museum featuring a collection of more than 507 stuffed frogs.

More than just a novelty, the perfectly preserved amphibians painstakingly created a century ago by frogophile taxidermist Ference Mere have been arranged in a series of "realistic human life situations" providing a valuable education about the lives of our ancestors.



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Hunter's new image

A NEW ad campaign funded by the NSW Govt in partnership with the Hunter Valley Group launched on Sat which aims to encourage more visitors to the Hunter Valley.

NSW Minister for Tourism and Major Events Adam Marshall said the Hunter Valley's "Here's to the Good Life" campaign celebrated the region through fresh eyes and encouraged visitors to unplug, kick back and take in the beauty of the destination.

"The initiative is part of our focus to ensure our rural and regional destinations remain front and centre in the minds of potential visitors and that they are inspired to book their next trip in NSW," Marshall said.

CLICK HERE to see the campaign video, which is set to run across TV, cinema, outdoor and digital.

Perth flights push

THE Western Australian Government has announced a \$30 million partnership between Tourism Western Australia and Perth Airport to attract new airline routes into Perth.

Opportunities being explored include increased capacity from China and new direct routes from Japan, India and Europe.

"Increasing the number of direct air routes into WA is critical if we are to grow the number of visitors coming to WA and help drive our tourism industry," said Tourism Minister Paul Papalia.

Aviation attraction is one of the key focuses of Tourism WA's two-year action plan (TD 22 Mar 2018), which aims to position the State as the western gateway to Australia and to help boost the local tourism industry and jobs.

MH & VIVA Holidays in KL



MALAYSIA Airlines and VIVA Holidays hosted 10 itravel agents in Kuala Lumpur from 24-28 Aug.

The guests stayed two nights in Berjaya Times Square Hotel and one night in Melia Hotel Kuala Lumpur, and were treated to activities such as an Urban Adventure KL Food Experience, a Kuala Lumpur City Tour and a trip to Kampung Kuantan.

Pictured above are the agents exploring the newly renovated Golden Lounge in KLIA before returning home on Business class: Anne Parkinson, itravel Peshurst; Jenny Medhurst, itravel Muswellbrook; Chantelle Sobkowski, Viva! Holidays; Karen Lamond, itravel Port Macquarie; Joanne Rothwell, itravel; Davina Pratt, itravel Hurstville; Kade Lucich, itravel Woonona; Stephen Talbot, itravel; Liane Harrison,

Travel Dreamers; Jade Gaul, itravel Forster; Trent Carter, Malaysia Airlines; and Amy Morris, itravel.

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Australia's fastest growing specialist travel wholesaler, Entire Travel Group, is looking for smart and passionate professionals to join our team of sales specialists.

We operate an outstanding portfolio of nine leading wholesale brands focused on destinations across Europe, North America and the Pacific and Indian oceans. Two things set us apart: expertise and technology.

Our travel agent sales support team members all visit the destinations they represent, allowing them to gain an unrivalled depth of local knowledge and first-hand experience. Our team also use Australia's leading wholesale reservation system, enabling streamlined bookings and pleasant customer interactions.

If you are someone who enjoys the sense of fulfilment and pride that comes from being a genuine destination expert - and you want to be part of a fun and ambitious team - then we may have a role for you.

Here's what we're looking for:

- Excellent time management skills
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And here's what the job would entail:

- Liaising with suppliers and travel agents
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- Offering outstanding service to all customers
- Maximising sales opportunities by listening intently to your client and thinking outside the square

If this sounds like you please send your resume to employment@entiretravel.com.au



NRL ROUND 25 WINNER

Congratulations

JOANNE HAZELER

from **Flight Centre Warringah Mall**

Joanne is the top point scorer for Round 25 of Travel Daily's NRL footy tipping competition. She's won \$100 travel credit courtesy of Expedia.



The major prize for the 2018 footy tipping competition is return economy class airfares to Europe flying with **EMIRATES**.

NSW LTF 18/2019 / ACT 17 1800296

Mantra wins excellence



ACCORHOTELS celebrated its top performing Mantra Group properties, outstanding team achievements and the accomplishments of individuals at its annual Mantra Group Awards for Excellence gala ceremony held at Mantra on View Hotel, Surfers Paradise last Thu.

The top accolade, general manager of the year, was awarded to Craig Smith, general manager of Ala Moana Hotel by Mantra in Honolulu, Hawaii.

North Queensland took home

the award for Region of the Year and won the Corporate Social Responsibility Award for the third consecutive year.

Other major awards went to The Larwill Studio at Melbourne, Peppers Bluewater Resort at Lake Tekapo, Mantra 2 Bond Street at Sydney and BreakFree Aanuka Beach Resort at Coffs Harbour for Property of the Year.

Pictured is the North Queensland team.

CLICK HERE to view all winners.

Haka heads to Oz

HAKA Tourism Group's global sales manager Chris Bain will relocate to Brisbane to expand the New Zealand tourism company's operations.

"It simply made sense for me to be in Australia given that it's our biggest market and home to our largest wholesale/retail contracts," said Bain.

Etihad carry-on fare

ETIHAD Airways has a new hand baggage only deal fare, allowing travellers to purchase lower fares in Economy class if no checked baggage is required.

The deal includes free carry-on of 7kg and is available on flights between Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Azerbaijan.

Brochures

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure of which you'd like to make the industry aware, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Abercrombie & Kent - 2019/20

Abercrombie & Kent has released two new brochures. The Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea 2019 brochure includes cycling in the Barossa Valley and golfing in Tasmania and gourmet themed holidays around the country. The Luxury Expedition Cruise Portfolio 2019-2020 contains information on expeditions to the Arctic, the Antarctic and the Northwest Passage as well as cultural expeditions to Japan, Italy, the Greek Isles and Australia's Kimberley coast.



PONANT - Luxury Expedition Voyages 2019/20

PONANT has released its 2019/20 season brochure, with 124 pages containing 83 expeditions departing between May 2019 and Apr 2020. The program includes remote destinations such as the former Russian colony of Sitka, rarely visited Wrangel island and the volcanic Pribilof Islands in the northern Arctic, along with the tropical attractions of French Guiana, Orinoco Delta, Scattered Islands, Vanilla Islands, and Micronesia.

Itineraries range from eight to 44 nights in length.



Intrepid Travel - North America 2019

Intrepid Travel has released its 2019 North America tours with the introduction of seven new active and hiking trips. The new adventures include a nine-day Colorado and Utah Active adventure where travellers can explore rugged desert landscapes, visit the mountain town of Telluride and experience the Colorado River; and the 10-day Canadian Rockies

Winter Adventure with winter activities from ice skating, cross-country skiing and snowshoe hikes.

Travelodge Rocky

THE riverfront Travelodge Rockhampton within the Fitzroy River precinct in Queensland has been listed for sale on behalf of the Tucker Box Hotel Trust.

CBRE Hotels has been appointed to market the asset via an expressions of interest campaign which will run until 05 Oct.

The four-star hotel features 74 guest rooms with river views, four conference and meeting rooms, two food and beverage venues, a swimming pool, gym, parking and a two-bedroom manager's residence.

Visit Vic jets off

THE 2018 Visit Victoria business tour to the UK and Europe started today with operators set to visit strategic locations including London, Amsterdam, Stuttgart, Munich, Zurich and Bavaria.

Reps from Bunyip Tours, Koorie Heritage Trust, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Go Beyond Melbourne will be present alongside 14 other participants.

CEO Peter Bingeman said the trip highlighted Visit Victoria's commitment to grow the visitor economy across all segments of the industry.

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HOT JOBS OF THE WEEK

Business Development Manager - Newcastle

Are you a proactive go-getter? Is networking second nature to you, believing that in every conversation is a new opportunity? We have the perfect opportunity for you! Flight Centre Business Travel is looking for a Business Development Manager to join our successful team in Newcastle.

Closing date: 13 September 2018

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Paid Search & Social Media Performance Specialist - Brisbane

Flight Centre is looking for a Performance Specialist to join the influential Digital Media and Analytics team. If you have experience in Performance Media and want to join a dynamic global company, apply now!

Closing date: 10 September 2018

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Corporate Systems Expert - Brisbane

Flight Centre is looking for a Corporate System's Expert where you are responsible for providing application support to our corporate travel managers and operational teams. You will be required to develop good working relationships with multiple stakeholders internally and externally.

Closing date: 14 September 2018

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Event Manager - Sydney

Cievents is on the lookout for an experienced Event Manager to join our growing team! We offer seamless and dynamic solutions with outstanding creativity and meticulous attention to detail.

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Support Coordinator - Brisbane

Are you looking for a different opportunity within the travel industry? The Global Procurement Network is looking for someone who always makes decisions with the customer in mind. The Support Coordinator will man our frontline help desk by supporting our selling partners, suppliers, and internal businesses by phone, email, queue and live chat.

Closing date: 7 September 2018

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FLIGHT CENTRE

Travel Sales Consultants, Sports and Events - Brisbane

Are you looking for a new challenge? Flight Centre Sports and Events is a new, exciting business, looking for results-driven individuals. If you have experience in sales and a passion for sports and events travel we want you!

Closing date: 12 September 2018

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Travel Manager - Sydney

Do you have two years' travel sales experience? FCM Travel Solutions are looking for multi-skilled Travel Managers to join our team. The challenging world of corporate and leisure travel management will be sure to take your career to new heights!

Closing date: 10 September 2018

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FLIGHT CENTRE

National Design Team Leader - Brisbane

Do you have retail design experience? We are looking for an experienced Design Team Leader who can stay on trend with global retail design developments and continually evolve within our fast-paced environment. You will build relationships with key stakeholders to ensure each brand evolves in accordance with their business direction.

Closing date: 7 September 2018

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CRUISE SEASON IS ABOUT TO LAUNCH OFF

**PRODUCT MANAGER
GOLD COAST – PKG DOE**

Are you experienced in developing relationships & have strong negotiation skills in the cruise sector? We are looking for experienced Product Managers to be responsible for the delivery of the product plan along with the negotiation of rates, contract management & ensuring all targets are achieved. Rare role base on the Gold Coast, if you are a product manager or an executive please apply as both levels will be considered.

ATTENTION INBOUND MANAGERS

**OPERATIONS MANAGER
SYDNEY – STRONG PACKAGE**

Our client is looking for an inspiring leader with experience preferably in the Inbound Travel Market. You will be responsible for the overall success of the team including development & delivery of strategy, leading the team & enhancing relationships & agreements to achieve sales & revenue goals. You will be rewarded with a great salary and career progression.

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Are you experienced in developing relationships & have strong negotiation skills? We are looking for experienced Product Managers to be responsible for the delivery of the product plan along with the negotiation of rates, contract management & ensuring all targets are achieved. Educate agents & build relationships with internal/external stakeholders. Strong analytical, negotiation & time management skills required.

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