## SAIL HAWAI'I WITH



As part of our recognition program, NCL Legends, we will be giving away a once-in-a-lifetime trip in partnership with Hawai'i Tourism aboard Pride of America to our top 15 individual travel agencies.



#### 7-DAY CRUISE ABOARD PRIDE OF AMERICA

Departing Honolulu on 7 December 2019

#### **PLUS**

An incredible pre and post-cruise land program



#### **HOW TO ENTER**

- Simply book Norwegian Cruise Line and deposit a minimum of \$10,000 in worldwide products between 1 December 2018 30 June 2019
- Entry is open to Australian and New Zealand individual travel agencies
- Bookings must be made directly with NCL or through a supporting wholesale partner



CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Travel Daily

First with the news



#### Today's issue of TD

**Travel Daily** today has six pages of news and photos, a front cover page for Norwegian Cruise Line plus full pages from:

- TMS Talent
- Windstar

#### **Qantas Channel**

**REGISTRATION** for the Qantas Channel is now open for agencies that have one IATA or TIDS number as part of their GDS agreement.

Agencies who have more than one, and up to 25 IATA or TIDS numbers, can sign up from May, while agencies that have more than 25 as part of their GDS agreement are being invited to contact their Qantas Account Manager for more info.

Agencies must register their business for the channel before 30 Jun to avoid a Channel Fee.

For more information on the portal, CLICK HERE.

## New Walshe solo product

**THE** Walshe Group today announced the launch of "Unmapped Travel," a new agentfriendly brand targeting solo travellers in their 30s and 40s.

The business, which is operating as a joint venture with Walshe staffer Jennifer Gaskin, has been created after identifying a gap in the market for this demographic. "looking to take unique and adventurous trips without the hassle of spending weeks on research".

Key aspects include authenticity, the use of local guides and incorporation of indestination culinary experiences complemented by conveniently located boutique hotels.

Itineraries offer a mix of physically active excursions, cultural tours, culinary experiences and free time for self-exploration and relaxation.

Launch destinations include Sri Lanka, Mexico, Bali and Komodo, Oman and Morocco.

Trips are limited to a maximum of 14 people, and the company offers a "speedy six" discount of \$200 off for the first six people to book each departure.

Travel agents are offered 10% commission on all Unmapped tours, with an extra 5% bonus for bookings on the first departure of each trip.

Gaskin has been with The Walshe Group as Country Manager for Abu Dhabi Tourism for just over two years.

ASIC documents indicate she holds 40% of Unmapped Travel and is a Director of the company, while The Walshe Group is the majority owner with 60% and Jacqui Walshe also a Director.

See unmappedtravel.com.au.

#### **NCL** Legends prize

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) and Hawai'i Tourism are reminding agents about the NCL Legends incentive, where 15 of the cruise line's top-selling travel agencies will win a seven-day cruise on board Pride of America, departing 07 Dec.

To be in the draw, agents must book and deposit a minimum of \$10,000 in worldwide NCL products before 30 Jun.

Bookings are to be made directly with NCL or through a supporting wholesale partner, for more information on the incentive, see the cover page.

#### Windstar 2020

**WINDSTAR** Cruises is today showcasing its range of 2020 voyages on board the recently renovated Star Leaend vessel.

More than US\$250 million has been injected into the brand's "Star Plus" transformation project, more on the back page.









OA.CEAIR.COM

w www.traveldaily.com.au





#### IAG CFO to leave

**INTERNATIONAL** Airlines Group (IAG) has announced that its CFO and Board Executive Director Enrique Dupuy de Lome will step down from the role after its AGM in lun

He will be replaced by Steve Gunning, CFO at British Airways.



## Losing customers?

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## Notre Dame up in flames

**ONE** of France's most recognisable and iconic tourist attractions, the Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, has been gutted by a major fire.

The centuries-old Catholic church has sustained major damage to its spire and roof, with the cause of the massive blaze "potentially linked" to a multimillion Euro renovation project on the church's spire, according to a spokesperson for the Paris Fire Brigade.

Situated on the Ile de la Cite, an island in the Seine river, the cathedral is famous for its Gothic architecture that features multiple gargoyles and flying buttresses.

Commenting on the disaster, Atout France Regional Manager Patrick Benhamou told TD "this heartbreaking and devastating fire is more than a cultural tragedy, as President Macron said, 'the fire is within us'".

"With so many messages received, Australians are standing in sorrow and friendship with Paris and the Parisians," Benhamou added.

French President Emmanuel Macron fronted the French media earlier today and vowed to rebuild the cathedral.

"We were able to build this cathedral more than 800 years ago...and I tell you very solemnly this evening, this cathedral, we will rebuild it, all together," Macron said.

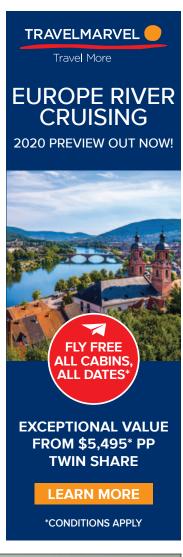
The Notre Dame cathedral is one of the most widelyrecognised symbols in Paris, with an estimated 12 million tourists visiting every year - making it the most frequented monument in

Commenting a short time ago, a French official said that fire fighters were able save the iconic towers and the structure "from total destruction".

#### VA, Cook Is IASC

**THE** International Air Services Commission (IASC) has received an application from Virgin Australia seeking to renew a determination which allocates 360 seats per week on the Cook Islands route.

VA is also seeking the inclusion of all existing conditions.









## Amex tops up technology

**AMERICAN** Express Global Business Travel (GBT) has announced technology enhancements and new products for corporate travel clients which are being rolled out across 2019.

Major investments include a better recommendation engine, next-gen mobile experiences, and new proprietary hotel and air reshopping functionality.

GBT has started to apply artificial intelligence to its big data and analytics infrastructure in a bid to improve its recommendation engine for online bookings.

The company is also working on the ability to recommend trip content over new platforms such as Siri or Cortana.

Improvements have also been made to the Amex GBT Mobile app which now allows travellers to access a global messaging platform in real time, offering

services such as live conversation, click-to-call and face or fingerprint login.

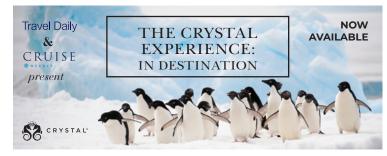
GBT has also launched a new proprietary hotel re-shopping solution and enhanced its airfare re-shopping solution.

The company's new Hotel Reshop Expert provides automatic re-shopping logic that identifies rate drops to find cheaper hotel

The same function for airfares has been rolled out on Sabre, and will have its reach expanded to India and Singapore on Galileo.

#### Hotel handshake

**HOTELBEDS** and OYO Hotels & Homes have announced a strategic global distribution partnership which will see both companies reciprocate access to their respective portfolios in both the wholesale and retail space.



#### **Explorer** christened

**DREAM** Cruises has welcomed its third ship with the christening and inaugural homeport deployment of Explorer Dream at Shanghai Wusongkou International Cruise Terminal.

Over 500 guests were in attendance at the event which featured godmother and fashion icon Grace Chen breaking a champagne bottle against the bow of the ship.

After the ceremony, Chen presented a fashion show aboard the ship on the Palace Pool Deck which showcased her Voyage collection.

Explorer Dream measures 268 metres in length and 32 metres in width and has a total gross tonnage of 75,338 tonnes along with, 928 cabins and a lower berth capacity of 1,856 pax.

From Oct, Explorer Dream will homeport in Sydney and Auckland and offer seven-night weekly itineraries.



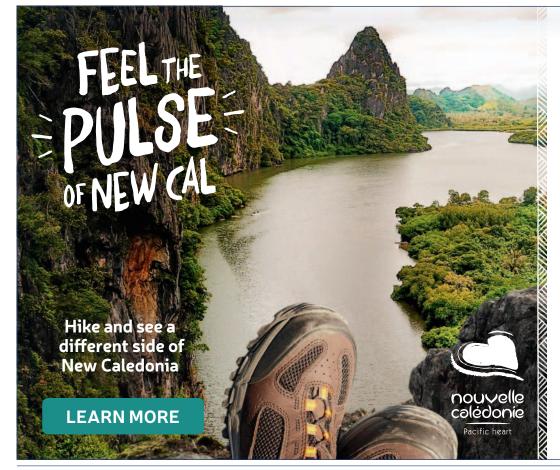
#### Window Seat

**THEY** say the best things in life come in small packages and Art Series Hotels may have been banking on it when it recently launched its diminutive "Art in Micro" exhibition.

The world's biggest, small art exhibition will transform all Art Series hotels across Melbourne. Brisbane and Adelaide exhibiting over 40 micro artworks from artists around the globe.

The event will run from 12 Apr until 31 Jul.





## **NEW CAL EASTER SALE**

**#BoardNow FLY TO NOUMEA FROM** 

**ONE WAY** 

**BOOK NOW** 

\*Sale ends 26 April 2019. Prices are ONE WAY GROSS airfares and include all taxes. (Blackout dates and surcharge dates may apply)

Valid for travel until 11 December 2019





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Unique accommodation ideas in the April issue of travelBulletin.

CLICK to read travelBulletin



#### **Travelport & HKIA**

AIRPORT Authority Hong Kong (AA) and commerce platform Travelport have signed a new partnership that will see the promotion of the multi-modal connectivity services at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) to travel buyers in Asia, Europe and North America.

The airport offers extensive land and sea connections to cities including Macao and Shenzen, with the partnership "enabling travel agencies to offer their customers a seamless journey to various destinations in the Mainland via HKIA", said Steven Tiu, Deputy Director, Service Delivery, AA.



## SUPER RUGBY R9 WINNER

**Congratulations** 

#### **FASITAU ULA**

from Samoa Tourism Authority

Fasitau is the top point scorer for Round 9 of Travel Daily's Super Rugby footy tipping competition. They've won \$100 travel credit courtesy of Expedia.



Travel Daily Super Rugby tipping competition is sponsored by Emirates, with the top tipper for the season winning flights from Sydney to Christchurch.



NSW permit LTPS/19/31793 / ACT permit TP 19/02664

## Hawaiian Airlines plates up



HAWAIIAN Airlines Executive Chef Lee Anne Wong recently paid a visit to the carrier's Sydney catering base on a mission to set the specifications and standards for its updated Business class menu, now available on flights between Australia and Honolulu.

Wong was joined by Andrew Stanbury, Regional Director Australia and New Zealand, with the pair plating up a series of dishes including the new roasted chicken, seasonal vegetables with mustard-kaffir lime glaze and basmati rice meal.

**Pictured**: Hawaiian Airlines Executive Chef, Lee Anne Wong with Hawaiian Airlines Regional Director Australia and New Zealand, Andrew Stanbury.

#### Spectrum delivered

**ROYAL** Caribbean Cruises has taken delivery of its 26th ship, the first Quantum Ultra Class vessel, *Spectrum of the Seas*.

Custom designed for the Chinese market, the new ship will be the largest and most innovative ship in Asia and will feature private dining, lounges, a solarium, as well as the cruise line's largest Ultimate Family Suite.

Spectrum has also added the SkyPad activity to its entertainment selection, a new karaoke bar, Star Moment, plus three new shows; The Silk Road, The Effectors, and Showgirl.

#### TreadRight grant

**NOT-FOR-PROFIT** company, The TreadRight Foundation has joined forces with Contiki Cares and the KARI Foundation to launch its first artisan grant in Australia (*TD* breaking news).

The initiative offers Contiki travellers the chance to access a range of immersive indigenous experiences that offer a "better understanding and appreciation for the culture and community" in Australia, with the program expanding to AAT Kings and Trafalgar guests in the future.

The program includes classes with indigenous artists, the chance to take part in traditional art, and learning more about Aboriginal culture.

See more about The TreadRight Foundation **HERE**.

#### Riviera additions

**EUROPEAN** river cruise company, Riviera Travel, has launched two new ships this month.

The 132-guest George Eliot is traversing the Rhine and Moselle rivers as well as the canals of Holland, featuring a restaurant, bistro, lounge, wellness centre and sundeck.

The 169-passenger William Wordsworth is sailing the Danube, offering guests a restaurant, bistro, lounge, wellness centre, sundeck and splashpool.

#### SQ, Garuda deal

SINGAPORE Airlines and Garuda Indonesia have signed a new codeshare agreement that is set to offer travellers an expanded range of options when flying between Singapore and Indonesia.

"Indonesia is a very popular tourism and business destination and we are pleased to make the country more accessible to travellers from all around the world," said Tan Kai Ping, Senior Vice President Marketing and Planning, Singapore Airlines.

"This reflects our continuous efforts to work with our partners to offer more seamless travel experiences for our customers."



### A-LEAGUE WINNER R25

Congratulations

#### **JUDY MAGY**

from Helloworld Travel

Judy is the top tipper for R25 of *Travel Daily*'s A-League footy tipping competition. She's won a \$250 travel voucher from Keith Prowse Travel.



Travel Daily A-League tipping competition is sponsored by Etihad Airways and ReadyRooms, with the top tipper for the season winning a trip to Manchester to see Manchester City play.





NSW permit LTPS/18/28921 / ACT permit TP 18/017



#### Bedsonline celebrates



**GLOBAL** provider of accommodation and complementary travel products Bedsonline has hosted a series of customer events in Australia to celebrate the launch of its new brand identity and website.

The functions brought together clients across the country for a reception at The Calile Hotel in Brisbane and The Rook in Sydney last week.

As part of the integration of TravelCube into the Bedsonline platform, the TravelCube platform will be phased out in the coming weeks, so all retail travel agents' new bookings should be completed on the Bedsonline platform, whilst existing bookings would remain accessible and modifiable on the TravelCube platform.

**APT China & Japan** 

and Japan journeys for 2020.

river cruise, where travellers

Highlights include a Yangtze

will board the Sanctuary Yangzi

Explorer for three or four nights

to discover the scenery of the

New for 2020 is the 11-day

travellers can take a camel ride

along the sand slopes to Crescent

Another addition is the chance

to meet a sumo wrestler in Tokyo

on the 13-day Best of Japan tour.

Follow the Silk Road, where

Spring and visit Kashgar.

Three Gorges region.

APT has released its new China

of new 2021 departure dates for some of its ocean cruise

Highlights include the 11-day

- Vancouver to Seward or vice versa cruise, priced from

Additionally, the 15-day Viking Homelands - Stockholm to Bergen journey or vice versa is priced from \$8,695 per person in a Veranda stateroom.



"Overall the feedback about the new enhanced offerings. improved payment options, operational support and enhanced sales team of 14 frontline account managers have been very positive - and we feel certain that this will help our Australian travel agents to boost both revenues and profits," said Bedsonline Regional Sales Manager, Pacific Peter Jones.

The refreshed Bedsonline platform - which incorporates the accommodation portfolio and features of the TravelCube, and GTA offering - provides travel agents globally a diverse and competitive product portfolio, powerful and user-friendly technology, and local knowledge combined with a global offering.

Pictured is the Bedsonline team.

#### Viking 2021 dep

VIKING has released a number itineraries, including sailings covering northern Europe, the Mediterranean and Alaska.

Alaska & the Inside Passage \$6,495pp in a Veranda stateroom.

#### AFTA UPDATE

from Jayson Westbury



**THE** federal election has now been called and the show down and future of the next government and parliament

will be decided on 18 May. As elections go, this one is going to be close and it really is anyone's guess as to which side will prevail and go on to form government.

With all of the polls predicting a win to Labor, it really may come down to one or two seats that will in the end decide who gets the keys to the Lodge.

From a released policies perspective for the travel and tourism industry, it would seem that "detail" is not the strongest adjective being used to describe what either party may or may not have in store for the industry, but the good thing is that both have included the ongoing allocation of funds for Tourism Australia via budget statements. So those on the inbound side of the industry should at least feel a little confident that whoever wins plans to continue to promote Australia.

On the travel side, one needs to really have an open mind as to what might be ahead of us as there is no real strong indications either way as to how policies may

change. Even the results of the recent NSW election have shown how the system that we have in Australia which underpins our democracy enables madness to be the result. The NSW upper house has a widely diverse cross bench. What I mean by all that is that we are going to have an upper house in Canberra that will have many cross bench and minor parties.

When an election result runs to the wire with no truly clear winner, this brings with it votes to the smallest of minority parties and this manifests itself in elected senators providing our democracy with a crossbench and leaving whoever forms government with the ongoing challenge to manage these people in order to get legislation passed.

While we are lucky to live in Australia and have a robust democracy, it would be good if we could make a clearer choice as things do work better when that is the outcome. So re-fuel the BBQ gas bottle, visit the local bottle shop & fluff up the pillows in readiness for an entertaining evening of television, as it will be one to watch.

I'm sure we will be amazed how fast the next 31 days will pass.

#### Camp Croc camping

**QUEENSLAND** Tourism is set to partner with Australia Zoo to build an \$8 million wildlife camping experience at Australia Zoo called "Camp Croc Hunter".

The initiative is expected to welcome over 39.000 visitors to the Sunshine Coast each year after it opens in 2020, and will provide a wide range of accommodation options such as 108 sites for tents and caravans as well as permanent glampingstyle tents and eco cabins.

The camping village will be supported by a cafe, reception, entertainment and pool area, amenities blocks, covered cooking areas, school camp facilities and a mountain bike course.

Queensland Tourism Industry **Development Minister Kate** Jones said funding would come from the Growing Tourism Infrastructure Fund and that the project is expected to contribute up to \$4.5 million in visitor expenditure a year to the region.

#### ATEC visa calls

**THE** Australian Tourism Export Council (ATEC) has today called for both major government parties to commit to taking policy action on visa issues.

Australian visa policies are seen to be affecting the destination's "reputation as an accessible destination".

ATEC MD, Peter Shelley said, "ATEC is baffled by the recent budget announcement, increasing the cost of the Working Holiday Maker visa, which went up by more than 5.4% in last week's budget, while at the same time funding marketing campaigns to 'reinvigorate' this market."

He added that "working holiday makers are one of our highest yielding visitors who travel extensively in regional Australia".

"ATEC has been briefed on a recent case where a group of 700 professionals from India cancelled their trip and went to Canada because Australia's visa issues were too challenging."



#### Crystalbrook grows

**HOTEL** group, Crystalbrook Collection, is strengthening its leadership team ahead of planned growth (TD yesterday).

Murray Gordon has been appointed as Director Development, while Raphael Antonini has been named Director Hotel Investments.

Both will report to Crystalbrook CEO Mark Davie.

Crystalbrook has four hotels set to be added to the collection before the end of 2022.

#### **MONEY**

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

#### AU\$1 = US0.714

**TRAVELLERS** to Europe will be closely watching the German ZEW business confidence, following a marked slowing of German growth recently, which has helped the AUDEUR to the year's high.

The AUSJPY is also trading at a 2019 high.

Tomorrow, New Zealand inflation could be an important guide ahead of Australia's inflation reading next Wed

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.714
UK	£0.545
NZ	\$1.052
Euro	€0.620
Japan	¥80.15
Thailand	ß22.62
China	¥4.751
South Africa	10.003
Canada	\$0.951
Crude oil	US\$63.40

#### **P&O TRIPPERS**

MILLENNIALS aren't just struggling to get on the property ladder, they're also finding it hard to save up for a holiday, P&O Cruises revealed.

**Dubbed TRIPPERS (Travelling** In Parents' Pockets and Eroding Retirement Savings), a survey of 1,000 18-29-year-old Aussies found more than half have gone on an all-expenses-paid holiday with their parents since turning 18, with cruising a popular option for family groups, P&O said.

#### Air NZ Seoul sale

AIR New Zealand's non-stop Auckland-Seoul will take off on 23 Nov, with fares on sale now, starting from \$649 one-way.

The route will be operated by the airline's Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner fleet.

Air NZ has also struck a deal with Z petrol stations to provide Air New Zealand Airpoints members with fuel discounts of six cents off per litre.

#### **Emirates 777-300ER**

**EMIRATES** has today deployed class suites.



This month Acacia Africa and Travel Daily are teaming up to give two agents a 14-day Southern African Magic open age Small Group Safari. You can also take a friend for 50% off the tour price.



Visit www.acacia-africa.com for your chance to win a trip to Africa. To win, answer each question correctly and have the most creative final answer. Send your entries to acacia@traveldaily.com.au

12. True or False - Acacia's Small Group Safaris are family

#### NCL 2020/21 prog

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line has launched 2020/21 itineraries for 12 of its 17 ships, including Norwegian Encore's first trip to Seattle, and Norwegian Joy's New York debut.

Norwegian Spirit has been slated for a number of portintensive itineraries from Tokyo and Hong Kong, after a multi-million dollar refit, while Norwegian Jewel will sail French Polynesia, Hawaii and South Pacific cruises during the Northern Hemisphere's spring.

Norwegian Cruise Line Chief **Executive Officer Andy Stuart said** the company was excited about the 2020/21 itineraries.

"With these compelling sailings we are confident guests will continue to savour every moment of their cruise vacation when they travel with us," Stuart said.

#### Auckland pax up

**DOMESTIC** travel has fuelled a 2% jump in passengers arriving at Auckland Airport in Feb, the latest figures released by the airport reveal.

International passenger numbers remained static compared with Jan, despite a 29% fall in Chinese arrivals, delivering a financial year-to-date decline of 6.3% compared with the 2017/18 year.

The airport saw a 3.3% monthon-month growth in transit movements.

However, transit passenger numbers were down 4.4% for the vear-to-date.

Data for Queenstown Airport showed a 13.7% increase in international passengers in Feb, up 9% for the year to date, while domestic passenger numbers also climbed in Feb compared to Jan.

its latest Boeing 777-300ER aircraft on the Dubai and Riyadh route, fitted with Mercedes-Benzinspired "Game Changer" First

The airline said the suites feature fully flat-bed seats that can be placed in a "zero-gravity" state inspired by NASA technology.

The airline will also operate its 777-300ER aircraft on the Dubai-Kuwait route from 01 Jun.

Australia pax can connect to Riyadh and Kuwait through Dubai.

#### LOOKING FOR A SPECIFIC INDUSTRY SUPPLIER?

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#### **Hotel Account Manager 12 Month Contract - Melbourne \$100K OTE**

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#### **Senior Luxury Travel Designer - Sydney \$80K + super + commission**

Tailor make luxury travel experiences across Australia for discerning travellers. You must be accessible to work with clients whenever the need arises in return for flexible hours, remote working options and great commission! **VIEW JOB** 

#### Snr Corporate Travel Consultant - Melbourne \$60K to \$70K + super

Our client is a reputable TMC who delivers tailored solutions for different cultures & business sectors. Their focus is on the customer experience rather than the sale. A great role for an experienced consultant with a passion for customer service. **VIEW JOB** 

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As a cruise specialist, you will sell a variety of cruise ships of all sizes to impressive destinations around the globe. Growing, stable company with an excellent product, great team, low staff turnover & lots of on board famils offered. **VIEW JOB** 

#### VIP Leisure Consultants - Melbourne \$50K to \$70K + super

Are you an experienced travel consultant looking for a flexible working environment? This is the opportunity for you! We need Full-Time VIP leisure consultants that love to book mid to high end luxury destinations including cruising. **VIEW JOB** 

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Small, Elegant Ships That Carry Less Than 312 Guests

# New 2020 Voyages onboard the renovated STAR LEGEND

