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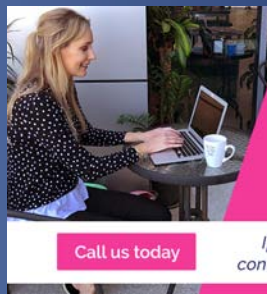
*On sale from 27 February 2019 until midnight 12 March 2019 unless sold out prior. *Flash Sale starts 00:01 AEDT 27 February 2019 and ends 23:59 AEDT 1 March 2019. Price is based on ex MEL including taxes. Booking fee waived for the first 20 tickets. Travel periods: 24 July 2019 to 19 September 2019 and 12 October 2019 to 29 November 2019. Single fare bookings also available.

 **australia**

Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 27th February 2019



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Virgin big sale

VIRGIN Australia is marking 10 years flying to LA by offering savings on its flights.

Virgin is also running a two-for-one industry flash sale, with return fares from \$1,199 for two from MEL, see the **cover page**.

Sustainability speakers

A **BUMPER** line-up of international and local speakers has been revealed for the inaugural **Travel Daily Sustainability Summit**, which will be held in Sydney at the Primus Hotel on 30 Apr.

The one-day event will feature keynotes from Giles Hawke, Global Lead - Sustainability and CEO of Cosmos Tours and Avalon Waterways UK and Daniel Skjeldam, CEO of Hurtigruten.

Hawke will provide a unique European perspective on sustainable travel and tourism development, covering its challenges and potential solutions.

Skjeldam will share insights on how innovation with technology has helped the Norwegian flagged cruise line develop the most environmentally-advanced hybrid cruise ships in the world.

The conference will see industry suppliers, operators, agency groups and other stakeholders take part to share best practices, learn from each other and

examine key issues.

Leigh Barnes, Chief Purpose Office for Intrepid Group will speak on the importance of giving back through travel as the B-Corp certified company leads the way in sustainable practices.

Other speakers on the day include Canadian Rhea Simms, Project Manager Asia-Pacific for Planterra, the not-for-profit partner of G Adventures, who will take part in a panel discussion on the impact of supporting local communities and indigenous tourism through travel.

Spanning the course of the day, the summit will tackle a myriad of topics including the commitment to reduce plastics and paper, corporate investment and microfinancing of travel firms that have ethical based fundamentals.

It will also cover how the cruise industry is working to achieve a sustainable future.

CLICK HERE to see the developing line-up of speakers and for earlybird tickets.

Win a Viking cruise

THERE are only two days left to enter for the chance to win a veranda stateroom on a New York, Bermuda, and the West Indies voyage onboard *Viking Sun*.

To be in the running, entrants need to snap a creative pic of their favourite Viking ocean cruise inclusion and register for Rewards by Viking - see **page nine**.

Albatross new tours

ALBATROSS Tours has revealed its new European Christmas, New Year and Winter Wonderland tours for 2019/20.

The itineraries include the nine-day Helsinki to Stockholm adventure, see **page 10** for more.

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Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has nine pages of news and photos, including a front cover page for **Virgin Australia**, a famil in focus for **Delta**, plus full pages for:

- Albatross Tours
- Travel Trade Recruitment

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SQ ups MEL service

DURING Jun and Jul 2019, Singapore Airlines will increase its flights between Singapore and Melbourne by three to a total of 35 weekly services.

From 17 Jun to 31 Jul, SQ217/218 will also be operated by one of the airline's A380 aircraft, replacing the regular 777-300ER plane and adding capacity for 160 more passengers.

Qantas local flt sale

TODAY is the last day of Qantas' 48 hour Australia and New Zealand Flight Frenzy sale, which ends at midnight.

Fares include SYD-AKL return from \$389, MEL-SYD one way from \$129 and BNE-PER one way from \$219.

Both Economy and Business class seats are on sale, with some blackout dates applying.

For details including sale fares, destinations and travel periods, check your GDS.

Fake Bestjet chargebacks

SOME of the thousands of consumers affected by the collapse of online travel agency Bestjet (**TD** 18 Dec 2018) are believed to have falsely lodged requests for credit card chargebacks, despite their tickets still being valid.

The shock revelation was made by Kate Ryder, administrator of the Bestjet Fiasco Action Group (BFAG), who is part of the formal committee appointed as part of the liquidation process.

In an update on the Facebook group yesterday, Ryder said "it has come to my attention that some of you may have submitted false chargebacks when you have valid and confirmed tickets.

"If this is the case, this is not something BFAG endorses and would ask you to withdraw your claim for a chargeback," she said.

Ryder said some of the group members may have done this because of the uncertainty

surrounding the cancellation of tickets or a desire to rebook with another airline.

However, "by doing this you are slowing down the chargeback process for all those members who have already lost their money," Ryder said, adding that when credit card intermediary IntegraPay processes claims it is checking to see if tickets are valid.

Previously the group attracted controversy when members were urged not to withdraw their claims as unsecured creditors with the Bestjet administrator, Pilot Partners, even if they had received their money back or found their tickets were actually valid (**TD** 24 Jan).

Several members commenting on Ryder's Facebook post yesterday confirmed they had knowledge of fake chargeback requests, with one pithily noting "so we have scammers among the scammed!"

Rex profits increase

REGIONAL Express (Rex) Group has declared a solid improvement in turnover for H1 2019, with \$9.8 million statutory Profit After Tax (PAT), a 7.7% increase from the previous financial results.

Group revenue increased by 8.5% to \$163.8 million, and the airline carried 4.8% more passengers.

Rex Executive Chairman Lim Kim Hai said "Rex has bucked the worldwide airline trend of steep decline in profitability".

Despite the positive results, Rex said it wouldn't be able to provide a specific profit prediction for the full year due to "uncertainties in the Australian & global economy".

Profit growth was attributed to improvements in load factors and yield, along with the addition of the Perth-Carnarvon/Monkey Mia route (**TD** 22 Dec 2017) which commenced 02 Jul 2018.

Rex also increased its number of pilots by 20 to 280 during H1.

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Find out what exactly is the new Qantas Channel and what it means for you in the March issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



RwandAir comm up

RWANDAIR has increased its IATA BSP commission to 5% for tickets issued in Australia, effective 01 Mar.

The change applies to all fare types & classes issued on RwandAir ticket stock with WB flights saleable though all GDS.

Air NZ pricing overhaul

AIR New Zealand has slashed select domestic fares by up to 50% in a move described by the airline as the “biggest overhaul of the airline’s domestic pricing structure in more than a decade”.

Air New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Christopher Luxon said the decision to shrink fares will see more than 3.5 million seats a year available for less than \$50.

“We are making travel more affordable than ever for Kiwis so that they can explore more of their own backyard,” Luxon said. “We have shrunk our lowest fares by up to \$45 in a move we believe will further supercharge domestic tourism and we’d love to see hotels, rental car companies and tourist experience operators follow our lead.”

Examples of the domestic price reduction includes seats available from a mere \$79 on what will be the carrier’s longest domestic

route - the two-hour 1,174 kilometre direct flight between Auckland and Invercargill - which launches in Aug.

Air New Zealand said the move would facilitate greater visitation to regional cities.

“Regional New Zealand is one of the biggest winners out of today’s announcement,” Luxon said.

“Some of the great new ‘seat only’ fares include Auckland to Gisborne or Kerikeri for \$39 and Auckland to Blenheim or Nelson for \$49,” he added.

The cheaper fares are available now for travel from 25 Mar.

Virgin Galactic prog

VIRGIN Galactic has reached space for the second time as its Spaceship *VSS Unity* recorded its highest speed and altitude to date in testing.

Marking another first was the company carrying a third crew member on board.

“Flying the same vehicle safely to space and back twice in a little over two months...is testament to the unique capability we have built up within the Virgin Galactic,” said the company’s founder Richard Branson.

Virgin Galactic is hopeful of launching by the end of 2019, with tix costing \$250,000 each.



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Lizard Island offer

LIZARD Island has announced the dates and details for its Reef Expedition experiences for 2019, offering visitors access to rarely viewed snorkelling areas around the island and exclusive areas of the Great Barrier Reef.

The four-night experience features all-inclusive gourmet dining, Lizard Island lodging, and a range of different reef trips.

Departure dates for this year’s expeditions are 20-24 Jun and 21-25 Nov.

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Travel Daily presents



Sustainability SUMMIT



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FC Canada lawsuit

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group (FCTG) Canada is facing a proposed class action suit after being accused of failing to pay overtime to its Canadian travel consultants since Oct 2010.

The Statement of Claim alleges that the company violated applicable employment standards legislation and its contracts of employment with class members by failing to pay for overtime.

The claim also alleges that Flight Centre failed to notify Class Members of their entitlement to overtime pay for hours worked in excess of the overtime threshold under the applicable employment standards legislation.

Allison Wallace, VP Corp Comm & CSR The Americas at FCTG said "The claim makes several false assertions and many of the allegations are factually incorrect. "Flight Centre denies the allegations and will be vigorously defending this claim."

Jayride taps into agents

ONLINE transport booking company Jayride has announced the launch of a new system that allows users and affiliated travel partners, including Flight Centre agents, to compare and book services from more than 3,000 ride-hailing companies around the world.

The new online offering, which recently completed a successful four-month trial period with ridesharing companies Lyft, Gett, Cabify, and Careem, displays pricing in local currencies and allows bookings to be pre-paid in advance under a fixed amount to help eliminate the "surprise" of surge pricing.

"Every local destination has different ride-hailing companies and ridesharing services, and their prices sit between bargain shared shuttle and premium transfer services," said Rod Bishop, MD of Jayride.

"Aggregating these services and adding them to the Jayride.com marketplace means we can improve the customer experience for travellers, cater for new traveller segments, and offer a more comprehensive value proposition for the traveller," Bishop added.

Users who pre-book their ride-hailing service prior to travel will benefit from knowing up-front how much their trip will cost, while the comparison option means they can feel confident they are getting the best deal.

"This successful pilot validated the concept of ride-sharing aggregation as a unique and scalable offering...we can now offer the best local transport experience for our travellers, wherever they are, whatever their destination is, and in whatever way that suits them best," Bishop said.

Window Seat

IF YOU can't afford to take time off work to take that holiday or famil, then the latest trend to hit social media might just be your ticket to a better place.

The Fake Plane Ride Challenge, thought to have taken off around Chinese Lunar New Year, encourages wannabe jetsetters to post footage that looks like views out a plane window, but are actually framed by a plastic coated household item, such as a toilet seat, **pictured**.

The posts have reportedly gone viral, with billions of "trips" being made globally.



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Camino itineraries

DISCOVER Portugal, Spain & Morocco Holidays has released three new itineraries departing this year.

The trips offer guests the chance to sample the Camino walk and take part in cultural and historical experiences in northern Spain.

The departures are fully escorted tours and range from eight to 14 days.

Additions include the 11-day Small Group Camino from St Jean Pied de Port to Logrono.

Call 02 8381 1161 or email reservations@discovertv.com.au.

Seabourn '20 open

SEABOURN has opened bookings for its 2020 Europe season.

Four of the line's fleet will spend time in European waters, with *Seabourn Encore*, *Quest*, *Odyssey* and *Ovation* offering a total of almost 50 departures.

Cruises range from seven to 28 days, calling at 200 destinations and the program includes Seabourn's return to Turkey.

Seabourn will also venture to over 12 new destinations, including Alta, Farsund and Sortland in Norway, the Aran Isles in Ireland and Skagafjundur and Stykkisholmur, Iceland.

The ships will sail across the Mediterranean, through the Adriatic and visit northern Europe including Russia, the British Isles and Greenland.

Highlights include the 14-day Greek Isles Odyssey, seven-day Romance of the Rivas and 14-day Scenic Norway & Fjords.

Fairmont York reno

CANADA'S Fairmont Royal York in Toronto is celebrating its 90th anniversary with the final stage of multi-year renovations.

The last phase includes a new lobby, new dining venues, contemporary event and meeting spaces and two new Legacy Suites.

AHEAD of Clean Up Australia Day this coming Sat, BridgeClimb Sydney volunteers got their hands dirty collecting over 50 bags of rubbish from Dawes Point.

The efforts were part of the Business Clean Up Day and marks the 30th anniversary of Clean Up Sydney Harbour, the event which sparked Clean Up Australia Day.

This year is the BridgeClimb team's 10th participating in the initiative.

"Business Clean Up Day is extremely important to us at BridgeClimb," said BridgeClimb Chief Executive Officer, Chris Zumwalt.

"We are extremely conscious

of our environmental footprint and are always looking for ways to reduce our waste and preserve Sydney Harbour for the next generation to enjoy."

The BridgeClimb team are **pictured** raring to go underneath the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Air Belgium to HK

FROM 31 Mar 2019 Air Belgium will resume its Brussels Charleroi-Hong Kong service, which was temporarily suspended in Oct last year.

The route will be operated by the airline's A340 aircraft, three times a week.

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Air NZ ups Jan pax

AIR New Zealand carried more than 1.3 million passengers in Jan, up 4.1% from last year.

The carrier had a healthy passenger load factor of 84.3%, and its revenue passenger kilometres grew 7.2% to 3.25 million for the month.

For the financial year to date, NZ carried 10.2 million travellers with a passenger load factor of 83.5%, up 1 percentage point from 2018.

Overall the company had 2.1% revenue per available seat kilometre (RASK), with long haul providing the greater RASK (3.7%) compared to short haul (0.4%).

Hawaii almost 10m

HAWAII Tourism Authority has released its preliminary year-end statistics showing that just under 10 million travellers visited the Aloha state in 2018.

Travellers to Hawaii reached 9,954,548, an increase of 5.9% compared to last year.

Visitors also increased their spending by 6.8% to \$17.82 billion, bringing in \$2.08 billion state tax revenue.

Australian visitor arrivals to the state were unchanged from their 2017 levels, and spend per day was down 0.8% on the prior corresponding period.

Less travellers came for their honeymoon, however more got married in Hawaii in 2018.

Tech smooths travel

THE use of automated passport control rose by a massive 44% in 2018, according to technology provider SITA's latest 2019 *Passenger IT Insights* report.

The report, co-sponsored by Air Transport World, examines the influence of technology on traveller satisfaction.

According to the research, 3.85% of passengers were more satisfied when they used self-scanning gates for passport control, compared to agent-assisted controls.

Automated gates at boarding was also popular with travellers, with 2.2% more satisfied when they scanned their own documents.

Read the full report [HERE](#).

C&M workshop

IN CELEBRATION of its 10-year anniversary next month, C&M Travel Recruitment is hosting a workshop for travel agents.

The recruitment agency will offer experienced travel consultants the chance to learn more about different career paths in the industry.

The workshop, to be held on 06 Mar, is called "Where to go next as a travel consultant" and will focus on options in the world of corporate travel, wholesale travel, as well as what's involved in working for a supplier.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

ADINA Apartment Hotel Melbourne Northbank has taken the wraps off its renovations.

The multi-million dollar refurbishment has transformed the property's public areas and 108 guest rooms.

The hotel now features a combination of historical decor and contemporary art.

Rooms have Samsung Smart TVs, high-speed wi-fi and digital headends.

In Design International undertook the design of the renovations and the hotel now showcases semi-industrial finishes such as concrete and black steel, along with timber and a colour palette of navy and yellow.

Pictured above is Adina Northbank's new lobby space.

Harris partnership

TOURISM Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ) has launched a new campaign featuring model Samantha Harris, inviting travellers to reconnect with nature.

TTNQ said it hoped the #FeelGrounded campaign will help Aussies affected by stress.

TTNQ CEO Pip Close said "with wellness a priority for many Australians in 2019, Tropical North Queensland is the place where they can feel grounded with incredible locations for hiking, biking, swimming, diving and yoga".

Thailand Travel Mart

REGISTRATIONS for the Thailand Travel Mart Plus Amazing Gateway to the Greater Mekong Subregion (TTM+) 2019 are now open.

The B2B event will be held in Pattaya, Thailand, from 05-07 Jun.

TTM+ this year will focus on emerging destinations in the region, bringing together 300 international buyers and 350 sellers from throughout Thailand and the Greater Mekong Subregion.

The event has been planned to allow plenty of opportunities for networking and trade talks.

Register as a buyer before 29 Mar by [CLICKING HERE](#) or email buyer@thailandtravelmartplus.com for more information.

BayviewTravel

Join one of the best

Bayview Travel, a 2018 NTIA finalist for Best Travel Agency (single location), is looking for a dedicated travel advisor to join the team.

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Apply to au.recruitment@atpi.com
by 8th March 2019.



Tourism WA inquiry

TOURISM Council WA has provided a submission to the State Government's inquiry into the short-stay accommodation sector, outlining the challenges Airbnb proposes to commercial accommodation providers.

The submission reports that platforms like Airbnb do not drive demand for tourism visitation but rather demand relies on "events, experiences and greater marketing of the destination's offering".

Additionally, the report states the differences between hosted and unhosted Airbnb properties, explaining that hosted properties provide unique experiences, whereas, "unhosted properties do not contribute positively to the development of a destination or increase the destination's appeal to visitors".

"The State Government should consider these factors and devise a regulatory solution to ensure fair and equitable competition as well as a buoyant tourism industry," the report states.

Jetstar Hawaii sale

JETSTAR is offering Hawaii Holiday Packages from \$899 until 05 Mar, unless sold out prior.

Travellers who book an eligible Jetstar Holidays package deal for Honolulu will receive the return Starter fare for free.

The offer is available from the same arrival and departure port and excludes checked baggage.

For more information on the available packages, [CLICK HERE](#).

Cunard design

CUNARD has revealed the team of designers recruited to create the interiors for its fourth ship, which is set to join the fleet in 2022 and is yet to be named.

The designers include Simon Rawlings, David Collins Studio; Terry McGillicuddy, Richmond Int'l and Sybille de Margerie, Sybille de Margerie Paris.

Cunard Creative Director Adam D Tihany said the new team would capture "the beloved spirit of Cunard travel in this next generation cruise liner".

Big wins at Fiji Tourism Awards



BOTH Outrigger Fiji Beach Resort and Castaway Island were recipients of awards at the ANZ 2018 Fiji Excellence in Tourism Awards (FETA) held at the Sofitel Fiji Resort on Denarau mid-Feb.

Outrigger Fiji Beach Resort (inset) was inducted into the Hall of Fame after winning the Deluxe Accommodation Award for three consecutive years.

In accepting the Hall of Fame induction, Resort Manager Russell Blaik said that the Bula spirit among the staff and guests had been a major contributor to the success and growth of the resort over the years.

Additionally, Castaway Island was listed as a finalist in three categories - Tourism Sustainability, Deluxe Accommodation and Culinary Services - and took out the award for Culinary Services with co-winner Maqai Eco Surf Resort.

Under the Culinary Services category, a new criterion placing the emphasis on using Fijian



produce saw Castaway as "a clear contender for the award under the direction of Executive Chef Markus Nufer".

Castaway GM Steven Andrews, said that he was enormously proud of his entire food and beverage department for the FETA recognition and thanked the team for its consistent dedication.

"Our menu is designed to use local, seasonal produce on a 'make do with what we have' approach so that imported ingredients are kept to a minimum.

"More than 95% of the menu includes locally grown produce or Fijian-made products."

Pictured are Kaushal Tappoo (FETA sponsor), Marian Khan, Markus Nufer and Steven Andrews.

Multi-Rep BDM Western Australia

DriveAway and Entire Travel Group are looking for an established Perth based Multi-Rep to represent both companies on a full-time contract basis (must have ABN) to grow and develop new business opportunities in both Perth and regional areas of WA.

We require a BDM that has a clear understanding of the travel industry and is looking for a full time contracting position to represent two companies.

- Minimum 3 years BDM or travel industry experience, with good understanding of WA trade and established industry relationships
- Self-motivated with the ability to work autonomously
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- A highly dedicated & motivated individual with excellent presentation
- Own reliable vehicle
- Excellent package, industry tools & training will be provided for the successful candidate

If you are an experienced, enthusiastic BDM/Multi-Rep looking for that next step in your career representing two distinguished wholesalers, DriveAway and Entire Travel, apply now!

Please forward a cover letter and resume to Michelle Carpio at HRSydney@driveaway.com.au by Friday 15 March 2019.



Position Openings: Team Leader & Corporate Travel Expert

Due to an incredible year of client growth, 1000 Mile Travel Group is looking to fill two new mobile positions at Head Office in VIC: 1. Operations Team Leader, 2. Corporate Travel Expert.

Experience

- Smartpoint/Galileo Ticketing (must)
- Tramada (preferred)
- 7-10+ years in the industry
- Corporate consulting (must)

Role Specifications

- Full-time 08.30am-5.30pm
- Work from home
- 1-2 days in the office per week

To apply, please submit your resume to nicola.veltman@1000miletravel.com.au

FJ/JAL codeshare

FIJI Airways has announced a new codeshare arrangement with Japan Airlines that will allow the Japanese carrier to offer new daily flights between Nadi and Tokyo Narita airports.

The codeshare will also allow for two new direct services via Singapore and Hong Kong, utilising the JL designator code on flights operated by Fiji Airways.

"The partnership with Fiji Airways will provide customers with convenient travel options between Japan and the beautiful destination of Fiji," said Yuji Akasaka, President of Japan Airlines.

"As we move towards 2020, this agreement will further expand JAL's international network, which is extremely valuable for our business model," he added.



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Tapestry exp plans

TAPESTRY Collection by Hilton has announced it has "strong development plans" for 2019 after more than tripling its hotel offering in 2018.

"As we celebrate entering our third year and our impressive growth since launch, we look forward to welcoming guests in new destinations all over the United States, from New Jersey to California and many great locations in between," said Jenna Hackett, Global Head, Tapestry Collection by Hilton.

This year, the brand is scheduled to open its first West Coast USA properties, as well as hotels in the Caribbean and Peru.

IATA awards launch

THE International Air Transport Association (IATA) has announced the launch of its IATA Diversity and Inclusion Awards, which aim to "recognise and celebrate the great work that is being done to take the [aviation] industry into the future".

The awards cover the categories of Inspirational Role Model Award, High Flyer Award and Diversity and Inclusion Team Award, with winners announced at the IATA AGM & World Air Transport Summit on 01 Jun - nominations are open until 31 Mar, [CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

TrekAmerica beer

AMERICAN road trip operator TrekAmerica has launched two new craft beer tours that offer travellers the chance to visit a number of the country's most famous independent breweries.

The eight-day Cities, Sights & Craft Beer Delights - East tour takes guests around New York, Boston, Washington DC and Atlanta, while the seven-day Cities, Sights & Craft Beer Delights - West offers experiences across San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Portland and Seattle.

For more information on the new tours, [CLICK HERE](#).

FAMIL IN FOCUS

FAMIL in Focus is our feature showcasing some of the photos from recent industry famils. If you want your famil to be featured, email advertising@traveldaily.com.au.



THREE lucky agents recently flew with Delta Air Lines to attend the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles on 11 Feb as reward for winning a Delta and LA Tourism incentive.

More than 520 agents registered to be in the running, with the winners selected on the basis of agent ticket sales, a Delta B777 quiz and completion of the LA Insider Program.

Chris McDermott, Lauren Whelan and Matthew Chisolm were the three agents to score the full red carpet experience at the Delta reception, ceremony and after-party.



LEFT: Matthew Chisolm and Lauren Whelan prepare to walk the red carpet.

Reflecting on her amazing trip, Lauren Whelan said her most memorable moments were watching some of America's biggest stars perform on stage.

"The highlight for me would have to be Lady Gaga performing Shallow along with Dolly Parton," Whelan said, adding the famil was a "money can't buy experience".

For Chris McDermott, the Grammys after-party was just as enjoyable and was charged with plenty of nostalgia.

"After the ceremony, it was time to let our hair down at the after-party... bringing back the 90s vibes and memories of my childhood were performances by T.L.C and En Vogue, who still had the crowd up on their feet," McDermott enthused.

RIGHT: Chris McDermott visits the Staples Centre in the lead up to the Grammy Awards ceremony.



Wednesday 27th February 2019

APAC hotel perf

OCCUPANCY rates in Jan for hotels in the Asia Pacific region was down by 1.3% to 65.9% on the previous corresponding period, according to STR data.

Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR) was also down by 0.7% to US\$67.52 (A\$93.98) for the month, while the Average Daily Rate (ADR) in the region increased by 0.6% to US\$102.53 (A\$142.70).

Australia also recorded dips in both occupancy (-1.5%) and RevPar (0.3%), however witnessed a rise in ADR of 1.2% on Jan 2018.

The hub of Hong Kong saw rises in ADR (9.6%) and RevPar (9%) in Jan when compared to Jan 2018.

Hurtigruten testing

HURTIGRUTEN'S *MS Roald Amundsen* has completed her final sea trials in the fjords along the western coast of Norway.

The hybrid-powered cruise ship was custom-built at the Kleven shipyard for sailing remote destinations and is currently undergoing final outfitting alongside her sister ship *MS Fridtjof Nansen*.

"The Kleven employees, along with our sub-contractors, have done a great job leading up to the successful sea trial," Kleven CEO Olav Nakken said.

The 530-pax *MS Roald Amundsen* will join the fleet in May and has green tech including battery packs for electric sailing.

ACCOMMODATION

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wed feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description with an image to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.



Fairmont Maldives Sirru Fen Fushi has announced the launch of its safari style jungle tented villas which it said offer outdoor living under the stars, located in the resort's inland jungle. The new accommodation options offer safari-style, alfresco luxurious living with an outdoor rain shower, roll-top tub, locally-sourced rustic interiors and complete seclusion.



A new spa area has opened at **Coconuts Beach Club Resort & Spa** in Samoa, offering an invitation-only open house and cocktail party area. The newly designed spa offers full-service suites for manicures and pedicures, body scrubs, facials, couples' massage, waxing, and granite outdoor soaking tubs. The Spa has been designed to convey the "serenity of the ocean".



The Windsor in Melbourne has unveiled its new Wizard's Suite - a themed experience created in partnership with The Store of Requirement. The space has been transformed into a comfy magical abode filled with trunks, wands, and "spellbinding objects". The hotel said the suite had plenty of features to keep witches and wizards entertained, and its heritage corridors also provide an optional venue for dress-up parties. The suite is only available for a limited time, with The Windsor stating the wizard accommodation will close at the end of the year.

WIN A CRUISE

AND EXPERIENCE THE VIKING DIFFERENCE

This month Viking Cruises is giving *Travel Daily* readers the chance to win a deluxe veranda stateroom on New York, Bermuda & the West Indies departing on 10 October 2019 on *Viking Sun*.

To be in the running to win all you need to do is these two simple steps:

1. SNAP A PICTURE

Send us a photo showing your favourite Viking ocean cruise inclusion.

2. REGISTER FOR REWARDS BY VIKING

Entrants need to be registered for Rewards by Viking. Make sure you submit your Rewards ID number with your photo. If you



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haven't already, register at www.rewardsbyviking.com.

The most creative entry will win! Send your entries to viking@traveldaily.com.au



LA master plan

THE City of Los Angeles Department of Convention and Tourism Development has partnered with a global advisor in tourism Resonance Consultancy to develop a Tourism Master Plan.

The strategy over the next 11 months will include a brief to help LA increase its visitation by enhancing both the visitor experience and the quality of life of local residents.

Research will focus on engaging with key stakeholders in sectors such as arts & culture, technology, education, environment, government, and tourism.

"The city will have a clear picture of its strengths and weaknesses through the lens of the people who matter most - their residents and visitors," said Resonance Executive VP Richard Cutting-Miller.

Samoa sale fares

SAMOA Airways has launched a range of sale fares departing Sydney and Brisbane.

One-way Economy class tickets from Sydney to Apia have been discounted to \$327 per person, while prices from Brisbane lead in at \$344 per person.

The sale period ends 17 Mar and is valid for travel until 17 Nov. Call 1800 359 726 for more.

Canal du Midi back

LE BOAT, in partnership with the Voies Navigables de France, have announced that its Canal du Midi services will be fully operational for the 2019 tourism season kicking off in mid-Mar.

Le Boat provides river trips in Europe and has worked to rehabilitate areas in France caused by flooding back in Oct.



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Working in partnership with the Australian Travel Industry

Cruise Product Executive

Sydney, \$55-60k + Super, Ref: 3912SJ1

Calling all cruise experts who want to move into the wonderful world of Product and a behind the scenes role. This much loved travel company are hiring for a Cruise Executive to join their central Sydney team. Help negotiate, contract and coordinate cruise product across all cruise lines. Use you extensive cruise experience to excel in this role and step away from sales with a company who offer fantastic career progression. Great salary, perks and a great team. Don't delay, apply today!

For more information please call Sarah on (02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Home Based Travel Consultants

Perth, Up to \$55k + Super, Ref: 7733JB1

Our client is seeking multiple home based Travel Consultants! The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 2 years experience within the industry, an existing client base and a passion for travel. You will receive the support from a store close by, with the opportunity to conduct client meetings in the office. The successful candidate will enjoy an attractive base salary plus a generous commission structure and the flexibility to work their preferred hours from the comfort of their own home.

For more information please call Jacqueline on (02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Regional Travel Role | Sales AND Service

Rockhampton, \$45-\$50k + Comms, Ref: 1966AW1

The role will be heavily customer service focused offering your expertise on worldwide destinations. Consulting across all platforms, including face to face, online and over the phone, this regional community travel agency is looking for New Regional Travel Consultant to join their team! Time for some work/life balance?? Deliver EXCEPTIONAL service, Earn BIG \$\$\$ and join this Regional Travel Agency NOW! Only work 2x SATURDAY mornings per month and get your work/life balance back!

For more information please call Amanda on (07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Senior Wholesale Travel Consultant

Melbourne, \$60k + Bonuses, Ref: 3643HC1

Want to work for a boutique wholesaler committed to providing first class customer service? This small, boutique and independently owned company is looking for a talented and confident travel consultant, happy to move into a wholesale role. Focusing on tropical destinations and luxury products, you will put together amazing and exotic itineraries! Working with a fantastic, established team, you will deliver exceptional customer service online and over the phone. APPLY NOW!

For more information please call Hannah on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Finance Manager

Sydney, Competitive Salary, Ref: 3696AJ3

A leading Corporate Travel Management company currently experiencing high levels of growth have an exciting opportunity for an experienced Finance Controller/ Manager to join their friendly and welcoming team. This is a varied role requiring a high level of attention to detail for preparing, managing, reconciling payments from suppliers and customers as well as streamlining internal policies and procedures. Please note that experience working with Tramada is vital to be successful for this role.

For more information please call Antony on (02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Travel Consultant - Cruise & Package Sales

Gold Coast, \$50k + comms, Ref: 2119SZ5

Enjoy working in a cruise focused consulting role where you are able to provide a personalised service to your customers whilst earning commission on deposited bookings! Low staff turnover with great management & training programmes in place for the right candidate. We only ask you to bring a positive attitude and a sales focused mentality! As the team continues to grow, your career will compliment this including opportunities for leadership, products & being a brand ambassador.

For more information please call Serena on (07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Cruise Travel Consultant

South BNE, up to \$45k, Ref: 1385CGA1

Seeking a dynamic, enthusiastic, sales focused travel consultant with at 12 months experience within a sales role. Come and join a leading name in travel within their growing department. This company really looks after their staff so expect excellent working environment and amazing perks! This role is for someone with a proven background in achieving targets and displays the highest level of customer service. Don't wait, apply now if you're ready to take your next step in your career.

For more information please call Courtney on (07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Product Coordinator - Step into product!

Melbourne, \$50k + Super, Ref: 3417HC

A Product Coordinator is required to join this much loved company - if you are working in product or would like step into it this could be the perfect opportunity. Previous product experience in travel is preferred, however STRONG travel consultants will be considered. Systems and on the job training will be provided for the right candidate + an exceptionally supportive management team that will provide you with ongoing support as well as a competitive salary depending on experience

For more information please call Hannah on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.



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