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# Travel Daily First with the news

Wednesday 24th July 2019



The mobile travel business that works

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## Meet NZ's guides

**TOURISM** New Zealand is today showcasing its new "Good Morning World" campaign, which highlights the insights and experience of the country's local tourism operators - with an opportunity to win a spot on its upcoming famil - see cover page.



# SQ Australia restructure

### EXCLUSIVE

**SINGAPORE** Airlines is revamping its sales structure in Australia, vesterday advising staff it would move from its longstanding state-based model to a "channel-based" arrangement.

The change will see the creation of a new National Agency Sales Department in Sydney, while a separate National Corporate Sales Department will be established in Melbourne.

Greg McJarrow will oversee the Sydney office along with a newly created sales operations unit in Sydney, which will focus on supporting trade partners and other B2B stakeholders.

There will be dedicated Account Executives based in Brisbane, Perth and Melbourne who will work with trade partners across the country, SQ said.

"The changes will deliver the Australian travel trade a sales structure that is better equipped to support and strengthen the longstanding relationships the airline has built in Australia over the past 53 years."

Corporate sales will be headed by Patrick Biggerstaff, whose team will focus on "increasing the engagement and collaboration with corporate partners".

The carrier has also flagged the launch of a new online trade portal by the end of 2019.

Some staff will be redeployed into new roles where possible, while Singapore Airlines has also launched a recruitment drive for new positions - see the last page.

## Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has 11 pages of news and photos, a front cover page for **Tourism** New Zealand, plus full pages:

- Albatross Tours
- Travel Trade Recruitment
- Singapore Airlines



## Albatross has "Mo"

**ALBATROSS** Tours MD Euan "The Mo" Landsborough will host dedicated information sessions on the operator's 2020 tours in a European Showcase.

Sessions are scheduled across the country - for info and to register see page 11.



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### **BA** seeks injunction

**BRITISH** Airways (BA) has commenced urgent legal action in an attempt to block a strike planned by pilot union BALMPA.

BA has offered a proposed pay deal of 11.5% over three years which has been overwhelmingly rejected by the pilots.





# IASC unmoved by QF, CX

**THE** International Air Services Commission has decided not to vary a determination governing flights between Australia and Hong Kong, despite concerted efforts by Qantas to have it changed to allow expanded codeshares with Cathay Pacific.

An update vesterday confirmed that the draft decision will stand. denying the ability for QF and CX to offer codeshare flights from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Hong Kong even when sold as part of a journey to behind and/ or beyond destinations.

The long-running case follows an application by Qantas early this year (TD 09 Jan), in the hope that CX would be able to market its code on certain QF flights on the Hong Kong route as early as 31 Mar 2019.

However rival Virgin Australia along with the Australian Competition and Consumer Comm (ACCC) also weighed in

on the debate, making their own submissions against the proposal which QF in turn responded to.

"The Commission has carefully considered all of the material before it, including each of the submissions made by Qantas, Virgin Australia and the ACCC," according to an update vesterday.

This week's ruling confirms a draft determination (TD 24 May) in which the IASC proposed not to vary the determination.

Further submissions from CX, QF and VA ensued, and executives from both Qantas and Virgin Australia have met with the Commission in recent weeks to discuss the contentious issue.

In the final decision, IASC has found that the proposed variation would "be detrimental to fostering an environment in which Australian carriers can effectively compete with each other and with foreign carriers on the route".

### AC back to India

AIR Canada has announced the resumption of its full India schedule, including services from Toronto and Vancouver to Delhi as well as Toronto-Mumba seasonal services

The changes follow last week's reopening of Pakistani airspace.









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# Travel Daily

on location in **Brisbane** 

This issue of *TD* is coming to you from the Federal Court in Brisbane, where the Public Examination of Bestjet founder Rachel James and her husband Michael are scheduled for today.

PROCEEDINGS continue in the Public Examination this morning, after a hearing last week in which the purported purchaser of Bestjet, Robert McVicker, testified about his role in the company's collapse.

Today it's the turn of Bestjet founder Rachel James, along with her husband Michael, right hand man Craig McKim-Hill and more, with the original summons also specifying other interested parties from IATA, IntegraPay, Sabre and CVFR, whose hearings have been postponed until later.

# VA three-year NTL deal

VIRGIN Australia will operate seasonal non-stop international services between Newcastle and Auckland for the next three years, under an agreement finalised this week with Newcastle Airport.

The partnership will continue the landmark operation, which debuted last year (*TD* 19 Jul 2018), marking the first time in 16 years that travellers could fly to AKL non-stop from the NSW city.

Virgin Australia will operate three weekly return services over the peak holiday period, with this year's flights to kick off on 21 Nov and continue until 16 Feb.

"On the back of the successes of last year, we are thrilled to provide some clarity and certainty around the longevity of these flights, which cement us as an international airport," said NTL CEO Peter Cock.

"The first season was a real success, delivering an estimated

\$5.4 million in economic benefit into our region," he added.

Last year's service saw 38% of Kiwi holiday visitors on the flights visiting the Hunter region for the first time, indicating the direct flights had stimulated new demand, Cock added.

"The service also provided thousands of locals with the opportunity to visit Auckland for the first time."

Tickets for the route are now available for purchase.

## Malaysia branding

A NEW logo (pictured) has been unveiled by Malaysian Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamad, as a



"focal branding asset" for a 2020 campaign for the country to hit a 30 million annual visitor target.



# Window Seat

**WE'VE** all experienced the frustration of an Uber ride totalling a higher price than initially forecasted.

However, some US riders have recently had this situation extend to nightmarish levels.

Some users have recently taken to social media to vent about a billing glitch in the application, which is charging thousands of dollars extra in some cases.

@AHimelman tweeted "Hey @uber, you charged my wife \$9,672 for a ride that was listed as \$96.72, and there's no way to get in touch with you."

Kelley Rowe also told San Diego media of being charged US\$1,308 for a US\$13.08 ride from the city's airport to the downtown area.



# Travel Daily

Wednesday 24th July 2019

# New QF US flight sale

QANTAS is now taking bookings for its new Brisbane to Chicago and San Francisco routes after securing US Department of Transport approval for its joint business with American Airlines on Fri (TD 22 Jul).

The thrice weekly San Francisco route will commence on 09 Feb 2020, with fares starting from \$999 return, while the four-times weekly Chicago flights will takeoff on 20 Apr 2020, leading in at \$1,200 return.

Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said the new routes are expected to generate more than \$150 million for the state's economy over the next three years.

"These flights represent a great opportunity for Queensland, one that is forecast to support more than 1,700 jobs," she said.

**MEANWHILE,** Qantas is urging travel agencies to check

their registration status for the new Qantas Channel, in the lead up to its planned 01 Aug implementation.

The "Manager" login on the qantasagencyconnect.com website should be used to navigate to the My Agency Profile link and then the PCC/ID tab.

An "Accepted" status indicates the agency is a participant in the Qantas Channel once it becomes effective, but if the status is showing as "Validating" and the agency has reached agreement with its GDS before 30 Jun, contact should be made immediately with GDS.

If status is showing as "Rejected" then either Qantas has not received confirmation of a new GDS agreement for the agency for over 30 days since initial registration, or the Pseudo City Code/Office ID supplied is incorrect and has been rejected.

# Sphinxing of you



**SPECIALIST** wholesaler Swagman Africa recently hosted agents on a famil of Egypt.

Highlights included a threenight Nile Cruise, Alexandria, battlefields, Pyramid visits including inside the most famous one, Cheops, a felucca trip, the Step Pyramid, Abu Simbel, and Aswan by night.

Pictured are the agents, Sue, Melinda, Deb and Ash with Swagman Africa Managing Director Wayne Hamilton, taking a breather from sightseeing at another famous landmark, the Sphinx.

#### Jetstar Melb/Bali

JETSTAR will add eight extra services each week between Melbourne and Bali, from 14 Dec until 27 Jan 2020.

The move will see Jetstar operate 36 flights to Bali each week during the peak Chistmas and summer holiday period, with the airline offering 120 direct services to Bali from Australian cities

Jetstar will also fly six additional flights a week between Melb and both Auckland and Queenstown from 13 Dec until 28 Jan 2020.



# Travel Daily

Wednesday 24th July 2019

# Cruise360 full prog

**CRUISE** Lines International Association (CLIA) has released its full Cruise360 Australasia Conference program, with television and radio presenter James O'Loghlin named as host.

O'Loghlin will head a packed program of international speakers and panellists who will gather to address the future of the global cruise industry, including Walkley Award-winning journalist and author Louise Williams, who will deliver a presentation on the plastics crisis affecting the world's oceans.

Other big names taking the stage include international industry leaders such as CLIA Global Chair Adam Goldstein, Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection President and CEO Ellen Bettridge, Virgin Voyages President and CEO Tom McAlpin, Holland America Group SVP of Port Operations and Shore Excursions Robert Morgenstern.

## Rail Europe tool

**AGENTS** will be able to instantly book, purchase and generate point-to-point tickets with Rail Europe via the company's online B2B tool from 02 Aug.

The new portal will allow agents to immediately secure train tickets or seat reservations at the best available times and prices, and have those tickets arrive to clients without delay.

Agents requiring training on the tools are urged to contact a Rail Europe sales representative.

## Congrats to winners

TRAVEL Daily would like to clarify that Helloworld Travel Mackay & Mt Pleasant was the winner of Best Travel Agency Leisure - Multi Location in last Sat's AFTA National Travel Industry Awards, not italktravel & cruise East Doncaster, Fountain Gate & Mt Waverley, as originally reported on Mon.

# **Meriton Suites Sussex Street**



**MERITON** Suites has today opened the doors to the brand's fifth downtown Sydney location, Meriton Suites Sussex Street.

Located at 234 Sussex Street at Sussex and Druitt Place, and adjacent to the Darling Quarter in Darling Harbour, the property is 32 levels high and offers 301 suites with a selection of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

All hotel suites include residential-size kitchens, a separate living and dining space and designer furnishings.

There's also high definition televisions in all bedrooms with a range of Foxtel channels, complimentary high-speed wi-fi and internal laundries complete with a washer and dryer.

The hotel also offers guests an exclusive collaboration with official amenities partner, hair care brand Kevin Murphy, with its "Repair-Me" product range available in all suites.

Meriton Suites currently operates 19 properties across Sydney, Brisbane and the Gold Coast, with five new locations in the pipeline, including Melbourne and Canberra.

Pictured is one of Meriton Sussex Street's rooms.

# We know a win-win situation when we see one

We're thrilled to have come away from the 2019 National Travel Industry Awards with a pair of wins.

Our motto is 'Where experience meets devotion', and we devote these awards to our wonderful clients, supplier partners and, in particular, our brilliant people.

It's only through transparency, trust and genuine partnerships that we can deliver outstanding travel and events solutions.

If you'd like to be part of our award-winning Corporate Travel and Events culture and make your 2019 a win-win-win situation, CLICK HERE and let's get to know each other.







WINNER 2019

**BEST TRAVEL** AGENCY CORPORATE MULTI LOCATION The Travel Authority Corporate



**WINNER** 2019

BEST BUSINESS EVENTS TRAVEL AGENCY The Events Authority

# Where experience meets devotion.



We know.

# Travel Daily

Wednesday 24th July 2019

## Las Vegas mission

**THE** Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority's (LVCVA) Sales Mission will kick off down under next month.

The tourism board and thirteen key industry partners will take part, with a mix of agent training and wholesaler product events to be offered.

Events will be held from 6-9pm in Auckland on 19 Aug, followed by Melbourne on 21 Aug and Sydney on 22 Aug.

To register interest, CLICK HERE.

# **SQ** ups Melbourne

SINGAPORE Airlines will increase its Singapore-Melbourne-Wellington service from Jan 2020, adding a fifth weekly flight on board a Boeing 777-200ER.

From 27 Oct to 31 Jan, the Singapore to Melbourne service will be operated by an Airbus A380 instead of a 777-300ER.

## ACA conf speaker

THIS year's Australian Cruise Association (ACA) Conference will feature Genting Cruise Lines' Senior Vice President International Sales Michael Goh as the event's final keynote speaker.

He will join Melissa Witsoe, Product Manager for Windstar Cruises in Seattle, and Adam Armstrong, Managing Director of Silversea Cruises in Australia and New Zealand, as first-time speakers at the conference, which will run from 04-06 Sep.

It is anticipated that 120 people will attend the three-day event in Geelong, Victoria, themed "Cruising - the Value Proposition", highlighting the role that regional destinations play in the growth of cruising in Australia.

This year will also see
Melbourne visitor advocate
Melanie de Sousa host the event.
Registrations for earlybird prices
ends 31 Jul - CLICK HERE.

# Jurassic World's star power



UNIVERSAL Studios Hollywood has celebrated the grand opening of its new Jurassic World - The Ride by inviting many of the film franchise's stars along to enjoy the attraction for the first time.

The Hollywood A-listers to sample the adrenaline-inducing attraction included actors Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard, as well as film producer Frank Marshall.

The experience features an elaborately themed "Raptor Encounter," where Velociraptors from *Jurassic World* startle guests in daring face-to-face encounters.

The attraction also boasts a new interactive "Dino Play" area

for children of all ages, as well as Costa Rican-inspired cuisine and cocktails served at the new Jurassic Cafe and tropical Isla Nu-bar.

Pictured top taking the first ride on Jurassic World - The Ride are: Film producer Frank Marshall, actress Bryce Dallas Howard, and actor Chris Pratt, and inset Chris Pratt attempts to get fresh with a plastic dinosaur.





#### **Tassie Action Plan**

**THE** Tasmanian Government has developed a Destination Action Plan for the West Tamar region to encourage visitors to the north of the State.

Partnering with Tourism
Northern Tasmania, the West
Tamar Council and the local
community, the plan aims to
unify the area's brand and
marketing, target seasonal
audiences and make the Tamar
River an icon destination.



#### Sun Island brochure

**SUN** Island Tours' 2020 Egypt, Jordan and Israel brochure is out now, with additional guaranteed departure tours and packages.

New in 2020 is the 20-day Best of Egypt, Israel & Jordan partially escorted tour, including a Nile Cruise and touring of the Pyramids of Giza, the Dead Sea and Petra.

Also available are tours and packages with accommodation in Bedouin Style Tent or Martian Domes in Wadi Rum, Jordan.

Clients will receive a 5% discount on select itineraries booked and paid by 31 Mar.

## **Cunard explorers**

**RANULPH** Fiennes will headline Cunard's speaker line up to kick off Queen Elizabeth's Alaska 2020 season.

Also joining will be Kenton Cool, one of the world's pre-eminent alpine and high-altitude climbers, who has summited Mount Everest 14 times.

# **Ecotourism cert**

**ECOTOURISM** Australia has launched a new online platform designed to make the process of achieving certification easier for tourism businesses.

Called mycertfication.eco, the platform streamlines the application process through simple click-through criteria and provides more detailed guidance for applicants.

It will allow businesses to benchmark their performance and, in the future, show them how they compare to industry best practice.

A joint business login is also available, allowing multiple staff to work on an application.

The portal is initially being rolled out for new applicants only.

#### EW's 2019 sellout

**EUROPEAN** Waterways has confirmed a sellout season for its luxury hotel barge, *Shannon Princess*, with more than half of the vessel's 2020 bookings already full.

Shannon Princess operates on the River Shannon in Ireland and promises a "deep dive" into Irish history, culture and food.

European Waterways is advising agents to book 2020 cruises as early as possible, with rates starting at €4,050 per person twin share (AU\$6,500).

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Monitor and analyse product profitability and growth through close communication and liaison with other departments and staff to build an effective link between reservation teams and the sales and marketing department.

Manage supplier relations to ensure profitability and suitable products are developed and maintained in the region.

Please send your cover letter and resume to: jobs@beyondtravel.com.au

# Cathay readies NDC

CATHAY Pacific is implementing Amadeus Altea NDC, to help it distribute and service new content and fares through an NDC connectivity across channels.

Amadeus Altea will allow Cathay Pacific to integrate its NDC content with the Amadeus Travel Platform and distribute new NDC standard content and fares to Amadeus seller network.

Once the connectivity between Altea NDC and the Amadeus Travel Platform is finalised, Amadeus will be able to automatically roll out this feature to all Altea NDC airline customers.

"New technology protocols such as NDC will enrich our customer's shopping experience and support our strategy to become a modern retailer," Head of Distribution Strategy Kenneth Lee said.





Book and deposif your clients any Rocky Mountaineer package before 31 August and be rewarded with \$100 TRIP dollars\*

\*For full terms and conditions please see www.qhv.com.au









# AVIS revs up new scholarship



**THE** 2019 AVIS travel agency scholarship was officially launched yesterday with a gathering in Sydney including key trade partners, media and former scholarship recipients.

A whopping \$35,000 in prize value is up for grabs in this year's scholarship including Business class flights with Qantas, business coaching from Right Path and an invitation to Cruise Line International Association Australasia's Cruise360 conference in Aug (*TD* yesterday).

AVIS Budget Group Director Commercial Pacific Ian Jones told *Travel Daily* yesterday that the business saw growth over the past year in many key markets and market sectors.

"Across our three markets, corporate, consumer and the travel industry, we've managed

to have a really good year in a challenging market and grow in the areas that we really wanted to grow," Jones said.

"We've seen some good inbound demand coming in from China, the UK and the US with each market varying in growth but on average we've seen double digit growth."

Jones indicated that domestic remained "challenging" from a leisure perspective but said "there's a few opportunities we're working on with our travel industry and airline partners to stimulate growth".

"In the back-half of this year we've got a number of new promotions we'll be trying for the first time," he said.

Jones is **pictured** centre with prior scholarship winners Robyn Sinfield and Jo Patton.

# **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 accompdates@traveldaily.com.au.



Following an US\$11 million renovation, the Kimpton Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco, has reopened, featuring updates to showcase its elaborate Gothic revival and renaissance-style architecture. Work began in 2018, with updates including custom

fabrics and upholstery, cranberry, bronze and pewter colours in the lobby, new bed frames, lounge chairs and sofa beds in guestrooms, Kohler bathroom fixtures and expansive showers in place of bathtubs.



Hotel Barriere Le Grand Hotel Dinard has reopened in Brittany after closing last northern summer to undergo a refurbishment. Rooms have been refurnished with new colours & the number of suites has been upped from one to four. A

Diane Barriere Spa has also been added to the hotel's wellness facilities.

# Agritourism pilot

THE last of six "Agritourism" pilot workshops was held yesterday in Premer, in New South Wales' northwest, in a move to expand producers' business into farm-based tourism.

The program is a joint partnership between the NSW Small Business Commission and Service NSW and has been conducted in the Liverpool Plains since Mar.

It will soon expand to include the Wollondilly Shire and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council local government areas.

#### Air NZ Grabaseat

AIR New Zealand's Grabaseat's sale started at midnight NZ time, with domestic and int'l deals being made available over the next 48 hours.

Deals include 1,000 NZ\$13 one-way flights to and from all of NZ's domestic ports and 500 int'l flights from NZ\$99 one-way, to destinations including Fiji, New Caledonia and the Gold Coast.

## **Quest franchisees**

EXPERIENCED hotel franchisee Brent Howard and young hotelier Josh Harkness have been appointed joint franchisees at Quest North Sydney, opening Oct.

Howard will own a majority share of the North Sydney apartment hotel and maintain his role as General Manager at Quest St Leonards, while Harkness will take on the role of GM at the new North Sydney location.

#### CZ investment

**CHINA** Southern Airlines will receive a state-backed windfall of CNY30b (AU\$6.2b), coming from three municipal government-owned investment companies.

Guangdong Hongjian
Investment Holding, Guangzhou
Urban Construction Investment
Group and Shenzhen Penghang
Equity Investment Fund will each
pour CNY10 billion into the stateowned airline.

The airline says the cash injection will be used to boost its core air transport business.





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## Biz insurance rising

**BUSINESS** travellers are fuelling a rise in spend on travel insurance, a market intelligence report reveals.

The SpendEdge Global Travel Insurance Industry - Procurement Market Intelligence Report forecast spending in the sector will grow by US\$8.6 billion between 2018 and 2023, on the back of increasing business traveller numbers.

The report found North America was the "leading region in the travel insurance market", followed by Asia Pacific.

"The availability of online booking channels in North America and APAC is resulting in the rise of business travellers from the corporate sector who are creating substantial demand for travel insurance policies, thereby driving the category spend momentum in these regions," the authors said.

## **Apologise Sir Dave!**

**COMMENTS** made by Sir David Attenborough about coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef have the potential to heap misery on the tourism industry in Far North Queensland, Federal MP Craig Kelly believes.

Speaking in the House of Rep yesterday, Kelly called on Attenborough to apologise for telling a British Parliamentary Committee, "Don't bother coming to the Great Barrier Reef, because it is stark white".

Kelly told the House Attenborough's comments were "reckless and misleading", saying, "today the reef remains in good shape" adding it was a great place for tourists to visit.

The comments are in contrast to UN organisation UNESCO, which recently met with partners to discuss ways to mitigate the impact of climate change on the

# **AFTA UPDATE**

from Jayson Westbury



GAME, set and match for NTIA 2019 with another magnificent year of celebration and reward across the

entire travel value chain.

Last Sat night was by far our biggest event ever and the support, excitement, kindred spirit and collaboration around the NTIAs was next level.

It is such a wonderful feeling to be able to bring together so many people from across the industry into one place and as I said in my welcome speech, "My hope for everyone in this room is that the year ahead will be a good one. The Australian economy is in good shape and it would seem to me that with the recent tax cuts, people will be more and more ready to travel and I have no doubt that everyone in this room can't wait to help make their dreams come true, help them form memories for life, spend time away with family and friends and enrich them in ways that just makes life more worth living."

AFTA also took the opportunity to bestow Honorary Life Membership upon Mike Thompson. Mike has been the longest serving Chairman of AFTA and has dedicated a great deal of his working life in support of AFTA and all that it stands for.

And again what I said on the night was "Tonight we bestow a Life membership upon Mike Thompson who has for decades been employed in the travel industry and in particular, in travel agency business in a range of roles, including at the most senior leadership level. He is a person of impeccable character, good humour, he is very well known and respected within the Australian agency community and across the entire travel supply chain, he holds the record as the longest serving Chairman of AFTA and he has given so much of his time well beyond that which he has been paid for, he is a great friend to AFTA, to me and to so many in this room. Please join me in celebrating by way of congratulations as we bestow Honorary Life Membership upon Mike Thompson".

To all the finalists who were involved - which included over 150 businesses and many more individuals - a big congratulations for making it to the awards and of course to the winners, of which there were more than 40, a heartfelt congratulations for your contribution and effort.

So there we have it folks, award season is over for another year and as ever we now start the planning process to bring to the industry NTIA 2020 – I can't wait!

# El Questro package

**EL QUESTRO** Homestead in the Kimberly and the Wild Bush Luxury's Bamurra Plains in the Top End are teaming up to offer an all-inclusive stay six, pay four Wild Frontiers of Northern Australia package.

Prices start from \$3.167ppts for travel between 01 Sep and 20 Oct, with the package seeing guests spend three nights at Bamurra Plains, before moving on to El Questro Homestead for the final three days.

# Groupon big sale

**ONLINE** discounter, Groupon, is offering an extra 30% off its range of already discounted deals, including hotel rooms and flights.

Deals include up to 38% off a five-night stay at the Grand Mirage Resort & Thalasso Bali, and a 58% discount on a onenight stay at Mercure Sydney.

**ONLINE** platform Upgradeus has been launched in Australiasia with the aim of breaking the "silent period" between booking a hotel room and check-in.

**Upgradeus in Aus** 

Guests open to spending a little more for a better room can log when and where they are staying, and Upgradeus will let the hotel know the guest would be interested in upgrade offers prior to check-in.

# Digital detox Japan

**HOSHINO** Resorts has launched a vear-round "Digital Detox" stay at its five Hoshinova hotels across Japan, allowing guests to hand in their digital devices at check-in.

The group says the program has been designed to combat stress and fatigue, while allowing guests to immerse themselves in cultural activities including swordsmanship and fishing.



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# More NTIA 2019 glitz and glamour

WHAT THE FROCK! Last Sat night's National Travel Industry Awards were clearly the excuse everyone needed to dress to the nines and clink champagne glasses in celebration of the industry's night of nights.

The revelry started early at a special VIP function for sponsors hosted for the first time by Nine Entertainment's Traveller brand which features in the Sydney Morning Herald and The Age publications.

AFTA's Chief Executive Jayson Westbury gave a convivial welcome to attendees before handing across the stage to newly appointed AFTA Chairman Tom Manwaring who thanked sponsors for their support of the

Also taking the stage at the VIP function was Nine Publishing's Head of Travel, Philippa Walker who spoke about the record year the Traveller brand had enjoyed and indicated that expansion was on the horizon for the popular media source of travel inspiration.

The VIP function was also an opportunity for *Travel Daily*'s own Jasmine O'Donoghue to get all the first impressions and anticipation from many of the finalists and soon to be crowned winners on camera ahead of the awards proceedings commencing.

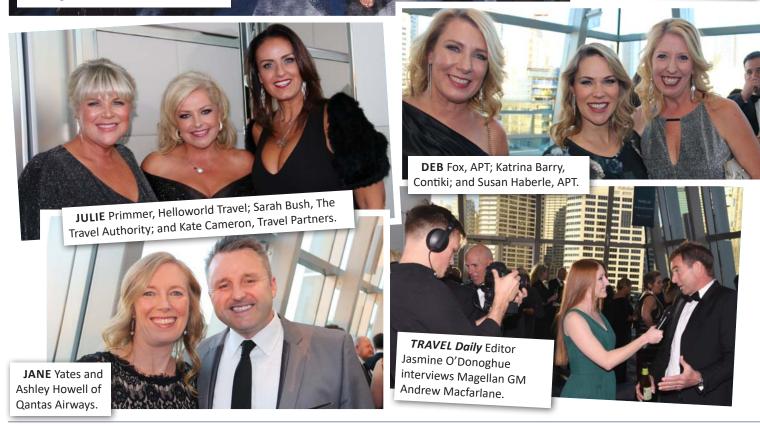
As the 1,300 attendees shuffled in, they were welcomed by a stunning display of dancers and stilt walkers courtesy of South African Tourism.



Wednesday 24th July 2019







VIPS gathered ahead of the awards.



# Korean Air gets hands dirty



**KOREAN** Air staff recently participated in a home building project in Silay in the Philippines.

The efforts were under a partnership with Habitat for Humanity Philippines as part of the carrier's global corporate social responsibility efforts.

Habitat for Humanity is a local non-profit organisation providing a place to live for the homeless, with many of Silay's residents having lost their homes to floods or earthquakes in the natural

### Lux Esc research

**NEW** research from Luxury Escapes has revealed a shocker -Australians aren't crazy about the travel booking process.

Over half (56%) of the nation finds the process stressful, and one in 10 admitted to feeling annoyed and inconvenienced during holiday planning.

Although 85% of Australians admit to being the one responsible for booking a holiday, 17% reveal this responsibility is unwanted.

disaster-prone area.

A total of 10 employees from the Manila office took part in construction work, carrying materials, cementing and painting walls alongside skilled construction workers.

Pictured are the employees from the Manila office celebrating their efforts.

# JetBlue figures up

JETBLUE has seen its revenue per available seat mile (RASM) increase 3.1% year-over-year in second quarter 2019, the airline has reported.

The carrier also noted operating expenses per available seat mile have increased 1.8%, with both numbers landing on the positive side of original forecasts, which were 1% to 4% and 1.5% to 3.5% respectively.

JetBlue expects RASM to grow between 0.5% and 3.5% for the third quarter 2019 compared to the same period in 2018, with capacity also expected to increase between 3% and 5%.

# mosocco This month Gate 1 Travel is joining Travel Daily to give agents the chance to win a trip to Morocco for two. The 11-night Kaleidoscope of Morocco trip takes in ancient wonders such as the UNESCO-listed Roman ruins of Volubilis, the ancient desert city of Ait Benhaddou, the imperial city of Fez and the bustling medina of Marrakesh. Click here for more trip details. To win you need to correctly answer one question each week in July, and at the end of the month tell us in 25 words or less why you should be the person to win this prize. Send your answers to gate 1@traveldaily.com.au.

WIN A TRIP TO

# Skal Aug lunch

**SKAL** International is hosting a networking lunch on 08 Aug at Heirloom at Fraser Suites in East

Skal members wishing to attend will pay \$55 and guests \$69, with the price including a two-course lunch with a drink on arrival.

For more information and to book, CLICK HERE.

# **Hyatt Colorado**

**HYATT** Hotels Corporation will open Colorado's first Thompson Hotel, with Thompson Denver expected to open in 2021.

The project recently broke ground in the city's LoDo (Lower Downtown) neighbourhood, known for its history and nightlife, with the hotel to be located a short walk from Denver Union Station.

The project is to be developed by T2 Hospitality.

#### SFO new terminal

SAN Francisco International Airport has named its renovated Terminal 1 after the late Harvey Milk, making it the first airport terminal to be named after a LGBTQ+ leader.

The US\$2.4 billion renovation features floor-to-ceiling transition windows and nine new gates, as well as an exhibit to Milk, the first openly gay elected official in California's history, who was assassinated in 1978.

#### Mt Bromo closed

THE crater rim of Java's Mount Bromo is temporarily closed to visitors due to recent seismic activity at the volcano.

Visitors are still able to visit the viewpoint at Penanjakan, and vehicles can drive down to the parking area at the foot of the volcano, however travellers will not be permitted any further.

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Afterward join us for drinks and canapes, chat to our experienced team and meet like-minded travellers.

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#### **MELBOURNE**

Wednesday 21 August

Time: From 3pm Venue: The Royce Hotel, Melbourne

**ORDER TICKETS** 

#### SYDNEY SOUTH

Wednesday 28 August

Time: From 5pm Venue: St George's Motor Boat Club, Sans Souci

ORDER TICKETS

### **SYDNEY CBD**

Thursday 29 August

Time: From 3pm Venue: The Langham Hotel,

Sydney

ORDER TICKETS

#### **BRISBANE**

Tuesday 17 September

Time: From 3pm Venue: Stamford Plaza, Brisbane

**ORDER TICKETS** 

#### **PERTH**

Sunday 22 September

Time: From 10am Venue: Fraser's at Kings Park

\*Morning tea included
ORDER TICKETS

#### **CANBERRA**

**Tueday 1 October** 

Time: From 5pm Venue: Hotel Realm, Canberra

**ORDER TICKETS** 



#### **ADELAIDE**

Saturday 12 October

Time: From 10am Venue: Stamford Plaza \*Morning tea included

ORDER TICKETS



\*Dedicated information seminars available only at our Melbourne, Sydney CBD and Brisbane showcase events. Morning tea only will be served at our Perth and Adelaide functions.

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Corporate Leisure-2 years retail exp, Sabre & Tramada preferred, Salary \$65K+Super.

For more information please call Paul on (02) 9119 8744 or click APPLY now.

#### **BDM Manager | Work own hours!**

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For more information please call Sarah on (08) 6365 4313 or click APPLY now.

#### **Luxury Groups Travel Consultant**

MEL, Up to \$60k DOE + Super, Ref: 2258AB1

Live your best work life (Mon-Fri only) every day, surrounded by people who share your passion for luxury travel. Do you thrive on high customer service and have strong airfare/product knowledge? We're on the hunt for a Groups consultant (min 2 years in retail or wholesale) with Africa product knowledge being advantageous. You'll be rewarded with a lucrative salary, ongoing training, and getting your weekends back. Interested? APPLY NOW for the beginning of your new adventure!

For more information please call Anisha on (03) 9988 0616 or click APPLY now.

#### **Luxury Travel Consultant**

#### Sunshine Coast, High Salary, Ref: 4121MT1

Do you want to work in an award winning travel agency, with specialised, luxury products? Our client is looking for an experienced travel consultant to join their exclusive ranks. Our client offer bespoke and unique luxury itineraries and products ranging from short breaks to multi city destinations. A love and passion for travel is essential, must have at least 3 years' experience. A COMPETITVE SALARY \$40k + commission + super and close to the beach. If you're interested PLEASE APPLY NOW!

For more information please call Mark on (07) 3123 6107 or click APPLY now.

#### **Pricing Analyst**

Sydney CBD, Competitive Salary, Ref: 4132SJ2

Pricing Analyst position available thin this world-leading Cruise Operator as they expand their operations within the Australian market. This is a varied role encompassing a range of duties and interactions between various departments with the view to improve the performance of their overall operations and ensure accurate pricing strategies are being implemented. You will be responsible for developing pricing architecture proposals as well as assisting product with coordinating promotions.

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

#### **PR, Communication & Promotions Executive**

Sydney CBD, Competitive Salary, Ref: 7777AJ4

Utilise your creative background and successful experience within PR and Communications in order to drive visitor numbers to a well-known and widely visited International Tourism Destination. You will be in charge of developing and implementing a comprehensive publicity, communications and promotions programme in order to build brand awareness and contribute to visitor growth. You will have plenty of support at hand while also having the flexibility to make the role your own.

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

#### **Wholesale Travel | Accounts**

BNE, Salary + Travel Perks, Ref: 503723AW1

The Wholesale Accounts team member is responsible for vendor reconciliation and resolution of variances. This involves but is not limited to, account reconciliation; identifying invoicing discrepancies and raising and responding to gueries with vendors and sales consultants. If you thrives on the challenge of balancing a high transaction volume with delivering exceptional customer service -then this role is for you! Work in Accounts for an international Wholesale Travel company! APPLY NOW!

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## **Perth**

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Snr Partnerships & Activation Associate

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