# Travel Daily First with the news Tuesday 26th March 2019







# **Qantas plots PER growth**

LAST year's debut of Qantas non-stop services between Perth and London has facilitated a \$101 million increase in visitor spending, with QF CEO Alan Joyce saying the success of the service could see the carrier "turn Perth into a hub between Australia and more parts of Europe".

A new Deloitte Access Economics report commissioned by Qantas cites the benefits of the new 787 route a year after its debut, but Joyce noted that "how much we grow the opportunity from here depends on all stakeholders working together".

The report found the service had "directly and indirectly" supported the creation of 601 jobs, particularly in tourism and hospitality, and had also helped drive over one million visitor nights spent in Western Australia.

Today's issue of TD

**Travel Daily** today has nine pages of news and photos, including a photo page for **Savenio**, plus full pages from:

- TMS Talent
- Bentours

More than 70% of international visitors on the flights had chosen to stop over in Perth, while Deloitte claimed global interest in the long-haul flight had generated more than \$100 million in free publicity "including significant exposure for WA as a destination".

Just under 60% of passengers on the London-Perth leg were from Australia, while UK residents made up the majority of overseas passengers.

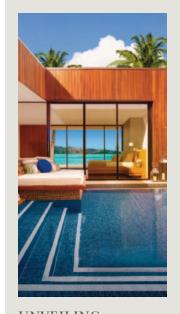
On the outbound service, 25% of Australian passengers were from Melbourne, 7% from Sydney, 6% from Brisbane and 4% from Adelaide, Joyce said.

"Almost every flight is full and [the route] turned a profit almost immediately," he enthused.

The full report is online at qantasnewsroom.com.au.

#### **Bentours incentive**

AGENTS can go into a draw to win a South American voyage with Hurtigruten by booking any Hurtigruten expedition cruise or full Norwegian coastal voyage with Bentours by the end of Marsee the back page for details.

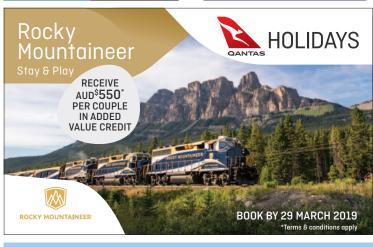


UNVEILING
HAYMAN ISLAND BY
INTERCONTINENTAL.

Opening 1 July 2019, bookings now available. To learn more visit intercontinental.com/hayman\_island

Live the InterContinental life.





NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



FLY FROM
\$899\* RETURN
TO EUROPE

Conditions apply

LAST DAYS

**INSIGHT VACATIONS** 

The Art of Travelling in Style

C Lindblad Expeditions



**NATURAL FOCUS** 

**OUR 2019/20** 

SOUTH AMERICA BROCHURE IS

**OUT NOW!** 

WE ARE THE EXPERTS

IN TAILOR MADE

SAFARIS AND TOURS.

Contact

Natural Focus Safaris

on 1300 363 302

email info@awsnfs.com

www.naturalfocussafaris.com.au

Order brochures:

www.tifs.com.au

Tuesday 26th March 2019



# Savenio's first shopfront

THE Savenio luxury home-based agent network is expanding into the high street, this month formally opening its first "Savenio Travel Hub" in the Victorian regional city of Ballarat.

The business is being operated by Craig Stepnell, whose LinkedIn profile indicates he was previously with Flight Centre Travel Group for 14 years & most recently as manager of Stepnell & Turner Travel Associates.

Savenio founder David Brandon told *TD* he expected the new venture to be the first of many Savenio Travel Hubs, which will also potentially have a strong focus on the cruise market.

He said Savenio's model, where members receive 100% of base commissions, was unique in the market, with the shopfront option complementing the group's existing network of homebased luxury "independent travel designers" across the country.

"Some agents want to work in an environment out of home," he said, with the hub providing a new option for consultants to join and work together with likeminded colleagues.

"It gives them the independence to do whatever they want to do," Brandon said, noting that the agents have the freedom to sell whatever products they wish, as long as they are from an ATASaccredited supplier.

Savenio charges its members a modest monthly fee, and Brandon said he had a number of prospective Savenio Travel Hubs and Cruise Hubs in the pipeline.

The group is a member of Virtuoso and has a number of other luxury brand affiliations.

## NTIA voting open

**VOTES** for this year's National Travel Industry Awards can now be cast, with AFTA opening up the online polling platform following the release of the full list of nominations (*TD* yesterday).

This year there is just one voting form for nine supplier categories covering the airline, cruise, car rental, tourist office, hotel and agency support awards.

Click to vote in NTIA







SAVE UP TO \$1,000 PER CABIN





Discover the exotic creatures that inhabit — Madagascar in the March issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read travelBulletin



#### Pherous red-faced

**CORPORATE** Travel

Management CEO Jamie Pherous this morning promised to lodge outstanding paperwork and appropriate fees with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, after an Australian Financial Review report which revealed that the registration of his personal investment company Pherous Holdings Pty Ltd, had lapsed.

Pherous Holdings, of which the CTM chief is the sole director and shareholder, is the owner of his \$500m-odd stake in Corporate Travel Management, meaning that technically ASIC is now the major shareholder in the company.

It appears that address details for the personal investment company were not updated with ASIC when Corporate Travel Management moved to new offices in Brisbane, meaning renewal notices for the \$262 annual fee went astray.

# **A4ANZ** slams report

AIRLINE industry body, Airlines for Australia and New Zealand (A4ANZ) believes the Airports' Inquiry needs an urgent reset after the publication of an initial draft report (*TD* 06 Feb).

A4ANZ claimed the Productivity Commission's draft *Economic Regulation of Airports* report was significantly flawed, failing to acknowledge the shortcomings of the current regime.

"It appears that this Airports' Inquiry needs an urgent reset to avoid the final report becoming a product of the same flawed approach that befell the Draft: status quo inertia," A4ANZ said.

"The Productivity Commission is charged with 'providing quality, independent advice and information to governments, and on the communication of ideas and analysis.'

"Our contention is that their approach to taking account of and appropriately assessing the

information before it, along with the credibility and expertise of those providing that information, falls short of what Australians should expect of this institution.

"Instead, their conclusions left many experts scratching their heads, and to one correspondent describing the draft report as 'the equal worst' report by the Productivity Commission in the past 25 years, which 'failed to learn from history'."

A4ANZ claimed the Productivity Commission draft report showed a status quo bias in failing to consider expert opinions.

"The Australian Government cannot afford to leave airport powers unconstrained by the Productivity Commission baulking at the suggestion of sensible, minor reforms," it said.

Read A4ANZ's response **HERE**.

## Viking investigation

**NORWEGIAN** authorities are conducting an investigation to establish why Viking Cruises' Viking Sky set sail despite severe weather warnings (*TD* yesterday).

Norway's Accident Investigations Board launched the investigation, because of the "high risk which the ship, its passengers and crew were exposed to".

Viking Sky was forced to make a Mayday call after suffering engine problems during a storm on Sat afternoon, which saw authorities launch a major rescue operation.



## Window Seat

**BRITISH** Airways is blaming a "scheduling error" after a London flight bound for Dusseldorf in Germany ended up landing in Scotland instead.

The BBC reported that the passengers only realised they had flown in a completely wrong direction when the crew announced "Welcome to Edinburgh" as the flight arrived.

BA said the CityFlyer service had been operated on its behalf as a wet lease by charter firm WDL, with the bemused pilot apparently asking for a show of hands after landing to see how many of those on board had expected to land in Germany.

The incorrect flight plan had apparently been filed, and after the paperwork was corrected flight BA3271 took off again from the Scottish capital, eventually arriving in Dusseldorf more than five hours late.

## Rail Europe tool

RAIL Europe will next month launch a new tool called the "Retrievable Basket" in its online booking portal.

The function will locate and discard expired fares when an agent makes a search on a saved booking, so that only the best available fares will show.

It is an addition to Rail Europe's portal which launched last year (**TD** 19 Nov).



# Mort your way, EVERY DAY

You know how you work best and what it takes to be a success. As a Travel Adviser for Travel Associates, you run your day and your client relationships to suit your own unique style.

Join us and take advantage of the benefits you deserve.



TRAVEL ASSOCIATES

Our experience counts.

FIND OUT MORE



# Ethiopian CEO speaks out

**ETHIOPIAN** Airlines Group CEO Tewolde GebreMariam has released an official statement following the tragic accident of flight 302 on 10 Mar (TD 11 Mar), confirming the carrier will "pledge to work with Boeing and our colleagues in all the airlines to make air travel even safer".

The statement, which features comments by GebreMariam on the heartbreak of the families involved and how the airline "carries a torch for the Ethiopian brand around the world", reaffirmed the carrier's commitment to uncovering the truth behind the accident and its continued faith in the aircraft manufacturer.

"Let me be clear: Ethiopian Airlines believes in Boeing," GebreMariam said.

"They have been a partner of ours for many years, more than two-thirds of our fleet is Boeing... despite the tragedy, Boeing and Ethiopian Airlines will continue to be linked well into the future."

GebreMariam affirmed that its pilots were all trained on the MAX 8 aircraft, with the GM stating that it "went beyond" the required training.

"Administration called for computer-based training, but we went beyond that...after the Lion Air accident in Oct, our pilots who fly the Boeing 737 MAX 8 were fully trained on the service bulletin issued by Boeing and the Emergency Airworthiness Directive issued by the USA FAA,"

"We are the only airline in Africa among the very few in the world with the B-737 MAX full flight simulator...our pilots who fly the new model were trained on all appropriate simulators."

Investigations into the crash continue.

## **Accor acquisition**

ACCOR will welcome 21c Museum Hotels into its MGallery Hotel Collection on 01 Apr 2019, marking the brand's official entry into North America (TD 01 Aug

The global network of more than 100 boutique hotels will be renamed to 21c Museum Hotels - MGallery, and will combine the 21c brand's "distinctive spirit and pioneering vision" with MGallery's "rich experiences and local discovery".

"The official North American introduction of the MGallery brand marks the continued expansion of our lifestyle 'boutique' footprint," said Chris Cahill, Deputy CEO, Accor.

#### **Ovation** maiden

**ROYAL** Caribbean's *Ovation of* the Seas has made its maiden call to Port Vila, marking an important milestone for the cruise line in the South Pacific region.

The cruise line said the arrival of the ship aims to "future-proof the growth of cruise tourism" in the region, while boosting the economic benefits for Vanuatu.

RCI's 2020/21 season will see the cruise line bring three ships to Vanuatu with over 40 calls to Mystery Island and Port Vila.

# SUPER 🧲 RUGBY

## **SUPER RUGBY R6 WINNER**

Congratulations

#### **ALANA TOWERS**

from Scenic

Alana is the top point scorer for Round 6 of Travel Daily's Super Rugby footy tipping competition. She's 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



## Immerse yourself in Malta

In the vibrant capital Valletta, your customers can indulge in the best of Maltese cuisine, revisit history in the medieval city of Mdina, or explore the grottos, caves, cliffs, and lagoons located throughout the islands. With over 300 days of sunshine, it is always a good time to

Book by 31 March 2019 for travel until 31 December 2019\*.

Fares per person from:

**Economy Class Business Class** 





\* Offer valid until 31 March 2019, unless sold out prior. Fares quoted above are for departures from Perth and are the lowest adult return prices per person including taxes, fees, and airport charges. Economy Class fares are valid for departures between 1 September – 20 September 2019, and 14 October – 28 November 2019. Business Class fares are valid for departures between 4 June – 31 December 2019. Other sale dates may be available. Other sale fares are available from Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, and Adelaide. Fares may vary due to currency or tax fluctuations. Seasonal and weekend surcharges may apply. For all other terms and conditions please review at time of booking. Flights to Malta start 4 June 2019.



#### Seabourn on sale

SEABOURN kicked off a twoweek sale yesterday offering savings and amenities on select 2019 and 2020 voyages.

This includes complimentary veranda suite category upgrades, a 15% saving for combination cruise bookings and single supplements starting at \$15 above the standard double occupancy fares.

Sale ends 08 Apr, for more information CLICK HERE.

## **Jet Airways bailout**

THE board of directors at struggling carrier Jet Airways has met "to restore normalcy to its level of operations" as part of a new Resolution Plan.

Among the urgent measures approved is the conversion of lenders' debt into equity by allowing an Indian consortium led by the State Bank of India to become majority shareholders.

Jet Airways has also seen several resignations from its board.

## Virgin's new push

VIRGIN Australia has launched a new marketing campaign promoting extra leg room, inflight wi-fi and inclusive fares.

The campaign was created by DDB and uses humour to promote the onboard features.

"We loved working with DDB... to draw inspiration from the charming moments in our guests' lives, and connect these to our easy, smile-inducing Virgin experience," said Virgin Australia Marketing Director Michael Nearhos.

## Lombok \$1 stays

FIVE-STAR resort Wyndham Sundancer Lombok is celebrating new AirAsia direct flights from Perth to Lombok by offering guests the opportunity to stay for one night for only \$1.

The deal is available for guests staying between 09 to 30 Jun for bookings of three nights or more.

For further information on the special, email **HERE**.

# Travel Associates talk up cruise



TRAVEL Associates' WA division recently hosted a networking event that showcased luxury cruising to clients at the Perth Convention Centre.

Cruise partners in attendance at the WA showcase included luxury cruise lines APT, Azamara Club Cruises, Lindblad Expeditions. Oceania, Seabourn, Silversea, Viking and Windstar.

"We design our luxury cruise showcases to inspire and inform our clients in a relaxed setting, and the result was some excellent feedback from our guests," said Regional General Manager of Travel Associates, Western Australia and South Australia, Andrew Boyce.

Guests were welcomed by a string quartet, drinks and canapes before cruise reps presented the attractions on board their luxury cruise ships.

The event also saw one attendee walk away with a \$2,000 Silversea cruise credit prize.

Pictured: Travel Associates Regional General Manager Western Australia and South Australia Andrew Boyce; the lucky Silversea prize winner Lynette; Rebeka Belcher, Silversea BDM WA; and Christine Gardiner, Business Development Manager Silversea Expeditions.

#### Boeing calms fears

**BOEING** is this week hosting a special information session in Seattle, inviting key pilots, regulators and technical experts to discuss updates to its 737 MAX aircraft which are grounded in the wake of the two recent Lion Air and Ethiopian Airways crashes.

The manufacturer said the move was part of its "ongoing effort to share more details about our plan for supporting the safe return of the 737 MAX to commercial service".



## PR Communications & Promotions Executive -Australia & New Zealand (Permanent and Full-time based in Sydney)

Through the development and implementation of a comprehensive publicity, communications and promotions programme, the jobholder will play a pivotal role in building and growing brand awareness of the island of Ireland. By maximising all publicity media channels and delivering a programme of sponsorship activities the jobholder will contribute to visitor growth to the Island from Australia and New Zealand in line with Tourism Ireland's strategic objectives and agreed targets.

Completed applications should be forwarded to Jennie Devlin at talent@tourismireland.com

Please download the application supporting document and the role profile via this link: https://www.tourismireland.com/About-Us/ Careers

Screening is by CV along with the attached application supporting

CLOSING DATE for receipt of applications is 12:00 (GMT) on Monday, 1st April 2019.

Late applications will not be accepted. Please note that all applicants must be eligible to work in Australia to apply for this position.

Salary Scale is AUD\$65,152 - AUD\$80,422 (Grade 4).



#### Accounts assistant with strong Tramada and Excel skills

- · Multi task between jobs and have good time management
- · Bright bubbly personality
- · Works well within a small Team
- · Takes ownership
- · Good excel skills
- Current Tramada Experience
- · Have a passion for excellence with a strong attention to detail and accuracy
- · Works well in a team environment

This role is a great opportunity to join a company who puts its employees before its clients.

Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm - Immediate start.

Please email your CV through to Rita O'Dea ritao@edentravel.com.au



## **USA** heads to Canberra



REPRESENTATIVES from Los Angeles Tourism, Santa Monica Travel & Tourism and Universal Studios Hollywood recently headed down under to present at a Canberra Agent Training session, which took place in the capital city on 13 Mar.

The event saw 30 travel agents convene to hear LA Tourism's Travel Trade Manager - Australia and NZ, Kathleen Finneran

## Cycling in Colombia

**EXODUS** Travel has released new sale fares on its 13-day Cycling Colombia tour departing 09 Nov, with prices starting from \$4,915 per person.

The itinerary includes all accommodation, transport, tour leader, bikes and vehicle support, all listed activities, breakfast daily, and 11 dinners.

For more info, CLICK HERE.

provide an update on the city's hotels, new attractions, as well as an overview of the brand's online training tool, the LA Insider training program.

Agents were also given an update on LAX's recent US\$14 billion redevelopment.

**Pictured**: Agents enjoying the event in Canberra.

#### Riviera 73% boost

RIVIERA Travel has experienced a 73% jump in Australian bookings across its range of European river cruises ahead of the launch of its 2020 program.

The company, which is set to release two new "five-star" river ships in Apr, has also introduced two new trips, including the seven-night "Seine, Paris and Normandy", and seven-night "Vienna, Bohemia & Treasures of the Danube" - more info HERE.

## Pax up, trips down

**DOMESTIC** passenger traffic experienced a 0.1% increase in Jan compared with the same period in 2018, with 5.29 million people flying on local carriers over the month according to the latest data from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport & Regional Economics.

A total of 55,437 domestic flights took to the skies during the month, down 0.2% compared with Jan 2018.

Melbourne to Sydney was marked as the busiest route for the month with 753,124 passengers, up 1.4%, while the Brisbane to Sydney route ranked second with 373,527 pax, up 2.5% compared with the previous corresponding period.

## Dandenong signing

#### INTERCONTINENTAL

Hotels Group's Holiday Inn & Suites brand is set to land in Melbourne's south-east suburb of Dandenong, following a deal for a new property.

The 160-room Holiday Inn & Suites Dandenong will span 11 floors when it opens in 2021, offering guests all-day dining and a bar, gym, & conference facilities.

## Aussies in Cali push

LOS Angeles Tourism and San Francisco Travel have joined forces with Visit California and Flight Centre in a new campaign designed to attract Australian tourists to the US gateway cities.

The "2 Aussies in Cali" four-part comedy travel series features comedian Rhys Nicolson and travel influencer Tara Whiteman, with the pair documenting their adventures in the two cities.

The series will roll out weekly from today via a dedicated microsite - **CLICK HERE** to view.

## Regent's new BDMs

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises and Oceania Cruises have appointed Rebecca Scaffidi and Carlos Rodrigues to their Business Development teams.

Scaffidi will operate as a key contact in the WA and NT markets, while Rodrigues will act as a temporary Business Development Executive across accounts in NSW and ACT.

Both bring over a decade of industry knowledge to the roles.



This week *Travel Daily* & Railbookers have teamed up to give away a \$50 gift card of your choice each day.

Yankee Leisure Group offers a portfolio of fully customisable rail travel experiences to destinations throughout the world, with its brands including Amtrak Vacations, Railbookers, and VIA Rail Vacations by Railbookers. Agents can book in AUD, earn excellent commission, and book two years ahead with no currency fluctuation risk. Visit www.railbookers.com.au or www.amtrakvacations.com.au and order a brochure today.

To win, be the first agent to send the correct answer to the question

How far in advance can you book Railbookers packages?

to railbookers@traveldaily.com.au

Call Railbookers' whistle blowers for a clue on 1300 938 534

railbookers





# **AAT pledges rural support**



**AAT** Kings has offered its support to bushfire affected farmers in Tasmania, making a \$1,000 donation to not-for-profit business Rural Alive & Well.

The organisation, which aims to help individuals, families, and the community through mental health issues, has a focus on suicide prevention and provides outreach support to rural Tasmania through a range of wellbeing initiatives.

"It is a business priority at AAT

## **Bonvoy additions**

**MARRIOTT** International has revealed new benefits for its Marriott Bonvoy Moments prog.

Members now have access to Hong Kong Sevens and Formula 1 China Grand Prix tickets, as well as the chance to meet with singer Gwen Stefani, & the opportunity to train with former table tennis Olympian Wan Nan - more HERE.

Kings to ensure we're giving back and sustaining every place we go and supporting our rural and regional tourist economy," said Jody Grossfeldt, GM, Guided Holidays & Inspiring Journeys.

"Our industry has a real role to play to assist these communities that give so much to us."

Pictured: AAT Kings pledges its support to Tasmanian farmers.

## Avis one-way rental

**CAR** rental company Avis Australia has launched a new plan that offers one-way vehicle rentals to customers travelling between Perth and Exmouth.

The deal is available for a trial period between 01 Apr and 31 Oct, with customers paying a \$250 relocation fee on the Perth and Exmouth route, and \$150 if driving Exmouth to Perth.

For more information on the deal, CLICK HERE.

## **AFTA UPDATE**

from Jayson Westbury



**AUSTRALIA** and more correctly the people of the state of NSW have elected the first female Liberal

Premier in the nation's history this past weekend (Sat 23 Mar) in the Hon. Premier Gladys Berejiklian, and in fact have returned a Liberal-National Party Coalition Government to power for an historic third term.

This will mean NSW will have been under Coalition control for 12 years when the next state election comes around in 2023.

At the time of writing this Travel Daily column it has just been confirmed that the Premier will be able to govern with a majority in the lower house of the NSW Parliament.

Despite some seats remaining in the balance, Ms Berejiklian is undoubtedly the Premier in her own right and will be able to form government.

There has been much said about this state campaign over the past few months and Labor were definitely looking like a good chance to win.

In fact, while the Coalition has won, it is a just over the line result and Labor must be commended for having executed a strong plan over the past few months.

As with all things politics, the next few weeks and months will remain very interesting, particularly with the resignation of the Hon. Michael Daley as opposition leader.

He will eventually be replaced as the opposition leader, but curiously not until after the Federal Election, under an official ALP edict announced yesterday.

On that front, now that I am

in full political mode, odds are shortening for a Federal election perhaps as early as 11 May, but we will all have to wait a bit longer to see the Prime Minister make this announcement.

The first half of 2019 is going to continue to be a period of political back and forth and as Canberra now puts its back into preparing the Budget, which will be handed down a month earlier than normal on 02 Apr.

My hope continues to be that consumer confidence stays strong over these next few months as this is the key driver to people travelling.

What will be interesting now that the NSW election has been concluded is how fast we see the Federal campaign ramp up, even without an official date.

There are some really different policy positions being taken by the two major parties and we will have to watch and see how the electorate responds now they have clear air to make the case.

We will be in election mode more and more over the coming weeks and once the budget is done and dusted, which should include some nice voter candy from both sides, we can just hope that the electorate decides and makes one or the other the government with a majority.

It is impossible to govern a country without this - we have been in that place too many times and in fact are in minority government right now as Prime Minister Morrison does not enjoy a majority in the House of Representatives.

I guess the master stroke is that the Government is only going to sit for a few days over the budget and the rest of the time is in campaign full steam ahead.

Great political watching to come, stay tuned.

## **Category 19: Best Airline International – On-Line**

ANA would really appreciate your support

- 5-Star Airline by Skytrax (6 consecutive years)
- World's Best Airline Cabin Cleanliness 2018 by Skytrax
- . Best Airline Staff in Asia 2018 by Skytrax
- 2018 Airline Of The Year by Air Transport World





Inspiration of JAPAN A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER



# Savenio Ballarat opens for business

THIS month, Savenio opened its first Victorian storefront in the city of Ballarat, housed in a beautiful period building right near Lake Wendouree.

Travel Daily Tuesday 26th March 2019

Savenio Ballarat's Craig Stepnell said he planned to make his new business the leading agency for luxury travel in the region.

Fellow luxury advisor Brent Hevey has joined Stepnell in the new store, where they now enjoy the freedom and benefits of Savenio's independent network.

"I was really surprised to discover just how affordable and easy it was to run my business through Savenio, and ultimately that will be more beneficial to my clients too," Stepnell said.

"This is an exciting move as the Savenio network offers us a reputable and respected brand to operate under and we were able to adapt their 'home operator' model to build a storefront space that suits our vision and client needs," he explained.

"Under Savenio, we are able to offer our clients the extra benefits of Virtuoso, Hyatt Prive and Belmond Bellini amongst many others, and the flexibility of choice in product, while we'll have total business autonomy and a fantastic, unrivalled commission structure."

"This is a great opportunity to grow our individual businesses and to define our brand as the leading agency for luxury travel in Ballarat and beyond."

To become an independent Savenio affiliate or to talk about setting up your own Savenio storefront, contact Craig (craig.stepnell@savenio.com.au or 0402 236 607) or Savenio MD David Brandon (david@savenio.com.au or 0429 831 400).







#### **ADVISORS** Brent Hevey and Craig Stepnell outside the new

Savenio Ballarat.













# **Emirates dons Arsenal livery**



## **MONEY**

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

#### AU\$1 = U\$0.708

TRAVELLERS to Europe, the UK, US and Japan will get more bang for their buck with the AUD strengthened against the major currencies overnight.

Announcements from regional central banks, and a speech tomorrow from Reserve Bank of Australia Assistant Governor Christopher Kent could have an impact on exchange rates, while tonight's US housing data will also be worth watching. Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.708
UK	£0.536
NZ	\$1.021
Euro	€0.626
Japan	¥78.11
Thailand	ß22.24
China	¥4.717
South Africa	10.093
Canada	\$0.945
Crude oil	US\$67.03

**GLOBETROTTING** Gunners fans travelling with Emirates could now board an A380 sporting their club's colours.

One of Emirates' A380s now features a montage of Arsenal stars, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Mesut Ozil, Lucas Torreira, Alexandre Lacazette and Henrikh Mkhitaryan, alongside the club crest.

The club's whole Arsenal squad travelled on the specially branded plane (pictured above), as they flew to Dubai to face Al Nasr Sports Club for the official inauguration of the Al Maktoum Stadium.

Fans travelling en route to and from London Heathrow, Paris, Amsterdam, Bangkok and Hong Kong, could find themselves onboard the plane.

Last year Emirates signed a five-year extension to its existing sponsorship of the north London club, which will ensure the airline's branding will feature prominently on Arsenal jerseys until the end of the 2023-24



# JINGLE YOUR WAY TO LA

Delta Air Lines has partnered with *Travel Daily* to give agents the chance to win flights from Sydney to LAX in Delta's Premium Select cabin.

Delta launches the refurbished B777 in April on the daily Sydney-Los Angeles route. Help them sell the new Delta One and Delta Premium Select cabins - and you could win return tickets to LA!

To enter, come up with a jingle (max 200 words) about the new cabins and the Delta experience. You must include the following words; 'suite', 'daily', 'bed' and 'WiFi'.

Get creative for your chance to experience the Delta Premium Select cabin. CLICK HERE for some more information about Delta's new cabins. Send entries to delta@traveldaily.com.au

#### Mantra on track

MANTRA is taking bookings for its new 214-room hotel in Epping, Melbourne, which is on track and expected to be operational in May.

The \$80 million development will offer a selection of hotel rooms, one-bedroom apartments and two-bedroom interconnecting apartments.

An opening special is available from \$179 per night.

#### Scenic SE Asia deal

**SCENIC** is providing offers on two of its SE Asia itineraries.

The 18-day Journey along the Mekong, Ho Chi Minh City to Luang Prabang cruise is available from \$10,695pp - CLICK HERE.

The 14-day Mystical Irrawaddy, Mandalay to Yangon is priced from \$9,395pp - CLICK HERE.

## P&O's Big Laugh

**P&O** Cruises is gearing up for its biggest ever comedy season, with 38 dedicated comedy cruises in 2019.

The highlight will be the cruise line's second Big Laugh cruise, which will feature 13 big-name comedians including Tom Gleeson, Dave Hughes and Mel Buttle.

## Vivid night climb

**BRIDGECLIMB** Sydney will be giving teams of climbers the opportunity to see Vivid Sydney from a unique vantage point.

From 24 May to 15 Jun Bridgeclimb will be taking teams of up to 14 climbers to the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge to take in the dazzling lightshow below.

Find out more HERE.

#### LOOKING FOR A SPECIFIC INDUSTRY SUPPLIER?

CLICK HERE FOR THE 2019 AFTA TRAVEL PAGES SUPPLIER DIRECTORY



Travel Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Produced each weekday since 1994. Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief and Publisher - Bruce Piper Editor – Jasmine O'Donoghue

Contributors - Nicholas O'Donoghue, Adam Bishop, Sarah Fairburn, Anastasia Prikhodko, Jenny Piper, Christian Schweitzer info@traveldaily.com.au

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi and Lisa Martin

advertising@traveldaily.com.au

**BUSINESS MANAGER** Jenny Piper accounts@traveldaily.com.au Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Travel Daily operates by paid subscription to people within the travel industry - sign up at www.traveldailv.com.au.



**Pharmacy** 

Travel Daily is a publication of TDaily Pty Ltd ABN 34 108 508 765. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of Travel Daily no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.



## Sales Manager Events - Sydney \$65K to \$70K + super + bonus

Manage the wedding sales of a luxury venue in one of Sydney's most iconic locations. Competitive salary, huge potential for career progression and the opportunity to get into the events industry. Role based in the Eastern Suburbs. Call Chloe or Click HERE

## Senior Team Leader - Sydney \$70K to \$80K + super

As a senior team leader you will be driving your team's performance and be responsible for their results. You will be tasked with motivating your team, development & learning, training and people management. Call Ed or Click HERE

## Supplier Relations Coordinator - Melbourne \$70K + super

Excellent opportunity to join one of the largest brands in corporate travel management for someone who loves to manage and build relationships. You will be the conduit between suppliers and multiple business disciplines. Call Adrian or Click HERE

## Group Operations Consultant - Sydney \$60K to \$70K + super

You'll love working close to home at this Northern Beaches travel wholesaler who manages special interest groups around the globe. An ideal role for those with experience who want to move away from consulting and focus on operations & logistics. Call Susan or Click HERE

## Product Coordinator - Sydney \$60K to \$65K + super

In this unique role you will coordinate brochures, work through content, art, imagery and overall production for this luxurious travel brand with a global presence. Fantastic product spanning the Middle East, Scandinavian regions and more! Call Natasha or Click HERE

www.tmstalent.com

Click HERE to register as a Job Seeker





Win a voyage for two on Hurtigruten's new, state-of-the-art hybrid exploration vessel, MS Roald Amundsen!

#### To go in the draw:

Simply book and deposit on any Hurtigruten coastal full voyage (6,7,11 or 12 days) or any Hurtigruten expedition cruise with Bentours until 31st March 2019 and automatically qualify to go into the draw.

#### The Prize:

A cabin (for up to two people) on the 17-day cruise *Andean Coast - From Rainforest to Mighty Peaks* Itinerary departing on the 10th October 2019. Departing from Costa Rica, you will sail the west coast of South America, visiting 5 countries in one expedition, which ends in Chile.

## FOR INFO AND TO BOOK, CALL 1800 487 844 OR VISIT BENTOURS, COM/HURTIGRUTEN

