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Travel Daily First with the news

Sheppard to APT

TRUDI Sheppard has been appointed to the newly created role of Senior Communications Manager for APT Travel Group.

Sheppard joins APT from her previous role as Director of Communications for Helloworld Travel Limited.

Agoda hires Sutton

DAMIAN Sutton has taken a new Bangkok-based role as Development Manager for online travel agency Agoda.

Sutton was Chief Technology Officer with Excite Holidays from 2014 to 2017, followed by two years as Head of Retail Business Systems at Helloworld Travel.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has four pages of news and photos, a front cover wrap for Viking Cruises, plus a full page from: • TMS Talent

Travel continues support

THE Australian travel industry continues to get behind the victims of the country's ongoing bushfire crisis, with a number of major brands recently announcing their support.

Entire Travel Group revealed it will be donating \$20 for every booking deposited throughout Jan, anticipating the total money raised at the end of the month to be in excess of \$10,000.

The funds will be distributed between Victoria's Country Fire Authority, the NSW Rural Fire Service & WIRES Wildlife Rescue.

Meanwhile, The Travel Corporation has pledged \$100,000 to the NSW Rural Fire Service to aid firefighting efforts, with the company's CEO John Veitch commenting "our hearts go out to the devastating loss of life, property, and the staggering amount of wildlife and nature from the bushfire tragedy". The hotel sector is also playing its part, with Lancemore Hotels revealing it will be donating 15% from every booking made during Jan to the Australian Red Cross Disaster Relief and Recovery fund, while Oaks Hotels, Resorts & Suites has created a new emergency accommodation program which offers seven complimentary room nights for those who have lost their homes.

Additionally, Air New Zealand has injected \$100,000 into Red Cross Australia's relief effort, while Crown Resorts and the Packer Family Foundations have offered a combined \$5 million across six organisations.

UAE airline Etihad Airways has also chipped in, waiving flight change fees for residents affected by ongoing bushfires.

The flurry of philanthropic energy follows a number of travel brands throwing their support behind bushfire relief efforts yesterday (**TD** 06 Jan).

www.traveldaily.com.au Tuesday 7th January 2020

Grabbing a new ride

BOOKING.COM has made its first foray into the ridesharing space, partnering with Southeast Asian ride-hailing service Grab and allowing its users to book rides directly through their Booking.com app.

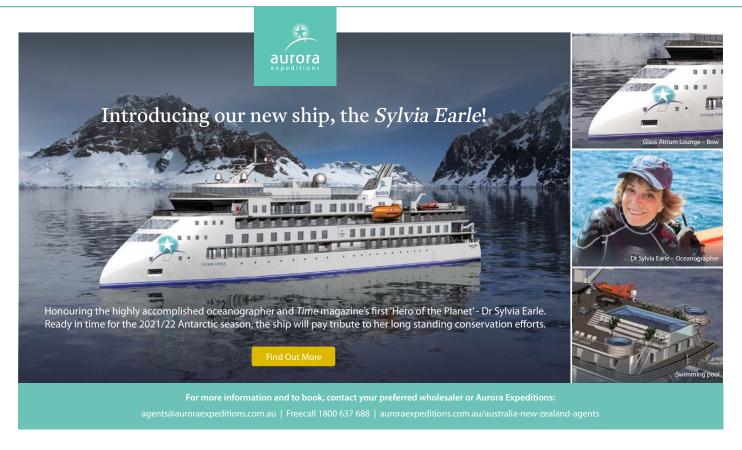
The service is currently being rolled out and will be available for visitors to Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines.

The partnership marks the first time that Grab has worked with a western digital travel brand.

Viking makes it easy

VIKING Cruises is reminding agents that it has a full range of marketing tools to help support them through the sales process available through its travel agent portal.

The line has also just launched its Explore Sale - see the **front page** for more information.





Tuesday 7th January 2020

Hobart int'l delayed

DELAYS to expansion work at Hobart Airport are likely to push back the launch of international flights to the hub to next year.

Initially flagged by Federal Cities Minister Alan Tudge to be introduced at some stage this year, the prospect of international flights taking off are slim with the installation of processing facilities to be completed by the end 2020.

The airport had previously stated aims to secure flights from Asia, New Zealand and the US.

Acacia safari launch

ACACIA Africa has introduced its Signature Tours & Safaris collection, comprised of 11 itineraries that range from two to six days in length and explore South Africa and Swaziland.

Tours are priced from \$585ppts and include transport, accommodation, most meals and the services of a guide/driver.

MEANWHILE the company has launched its two-for-one sale on select adventure camping tours, running until 29 Feb.

Qld seeks N America

A COLLABORATION between Brisbane Marketing, Destination Gold Coast and Tourism and Events Queensland has seen the launch of a \$600,000 tourism campaign targeting North American tourists.

The timing of the push coincides with increased air access connecting the two regions. **AIR** India has revealed it would return to Amadeus, after exiting the Sabre global distribution system on Fri (*TD* yesterday).

The deal will see global travel sellers able to access Air India's full range of content, both domestic and international, on the Amadeus Travel Platform.

Travel sellers in India using Amadeus however, will only have access to the carrier's international content due to an exclusive GDS contract in the country between Air India and Travelport.

Air India previously had a deal with Amadeus, but removed its content from the platform in Dec 2018 (*TD* 23 Nov 2018).

Air India Commercial Director Meenakshi Mallik said the airline hoped the renewed relationship would support its growth strategy globally.

In a joint statement, the companies noted that travel and spending power in India

TC appoints COO

INDEPENDENT travel company Travel Counsellors (TC) has appointed Mark O'Donoghue to be its new Chief Operating Officer.

He joins with more than 20 years of experience leading "disruptive digital platform businesses", and was previously the Chief Executive Officer of the UK-based digital learning solutions provider AVADO Learning.



Air India back on Amadeus

are increasing, along with the expectations of Indian travellers.

"For airlines to ride this wave of growth and reach their potential, the right partnerships with leading global companies will be essential to success," the statement says.

Amadeus Vice President Airlines Asia Pacific Cyril Tetaz said "Amadeus' simple, open and agile system will allow Air India to innovate, experiment and collaborate to create new products which will add value to customers and create upsell or cross-sell opportunities".

Uber Elevate prog

UBER Elevate is a step closer to becoming a reality, with Hyundai signing on as the first automotive company to join the initiative.

Hyundai will develop Uber Air Taxis for a future aerial ride share network and has released a new full-scale aircraft concept created in part through Uber's open design process.

Under the deal, Hyundai will produce and deploy the air vehicles, and Uber will provide airspace support services, connections to ground transportation, and customer interfaces through an aerial ride share network.



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Tuesday 7th January 2020

Aurora reveals details

AURORA Expeditions has released details of its second purpose-built expedition ship, which will launch in Oct 2021 in Ushuaia (*TD* 25 Oct 2018).

The vessel will be named after marine biologist and oceanographer, Sylvia Earle, who was the first woman to become chief scientist of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

It also pays tribute to Earle's long-standing conservation efforts for marine protected areas and ocean wildlife.

The 126-passenger ship will be the second in the fleet to sail with the Ulstein X-BOW, which is designed to cut through swell, minimise vibrations and disturbances and reduce fuel consumption.

It will also feature a two-level atrium in its bow.

Sylvia Earle follows the success

of the *Greg Mortimer*, which was christened last year and named after the line's founder, an accomplished mountaineer, Greg Mortimer.

Earle will work with Greg Mortimer to develop an on-board guest experience which reflects her marine-conservation ethos.

Activities will play a major part in the passenger experience – with expert-led kayak expeditions, polar ski touring, climbing, snowshoeing, hiking and exploration by Zodiac.

The expedition team on *Sylvia Earle* will include marine researchers, scientists and conservationists.

Aurora Expeditions said it would continue to name its new ships after explorers who are passionate about their environmental commitment and who share the company's vision for the future.



Inspire your clients' next round the world cruise with our comparison

end them the Summer edition of *Travel & Cruise Weekly* to read

VA Blake waiver

VIRGIN Australia has issued a waiver code for customers affected by Tropical Cyclone Blake, which is expected to cross the coast along Eighty Mile Beach in WA this evening or early Wed as a category one tropical cyclone.

The code applies to guests with a valid VA ticket issued on or before today, with departures from today through until 09 Jan and travelling to/from Broome, Port Hedland and Karratha.

RJ suspends BGW

ROYAL Jordanian Airlines suspended its services between Amman and Baghdad on 03 Jan, until further notice.

The decision was made due to the volatile security situation, particularly at Baghdad International Airport (*TD* yesterday).

Flights to other Iraqi cities will operate as normal.



WHAT was once Clive Palmer's private jet, seized in 2016 after the Australian business magnate had financial issues, now lives on as a party plane.

The 14-seat Global Express jet is now in the hands of a Germanbased rent-a-jet company, often making trips to the Spanish party capital of Ibiza.

The jet has been given a makeover, with the Palmer United Party yellow on the outside painted over with white and the wood panelling and beige carpet replaced by reflected chrome and dark grey carpet and lounge seats.

Although the final sale price is unknown, the jet was last on the market for \$6.95 million well below the \$40 million it was purportedly once worth.



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Athens	from AUD	1,289	6,309

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Book by 12 January 2020.



• Offer valid until 12 January 2020, unless sold out prior. Fares (AUD) quoted above are the lowest adult return prices per person including taxes, fees, and airport charges departing from Melbourne when booked with one or more companions. Other sale dates may be available. Other sale fares are also available departing from Sydney. Adelaide, Perth, and Canberra. "Companion" refers to a minimum of two (2) and maximum of nine (9) people traveling together on the same booking for the entire journey. Economy Class companion fares shown above are for departures from 20 January - 20 March 2020, 1/4 April - 16 April 2020, 19 April - 22 May 2020, and 21 September - 27 November 2020. Inbound blackouts apply in both classes. 5 July - 5 August 2020, and 20 September - 20 October 2020. Travel must be completed by ID December 2020. Fares may vary due to currency fluctuations. Seasonal surcharges and weekend surcharges may apply. For all other terms and conditions please review at time of booking.
• Double Qmiles apply to flights booked before 12 January 2020 and travel by ID December 2020. Registration is required; log in to your Privilege Club account, select "My Offers" on your dashboard menu, and register for this offer at least 24 hours prior to travel.



Auckland WeChat

AUCKLAND Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED) has partnered with WeChat to launch the Auckland WeChat Mini Program in Guangzhou, China, yesterday.

The program is aimed at connecting Chinese-speaking visitors with New Zealand locals in a "real time, live chat environment", enabling them to discover local knowledge and get personalised travel recommendations.

ATEC recovery strat

THE Australian Tourism Export Council (ATEC) is in the process of putting together a bushfire recovery strategy for the travel sector, encouraging members affected by the disaster to complete a short survey HERE.

"ATEC is sincerely saddened by the loss experienced by so many communities...we will be working to support their recovery over the coming months," ATEC Managing Director Peter Shelley said.

Beyond discount

BEYOND Travel is offering a discount of up to \$700 per couple on its Fabulous Scandinavia small group package when it is booked and deposited by 31 Jan.

Available from \$3,168ppts, the 10-day tour will take guests from Copenhagen to Stockholm, with highlights including a visit to the city of Bergen and the Voringfossen Waterfall.

Departures are scheduled throughout May to Sep - call 1300 363 554 for more information.

Tuesday 7th January 2020

Minor expands

MINOR International (MINT), parent company of Minor Hotels, has announced it will add eight high-end hotels in Europe to its portfolio, through its subsidiary NH Hotel Group.

NH Hotel Group will lease the hotels, located in Italy, France, Czech Republic and Hungary, from Covivio and later rebrand them to MINT and NH Hotel Group's hotel brands, including Anantara and NH Collection.

JetBlue goes green

JETBLUE has announced it will offset carbon dioxide emissions (CO2) from jet fuel for all its domestic flights starting from Jul, which it expects will equate to seven to eight million metric tonnes of CO2 emissions per year.

To do so, the airline will continue to work with Carbonfund.org, as well as new partners EcoAct and South Pole.

The airline will also use sustainable aviation fuel on flights from San Francisco International Airport starting mid-2020.

"We're preparing our business for the lower-carbon economy that aviation – and all sectors - must plan for," JetBlue Chief **Executive Officer Robin Hayes** said

Aeromexico Boeing

AEROMEXICO has reached a "confidential" compensation agreement with Boeing in a move to mitigate the airline's costs resulting from the grounding of the Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.



New AMEX lounges in PHX

AMERICAN Express has announced the opening of two new luxury lounges, The Centurion Lounge and Escape Lounge, at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX), accessible to Platinum Card and Centurion Members.

The lounges, located side-by-side in Terminal 4, will feature a shared entrance, separate reception areas, full complimentary bars and a Mexican-inspired menu.

The Centurion Lounge will offer workspaces, power outlets and high-speed wi-fi, while the Escape Lounge (pictured) will feature a silent digital library with noisecancelling headphones and free access to over 7,000 publications, plus kids' activity packs.

"Our premium card members tell us that lounge access is

Scenic on sale

SCENIC has released a range of offers on its global itineraries, including its 15-day Jewels of Europe cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest, now priced from \$6,695ppts.

Also included is the 14-day Egypt in Depth adventure, now available from \$9,695ppts, and the 13-day Treasures of the Mekong tour from \$7,395ppts.

Sale will end 31 Mar or until sold out.

CLICK HERE for more.

the number one travel benefit they're looking for," said American Express Vice President Loyalty and Benefits Alexander Lee.

Lee also revealed plans to open five more Centurion Lounges in airports around the world.

MONEY

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

AU\$1 = US0.692

THE Australian dollar has suffered due to the ongoing bushfire crisis, with early reports estimating the initial financial impact could be as much as much as AU\$2 billion.

Additionally, the USDAUD fell by 0.2% and a local rate cut is becoming more likely.

Meanwhile, other markets across the globe have bounced back from the effects of Fri's US drone strike in Iran.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.692
UK	£0.526
NZ	\$1.033
Euro	€0.618
Japan	¥75.13
Thailand	ß20.78
China	¥4.788
South Africa	9.792
Canada	\$0.893
Crude oil	US\$63.05

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SEARCH JOBS

SALES & OPERATIONS MANAGER Melbourne - \$65K - \$70K + super

Be part of the success as this business makes plans for future growth. Come lead, support and manage daily operations. You will oversee the day-to-day operations, creating learning and development programmes and supporting the teams around Australia, New Zealand and Kathmandu. You must have GDS experience. Contact Priyanka

VIEW JOB

RESERVATIONS & TICKETING CONSULTANT

Sydney - \$55K - \$60K + super

Monday to Friday role with a national airline carrier for Australia, New Zealand and parts of the South Pacific. You will be handling calls, reservations and manually ticketing bookings using Amadeus. Senior airfares and ticketing knowledge is essential.

Contact Natasha

VIEW JOB

CORPORATE CONSULTANT Sydney - \$60K + super

Boutique corporate travel agency based in the CBD looking for an experienced corporate travel consultant using Amadeus. Develop a strong relationship with the assigned corporate clients, managing requests within a specified turnaround time. This international corporate travel company focuses on staying up to date with technology.

Contact Natasha

VIEW JOB

WHOLESALE TRAVEL CONSULTANT Brisbane - \$45K - \$55K + super

Discover the roads less travelled in some of the world's most exciting destinations. This role will see you helping the avid traveller explore new places, avoiding the tourist routes and helping them create memorable holidays. Good knowledge of Latin America or Scandinavia is highly desirable. Flexible working hours available. Contact Ed

tmstalent.com

VIEW JOB

ACCOUNT MANAGER Sydney - \$80K - \$110K + super

Handle a diverse portfolio and utilise your excellent rapport building skills. You will consistently question the level of value you are bringing to your clients to ensure that the best service is brought to them. Report directly into the head of client management. Competitive salary with bonus. Fantastic company culture.

Contact Leanne

VIEW JOB

SALES & MARKETING COORDINATOR - PART TIME

Melbourne - \$51K pro-rata + super

Part-time sales & marketing guru needed for an award winning, adventure travel specialist in Melbourne CBD. Report in to the marketing manager and work 3 days per week on a 12 month contract. Similar experience in a sales & marketing role within travel preferred. **Contact Matt**

VIEW JOB

TRAVEL AGENCY MANAGER Melbourne - \$70K + super

Presenting you with a platform for the leader in you to showcase your talent as a retail travel agency manager. Your role will be to provide excellent training and to boost a great team culture. Great CBD location with supportive management along with no weekend work. You must have previous management experience in the travel industry. Contact Priyanka

VIEW JOB

TRAVEL ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT Brisbane - \$45K-\$55K pro-rata + super

The perfect part-time role for an experienced travel industry professional looking for reduced, flexible hours. Support the reservations team by completing documentation, invoices and quality checking final travel itineraries. Work 20-30 hours per week on a timetable that suits you. Must have good knowledge of Microsoft Office programs. Contact Ed



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