

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news including our PUZZLES and a full page from:

- Tourism Authority Thailand

Industry lunch event

WHAT must be the first travel industry event as coronavirus restrictions ease will take place next Mon 15 Jun, aboard Sydney's Journey Beyond Cruise vessel.

Walter Nand from Ride the World Motorcycle Tours is convening the gathering to coincide with Men's Health Week.

The Executive Lunch will feature former NRL star Wayne Wigham who will share "what it's like to be a big tough guy with depression".

Social distancing restrictions mean just 30 spots are available, with both men and women more than welcome to attend.

It's priced at \$115 per person including food and beverages, and all profits will be donated to the Black Dog Institute - for info and to book, [CLICK HERE](#).

Massive Thai prizes

HUNDREDS of prizes including gift cards, care packs and luxury hotel accommodation are up for grabs for travel agents in Australia and New Zealand who take part in the Tourism Authority of Thailand's new Amazing Thailand Specialist training program.

Participation is free so check it out on the **last page** of *TD* today.

Tourism leaders honoured

YESTERDAY'S Queen's Birthday Honours list showcased the achievements of some of the country's top travel and tourism executives, including Helloworld CEO Andrew Burnes who was named an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) (*TD* breaking news).

Burnes, who has led Helloworld Travel since 2016, was also the founder of The AOT Group in 1987 and over the years has held a range of senior Board roles including as a Director of Tourism Australia and Chair of the Australian Tourism Export Council.

The official citation also highlighted his involvement as Honorary Federal Treasurer of the Liberal Party, as a Director of the Humpty Dumpty Foundation

which raises money for hospital childrens' wards across Australia and as a supporter of the School of St Jude in Arusha, Tanzania.

Also honoured yesterday was BIG4 Holiday Parks co-founder Desmond Watts, who was recognised for his outstanding service to the tourism accommodation sector with a Medal of the Order of Australia.

Watts has been a member of Ballarat Tourism for 20 years, and has been widely hailed for his contribution to the Caravan Industry Association of Australia.

Former Tourism Western Australia Chair Kate Lamont was named a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her significant service to the state's tourism and hospitality sectors.

She's also served on the Tourism Australia Board and the Perth Convention Bureau.

Queensland's Patrick Jackman was recognised with an AO for "distinguished service to the community through support for educational and medical research organisations, and to tourism and business".

As well as a wide range of other roles in public and private organisations, Jackman was Tourism Queensland Chair from 1998 to 2006.

AFTA pushes agents

SENIOR politicians across the country are being urged to promote the importance of booking through travel agents, in a concerted campaign being undertaken by the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA).

As restrictions on travel within and across State and Territory borders slowly lift, AFTA said the nation's leaders should take this "very easy and powerful step which will greatly assist travel agencies" decimated by COVID-19.

The lobbying is in addition to ongoing submissions to Federal Treasury for further financial support for the hard-hit sector.

China travel alert

THE Chinese Government has issued a formal warning to its citizens not to travel to Australia, citing a "significant increase in racist attacks on Chinese and Asian people".

The move is the latest escalation in a war of words, with China defending itself against claims it mishandled the COVID-19 outbreak.

Federal Tourism Minister Simon Birmingham rejected the claims of racism, saying "Australia is the most successful multicultural and migrant society in the world".

"The Chinese-Australian community is a significant and valued contributor to that success story," Birmingham said.

NZ restrictions gone

NEW Zealand's success in containing COVID-19 has seen the country return to normality - apart from maintaining ongoing stringent border controls.

Effective midnight last night, all limits on gathering sizes were dropped, as well as rules relating to physical distancing after the country declared itself coronavirus-free.

EK boosts flights

EMIRATES is expanding passenger services to 16 more cities from 15 Jun, including the resumption of flights to both Perth and Brisbane, in addition to already reinstated Sydney and Melbourne frequencies.

Other new destinations include Bahrain, Manchester, Zurich, Vienna, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Dublin, New York JFK, Seoul, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Jakarta, Taipei and Hong Kong.

SIA secures S\$10b

SINGAPORE Airlines has confirmed the success of its recent Rights Issue (*TD* 27 Mar), raising S\$10 billion of liquidity from existing shareholders incl the Singapore Government.

New Westin for WA

MARRIOTT International this morning announced the 2023 debut of a new Westin property in Western Australia's Margaret River region.

The Westin Margaret River Resort & Spa is being developed by Saracen Properties and Security Capital Australia, and will "set a new benchmark for hospitality excellence in Margaret River," said Marriott's Richard Crawford.

The 120-room property will be located on the southern headland of Gnarabup Beach, with direct access to the iconic Cape to Cape walking trail.

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Pacific bubble team

THE Australian representatives of Tahiti Tourisme, New Caledonia Tourism, Tourism Solomons and the Papua New Guinea Tourism Authority have formed a working group to help a South Pacific travel bubble become a reality.

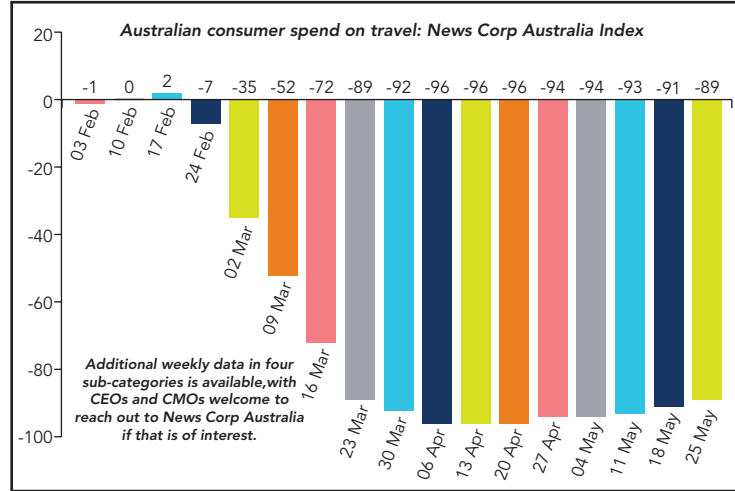
A formal letter submitted by the coalition to the offices of the Australian and NZ Prime Ministers highlights the positive impact of tourism on the livelihoods of many in the South Pacific.

Rottnest to reopen

THE commencement of phase three of coronavirus restrictions in Western Australia has seen Rottnest Island reopen to visitors.

WA Tourism Minister Paul Papalia said more than 1,800 accommodation bookings had been made on Rottnest since the reopening was announced on 29 May, while the redeveloped Rottnest Island Hotel is still on track for its opening in Sep.

Spending index up 7 pts



EXCLUSIVE

THE anticipated lowering of COVID-19 restrictions two weeks ago clearly led to a spike in travel bookings, according to the latest exclusive News Corp Australia consumer spending data.

The figures are still way down, sitting at -89% year-on-year, but that's an improvement from

when the index bottomed out at -96% in mid-Apr.

Travellers are planning to go on holidays within their home states now, according to News Corp MD Food & Travel Fiona Nilsson, who noted that online searches for camping leapt 30% week-on-week after the most recent easings were announced.

Cruiseco podcast

CRUISECO has launched a new podcast for its members, as part of a range of initiatives to assist in the post-COVID recovery phase.

The podcast includes interviews with the CruiseCO leadership team on the current crisis, a chat between CruiseCO chief Nic Cola and former Silversea Cruises MD Adam Armstrong, and an appearance by CLIA's Peter Kollar. To listen [CLICK HERE](#).

HA extension

HAWAIIAN Airlines has extended the suspension of its services between Australia and Hawaii through until 31 Jul.

GDS screens indicate that flights from Sydney to Honolulu are set to resume on 02 Aug, followed the next day by Brisbane services.

Impacted guests will be offered options for a refund or a credit, with a two-year-plus validity on credits depending when tickets were issued.

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Air NZ plots the future

AIR New Zealand has detailed an 800-day plan to get the carrier starting to earn “healthy profits” by Aug 2022, which involves cutting NZ\$150m from its wages bill in a move to further reduce its cost base.

CEO Greg Foran announced the three-step plan to the Australian Security Exchange this morning, stating “we must first Survive, then Revive and finally Thrive”.

The airline has already farewellled 4,000 of its staff and reduced its wage bill by a third, but its revenue has fallen by more than two thirds, Foran said.

The “Survive” phase of the plan is likely to run until Aug this year and will see “no stone unturned”, with Foran predicting revenue will likely be less than half of what it used to be in the next financial year.

The Revive phase will begin 01 Sep and see Air New Zealand

operate as a much smaller airline, growing gradually as routes open and customer confidence returns.

Foran said the airline would use this time to develop new products and services, with digital at the core.

Air New Zealand is targeting to hit the final phase, Thrive, by Aug 2022, when it will be “a digital company that monetises through aviation and tourism in a very sustainable manner,” Foran explained.

He said Air New Zealand is expecting it will be only 70% of its pre-COVID size, highly efficient, operate fewer widebody aircraft and “could be more profitable in the future than before”.

“This is not a hiccup; very few airlines will return to the former ways of working,” he said.

MEANWHILE, yesterday Air NZ restarted its Auckland-Taupo and Wellington-Timaru services.

TEQ campaign

TOURISM and Events Queensland’s (TEQ) launched a major new campaign on Sun.

The initiative is designed to drive intrastate tourism by informing Queenslanders that they are “Good to Go”.

The campaign aims to inspire Queenslanders to explore their own backyard, targeting those travelling overnight to reconnect with friends and relatives.

Switzerland border

SWITZERLAND plans to open its borders to all European Union/ European Free Trade Association countries, as well as the United Kingdom, on 15 Jun.

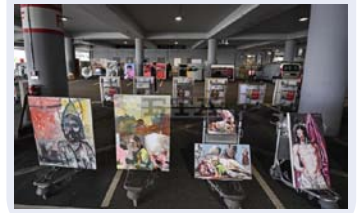
The Federal Council made the decision at its meeting on 05 Jun, with the country to lift all existing entry restrictions, after initially announcing only the borders with Austria, Germany and France would be open from this date.

Window Seat

AN AIRPORT carpark in Germany left desolate by the COVID-19 shutdowns has been converted into a makeshift drive-through art gallery.

The ingenious adaptation of Cologne Bonn Airport sees paintings, sculptures and other works of art creatively displayed on luggage carts which have been arranged into lanes, allowing people to view them as they slowly cruise by (pictured).

As restrictions ease they will also be able to walk around as long as they wear a face mask.



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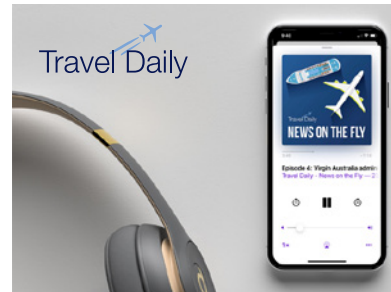
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Travel Daily

Catch up on the news of the week

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More money for airlines

FEDERAL Government support will continue for Australia's aviation industry, with Deputy Prime Minister & Minister for Transport Michael McCormack yesterday announcing the range of initiatives currently supporting the sector would be extended.

The Domestic Aviation Network Support program will be extended to 30 Sep to maintain connectivity on major domestic routes and the government will enter into new contracts with airlines to cover operating shortfalls on a minimum number of flights on key routes.

The Regional Airline Network Support (RANS) program will also be pushed out from 30 Sep to 31 Dec, in a move to ensure regional communities continue to receive essential air services and the Government will continue to cover shortfalls for a limited number of regional services.

A range of measures under the

\$715 million Australian Airline Financial Relief Package will also be continued, including ongoing refunds and fee waivers for aviation fuel excise, Airservices charges on domestic airline operations and domestic and regional aviation security charges.

The \$100 million Regional Airlines Funding Assistance program will be extended until 31 Dec or until allocated funds are exhausted, and leased federal airports will be able to seek partial relief from land tax charges to 31 Dec.

Uber, Dettol pact

UBER has announced a COVID-19 partnership with disinfectant maker Dettol, giving drivers access to hygiene kits.

The move allows Uber drivers to equip vehicles with hand sanitisers and disinfectants at no cost.

Silversea gets *Origin*-al



SILVERSEA Cruises welcomed *Silver Origin* to its fleet last week, in the first in-person cruise ship delivery since the COVID-19 pandemic began (**pictured**).

The cruise line's first-ever destination-specific ship (**TD 11 Apr 2019**), *Origin* is slated to sail the Galapagos Islands.

The ship was built at Dutch shipyard De Hoop, where an intimate ceremony was held on Wed, attended by select Silversea executives, including Executive Chairman Manfredi Lefebvre d'Ovidio and President & Chief Executive Officer Roberto Martinoli.



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Air NZ donates snacks



AIR New Zealand has donated nearly 15,000 food items to Mangere Budgeting Services Trust and Food Bank for food parcels, after a group of cabin crew volunteered at the organisation.

During Alert Level three, 10 cabin crew members volunteered over a number of days, packing more than 400 boxes each day.

Parcels included essentials like non-perishable food stuffs, fresh fruit and vegetables, lunch box items for kids, and health packs including shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Air New Zealand GM Brand and Content Marketing Jodi Williams says when the airline learnt that a number of their cabin crew were volunteering their own time, the airline wanted to show its support by donating its surplus dry goods.

“Our cabin crew got involved

with the Trust on their own, so when we heard they had more mouths to feed than parcels, we decided to donate some of our surplus dry goods.”

Pictured: Mangere Budgeting Services Trust CEO Darryl Evans with Deputy Services Manager Miranda Humphreys and food donated by Air New Zealand.

AWA Visit Maldives

VISIT Maldives has reappointed PR and Communications agency Anne Wild & Associates (AWA) as its Australian PR and Trade Representatives for a second consecutive year from 01 Jun.

The Maldives will reopen its borders to tourists from 01 Jul.

Marriott Cuba close

THE Trump Administration has ordered Marriott International to wind down operations in Cuba, according to *Al Jazeera*.

Marriott has reportedly received notice the government-issued licence will not be renewed, forcing the company to close its operation of the Four Points by Sheraton hotel in Havana by 31 Aug and not open other hotels it was planning to run.

In 2016, Starwood, now owned by Marriott, became the first US based hospitality company to enter the Cuban market in nearly 60 years (**TD** 21 Mar 2016).

Croisi resumption

CROISIEUROPE is getting ready to return to operation, with the cruise line working on a progressive return to normal by early Jul within the Schengen Area, in accordance with European directives.

La Belles Des Oceans will offer eight-day cruises in Corsica from the end of Aug & from mid-Oct, sailings to the Canary Islands.

AFTA UPDATE

from the Australian Federation of Travel Agents

ON 25 Mar, AFTA announced that it would move to a monitor and support framework to ensure that members had the support they need to get through COVID-19.

This commitment saw the removal of membership fees, changes to the annual ATAS renewal period to remove any barriers to membership, mental wellbeing crisis support, and extensive political lobbying which gave rise to government support measures being adopted on an economy-wide scale.

AFTA has also executed an extensive webinar program which has seen some 9,000 members engage across 48 different webinars on: economic support packages, terms and conditions, cancellation and refunds, insurance, JobKeeper, rent relief, financial and business considerations throughout the down-turn and the weekly AFTA update to ensure that members stay informed of the ongoing work AFTA is doing to support members.

Seventy six days later, AFTA maintains this commitment to its 3,000 ATAS accredited members and their workforce of some 40,000 employees.

The challenges that exist (and continue) have been many: insurance, chargebacks, rent, refunds and cancellations, IATA and international and state border closures.

At this present time however, the single biggest challenge AFTA is tackling is an extension of JobKeeper.

Wages make up the greatest proportion of all travel industry costs, comprising over 50% of operating costs of traditional shop front travel agencies. The JobKeeper program has been instrumental in enabling businesses, particularly SMEs, retain many trained and experienced staff while the economy is in hibernation mode.

AFTA's most recent submission to the Treasury Coronavirus Business Liaison Unit



afta

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TRAVEL AGENTS

meticulously details the industry impact and the resounding effects that an abrupt end to this program would have on the Australian travel ecosystem.

Results of

the recent AFTA Travel Agent Membership Survey show that 82% of respondents have experienced a 100% revenue decline as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A further 16% have experienced a 90% decline in revenue.

Given these significant revenue declines, travel businesses of all sizes were eligible for the JobKeeper program.

97% of all survey respondents said that they had successfully enrolled.

The submission demonstrates that the JobKeeper program has been critical to the survival of travel agencies.

When survey respondents were asked what they intend to do if the JobKeeper payment doesn't continue beyond Sep 2020, 42% responded that they intend to either permanently or temporarily close their business.

AFTA acknowledges that as inter and intra-state travel restrictions ease revenues are expected to lift slightly, but remain constrained due to continuing closures and restrictions, rising unemployment and consumer uncertainty.

AFTA is unable to promise an outcome, as this is well and truly in the hands of the Australian Government.

However, members can be confident they have a strong voice in Canberra through AFTA.

AFTA has been at the table since late Jan, advocating on behalf of members and it is indeed pleasing to see that senior politicians including Prime Minister Scott Morrison and the Treasurer, acknowledge publicly that the travel and tourism sectors are in a unique situation and require additional support.

Pub quiz

1. What is the name of one of the main tourist attractions in the Indian city of Hyderabad, which is thought to have been constructed to commemorate the eradication of an unspecified disease?
2. What is the name of the largest cactus in the USA, which also happens to be the namesake of a National Park in Arizona?
3. Approximately how many basalt polygon columns are there along the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland?
 - a) 12,000
 - b) 37,000
 - c) 98,000
 - d) 7,000
4. In which country would you find Sprinkles Cupcake vending machine?
5. What is the national flower of Italy?
6. Pinotage is a variety of wine which is unique to which country?
7. The nickname 'the Sunshine State' is shared by which two states in Australia and the US?
8. The historical figure behind Santa Claus, St Nicholas, was born in which country in around 300AD?
9. Where were Chinese fortune cookies invented?
10. In Greece a number of monasteries are built on top of tall natural rock pillars. What is the name of this UNESCO site?

Unscramble

HOW many words can you make out of these nine letters? Every word needs to include the centre letter, have four letters or more and not be a proper noun or a plural. You can only use each letter once.

T	E	I
D	A	G
M	T	I

Good – 18 words
Very good – 27 words
Excellent – 36 words

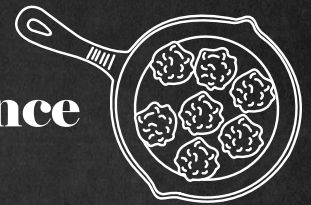
NOTE: We've used Chambers Dictionary to decide what words are acceptable.

ANSWERS 05 JUN

Pub quiz: 1 Desert, 2 Dogs, 3 Honduras, 4 Pakistan, 5 Peru, 6 True, 7 The Netherlands, 8 Kiribati, 9 War Memorial, 10 Los Angeles, 11 Jakarta (jar + kart + ahh)
 Whose flag is this: Vietnam

9	7	4	2	3	6	8	1	5
8	1	2	7	5	4	6	3	9
5	3	6	9	1	8	2	4	7
6	5	7	8	4	3	9	2	1
4	2	3	1	9	5	7	8	6
1	9	8	6	2	7	3	5	4
2	8	9	5	7	1	4	6	3
7	4	1	3	6	2	5	9	8
3	6	5	4	8	9	1	7	2

Travel the world with mince and meatballs



THIS week we have a delicious Argentine Empanada recipe supplied to us by Martin, the South America specialist at Adventure World. Keep sending in recipes to

meatballs@traveldaily.com.au and enjoy!

xx *Jenny*

Jenny Piper
 Owner,
 Business
 Publishing
 Group



Martin's Empanadas

Makes about 20

INGREDIENTS

- 400g beef mince
- 2 brown onions, diced
- ½ tsp sugar
- 4 hard boiled eggs, roughly chopped
- ¼ cup pitted black olives, roughly chopped
- Shortcrust pastry – frozen, five sheets
- Pinch of sugar
- Pinch of salt
- Pinch of pepper
- ½ tsp cumin

METHOD

Preheat oven 180°C. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Cook onions until golden, add beef mince until beef is cooked through. Add sugar, spices, salt and pepper and cook for 2 minutes. Add eggs and olives.

Allow filling to cool for about 10 minutes.

Cut each sheet into quarters. Using finger or a pastry brush – brush edges of pastry with a little bit of water. Place filling mixture in centre. Fold the pastry in half and press down on edges, keeping the filling inside.

To create the fancy edge – fold a small corner of the pastry in a triangle then twist and press a small piece of the pastry on top, continue press and twist until you have sealed the parcel all the way around.

Repeat until you have used up all your filling and pastry. Makes 20. Brush the pastry with a beaten egg. Bake in oven 12- 15 minutes and serve.



Sri Lanka reopens

SRI Lanka is readying to welcome guests from 01 Aug, with all nationalities and types of travellers to be welcome back.

Colombo International, Ratmalana International and Mattala Rajapaksa International Airports will all be operating from the beginning of Aug, with all travellers requiring a visa, as per usual.

A minimum five-night stay in the country is also required.

Israel new standard

ISRAEL'S Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Health have announced a "purple standard" is now required for the re-opening and operating of hotels.

For accommodations to remain in compliance with the new standard, they must reach and maintain several benchmarks outlined by Ministry of Health officials, including the wearing of face masks in all public spaces, and maintaining social distance.

Eurowings homes

EUROWINGS Holidays, the airline's tour brand, is including holiday homes and apartments in its portfolio.

The collection now offers around 1,000 accommodation options in Greece and Palma, with other destinations around the Mediterranean to be added in the coming months.

Customers can combine a holiday home booking with their flights, as well as transfers and a rental car.

BYO coffee cluster

LUXURY will be the focus for this week's Destination Webinars BYO Coffee Cluster webinar.

Travel agents are invited to join the multi-presenter update from Abercrombie & Kent, Seabourn and Spicers Retreats, this Thu at 11am.

To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

MONEY

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

A\$1 = US\$0.700

THE Australian dollar was at a 2020 high over the long weekend after a US jobs report from the Labor Department defied forecasts of a loss and produced the largest job gain in its history.

The Aussie and equities jumped on the back of the announcement, with a projected eight million jobs loss actualising as a 2.5 million gain in May, with Americans returning to work quicker than expected.

The AUDJPY and AUDEUR also hit 12- and five-month highs.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.700
UK	£0.550
NZ	\$1.062
Euro	€0.619
Japan	¥76.02
Thailand	฿21.88
China	¥4.891
South Africa	11.61
Canada	\$0.932
Crude oil	US\$40.80

Love NSW progress

DESTINATION NSW's "Now's The Time To Love NSW" campaign is driving demand for the travel industry, with high levels of public engagement, widespread media coverage and support from industry partners.

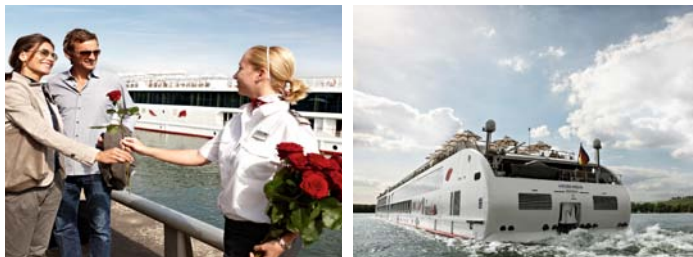
Since launching on 01 Jun, social media mentions of #LoveNSW have jumped 80%, reflecting the growth in NSW travel related content and discussion online.

Videos posted on Destination NSW's social media channels on the same date have reached more than 1.1 million people.

Haka agent rates

NEW Zealand's Haka Tours is offering Australian travel agents discounted rates for travel if a Trans-Tasman bubble can be established.

The company's focus is on sustainability, Maori culture and communities, with both private and premium tours also now available.



Build an A-ROSA Ship & Win a 7-night European River Cruise

This month Travel Daily has partnered with A-ROSA River Cruises to give you the chance to win a 7-night European river cruise.

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