20,000,000 Points Jackpot

Become a Points millionaire!

Simply be a top selling agent between 2 - 31 March 2020 and win a share of **20 million Velocity Points!**



How it works:

Be one of the top 50 Corporate agents and top 50 Retail/Wholesale agents with the highest revenue sales of Virgin Australia tickets during the promotional period.

How to enter:

- 1. Register **here**
- **2.** Book and ticket any eligible Virgin Australia operated flight anywhere on our network (VA 795 ticket stock) during the promotional period for travel before 30 June 2020.
- 3. Register or be an existing Velocity Frequent Flyer Program member^
- 4. Enter the relevant OSI entry into the GDS at the time of PNR creation with Million and your first and last name**

What's next:

To learn more about the incentive visit: virginaustralia.com/millionaire





*Terms and Conditions - The Promoter is Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd (ABN 36 090 670 965) of registered address 56 Edmondstone Road, Bowen Hills, Queensland 4006. The Promotion commences at 00:01 AEST on 2 March 2020 and ends at 23:59 AEST on 31 March 2020 (Promotion Period). Entry is open to Australian residents aged 18 years or over who are employed as a retail or corporate travel agent or wholesale consultant located in Australia, have a valid individual work email address (generic agency/consultancy or shared email addresses are not valid) and use a GDS to make bookings, (sculding on line travel agents, or shared email addresses are not valid) and use a GDS to make bookings on the program three program three (Entrants). To enter, Entrants must make an Eligible Booking, which requires Entrants to: (1) Register via the Google form link provided by the VA Industry Sales Team and located on the incentive flyer and landing page; (2) book and ticket an Eligible Flight. An Eligible Flight means any new flight booking operated and marketed by Virgin Australia across our network, or Dalta Air Lines to North America, and made on Virgin Australia (795) for travel on or before 30 June 2020 (Travel Period); and (3) enter the following OSI entries in their employer's applicable booking system at the time of PNR creation for the Eligible Booking; Sabre: 30SI VA VAIN VA/Million/Agents first name and last name, Note: When entering your work email address in the OSI field use // instead of @ If you have an underscore () in your email address, replace _ with -, Each Eligible Booking must be unique to an individual travel agent. The top 100 Entrants will be determined on 14 April 2020. The Winners (will winner) will be selected and notified by phone or email by 20 April 2020 in accordance with the prize table located on the incentive landing page. The top 100 Entrants will receive a prize based on the number of Eligible Bookings made based on revenue sales during the Promotion Period. The prizes for the top selling corpo

Travel Daily First with the news

Tuesday 17th March 2020



The mobile travel business that works for you...



Let's chat - 1300 682 000 | mtatravel.com.au/joinus

Hit the VA jackpot

VIRGIN Australia's 20 million points promotion will reward the top 50 corporate agents and top 50 retail/wholesale consultants with the highest revenue sales of VA tickets in the period 02-31 Mar 2020 - for details see the cover page of today's TD.

> You're a SuperStar!

But are you a

SWISS SuperStar?



Take the Quiz

RAILEUROPE proud distributor of

Switzerland.

New travel spend report

EXCLUSIVE

TRAVEL Daily has partnered with News Corp Australia to release exclusive new data on travel spending in Australia.

News Corp Australia is tracking consumer spend within the sector, creating an index of payments to major brands across accommodation, air, cruise, OTAs, travel agents and tour operators.

It's hoped the information will assist the industry to understand the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, and in particular, watch for the first green shoots of recovery.

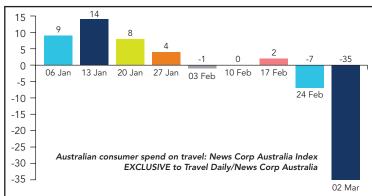
The initial data (pictured) covers spending through to the week of 02 Mar, showing the industry was tracking well through to mid-Feb.

However COVID-19 began to have a significant impact on travel spending in the last few weeks.

Omri Godjin, News Corp Industry Head. Travel, said "this is part of work we are doing to assist our clients to better understand the total retail travel market.

"We do have additional weekly data, based on credit card spend, including detailed data in four categories for our customers... CEOs and CMOs are welcome to reach out to us if that is of interest," he said.

The data is part of several initiatives under way to support the industry, including *Travel* Daily's dedicated COVID-19 update page at traveldaily.com.au.



Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of with all the news you need to know on COVID-19, a front cover page for Virgin Australia, plus full pages from:

- TMS Talent
- Touropa product profile

Sun Island's Touropa

SUN Island Tours has partnered with Europamundo to create Touropa, a new fully customisable touring option allowing the creation of flexible holidays based on 77,000 tour departures.

The system is showcased on the last page of today's Travel Daily.

Serko appoints

SERKO has announced the appointment of Jonathan Starkings as the head of its new partnership with Booking.com.

Starkings, ex Groupon, Orbitz and Langham, will work to bring to market Serko's Zeno solution with Booking.com for Business.



*Sale ends 23 March 2020, unless Travel periods and conditions apply.

HOL DAY THIS YEAR









How will coronavirus affect the travel industry? Read more in the March issue

> **CLICK** to read travelBulletin

Billy Mac's funeral

THE funeral of the late great Bill McNamara will be held in Sydney next Mon 23 Mar.

Air Marketing's McNamara passed away at his home last week (TD 11 Mar) shortly after celebrating his 78th birthday, with his irascible character, generosity and unstoppable salesmanship touching many across the industry over the years.

He will be remembered at 10.30am on Mon at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, corner of Oxford St and Darlinghurst Rd Sydney followed by a celebration of his life at Lounge Reggio on the corner of Stanley and Crown St.

MCEC closure

THE Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) will close to the public until 13 Apr as a precautionary measure, following the ban on nonessential gatherings by state and federal authorities.

AFTA urges govt support

AUSTRALIAN Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) Chief Executive Jayson Westbury has assured the industry that the organisation is "doing all that is possible to seek significant support from the Federal Government".

Speaking to Travel Daily this morning between radio interviews, he said the mandatory 14-day self isolation requirement for incoming travellers "is having a devastating impact on the travel industry," noting "something of this magnitude has not been felt for 20 years".

He said the government's decision was taken "without any advance warning or consultation with the industry, and while we accept it is something they feel they needed to do - it is now that they must stand with us with support to ensure our industry's future".

AFTA has also announced a

special industry webinar to be hosted next Mon 23 Mar to update travel agents and suppliers on the extensive work the Federation is doing in response to the coronavirus crisis.

Topics covered will include an outline of activities with government, practical options that should be considered at this time and an opportunity for members to ask questions.

Two one-hour sessions will take place on Mon, one at 11am (REGISTER HERE) and another one at 2pm (REGISTER HERE).

Canada cancellation

DESTINATION Canada overnight confirmed the cancellation of Rendez-vous Canada 2020, the organisation's annual travel trade show.

Delegates for the event planned for 05-08 May are now being contacted regarding refunds.

FC NZ tapers week

FLIGHT Centre New Zealand has introduced a four-day working week to combat the financial pressure of COVID-19, with staff told they will need to use annual leave or take leave without pay to accommodate the policy.

The new measures will be in place for at least the next two months and will affect the more than 1,200 employees who work across its network of 140 stores.

"Times are tough for the travel industry at the moment, and we are taking measures to protect our customers, our people, and our business," said Flight Centre New Zealand Managing Director David Coombes.

"We have reached out to the government on behalf of our people and the broader outbound travel industry to provide support in the financial relief packages," he added.

The new roster changes are scheduled to come into effect from 23 Mar.

Do you make a difference?

Are you protecting the natural world via tourism initiatives?

Are you empowering local communities through tourism?

Have you implemented sustainable initiatives delivering economic, environmental or community benefits?

Tell us. Submit your entry now for the Travel Daily 2020 Sustainability Awards.

CLICK HERE FOR SUBMISSION GUIDELINES SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY BY 27 MAR







QF & NZ slash more routes

QANTAS and Air New Zealand have both announced a fresh round of major capacity cuts, to be phased in from later this month (TD breaking news).

Qantas Group, including Jetstar, revealed it would be axing 90% of international capacity, while domestic flights, would be reduced by around 60% until the end of May.

The massive reductions will see the grounding of approximately 150 of its aircraft, constituting almost all of QF's wide-body fleet.

Qantas said that it would release more details of affected routes "in the coming days", stating the changes were needed as it faced a "massive labour surplus" and battled to respond to the travel restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 crisis.

"Travel demand is unlikely to rebound for weeks, or possibly months, and the impact of this will be felt across the entire workforce of 30,000 people," the airline said in a statement.

Wide-ranging booking waivers have been issued for customers wanting to suspend their travel plans, with clients who have existing bookings for flights until 31 May able to cancel bookings and receive a travel credit.

The offer is valid for customers who make changes by 31 Mar, with QF enquiries best directed **HERE**, and Jetstar enquiries **HERE**.

Qantas' joint business partner on the Pacific. American Airlines, has also confirmed the suspension of all flights from the USA to both Australia and NZ.

MEANWHILE, Air New Zealand this morning released details of further cuts to its Tasman network, after yesterday announcing an 85% reduction in its long-haul network.

NZ will cut its flights between Australia and New Zealand by 80%, reducing services to just five routes - Auckland to Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne; Christchurch to Sydney; and Wellington to Sydney.

Travel Daily's COVID help

THE Travel Daily and Cruise Weekly teams are working around the clock to keep the industry informed about the current situation with regards to coronavirus.

Travel consultants have been overwhelmed by a flood of constantly changing advisories, policies and updates, and so we have created a new "C19-Central" page on our website which aims to centralise the latest information.

In addition we have produced a quick reference guide to cancelled cruises and associated policies which can be viewed and downloaded from the page at traveldaily.com.au/c19central.

Suppliers can post their own information on the site by **CLICKING HERE**, and updates can also be emailed to covidpolicy@ traveldaily.com.au.



The initiative is in addition to our current FREE subscription offer, which has been overwhelmingly popular as industry staff sign up to receive their own personal copies of Travel Daily and Cruise Weekly.

Access the complimentary offer at subs.traveldaily.com.au.

Inspire your clients' next holiday Check out the Autumn edition of Travel & Cruise Weekly Weekly

Europe, US cuts

AUTHORITIES in Europe are taking even more drastic measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, with the European Union proposing a ban on all nonessential travel within Europe for at least 30 days.

US President Donald Trump has also urged Americans to avoid non-essential overseas travel for the next 15 days, in line with new Centers for Disease Control guidelines announced this week.

At this stage the policy does not extend to US domestic travel.

INDABA is off

SOUTH African Tourism today confirmed the postponement of its annual INDABA trade show which had been scheduled to take place 12-14 May.

New rules in South Africa have imposed a ban on gatherings of more than 100 people, with the organisation to consult with the broader industry on "workable future dates for INDABA".

States to the rescue

MOST Australian states are preparing to roll out major stimulus packages in order to stave off economic downturns brought on by COVID-19.

The NSW Govt has introduced a \$2.3b coronavirus cash injection package which includes a three month payroll tax exemption, while SA authorities have announced a \$350m package to "weather the storm" including direct tourism industry assistance.

Meanwhile, the West Australian Govt is fast-tracking payroll tax relief for businesses, in addition to freezing household expenses, which it argues is equal to \$607m in economic relief, while the Qld Government has put together a tourism stimulus of \$27 million.

Tasmania will also unveil its funding package today.

The Federal Government is also considering a second package, less than a week after announcing \$17.6 billion in funding.



Window

HELLOWORLD Travel Runaway Bay has found a way to spread some cheer in the local community by offering toilet paper as an incentive to book a domestic trip with them.

The team has set up the below sign, with many passers-by stopping to take a photo.



Advice updates

FURTHER measures have been put in place across the world to control the spread of COVID-19, prompting many Smartraveller updates.

Travellers who wish to return to Australia from Spain are recommended to arrange to do so immediately, with the country closing its land borders to non-residents and Smartraveller warning that although airports remain open, commercial options are increasingly limited.

Germany has ordered the closures of bars, clubs, swimming pools, cinemas and theatres in its major cities.

There have also been further updates in countries including Fiji, Cyprus, Saudi Arabia, Austria, Sweden, Austria, the Solomon Islands and Lithuania.

See www.smartraveller.gov.au.



Airlines plead for assistance

ONEWORLD, Skyteam and the Star Alliance have issued a joint appeal to governments to "evaluate all possible means to assist the airline industry during this unprecedented period".

The alliances are also urging airport operators to evaluate landing charges and fees to help ease financial pressure faced by airlines due to a huge drop in passenger demand.

"Governments must implement the measures they consider necessary to contain the spread of COVID-19, and must be prepared for the widescale economic implications that will result from those measures," said oneworld CEO Rob Gurney.

Member airlines of the three global alliances have implemented measures to address the impact of COVID-19, such as capacity reductions,

MONEY

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

AU\$1 = U\$0.608

THE COVID-19 outbreak has continued to dampen the global growth of the AUD, which remains one of the worst performing major currencies.

The AUDUSD has fallen to a new 12-year low, now down 0.3%, while the AUDEUR has dropped o.2% and the AUDJPY

Meanwhile, the US' Dow Jones index is seeing its third-largest loss ever overnight.

Wholesale rates this morning.

	2
US	\$0.608
UK	£0.496
NZ	\$1.003
Euro	€0.544
Japan	¥64.55
Thailand	ß19.45
China	¥4.36
South Africa	10.092
Canada	\$0.848
Crude oil	US\$31.73

cost-saving initiatives, enhanced cleaning procedures and customer support outreach.

The call by the coalition of carriers comes amid a grim warning by Australia's Centre for Aviation, with founder Peter Harbison yesterday claiming that "by the end of May, most world airlines will be bankrupt".

Harbison argued that governments around the world are failing to act cooperatively and are instead acting out of national self-interest, which will result in a "brutal battlefield, littered with casualties".

Sri Lanka approvals

THE International Air Services Commission has issued new decisions varying capacity allocations on the Sri Lanka route which allow Qantas and Jetstar Asia to code share on services between Singapore and Colombo.

The revised determinations are valid effective from 22 Oct 2020.

Casino closures

THE lights are not so bright on the Las Vegas strip, with several casino operators announcing the temporary shutdown of their operations.

MGM Resorts has closed Aria, Bellagio, Park MGM, MGM Grand, Excalibur, Luxor, Mandalay Bay, New York-New York, Mirage, Vidara, noMad, Signature and Delano, with no reservations accepted before 01 May.

Wynn Las Vegas and Encore are also shut, while all Las Vegas Cirque du Soleil performances have been cancelled.

Malaysia Air policy

MALAYSIAN Airlines has announced an Ultimate Flexibility ticket policy amid the COVID-19 outbreak, which provides passengers with unlimited date changes free of charge.

The policy allows flexibility of destination changes - more HERE.

MATAI AGENTS EXPERIENCE FIJI



TOURISM Fiji recently hosted 45 Australian agents on a sevenday famil in the island-nation.

All the agents had completed the Matai Training Program and spent the first full day of the famil at a one-day conference at the Sofitel in Denarau, followed by an evening event at Sofitel's Waitui Beach Club.

The agents then split into five itineraries to visit properties focusing on luxury, the Mamanuca Islands, Coral Coast, Yasawa Islands and the South Coast.

Some of the highlights of the trip included experiences with Malamala Beach Club, Tivua Island by Captain Cook Cruises, Rivers Fiji, Sigatoka River Safari, Essence of Fiji.

TOP: The group of agents visiting the

Mamanuca Islands at Castaway Island.

MIDDLE: Tourism Fiji Trade Partnerships Manager Jason Sacriz with VOMO's Bulanaire.

BOTTOM: Agents in the Mamanuca Islands departing Musket



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



Moulin Rouge canx

ICONIC French cabaret house Moulin Rouge has closed its doors and suspended all performances until at least 15 Apr in response to new government restrictions that prohibit public gatherings of more than 100 people.



R1 WINNERS

Congratulations

SCOTT MARSDEN & BRIDGET HOLLIS

from Corporate Traveller

They both were the top point scorers for Round 1 of Travel Daily's NRL footy tipping competition. Having both won \$100 travel credit courtesy of Expedia.



Travel Daily NRL tipping competition is sponsored by Emirates, with the top tipper for the season winning flights to Europe.



LATAM cuts 70%

LATAM will scale down its operations by 70%, only four days after announcing a 30% cut to international flights (TD 13 Mar).

The airline said that any customer affected by the reduction in flights can reschedule their journeys until 31 Dec 2020, at no additional cost.

"We made this difficult decision following border closures that have made operating to a large part of our network impossible," said LATAM CCO Roberto Alvo.

Rex trading halt

REGIONAL Express (Rex) has this morning placed its shares on the ASX into a trading halt, pending a further announcement.

Shares will remain in a trading halt until Thu, or when the announcement is released.

Yesterday Rex issued an open letter to the Deputy Prime Minister saying it does not believe Rex "and all other regional carriers will be able to pull through this crisis without significant assistance, if the health authorities' projections prove accurate".

The airline has called for all air service, pax and baggage security screening costs at all airports be waived for one year.

CINZ postpones

CONVENTIONS and Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) has postponed New Zealand's annual business events industry trade show MEETINGS until further notice following government restrictions on public gatherings.

Travel Partners shine bright



TRAVEL Partners mobile agents, members and head office team rolled up their sleeves to help out for a good cause on Sat at the group's annual conference.

The closing speaker of the conference was Solar Buddy International founder and CEO Simon Doble, who has built a

philanthropy business providing lights for under privileged kids in developing countries.

The session saw delegates pitch in to build a light which they then donated to the charity.

Doble is pictured with GM Kate Cameron and delegates showing off their lights.

WIN A CRUISE TO RUSSIA



This month Viking is giving Travel Daily readers the opportunity to win a deluxe stateroom on the Waterways of the Tsars river cruise.

Explore the Waterways of the Tsars aboard Viking Akun. Travel from Moscow to St Petersburg in style, where you and a partner can experience Russia like never before.

To enter simply:

1) Visit Viking's Marketing Centre & download at least one file here



2) In 25 words or less, let us know what else you'd like to see on the Viking Marketing Centre

> Submit your answers to viking@traveldaily.com.au along with your name, state & travel agency details

Contact agents.anz@vikingcruises.com if you need assistance setting up an account

For confidential tip offs, connect with *Travel Daily* via our secure WhatsApp service on +61 2 8007 6760 or click HERE





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DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING Sydney - \$100K - \$110K+ super

Join a boutique hotel group who have a strong corporate and conference market. This role will involve building strong long term relationships and develop new strategies relating to sales and marketing. Experience within the hospitality space and leaderships skills is essential. A competitive salary and bonus scheme on offer. Contact Giulia

BOOKKEEPER - PART TIME 3 DAYS Sydney - \$65K pro rata + super

A fantastic role where you will handle all accounting requirements such as their fortnightly payroll, accounts receivable, bank statements and reconciling using both Xero and Excel. This fashion wholesaler is a medium sized family owned business located in Sydney's west. A great opportunity to work close to home.

Contact Susan

VIEW JOB

BUSINESS LEADER VIC/TAS

Melbourne - \$60K - \$65K+ super

This global leader offers a wealth of exciting travel and cruise products where they help promote work-life balance and development training. The core of this role is to manage and support the team and run all operations. Management experience is highly desirable where you will maintain both team and individual KPIs and targets.

Contact Adrian

VIEW JOB

LUXURY TRAVEL DESIGNER

Melbourne - \$50K - \$55K + super

Become a valuable travel guru with an award winning luxury agency and enjoy work life balance along with high returns as an experienced travel expert. Help create dream itineraries and maintain client relationships on a repeat and referral basis. Experience within the corporate, leisure or cruise sectors and GDS knowledge is ideal.

Contact Priyanka

VIEW JOB

AREA FINANCIAL CONTROLLER Adelaide - \$120K - \$130K + super

This premium brand is one of the largest hotel groups in ANZ where they strive to retain, develop and reward passionate professionals at all levels. This exciting role will give you the rare opportunity to manage the finances of two iconic Adelaide hotels. Financial control in hospitality is desirable as is leadership experience.

Contact Leanne

VIEW JOB

HOTEL GENERAL MANAGER Sydney - \$120K - \$130K + super

An exciting opportunity to join a dynamic and quality hotel group where they focus on offering growth for their employees. This role will involve supporting all hotel operations to ensure customer satisfaction and deliver excellent service. Prior hotel management experience is desirable with proven financial and forecasting skills.

Contact Peter

VIEW JOB

WEDDING SALES MANAGER

Sydney - \$65K - \$70K + super

One of Sydney's most iconic and reputable venues are looking for a wedding sales expert to join one of their luxury venues. Take this opportunity to launch your events career and showcase your strong knowledge of the Sydney wedding market. Fantastic work-life balance on offer. Proven experience in sales.

Contact Giulia

VIEW JOB

VIP - TRAVEL ADVISOR Adelaide - \$50K - \$55K + super

A fantastic opportunity to work alongside other top-tier travel consultants whilst enjoying a great work-life balance, autonomy and uncapped commission. This well respected travel business is seeking a talented travel expert where you will deliver quality service, design exciting itineraries and be rewarded with excellent travel benefits.

Contact Priyanka

VIEW JOB

tmstalent.com



PRODUCT PROFILEOPERATOR





TOUROPA – easy as 1 - 2 - 3

Touropa is the result of a coming together of two companies who believe in high quality – flexible touring paired with old school service.

SUN Island Tours is a family owned and operated company, operating for 30 years and accredited with AFTA, CATO and ATAS.

Europamundo has grown to become Europe's most comprehensive coach tour operator, offering extensive itineraries spanning the continent from the Iberian Peninsula to Russia, as well as everything in between.

Our unique Touropa offering lets travellers choose from the largest range of tours throughout Europe, and customise it to fit with their own arrangements. Choose to start or end the tour on any day and location, or take a break during the tour and join the next departure.

When booking a circular tour (a tour which returns to its starting point), travellers can opt to begin at any point along the tour. Also, should there be a desire to spend more time exploring a particular destination, travellers can "press pause" at any point before continuing their itinerary on the next scheduled departure date.

TOUROPA'S USER-FRIENDLY WEB-SITE MAKES BOOKING EASY AS 1-2-3

- **1** Search and find your dream tour, choosing from over 77,000 tour departures throughout Europe.
- **2** Once selected, choose if you want to customise your tour, by starting and ending wherever you want, or breaking your journey mid tour.
- **3** Book online with live availability, & confidence that you have chosen an accredited touring company.

TWO WAYS FOR AGENTS TO BOOK

As a travel agent, all you need do is register your details at www.touropa.com.au

1. You can then search, quote and book on behalf of your clients with live availability and instant confirmations

OR

2. Clients can search, quote and book online from our live availability and select your agency from the site for final payment and documentation.

Call or email Touropa today for more details _____

P: +61 2 9281 4537
M: info@touropa.com.au
W: www.touropa.com.au



Click here to register your agency