

Rocky suspends

ROCKY Mountaineer has revealed it will extend the suspension of its 2020 travel season until 31 Jul to cater for the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

"With numerous travel restrictions in place globally...it has become impossible for us to start our operations in Jul," said Rocky's CEO Steve Sammut.

Affected passengers are eligible to receive a future travel credit of 110% of the value a booking, usable through to the end of the 2022 season.

NZ recovery funds

THE New Zealand Government has announced a new \$400 million tourism recovery package to support the tourism industry as it continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The package will inject funds into changing strategy, new initiatives and asset protection.

NSW inspiring travel

DESTINATION NSW will today launch the next phase of its tourism recovery campaign, a major multimedia marketing push designed to inspire travellers to plan future holidays in the state.

The Love NSW from Home campaign kicks off tonight during Network Ten's *The Project*, with further activations running across TV, social media and digital platforms.

Front and centre of the push will be the state's unique "wide open spaces", with a number of destinations featuring heavily throughout the campaign, including the slopes of Blue Cow ski resort in Perisher, the scenic views from Mudgee's Sierra Escapes, indigenous cultural tours in Port Stephens, camping trips on the Hawkesbury River, and surfing on the Narooma coast.

Destination NSW CEO Steve Cox said a major target of the

campaign was to remind NSW residents of the allure of taking a short holiday to some amazing outdoor destinations.

"Now's the time to start dreaming about taking a NSW road trip or short break - we want our campaign to be a reminder to all of us about the wide range of experiences that are ready to be discovered in NSW," he said.

"Providing travel inspiration is more important than ever - Love NSW From Home is a reminder of all of the unique outdoor experiences that are waiting for us on our next NSW holiday, the trip we should start to dream and plan now," Cox added.

The NSW Government's road to economic recovery relies heavily on the success of the state's tourism sector, which delivered \$43.3 billion into the NSW economy in 2019.

For more inspiration, see **HERE**.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news including our PUZZLES.

SATC gets flexible

THE South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) has partnered with Tripadvisor to launch a new initiative called FlexiTourism - giving prospective travellers to the state greater flexibility when booking their next holiday.

The Tripadvisor platform will allow consumers to explore bookable tourism experience in South Australia, providing a "book now, pay on arrival" payment option.

The site will also now allow holiday planners to change their dates without penalties or cancellation fees.

"It gives operators the confidence to re-open business & certainty to plan ahead," said SATC CEO Rodney Harrex.

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AVAILABLE
TODAY!

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Travel Daily

NEWS ON THE FLY

Read about incredible animal encounters in Canada

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Travel & Cruise Weekly

NSW calls on states

NSW Tourism Minister Stuart Ayres has publicly pleaded with other Australian states to scrap their interstate travel restrictions by 01 Jul.

Ayres argued that the risk of COVID-19 infection in Australia is now "quite low", urging other states to consider the needs of the wider Australian economy.

"The simple matter of the fact is we can't stay closed forever," he said.

"If states believe they can keep their economies functional while keeping their borders closed, that's a mistake," Ayres added.

NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian also weighed in on the suggestion, stating that she remained "very open" about her stance against domestic border shutdowns, even suggesting that some form of international travel might arrive earlier than her fellow states.

"I often joke with the Queensland Premier that I'll end up going to Auckland before I go to Brisbane if we continue the way we are going," she quipped.

TEQ webinar today

TOURISM and Events Queensland, in partnership with the Queensland Tourism Industry Council, will host a webinar today outlining the state's roadmap to easing travel restrictions.

The session kicks off at 2.00pm AEST, register [HERE](#) to watch.

QR flies into Brisbane



QATAR Airways has announced the launch of regular nonstop services between Doha and Brisbane from 20 May.

The route will be operated by an Airbus A350-1000 four times weekly, offering 46 Business class seats and 281 in Economy.

Services will operate under existing bilateral rights until 30 Jun, with Australian citizens wishing to be on outbound flights required to hold an exemption from the current nationwide travel restrictions.

Brisbane Airport hailed the news as an important step for the state entering a recovery phase from COVID-19 restrictions, suggesting it would help service a clear demand for Queenslanders wanting to travel to Qatar.

"Until now, Brisbane was the only major capital city without

a Qatar Airways service and Queensland the only major state," said Brisbane Airport Corporation Chief Executive Officer Gert-Jan de Graaff.

"The demand for Qatar Airways services has always been clear, with Queensland generating more than 19,000 passengers to Doha alone in 2019.

"As the world begins to heal, one stop services into Queensland from key British and European travel markets also offers a real opportunity for Queensland, with visitors arriving into Australian via Brisbane more likely to stay longer in the state," he added.

Scheduled services will see Brisbane to Doha flights take off at 22.15 and arrive at 06.10, while return flights leave Doha at 23.55 and arrive at 20.45.

DCL delays to Jul

DISNEY Cruise Line (DCL) has revealed it will be extending its suspension of sailings through to 28 Jul due to ongoing concerns surrounding COVID-19.

The cruise line said any customers affected by the delay would be eligible for a 125% future cruise credit for any sailing within 15 months of the original sail date, or a full refund.

Credits have been automatically added to guests' accounts, meaning agents can put a reservation on hold for their clients by applying the credit as a payment option.

Impacted sailings include trips to Alaska and the Mediterranean.

Silversea protection

SILVERSEA Cruises will now pay commissions on cancelled voyages for all guests who have paid in full, regardless of whether they have chosen a cash refund or a future cruise credit.

The cruise line said the decision was made after listening to feedback from its partners, revealing the changes will be retroactive to its first set of cancellations back in Mar.

Silversea has also expanded its cruise with confidence program to allow cancellations up to 48 hours prior to any cruise departing before 31 Dec.

Deposits have also been reduced to \$1,500 per suite for new bookings made by 30 Jun.

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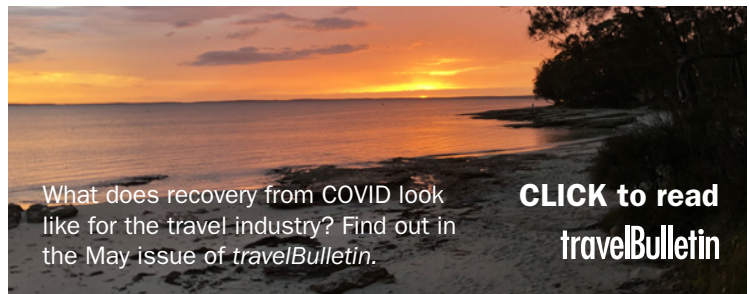
nouvelle calédonie
Pacific heart

Keep dreaming of Western Australia

A message from Tourism WA

[CLICK](#)

Tourism
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



What does recovery from COVID look like for the travel industry? Find out in the May issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

SQ reports first ever loss

SINGAPORE Airlines says there is no visibility on the timing or trajectory of the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic at this point, with the carrier today reporting the first annual net loss in its history.

The airline reported a net loss of S\$212 million (A\$231 million) for the 12 months ending 31 Mar, a sharp plummet from the S\$683 million profit posted in the same period last year, with the result heavily hit by \$710m in losses on fuel hedging contracts.

The result showed the heavy impact of the coronavirus pandemic, with parent SIA Group entering the fourth quarter of the year with robust passenger traffic numbers and extensive initiatives underway under the airline's transformation program.

"However the market conditions deteriorated abruptly in Feb 2020 as the COVID-19 outbreak started to spread globally," SQ said.

Scheduled passenger capacity from Apr-Jun has been reduced by 96%, with the airline maintaining minimal services as long as possible to repatriate passengers.

An internal task force has been established to review all aspects of the Group's operations "to ensure we are ready to ramp up services when air travel recovers".

"The Group's portfolio strategy, with a presence in both the full-service premium and low-fare segments, gives us the ability to offer the right products to match the demand," the airline said, with its presence in both full-service and low-fare segments providing additional flexibility.

Minimal flight connectivity will be maintained in the meantime, with demand for cargo driven in the near term by the supply of essential medical supplies, fresh foods and pharmaceuticals on many key lanes.

Ponant for science

PONANT has announced that its new *Le Commandant-Charcot*, currently under construction, has moved to the Soviknes shipyard in Norway to complete the final stages of her construction.

Set for delivery in Apr 2021, the ship will be the first hybrid electric passenger vessel running on liquefied natural gas, and will also be made available to the scientific community with laboratories, equipment, dedicated staterooms and personnel to help participate in the global effort to study and conserve the poles.

"Despite cruising being on pause for the moment, at Ponant we have been busy behind the scenes," said the line's VP Asia-Pacific, Monique Ponfoort.

In her 2021-22 inaugural season *Le Commandant-Charcot* will take her 270 guests to far-flung polar destinations "in absolute luxury, many accessible for the first time," Ponfoort said.

Garuda rescue plan

INDONESIAN carrier Garuda is likely to receive a major US\$1 billion bailout package from the Indonesian Government as the carrier continues to combat mounting debts.

The rescue plan includes a series of loans and restructuring initiatives, with Deputy State-Owned Enterprises Minister Kartika Wirjoatmodjo stating the airline still had a "bright future" and was confident of a recovery.

GC beach proposal

DESTINATION Gold Coast Chairman Paul Donovan has called for the region's beaches to be better commercialised to improve tourism demand, urging the creation of beach club-style services.

"We're not talking ice cream stands under an umbrella, [we need] multimillion-dollar investments in getting people to invest," Donovan said.

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CORPORATE UPDATE

CTM ready for the bounce

CORPORATE Travel Management (CTM) is positioning itself for a domestic recovery in business travel, with the company yesterday revealing that about 60% of its revenues relate to domestic travel.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, CTM's overall monthly revenues amounted to \$42 million, with \$25m of that allocated to domestic and split equally across Australasia, Europe and the USA.

An analyst presentation by CEO Jamie Pherous last week noted that with the current CTM cash burn which is at the "lower end" of \$5m-\$10m per month, the company has the "ability to operate a high performing domestic-only business, with the current reduced cost base until international recovers".

The update also showed the strong prevalence of OB (online booking tool) domestic bookings, with three out of every four made online, producing a relatively higher revenue per full time employee.

The proportion is even higher in Australia, NZ and Europe, where around 90% of domestic bookings are made online, the majority via CTM's proprietary in-house tools.

Modest domestic activity will give the company a "swift return to profitability," with CTM noting that since mid-Mar Chinese airline domestic utilisation had already recovered to about 47% of 2019 volumes.

Pherous outlined a three-phase

approach to recovery - firstly adjusting costs, protecting people and customers; then preparing for return including addressing client concerns about staff health and wellbeing; and finally scaling up, with staff capacity in each region ready to be deployed back to full-time hours as required.

CTM's technology hubs are also working to incorporate additional functionality and information for post-COVID-19 travel needs.

Interestingly, Pherous also noted that CTM's total client base had actually increased through the COVID-19 period, through new customer wins, retentions and extensions of contracts.

NZ business events go-ahead

AUTHORITIES in New Zealand have confirmed that domestic conferences and business events are now able to go ahead, with a 100-person maximum.

Events must be ticketed and seated, contact tracing is essential and a one-metre social distancing requirement applies, with the new arrangements part of the first stage of NZ's Alert Level Two coronavirus easings.

Any food and drink served must meet safety provisions and event organisers must implement good hygiene procedures.

The new arrangements may be further eased later this month, with a review on 25 May.

Conventions & Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) CEO Lisa Hopkins hailed the clarity provided by the Government, as well as the acknowledgement that business events should be viewed differently to social gatherings.

"This helps the NZ business events sector restart for domestic attendees, and is the first step in the right direction," she said.

The 100-person cap is set by the Ministry of Health, with increases leading to exponentially higher difficulty in contact tracing.

ACTE career advice

THE Association of Corporate Travel Executives (ACTE) is offering members an opportunity for free career advice sessions offered by global executive search firm P. Jason King Associates.

However the telephone consultations are limited to US-based ACTE members only, with one session permitted per member - acte.org.

CORPORATE CHATTER

with Ivona Siniarska

The mobile network

BEING a mobile agent will transform your life. It'll shape the way you travel, the way you work, the way you connect. You are your own boss.

Client relationships will strengthen due to more time per booking, per phone call, per interaction. Travellers and travel bookers turn into friends, and friendships form where only business was before.

Productivity? It's skyrocketing.

Working with 1000 Mile Travel brings flexibility. Every month brings with it a new landscape to work remotely, be it interstate or international. Land, plug in, and set up - the only ingredients you need are a laptop and wi-fi.

Back here in Canada, the time zone shifts the Australian working day to a 4pm start and 1am close. It's a happy sacrifice.

School drop-offs, nap time during the day, after school pick-ups, dinner, homework, and then the real work

begins. Think you would find that in a full time role in Australia? Think again.

Having this kind of flexibility allows you to do what you want, when you want. All those missed opportunities to coexist in the lives and relationships that have drifted over the years, only because of a conflicting schedule, become a reality again. They become possible again. Spend

your time with family, at a function away from the city, or at a volunteer project overseas. What's important is to be present and in the moment (albeit on call). Life is the priority.

There is a human aspect to no longer having your life dictated by a schedule, and what's the best part? Life now interrupts

a plan - not the demands of a portfolio. Create a life that work helps sustain, instead of working your life around the schedule. Be empowered, liberated, enlightened, and most importantly, be enriched.

“
Travellers and travel bookers turn into friends, and friendships form where only business was before... productivity? It's skyrocketing
”



Ivona Siniarska is a Travel Expert with 1000 Mile Travel Group. She has worked in the travel industry in Canada and Australia for 10 years, and has travelled to more than 80 countries.

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Friday 15th May 2020

Donut entries flooding in

TRAVEL Daily has had so many entries to our donut competition that we can't share all of them, with this page only including a

small selection.

Please continue to send through your entries however, with all going into the running for the chance to win a box of the deep-fried delicious treats, and the best entry each week read out on the **Travel Daily** podcast, *News on the Fly* ([CLICK HERE](#) to check out last week's winner).

The competition is open for entries until 02 Jun with the grand winner awarded on International Donut Day on 05 Jun.

To be in with a chance of donut glory, send your entries to donuts@traveldaily.com.au.

Well, I walked round the corner
And I walked round the block,
And I walked right into a bakery shop.

I picked up a doughnut
And I wiped off the grease,
And I handed the lady a five cent piece.

Well, she looked at the five cent piece
And she looked at me,
And she said "Hey miss, you can plainly see.

There's a hole in the five cent piece,
There's a hole right through."
Said I, "There's a hole in the doughnut too!
Thanks for the doughnut,
good-bye!"

Gina Georgoussis,
TravelManagers

Still waiting for a refund
from "The Mob"
Shove a donut in your gob
It will make you feel
better, that Jam and
Cream
So please send them to
the Balnarring Travel
Team!

Bridget Shepstone,
Balnarring Travel & Cruise

Zoe and her love for the Dough

There once was a travel agent
called Zoe
Who was slightly obsessed
with a doughie

While she'd rather be home,
she has to go to work
Has anyone noticed world's
gone berserk?!

She's been saving all the
dreams she created
Before everything she has
booked gets cremated.

Nothing makes Zoe smile
more revealing her dimples
Than when she bites into that
donut covered in sprinkles.

While her worldly adventures
will have to wait
In iso this girl will never donut
discriminate

Around the world she has
travelled

Tasting donuts before the
world unravelled

Her favourites include Mexico
Thailand and Peru
She's munched on them in the
USA and France too
In Bali it was noted
That in a hotel pool, on a
donut she floated

She doesn't want to admit
that she has an obsession
Nothing will stop her not even
a recession

Her love is extreme
Craving them all, from plain
to cream

Now, Corona it's time for you
to go
So Zoe can continue to travel
the world and find more
dough!

Kirsten Bews, Flight Centre

When Corona first came to
town, and we all learned
the lingo - "stand down",
Careers forged in years,
of blood, sweat and tears,
couldn't prepare for the
fear that we found.

The travel it stopped and our
KPIs dropped, yet the love
for our game stuck around.
With a channel 9 boot in the
nuts, and our grit & our
guts, we mucked in to do
ourselves proud.

We've done all sorts to make
ends meet,
Pilots working Centrelink
and shaking hands with our
feet.

Some are on the brink, and
some won't return,
Goodbyes without a hug
but grateful to live, and to
learn.

Plenty of pent up people will
again need us for travel, to
get out and see how others
are dealing with a world
now unravelled,
The longing for adventure, to
be high above the clouds,
Please can I have my donut
now.

**Glen Kilpatrick, Travel in
kind**

Donut donuts
Let the tastebuds flownuts
Make and bake a tasty
doughy treat that make you
gonuts
Or make a flaky tasty treat
that's sweet with butter:
cronuts

Feel the awesome taste from
your head down to your
toenuts

Sprinkles on the top are real
cos I don't play no fauxnuts
Buy a six pack and hand
them out to all your
bronuts

Always steal the shownuts
Make your belly grownuts
Give one out to all
colleagues even the
CEOnuts

Caramiddle cinnamonster
make your mind blownnuts
Put it in your pocket so it's
safe, I call it stownuts

Eat it one nibble at a time, I
call it slownuts
Put it in your hair and mix it
round I call it fronuts
Buy 20 of the same kind:
status quonots

Uh freakin ohnuts
Now I gotta gonuts
Better get back to work or
my boss is gonna explonuts

**Matt McLean, Virgin
Australia**

Love donuts?

**So do we! Send us
your donut poem,
song or ditty to win.**

The best donut ditty will
be read out on our podcast
weekly and the best overall
will win themselves some of
the real delicious deal.

**Send your entries to
donuts@traveldaily.com.au**





Viking adds more

VIKING Cruises has added a new departure date for one its 15-day In the Wake of the Vikings voyages from Bergen, Norway to Montreal, Canada via Iceland and Greenland.

The cruise, which traces the original steps of Icelandic Viking explorer Leif Eriksson, is scheduled to depart Sep 2021 on board *Viking Star*, visiting six countries and featuring nine guided shore excursions.

Prices lead in from \$11,995ppts for a veranda stateroom, and is backed by Viking's Risk-Free Guarantee, which offers those booking the chance to reschedule trips up to 24 hours prior to the departure date.

Call 138 747 for more info.

Celeb agent surveys

CELEBRITY Cruises has launched a series of surveys aimed at gathering insights directly from agents to learn how the brand can better support them through these COVID-19.

Take the survey [HERE](#).

MEANWHILE, Celebrity Cruises has introduced its Dream Big sale which offers travellers the chance to save up to \$1,500 & land three onboard perks on select sailings booked between 15-19 May.

Perks include beverage package, internet and \$150 of ship credit.

[CLICK HERE](#) for details.

TUI sheds 8,000 jobs

BRITISH tour giant TUI has been forced to slash its workforce by 8,000 staff in the wake of posting a €741 million (A\$1.24 billion) loss for the first three months of the year.

In a statement, the company said the move was motivated by a need to reduce its cost base by 30% as it prepares to reopen properties in Europe soon.

TUI also indicated that it would need to reduce its presence around the world as it prepares to adapt to a post-COVID world.

More travel appreciation



THE Travel Studio's Managing Director Julie Marshall (**pictured**) recently received some well earned love from a client on Mother's Day, who gifted a bright bunch of sunflowers to the hard working travel expert.

The client, Liz, sent the flowers to The Travel Studio offices as a

sign of appreciation for all of the hard work and challenging times that Marshall and her team had been dealing with of late.

Liz had struck up a rapport with Julie on one of the company's escorted tours of South America a couple of years ago, and has since enjoyed a couple of other trips - forming a great friendship in the process.

Well done on your generosity Liz and Happy Mother's Day from us here at **Travel Daily** Julie!

Air NZ resumes more

AIR New Zealand has announced it will restart domestic flights to and from Taupo and Timaru commencing 08 Jun, and follows the rebooting of the majority of its local operations.

"We're pleased to be able to restart both our Taupo-Auckland and Timaru-Wellington routes early next month and we know this news will be welcomed by these towns and their wider regions," said the carrier's GM Networks Scott Carr.

Initially Air New Zealand will operate three return services a week between Taupo and Auckland on Mon, Wed and Fri, as well as three return services per week between Timaru and Wellington on the same days.

MEANWHILE, the carrier has indicated it will also restart Auckland to Shanghai Pu Dong services from 31 May.

The route will fly three times weekly on board a Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner.



Window Seat

WHILE much of the travel and cruise sector is put on hold, many companies have found unique ways to remain upbeat and connected in lockdown - some in more ways than none.

The team at Travelmarvel decided the time was right to have a bit of fun and enjoy a little "roll around the office".

"In many ways I feel we are even more connected as a team in these times, even though we are not physically together," said the company's Brand Manager Paddy Scott.

Check out the team showing what it takes to maintain connection in the online environment [HERE](#).



Love donuts?

So do we! Send us your donut poem, song or ditty to win.

The best donut ditty will be read out on our podcast weekly and the best overall will win themselves some of the real delicious deal.

Send your entries to donuts@traveldaily.com.au

Travel Daily



Whose flag is this?



THIS country was once part of the Byzantine Empire - a fact which is heralded by the double-headed eagle on the flag, which is

not only this nation's symbol but was once the Empire's as well. Do you know whose flag it is? Check Mon for the answer.

Pub quiz

- True or False: Baz Luhrmann's *Australia* was largely shot overseas.
- In which city would you find the Taj Mahal?
- In which US state is the annual music festival Coachella held?
- How many time zones does China have?
- The Blarney Stone in Ireland is said to bestow what upon those that kiss it?
- In what mountain range would one find the Matterhorn?
- Which country originally colonised Vietnam, greatly influencing their cuisine and architecture?
- Which country, dubbed one of the "axis of evil" by George Bush now has a range of successful ski resorts?
- Which small country has the highest population density (most people per m²) in the world?
- 'Lizard Newts' is an anagram for which country?
- What US territory does this collection of pictures spell out?



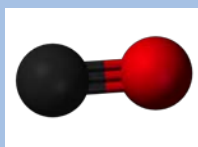
+



+



+



Having trouble unpacking the government stimulus packages and how they can help your business? Read the May issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read

travelBulletin



Sudoku

BEGINNER

THE aim of Sudoku is to complete the entire grid using the numbers 1-9. Each number can only be used once in each row, once in each column, and once in each of the 3x3 boxes.

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

www.sudokuoftheday.com - visit them and get a new Sudoku every day!

Word jumble

UNJUMBLE each of these words and then use the letters circled to form a new word.

shot = _ _ _ ○

everbeag = _ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _

flaim = _ _ _ ○ _ _

tujan = ○ _ _ _ _

nrteru = _ _ _ _ _ ○

drawne = _ _ _ _ _ ○ _

dourroots = _ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _

gavyoe = _ _ _ ○ _ _

yancf = _ _ _ ○ _ _

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

ANSWERS 14 MAY

Pub quiz: 1 Serbia, 2 *Ulysses*, James Joyce, 3 Kyrgyzstan, 4 London 1944 Olympics which were postponed to 1948, 5 Denmark, 6 Bangladesh, 7 Hawaii (admitted into the union in 1959), 8 Canada, though they also inhabited Alaska and Greenland, 9 False, 10 San Diego

Where in the world: Tsar Bell, Moscow, Russia



Riding new travel waves



MATT Urmenyhazi from Sydney Guided Tours has found a silver lining of the current travel hiatus, exploring the city looking for hidden gems to introduce to clients once travel begins again. Urmenyhazi's company specialises in running private day tours of Sydney, often looking for "hidden secrets", and during a

recent reconnaissance discovered this amazing rock formation in Berowra.

"It's an area rich in Aboriginal carvings, caves, spectacular Australian wildlife and stunning views," Urmenyhazi enthused.

This photograph is of Sydney's own Wave Rock, located in The Berowra Valley National Park.

"I'm very excited to show this fascinating sculptured cliff face with my guests one day".

Botha lends a hand

SOLOMON Islands dive tourism entrepreneur Belinda Botha has launched a new virtual consulting business to help coach struggling South Pacific tourism operators through the challenges of the pandemic, including businesses affected in Australia.

The aim of COVID-19 Human Capital Virtual Consulting is to provide customised advice on how to get businesses on track.

Botha said she was "very excited" to provide real help during the crisis - more info [HERE](#).

Avani ups its shield

AVANI Hotels is scrubbing up a new plan which will see the rollout of a new suite of safety and hygiene measures, codenamed AvaniSHIELD.

The company will enact the new health protocols across its global network of 32 properties in 18 countries, which will include new contactless services such as digital check-in, as well as anti-viral coating tech for surfaces.

NEED A DISTRACTION AMID THE DOOM AND GLOOM?

Check out our daily puzzle page.



Hyatt wields the axe

HYATT Hotels has announced a raft of layoffs and restructured roles for around 1,300 of its employees globally, due to come into effect from 01 Jun.

Affected staff will be eligible to receive severance pay, outplacement services, and benefits equivalent to their years of service, with those facing financial difficulties able to seek support from Hyatt Care Fund.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, the company has adopted several measures to tackle the industry's ongoing challenges, including cuts to expenditure, extended salary reductions for the senior leadership team and directors, and temporary work depletions.

"While parting ways with our colleagues is excruciating, we must be sensitive to commercial realities so we can continue to fulfil our purpose of care over the long term," said President & Chief Executive Officer Mark Hoptamazan.

Israel eyes normality

ISRAEL'S tourism sector is gradually returning to normality, with the country opening up its domestic travel industry.

The Israeli government's four-step plan will include bed and breakfasts return to operation, provided they followed mandated government guidelines.

CX masks mandate

THE wearing of face masks will be compulsory for all Cathay Pacific passengers in all situations where physical distancing of two metres is not able to be maintained.

Effective immediately, passengers must bring their own face coverings, with the carrier saying "all types of masks and coverings are suitable".

Children aged under six are exempt from the requirement, which applies during check-in, inside airport lounges, during boarding, in the aircraft cabin and while deplaning.

TRAVEL SPECIALS

WELCOME to Travel Specials, *Travel Daily's* Friday feature. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of, send the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au

Savings of up to US\$2,000 are available on selected American Queen Steamboat Company Memphis river cruises through **Cruise Traveller**. Deals are valid for set Mississippi River cruises, with prices starting at US\$1,598ppts. For details, see www.cruisetraveller.com.au or phone on 1300 680 374.

The Maldives' **Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas** on Huravalhi Island is offering a The Best of Kihavah reopening package. Valid until 31 Oct 2021, six-night stay package includes snorkelling with manta rays and stargazing at the largest over-water observatory in the Maldives - book at www.kihavah-maldives.anantara.com.

Got a confidential tip? Contact *Travel Daily* via our secure WhatsApp service on +61 2 8007 6760 or click [HERE](#)



Travel Daily

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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.

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