



## 2020 WINNERS

Congratulations to all the finalists and winners of the Travel Daily Awards 2020 and thanks to everyone who nominated and voted.

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE AIRLINE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Qatar Airways

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIER**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Sabre

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE HOTEL GROUP/ACCOMMODATION SUPPLIER**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Expedia TAAP

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE GROUND TRANSPORT SUPPLIER**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

DriveAway

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE INDUSTRY SUPPORT SERVICE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Air Tickets

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE OCEAN CRUISE LINE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Princess Cruises

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE EXPEDITION CRUISE LINE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Scenic Luxury Cruises and Tours

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE RIVER CRUISE LINE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

APT Travel Group

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TOUR OPERATOR/WHOLESALE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Globus Family of Brands

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE INDUSTRY SALES EXECUTIVE**

*VOTED CATEGORY*

Linda Costantini - Emirates

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - QLD**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Cathy Donaghy - Helloworld Travel Strathpine

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - NSW**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Maria Tadros Anissa - Tadros Travel

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - ACT**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Maria Slater - Maria Slater Travel

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - VIC**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Kathy Pavlidis - Travel Associates Kew

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - TAS**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Robyn Sinfield - Home Travel Company

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - SA**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Brianna Schwarz - Helloworld Norwood  
Jan Smith - Enhance Travel

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE TRAVEL CONSULTANT - WA**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Barry Downs - Bicton Travel  
Christine Ross-Davies - Attadale Travel  
Jo-Anne Deveson-Francis - Global Travel Solutions

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE LEISURE TRAVEL AGENCY**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

Bicton Travel

### **MOST SUPPORTIVE CORPORATE TRAVEL AGENCY**

*JUDGED CATEGORY*

FCM Travel Solutions



## Traveleague is off

**THE** organisers of Christmas Traveleague have advised that this year's event will be postponed due to the ongoing COVID-19 issues in Victoria.

"As much as we would like to run the event this year and have all of the industry get together at the end of 2020, we feel that for the safety of all involved and for our responsibility to this, we have to postpone," said Matthew Fleming and Craig Hunt.

"This has been an agonising decision however we do not feel with the current restrictions in place it is feasible to go ahead."

Christmas Traveleague 2021 is now scheduled for 15 Dec 2021.

## \$62m green stimulus

**ECOTOURISM** operators are set to be beneficiaries of a new \$61.7 million "environment and heritage package" to be announced in next week's Federal Budget, with the funding flagged this morning by Environment Minister Sussan Ley.

The package includes a \$20 million Reef Builder partnership between the Government and the Nature Conservancy to build 11 oyster and shellfish reefs around Australia's coastline, while \$33.5 million will go to upgrades to facilities at national parks and world heritage sites including the redevelopment of huts along Tasmania's Overland Track.

There's also \$3.2 million for Qld tourism operators to carry out Great Barrier Reef monitoring.

## TD Awards industry support

**THE** inaugural *Travel Daily* Awards yesterday saw the industry take the opportunity to brighten the COVID-19 darkness, with agents and suppliers from across the country putting on their glad rags for a rare moment of 2020 celebration.

A series of COVID-safe Zoom presentations took place across the day, with *TD's* Jenny and Bruce Piper meeting virtually with finalists in 19 categories to announce the winners.

The judged categories had been decided by an eminent group, including former AFTA Chairman Mike Thompson, the esteemed Anne Rogers of Wingsaway Travel and the *Travel Daily* team.

Thousands of votes were received in the voted categories to help select supplier winners.

"While there is only one trophy for each category, the hundreds of nominations for the awards show just how hard everyone in the industry has worked this year to support one another," said *Travel Daily's* Jenny Piper.

"Thank you to everyone who has helped us provide a little bit of brightness for the industry in

this very dark time."

The awards also provided the opportunity to recognise the extraordinary efforts of individual travel agents - particularly a trio of Western Australian winners who have been relentless in their efforts to support the industry.

The judges' deliberations led to the three-way dead heat for the Most Supportive WA Consultant category, which was jointly taken out by Barry Downs of Bicton Travel, Christine Ross-Davies of Attadale Travel and Jo Francis from Global Travel Solutions.

Downs has made multiple media appearances and also launched *The Big Cruise* podcast, now up to its 26th weekly episode, in an effort to have some positive cruise news countering mainstream media sentiment.

Ross-Davies and Francis have led much of the national travel sector charge with political lobbying, initiating petitions and scores of meetings with leaders to highlight the industry's plight.

Qatar Airways' duty to the local market was recognised by agents who voted it Most Supportive Airline, while Expedia TAAP took out the Most Supportive Hotel Group/Accommodation Supplier category.

Other winners included Linda Costantini from Emirates in the Industry Sales Executive category, and Globus as Most Supportive Tour Operator/Wholesaler - full results on the **front page** and a range of pics on **page five**.

## Serko capital raise

**LISTED** travel tech firm Serko Limited this morning requested that its shares be placed in a trading halt on the ASX and NZX stock exchanges, as it announced a capital raising seeking up to NZ\$55m by issuing new shares to institutional and retail investors.




**FLAT OUT?**  
**REACH FOR THE REMOTE**  
**FIND YOUR PRIVATE POOL**

*Papua New Guinea*

## Today's issue of TD

*Travel Daily* today has seven pages of news, a cover page from the *Travel Daily Awards*, a product profile from **Macao Government Tourism Office** and a page promoting the new **Tokyo Tourism** training program.



Club Med

**nominate a mate**

who deserves their own holiday

**NOMINATE NOW >**



## ASX slaps HLO

**THE** Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) has temporarily suspended Helloworld from trading due to a failure to include all required information in its latest unaudited financial results (**TD** breaking news).

The company has since apologised for omitting information that made it clear the lodgement extension deadline was being made under an ASX Class Waiver decision.

"HLO advises it will be applying to the ASX tomorrow for a case specific waiver in relation to this matter and is expediting the finalisation of its audited accounts," the company said.

## Even more to Macao

**MORE** reasons to visit Macao are being highlighted in the destination's latest product profile, such as its quality restaurants and interesting architecture - details on **page 8**.

## Flight Centre cuts 90 stores

**FLIGHT** Centre has announced an estimated 90 stores will close and jobs cut back to 1,350 in response to continued domestic and international border closures.

The downsizing will see the company retain a national network of 332 shops in its flagship leisure brand and follows on from existing bricks and mortar cuts of 330 already undertaken in the last six months.

The chops are part of Flight Centre's leisure transformation program which aims to cut costs and accelerate growth plans, with Australian Managing Director James Kavanagh stating the stores targeted for closure had been selected on the basis of maximising client coverage.

An estimated 95% of customers live within 5km of the retained shops, he said.

Reflecting on the nature of the cuts, Kavanagh also extended

his sympathies to those who will no longer be employed by the company moving forward.

"We are incredibly sorry that some of our great people are not able to continue on their Flight Centre journey with us at this time but we are taking steps to preserve as many roles as possible for the future, while building a smaller but stronger overall network," he said.

"This network will be underpinned by a rejuvenated Flight Centre brand business, a strong stable of e-commerce businesses, the premium Travel Associates brand and an extensive network of travel entrepreneurs working as home-based agents," Kavanagh added.

About 60 of Flight Centre's remaining stores will likely remain in hibernation for the next six to 12 months while mandated travel restrictions are in place.

## Singapore to open

**SINGAPORE** has announced travel restrictions with Australia will lift for all visitors from 08 Oct - excluding Victoria.

Following a successful public health review by both countries, the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore said Aussie travellers will be able to apply for the Air Travel Pass for entry from today, allowing for short-term travel, including leisure holidays.

A swab test will be conducted on arrival and travellers will need to subscribe to the TraceTogether app for their entire holiday.

## Nominate a mate

**CLUB** Med wants travel agents to "nominate a mate" who deserves a holiday, with four winners to score a seven-night holiday at a Club Med resort.

Nominate a mate will run until 30 Oct via the Club Med for Travel Agents Facebook page - **CLICK HERE** to nominate a mate today.

## EXCLUSIVE FAMILS, VIP RATES & GIANT CHOCOLATE FROGS\*

LEARN MORE



\*First 300 Australian residents to complete the new SA Experts program will receive a giant Haigh's chocolate frog



## Tokyo Tourism training

**TOKYO** Tourism has today significantly bolstered its travel agent engagement activity, with the launch of a new certified online training program and a raft of incentives to be won.

Dubbed the "Tokyo Expert Program" and built via the **Travel Daily** Training Academy, the website and training program is designed to provide consultants with in-depth knowledge of Japan's capital as well as current info on travelling to and within the city in a post-COVID era.

"Whilst working with the trade over the last year we realised that we had to find a way to make this vast and exciting city less daunting," said Tokyo Tourism's Australia representative Alison Roberts-Brown.

"We wanted to build a toolkit to help the trade with practical knowledge about Tokyo's neighbourhoods, information about the best ways to get

around, and insider tips to get the most out of this incredible city.

"Whilst getting consultants to experience Tokyo firsthand is always the ideal, this certificate program offers clearly structured information that will familiarise them with Tokyo," she added.

The past decade has seen Australian visitor numbers to Japan more than triple, peaking at 621,800 in 2019 with Tokyo the number one destination according to figures from the Japan National Tourism Organisation.

Roberts-Brown said that prior to the global pandemic the Jan and Feb 2020 Australian visitor figures were strong and it is anticipated that Japan will be one of the countries discussing the border reopening with Australia when it's safe to do so.

To register and undertake the first three modules in the Tokyo Expert Program [CLICK HERE](#).




### Catch up on the news of the week

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

## Rex aircraft boost

**REGIONAL** Express (Rex) has flagged the lease of six Boeing 737 Next Generation aircraft for the launch of its domestic jet operations (**TD** breaking news yesterday).

The first aircraft will be delivered on 01 Nov, with the remaining five to be phased in over the following four months.

Three of the aircraft will be deployed on the Sydney-Melbourne route in the first phase of Rex's domestic launch, on 01 Mar 2021 (**TD** 29 Jun), with another two beginning service before Easter.

Deputy Chairman John Sharp said from there, Rex would continue to grow its domestic fleet in line with the return of passenger demand, and the airline is hoping to see its fleet of 737s reach 10 by the end of 2021.

"The signing of these letters marks another significant milestone for our entry into the domestic jet market," said Sharp.

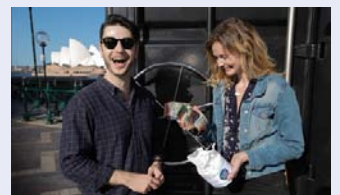


## Window Seat

**PERHAPS** the meme with the strongest resonance throughout the travel shutdown has been the Aussie inclination to stockpile toilet paper.

Now money transfer company TransferWise is using the wasteful trend to make a serious point about banks needing to be more transparent about their fees.

The company stuffed 2,500 loo rolls into a transparent vault in Sydney this week to make the symbolic point - an image not to be wiped away very easily.



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## The Spirit is high

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line's recently reimagined *Norwegian Spirit* (TD 18 Feb) enjoyed a record booking day last Fri.

The ship will embark on its inaugural Australian season in 2021-22, with local Director of Sales Damian Borg saying *Spirit* has tripled the bookings seen for *Norwegian Jewel's* local sailings during the same period last year.

## Japanese debut

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions will cruise to Japan for the first time in its history from 2021.

Two new itineraries have been released, which also incorporates South Korea and Taiwan.

The 14-day Sailing the East China Sea expedition starts in Osaka, and cruises down the Japanese coast of Honshu, through the Okinawa Islands, ending in Taiwan, while the 15-day Coastal Japan trip will take travellers from Tokyo to Osaka, providing an in-depth exploration of iconic Japanese sites, with highlights including Gyeongju-si, Naoshima, Kenroku-en, Koraku-en, and Sengan-en.

## Allianz, Expedia in court

**THE** Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) has kicked off legal action in the Federal Court against Allianz Australia Insurance Limited, over the alleged misleading sale of travel insurance by Expedia.

ASIC is alleging misleading and deceptive conduct over certain insurance products sold on the wotif.com.au, expedia.com.au and lastminute.com.au websites between Feb 2015 and Sep 2018.

Four breaches are alleged, including an age eligibility criterion which meant the insurance did not provide

coverage to people aged over 61 years, but that this was not called out in any warnings on the Expedia websites apart from a link to the Product Disclosure Statement - meaning Allianz allegedly allowed the sale of policies to customers who were ineligible to make claims.

Some of the policies only covered travel commencing or concluding in Australia, but travellers were able to use the sites to book itineraries which did not satisfy this condition, ASIC said, while the regulator has also called out irregularities in statements about premium calculations which noted factors taken into account including destinations, length of journey and age of persons to be covered.

However, contrary to these statements, premium prices were only based on the total cost of the package being purchased and the duration of the trip.

Allianz is also accused of allowing Expedia to misuse a quote from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade saying "travel insurance is as essential as your passport regardless of your travel destination" - even though this Smartraveller statement aims to urge travellers to take out medical insurance and some of the Allianz policies only providing cancellation coverage.

## Solomon Airlines extends again

**SOLOMON** Airlines has announced the extension of its suspension of international services to 10 Jan 2021.

The airline had previously suspended until 24 Oct (TD 29 Jul), with ticketed passengers affected who wish to change to a future date able to do so without a change fee.

## SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Today's Sustainability Matters is brought to you by PONANT

### Green Marine Certification: Additional environmental benchmark recognition for PONANT



Following the recent announcement that PONANT ranked number 1 in the NABU environmental comparative performance

review, I am thrilled to add a further environmental benchmark achievement. This time PONANT is the first international cruise line to join the Green Marine Environmental Certification program, an initiative that distinguishes operators in the maritime industry that undertake to measure their environmental performance each year and reduce their environmental footprint.

Founded in 2007, Green Marine is an environmental certification program for the North American marine industry based on rigorous, transparent and inclusive initiatives that address key environmental issues.

On a scale of 1 to 5 across 13 performance indicators, PONANT achieved a remarkable 4.4 average with Level 5 (Leadership and Excellence) for 5 of the 7 indicators specific to ship owners: underwater noise, pollution, atmospheric emissions (NOX, SOX and PM), greenhouse gas emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>), invasive aquatic species, waste management, and oil discharges.

Environmental responsibility is core to PONANT's global operations and we are transparent about our objectives, having set out our intentions between now and 2023 including greenhouse gas emission reduction and specific criteria regarding waste recovery at [au.ponant.com/sustainable-development](http://au.ponant.com/sustainable-development)

**Deb Corbett**

**General Manager Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific.**



Submit your cocktail recipes!

Travel Daily

**CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT**

We want your recipes from around the world for our weekly feature.

## G Adventures Live

**TOP** travel experts will discuss how travellers can "retravel" better on G Adventures' new Retravel Live virtual event series.

The webinars will take place over the next few months, with leading industry voices tackling some of the most pressing issues facing travel today.

The first Retravel Live event will be held tonight at 6pm (AEST) on YouTube, and will cover the impact of the shift from overtourism to undertourism - **CLICK HERE** to view the sessions.



## Winners (and finalists) are grinners

**THE Travel Daily Awards** were presented yesterday (see **page one**) in a series of Zoom calls throughout the day.

Many of the finalists and winners got into the spirit of the event, dressing up and getting ready to celebrate and paying tribute to all the suppliers and agents who had nominated them.



**LINDA** Costantini from Emirates won Most Supportive Industry Sales Executive.

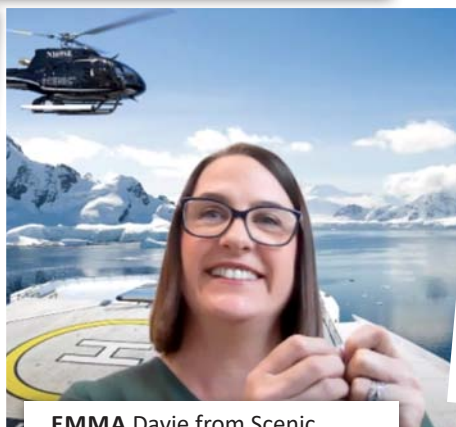
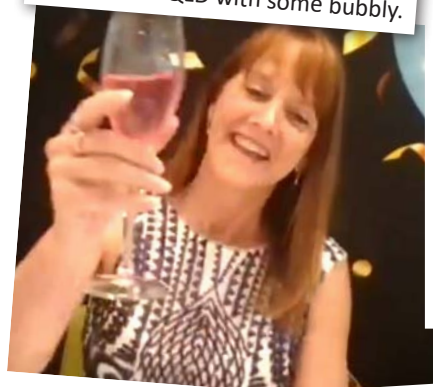


**GAI** Tyrrell, Peter Douglas and Chris Fundell from Globus were stoked with the tour operator's win of Most Supportive Tour Operator/Wholesaler.

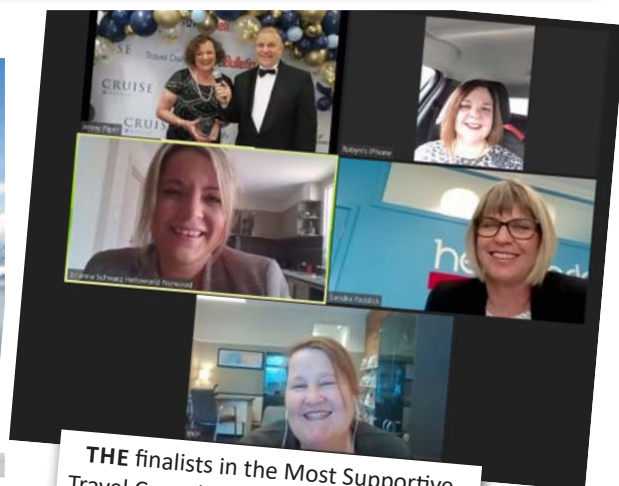


**STUCK** in lockdown in Melbourne, Richard Morgan from Sabre excitedly received his trophy (virtually) when the company took out Most Supportive Technology Supplier.

**CATHY** Donaghy from Helloworld Travel Strathpine celebrated her win as Most Supportive Travel Consultant - QLD with some bubbly.



**EMMA** Davie from Scenic accepted the award for Most Supportive Expedition Cruise Line.

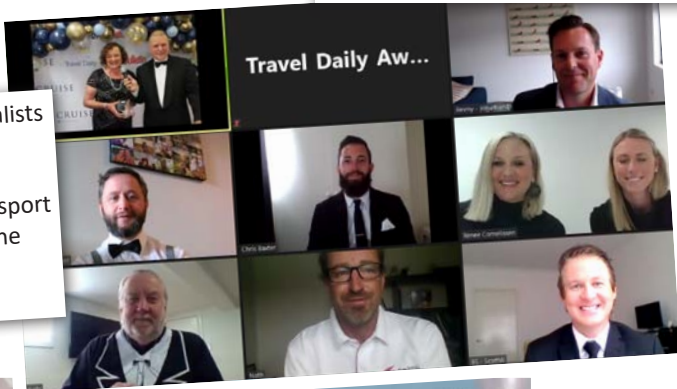


**THE** finalists in the Most Supportive Travel Consultant - SA category.

**ALMOST** all of Bunnik Tours' team joined in on the Zoom call as the tour operator was a finalist in the Most Supportive Tour Operator/Wholesaler category.



**ALL** the finalists for the Most Supportive Ground Transport Supplier in the **Travel Daily** Awards.



**THE** Globetrotter team were all dressed up for the awards, with the agency in the running for Most Supportive Corporate Travel Agency and the company's Jodee Sorrell up for Most Supportive Travel Consultant - WA.

**MARIA** Tadros from Tadros Travel couldn't believe it when she took out the Most Supportive Travel Consultant - NSW, for her work in repatriating over 50 clients from Beirut with only hours notice when the airport closed earlier in the year.



## Know your brands

**LOGOS** are the main way that companies distinguish themselves, and some logos are so famous that you don't even need to see the company's name to know who it is.

See if you can identify these four logos.

1



2



3



4



## Cruise ship word search

N	N	N	U	S	E	R	O	T	C	C	G	B	S	S
J	I	F	O	G	A	N	G	W	A	Y	A	E	T	P
P	Y	B	A	I	C	B	A	R	S	J	L	T	N	A
C	O	U	A	A	T	R	N	D	Y	S	L	I	A	F
X	D	O	S	C	L	A	A	S	K	D	E	U	R	A
T	G	I	L	A	C	E	T	V	O	Q	Y	S	U	Z
A	N	K	U	M	S	A	E	S	N	Q	O	X	A	Q
O	T	G	A	X	G	Z	P	N	R	G	F	K	T	U
R	E	D	N	E	T	N	A	T	Y	E	N	B	S	I
J	S	N	X	E	C	L	E	M	A	B	T	W	E	P
D	L	H	B	U	P	N	W	B	Y	I	O	S	R	C
Q	P	U	I	K	U	X	A	K	Q	H	N	K	U	S
R	O	T	C	E	R	I	D	E	S	I	U	R	C	M
Y	D	E	U	A	W	H	S	K	N	X	F	Y	Z	R
X	D	E	O	I	B	R	S	H	A	M	E	H	B	H

**SEE** if you can find these words. They are hidden horizontally, vertically and diagonally, forwards and backwards.

BARS  
CABIN  
CAPTAIN  
CASINO  
CRUISEDIRECTOR  
DECKPLAN  
GALLEY  
GANGWAY

GYM  
MUSTERSTATION  
POOL  
RESTAURANTS  
SHOWS  
SPA  
SUITE  
TENDER

## Whose flag is this?



**THE** traditional colours of the Melanesian people (red, black and green) have always been part of the different flags of political parties in this country, and the current flag was taken from one of these.

This flag was designed by a local

artist and adopted by one of the political parties but it became the official flag (bar some minor modifications) in 1980.

The circular symbol on the flag is a pig's tusk, held in high regard by the people.

Do you know whose flag this is?

## Whose animal is this?



**THE** beaver was named as this country's official animal and given status as an emblem of this nation in 1975, but the furry critter has long been associated with this country.

Beavers are actually rodents and are the second largest in the world, after the South American native capybara.

The beaver is very important to this country's history, mainly for

its pelt which was in hot demand during the late 1600s and early 1700s. The trade of their pelts made many residents of this country wealthy and so they often included beavers on their emblems or coat of arms.

Thankfully the species has been conserved after coming close to extinction in the 19th century.

Do you know whose national animal this is?

### ANSWERS 30 SEP

Pub quiz: 1 Technology, 2 The Mighty Ducks of Anaheim, 3 Indiana and Kentucky, 4 Memphis, 5 Penrith Panthers, 6 Seven, 7 Red Sea, 8 Los Angeles and Singapore, 9 Jacksonville, 10 North America, 11 Fraser Island (fray + sir + eye + land)

Where in the world: Széchenyi Chain Bridge, Budapest, Hungary

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



## Cox catches up on Qld



**TRAVELMANAGERS'** representative for Hope Island Caroline Cox recently completed a month-long outback road trip throughout Queensland.

Setting off from their homes on the Gold Coast, Cox and her travel companions headed for Winton on a roundtrip of more than 3,000 kilometres, travelling via Bundaberg, Barcardine, Rubyville, Sapphire, Ilfracombe and Longreach.

Cox's partner originally proposed the ambitious trip, as part of a plan to help reduce the building stress the shutdown was causing the TravelManagers PTM.

Cox was initially opposed to the idea, but soon recognised it was a relief to just let someone else sit back and take charge.

"We were towing our new caravan which had barely been used because of COVID-19 restrictions, travelling with two other couples who knew the ropes," Cox described.

"It was quite different to the holiday I was supposed to be on, cruising the Baltic aboard *Azamara Quest*, but as we went on, I started to think about the different clients who would enjoy a similar experience and to appreciate where I was and who I was with."

**Pictured**, Cox exploring the many and varied outback towns located along The Matilda Way.

## Roads are trippin'

**NINE** million Australians are planning a road trip, according to comparison website Finder.

A survey of over 1,000 respondents noted 61% of Australians are planning a domestic trip, with 48% preparing to hit the road by the year's end.

This is followed by air travel, with almost one in five Aussies (21%) planning to fly domestically within the next three months, and 5% planning a train journey.



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Travel Daily

## Disney slashes 28k

**THE** Walt Disney Company has cut 28,000 theme park jobs in the United States, representing about a quarter of all resort positions in the country.

About two-thirds of the cuts were to part-time hourly contracts, although management positions were also slashed.

Disney Parks, Experiences & Products Chairman Josh D'Amaro said the decision was "heartbreaking", but recognised it was the only feasible option the company had in light of the prolonged impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

D'Amaro also slammed California's unwillingness to allow the reopening of Disneyland.

## Ruby infected QF

**RUBY** Princess passengers may have infected others with COVID-19 on a Qantas flight, according to WA researchers.

Based on genomic sequencing, up to 11 passengers on the flight between Sydney and Perth may have become infected, with the revelations prompting QF to step up its demands for a consistent national protocol for the sharing of passenger manifests.

On 19 Mar, QF577 left Sydney for Perth with 243 passengers, 60 of whom had been passengers on cruise ships, including 28 from *Ruby Princess*.

Eleven of the plane's passengers were later found to have been infectious with the disease.

## APPOINTMENTS



**WELCOME** to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thursday feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry email appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

**W Melbourne** has named **Adam D'Sylva** as the Creative Culinary Director of *Lollo*, one of the hotel's signature restaurants. He will work with the hotel's Executive Chef Jihun Kim, where the pair will create a menu they both hope will be "familiar" and "unexpected".

**Luxury Escapes** has appointed **Neal Croft** as its new Partnership & Contracting Manager. He joins the company from his most recent position as Senior Partnership & Business Development Manager for APX Travel Management, a role he held for 15 years.

**Alexandre Frenkel** has taken on a new General Manager role with *Santiburi*. He brings almost 30 years of hospitality experience to the beachfront Ko Samui resort, with his last 16 years coming through various roles in the Thai hotel sector.

**Banyan Tree** has announced the appointment of **Craig McMahon** as Area Director of Sales & Marketing of *Banyan Tree Krabi*, a veteran of the Asian tourism sector and boasting more than 20 years of experience in the continent's hospitality industry. The appointment comes as the new 72-key luxury hotel prepares to embark on its grand opening, scheduled to take place on 24 Oct.

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

Travel Daily

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CRUISE WEEKLY

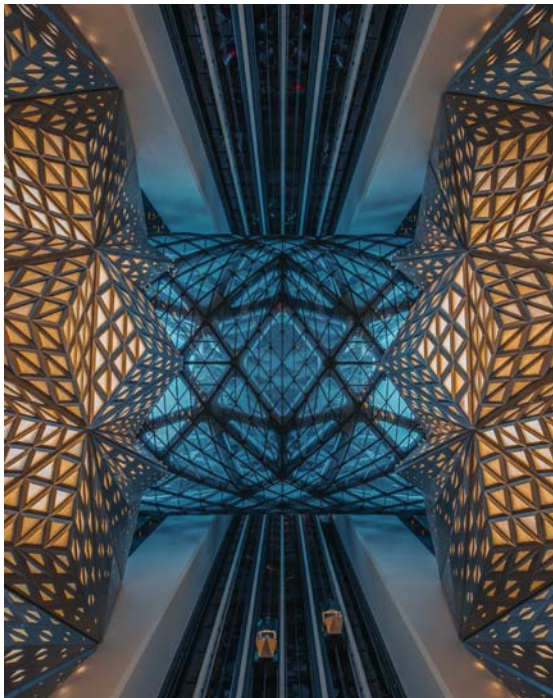
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## Macao Shines at the 2020 Forbes Travel Guide Star Awards

**Macao might be a small Special Administration Region but Macao has more five-star restaurants than any other city in the world when it comes to the Forbes Travel Guide Star Awards.**

In fact, 23 restaurants commended at the highest level are located in Macao. And when it comes to luxury, Macao seals the top spot as it also leads with the most five-star spas compared to any city in the world with a total of 14. It's

safe to say that in the world of travel, Macao dominates in this part of the globe.

Macao is full of things to do. Besides a unique historic background, Portuguese influences in the form of architecture and food, there are so many interesting things to do in Macao.

From 'Sky Jumping' off of one of the highest towers in the world, to luxury dining or street snacks. From countless Chinese teahouses to Portuguese-style cafes, from the pleasure of high-end shopping to an adventure of discount stores. From

varieties of Events to some major festivals. Also not to be missed is the most spectacular water-based 'The House of Dancing Water' show to many performances and rides, there is a load of fun and cool stuff to do, check out the Macao to-do list.

Macao has a flavour that's entirely its own.

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