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*\$1500 is calculated based on the combined minimum indicative value of all CLIA Cruise Line rewards available on eligible cruise bookings made in 2021. All rewards are redeemable once per CLIA Travel Agent. Conditions apply for each offer. Access to the 2021 CLIA Australasia Travel Agent Rewards Program will be given to a CLIA Travel Agent/Agency that joins or renews their CLIA Membership by 31 March 2021. Cruise Lines participating in the CLIA Travel Agent Rewards program are current as at 15 October 2020. Offers from Uniworld and Virgin Voyages are for the Australian market only. For the 2021 CLIA Australasia Travel Agent Rewards Program Terms and Conditions please visit www.cruising.org.au.

New Board for TA

FEDERAL Tourism Minister Simon Birmingham this morning announced the appointment of Harvey Norman CEO Katie Page and Alexandra Burt, co-founder of The Landsmith Collection, to the Tourism Australia (TA) Board.

The organisation's Chair, Bob East, has also been reappointed, while former Sealink Travel CEO Jeffrey Ellison remains on the Board as Deputy Chair, alongside Bradley Woods from the WA Australian Hotels Association who stays on for another term.

Birmingham thanked outgoing Deputy Chair Anna Guillan and Board member David Seargeant for their "significant contributions to Tourism Australia".

Others remaining on the Board include Hayley Baillie, John Hart and Penny Fowler.

Globus launches Aust/NZ

GLOBUS and Cosmos have this morning, for the first time ever, released Australian and New Zealand tours created specifically for local travellers.

Available to book effective immediately, with departures from Feb 2021, the portfolio is kicking off with nine itineraries in Australia and four in NZ, with further expansion to be announced in the near future.

"We're delighted to launch a new collection of Australian and New Zealand tours and bring more than 92 years of experience closer to home," said Globus Family of Brands MD Australasia Gai Tyrrell.

"We asked Aussies what they would love to see from an escorted tour closer to home, and worked closely with local travel operators and tourism boards across both countries to curate itineraries we knew they'd love."

The new tours promise to showcase the very best both countries have to offer, including landmarks and lesser-known areas, and also feature more than 40 active inclusions such as Lake Taupo kayaking in NZ or swimming in a natural hot spring in WA's Kimberley region.

Experiences on offer include digging your own spa pool on Hot Water Beach in NZ, sleeping in a luxury eco tent on Rottnest Island, meeting a local sheep farmer in Tasmania and sampling the product at the Bundaberg Rum Distillery.

"As state borders start to reopen

around the country and Aussies start planning their next domestic holiday, there are lots of great reasons to consider an escorted tour," Tyrrell said - including being able to relax, enjoy the beautiful scenery "and enjoy a second glass of wine at lunch without worry!"

Discounts are on offer for bookings made by 31 Jan 2021, and all guests receive complimentary SafetyNet protection which allows them to cancel without penalty up to 30 days prior to departure.

Trips will have a maximum capacity of 24 guests to allow for comfortable physical distancing, while procedures also include comprehensive health measures including pre-trip screening, daily disinfecting and working with all restaurants, activities and accommodation providers to ensure safety.

Globus has released a TVC to promote the launch, which is now live at traveldaily.com.au/videos. More at globusfamily.com.au.

Princess out to Jun

PRINCESS Cruises this morning advised that its operations in Australia and New Zealand will remain suspended through until 31 May 2021.

The cruise line cited "ongoing uncertainty around when international travel restrictions might be lifted," with affected guests to receive a refundable Future Cruise Credit (FCC) equal to 100% of the fare paid, plus a bonus 25% non-refundable FCC.

Princess will protect commissions for travel agents on cancelled cruises that were paid in full, "in recognition of the critical role they play in the cruise line's business and success".

The FCC offer will be automatically applied to all bookings, but customers can also elect to receive a full refund by lodging an online form by 30 Nov 2020 - [CLICK HERE](#).

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news including our PUZZLE page and a front full page from **CLIA**.

Tas opens to NSW

TASMANIA is set to welcome people from NSW in a further easing of border restrictions announced overnight (**TD** 26 Oct).

Effective from 06 Nov, people arriving in Tasmania from NSW will not need to quarantine, while officials have also targeted 01 Dec for an easing of restrictions for travellers from Victoria.

MEANWHILE the Tourism Council of WA has released a poll which found 78% of Western Australians want Premier Mark McGowan to set a date for the reopening of the state's borders.



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FLT border blast

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group (FLT) has issued a formal request to the Queensland Government seeking details of the medical advice that it relied on when it closed the state's border in Aug, just weeks after it reopened.

The move follows a similar request in Jun relating to the initial Qld border closure in Mar.

"FLT has not received any documents relating to the Mar request, but has been advised that some documents could be made available by this Fri - almost five months after the Mar request was lodged," the company said, noting legislation which prescribes that documents should be delivered within five weeks or 25 business days.

"The authorities in Queensland did an admirable job in containing the first wave of the virus and in developing first class testing and tracing capabilities," said FLT MD Graham Turner.

However he said the state's citizens have the right to understand the "science and the data" behind the decisions that have been made.

He noted that hundreds of thousands of people were out of work as a direct result of the border closures.

"The apparent lack of a tangible plan to sensibly and safely reopen borders as soon as possible... also raises questions about the credibility of any economic recovery plan," Turner added.

Qantas Hols relaunches

EXCLUSIVE

QANTAS has released a range of holiday packages under the Qantas Holidays brand previously operated by Helloworld Travel Limited, with the carrier confirming that it is now running the brand directly in-house.

The updated Qantas Holidays (QH) site features a wide range of Fly & Stay packages which are dynamically put together during the online booking process.

Currently the site only features domestic product, with holiday types classified as Beach Escapes, Family Friendly, Luxury Stays and Romantic Getaways.

The carrier is offering three Qantas Points per dollar for Qantas Holidays bookings, as well as the ability to earn status credits on points on flights.

No booking fees are imposed, and Qantas Points can also be used to book the packages.

The former Qantas Holidays business became part of Jetset Travelworld Group (now Helloworld Travel) in a 2008 merger (**TD** 21 Feb 2008) which at the time saw QF as the travel group's biggest shareholder with a 58% stake in the business.

That stake has been successively diluted, although just last year the airline reaffirmed its intention to retain its share in Helloworld and "continue to work closely with them as a key partner".

However last year Helloworld

Travel Executive Director Cinzia Burnes also confirmed the company would not be seeking to renew its licence for the Qantas Holidays brand (**TD** 21 Jun 2019) when it expired in Mar.

At the time (**TD** 23 Jun 2019), Qantas advised it was reviewing its options for the brand, noting that it "resonates well with our customers".

The expiry of the previous pact coincided with the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the carrier relaunching it again as restrictions open up.

A QF spokesperson confirmed the move in house this week, telling **TD** "the lease has now ended and we are operating Qantas Holidays directly".

On Mon the new QH website included details of the brand's long defunct Travel Agent's Licence, but the site's terms and conditions have now been updated to note that bookings are being made with a QF subsidiary called Qantas Group Accommodation Pty Ltd.

Marriott escapes

MELBOURNE Marriott Hotel has announced a host of getaway options, including fun family experiences and luxe staycations.

A Dog Days stay with man's best friend, a luxury family glamping package and a hot tub movie experience are all available.

NSW regulates

STRICT new laws will regulate short-term rentals in New South Wales from 18 Dec.

Hosts, guests, letting agents and online booking platforms will soon be subject to a mandatory code of conduct for the industry, including clear guidance and obligations centred on minimum standards of good behaviour.

Also included are formal avenues for complaints and dispute resolution, and the ability for NSW Fair Trading to ban problematic hosts or anti-social guests from booking short-term rentals for five years.

"While the sector has gone from strength to strength, what has been missing is a clear set of rules to protect the rights of both hosts, guests and neighbours and which put mutual respect front and centre," said NSW Minister for Better Regulation Kevin Anderson.

The Minister also noted the laws will form part of a broader reform of the sector.

The code of conduct can be viewed in full **HERE**.

NT tourism boost

THE Government of the Northern Territory's Visitor Experience Enhancement Program's fourth round of grants has been awarded.

A total of \$1.5 million is being handed to over 60 Territory businesses to help enhance their visitor offerings.

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Who's Gauguin to Tahiti?



Virgin goes regional

VIRGIN Australia will reintroduce its Brisbane to Alice Springs and Emerald flights as part of its expanded holiday services this summer.

The carrier is also increasing frequencies on the Brisbane-Hamilton Island and Sydney-Ballina routes, as well as flights to Adelaide from Brisbane and Sydney.

MEANWHILE, most of Virgin Australia's Directors will depart the airline ahead of the formal takeover by Bain Capital, who have thus far only appointed Alan Hunt as a new Director.

Topdeck assurance

GLOBAL Touring has released the details of its flexible COVID-19 booking policy for the Topdeck Travel brand, which includes a full refund or travel credit to customers that are unable to travel due to either contracting the virus or because of government enforced travel restrictions.

The new policy is valid until 28 Feb next year and applies to all new bookings made across its 2021/22 season.

TAHITI Tourisme last week organised a series of Tahitian experiences for selected groups of retail travel advisors, including an authentic Gauguin-style painting class which was conducted in partnership with Paul Gauguin Cruises/Ponant.

Some of the stunning artwork - definitely headed straight to the pool room - is being showcased above by Alex Stagalinos from Paul Gauguin Cruises alongside Caroline Brunel and Rita Mardirossian from Tahiti Tourisme.

QF SYD to LST

FOLLOWING the easing of border restrictions between New South Wales and Tasmania, Qantas has moved quickly to take advantage of the new travel corridor by launching a new route between Sydney and Launceston.

The service will commence 04 Dec and operate three times a week utilising Boeing 717 aircraft, with frequencies to increase to four times weekly from 11 Dec until 01 Feb.

Close to 900 extra seats will be added to the route as a result of the move and is the first time QF has flown the route since 2004.

Aussies love a beach getaway and those heading to NSW's North Coast are spoiled for choice. Read more in the October issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

MH reassures

MALAYSIA Airlines Berhad (MAB) has issued a clarification that a notice to creditors for submission of proof of debts circulating on social media this week relates to the previous entity, Malaysia Airline System Berhad (MAS), and is unrelated to the airline's current operations.

KPMG is in the process of liquidating the previous company, but in its new form MAB it "continues to operate as normal and will continue to fulfil its commercial obligations to customers and partners in Australia and New Zealand," according to MH Regional Manager Giles Gilbert.

He said despite the ongoing border closures, flights continued from Malaysia to both countries, reiterating the carrier's commitment to reunite Malaysian families across the region and provide connections for Aussies & Kiwis overseas to return home.

Spirited bookings

TRAVELLERS from New South Wales can now book on the Spirit of Tasmania departing from Sydney on 06 Nov, following a long pause in operations between the two states due to ongoing border restrictions.

Any bookings made between now and 06 Nov can be amended without incurring fees, and in the event of a future border change, all charges will be waived for any cancellations.



Window Seat

NOTHING to see here - except an endangered gigantic Komodo Dragon facing off against a dump truck.

Indonesian authorities are scrambling to calm outrage over the construction of a Jurassic Park-style tourism project, after a photo of the gigantic lizard blocking the path of the vehicle on the country's Rinca Island went viral on social media.

The reptile (**pictured**) is one of the locals in Komodo National Park, where the multi-million dollar development is currently under way in hopes of revitalising visitation.

Officials assured the public that no dragons had been harmed during construction, with rangers regularly making intensive checks on whether the creatures are lurking nearby and ensuring their safety.

The project includes an elevated deck, an information centre and a dam and is scheduled to be completed by the middle of next year.



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Travel Daily

Pub quiz

1. Mount Woodroffe is the highest point in which Australian state or territory?
2. When was the Empire State Building surpassed by Willis Tower as the world's tallest building, a title which it held for 25 years?
 - a) 1960s
 - b) 1970s
 - c) 1980s
3. In which country is the Great Slave Lake?
4. Paris is located in which region of France?
5. AirAsia's hub is at which airport?
6. Which country initially proposed the idea of a Rugby League World Cup?
7. Which airline was formerly known as Air Pacific?
8. Which destination is known as the "Paradise of the Pacific"?
9. Which Australian aerodrome is also known as Connellan Airport?
10. Is Lake Macquarie located in New South Wales' Central Coast or Hunter region?

Sudoku

DIABOLICAL

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

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

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

Where in the world?



THIS 3.4m tall bronze bull statue is a popular tourist attraction on this street and is a symbol of aggressive financial optimism and prosperity, as well as becoming a marker for the area it is in.

The sculpture was created by a Sicilian artist named Arturo Di Modica in 1989 and was originally

illegally installed.

It was removed the same day by the city and installed elsewhere a week later.

Despite initially only having a temporary permit, the statue still remains in this location.

Do you know where in the world this is located?

Funnies Flashback



WE'VE trawled through the TD Window Seat archives to give you a blast from the past. Here's some gems from 06 Jan 2014:

VISITORS to the NZ town of Hamilton may be perplexed by a rotten smell that is currently enveloping the town...but strangely, so are the residents.

Numerous reports have been made to local council ranging from a pile of dead cows to rotten eggs and wet fertiliser.

The mysterious odour has captivated the town, especially since the local meatworks and processing plants were ruled out as possible causes.

"We're keen to work with people to try to sort it out as much as we can & obviously we do not want people affected by offensive odours," council said.

ANSWERS 27 OCT

Unscramble: acid, acrid, arid, bail, baldric, baldrick, bardic, bilk, bird, BLACKBIRD, braid, brick, bridal, cadi, crib, dial, dirk, kail, laid, lair, laird, liar, lick, lire, rabbi, rabid, raid, rail, rial, ribald, rick

Pub quiz: 1 Light's Vision, 2 United Airlines, 3 50,000, 4 Malaysia, 5 East India Trading Company, 6 Victoria, 7 Patata, 8 Perth, 9 Alberta and British Columbia, 10 France

Whose flag is this: Taiwan (Republic of China)



Harvard research

A HARVARD University study has found that commercial flight presents a lower risk of catching coronavirus than both grocery shopping and dining out.

The study also concluded the layered approach taken by US airlines has helped to reduce the risk of transmission in the US.

To date, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has not confirmed a single case of coronavirus transmission on an American aircraft, the study said.

Regent record day

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) recently set the record for the largest booking day in the company's history as clients clamoured to purchase spots on its 2022/23 voyage collection on the opening day of sales.

Popular cruises included Africa, Asia and the Mediterranean.

Reservations surpassed RSSC's previous booking day record by nearly 40%, set in Apr 2018, upon the launch of *Seven Seas Splendor's* inaugural season.

Wine not get on your bike?



A RANGE of new Australian cycling experiences through Tour de Vines are now available.

The new itineraries are on offer in Victoria and South Australia via a range of one- to seven-night trips, including self-guided and small group options.

Now departing in Victoria are the self-guided Tour de Great Southern Rail Trail Gippsland, and the Tour de North East Victoria Active Luxury trip, which are small-group guided, and feature six nights of luxury accommodation, chef-prepared meals and exclusive wine tastings, as it follows the Murray River to the Mountains Rail Trail.

Beginning in Rutherglen, a one-off departure is available in Dec, and then again between Mar-May, priced from \$2,599pp.

The Tour de Great Southern Rail Trail explores the Gippsland across two days on your own-self chosen dates, and includes two nights accommodation, bikes, meals, luggage-handling, on-call support and return transfers.

Beginning in Leongatha, the tour is priced from \$599 per person.

In South Australia, the Tour de South Australian Vineyards departs on either small group or self-guided tours, and explores the state's famous wine plantations of the Barossa Valley, Clare Valley, Adelaide Hills and McLaren Vale.

Exclusive wine tastings, gourmet meals and quality accommodation are all part of the journey, with group dates currently available in Nov, Mar and Apr, starting from \$1,649pp.

Tour De Vines is run by former Creative Holidays Marketing Manager Damian Cerini.

Visit tourdevines.com.au for further information.

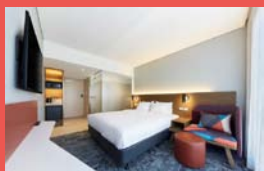
Pictured: A group prepares to pedal their way through the picturesque Murray to the Mountains tour.

ACCOMMODATION

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wed feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description with an image to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.



With design inspired by local craft, culture and nature, the Pullman Khao Lak resort is set to debut its inviting hospitality featuring southern Thai traditions. The 253-guestroom hotel is modelled on a merchant's house, and features a series of courtyards, pond, and lagoon areas. The accommodations is highlighted by six beachfront villas with private pools, 50 family suites, two presidential suites and 170 deluxe rooms.



InterContinental Hotels Group has opened its first Holiday Inn Express airport hotel in Australia, **Holiday Inn Express Sydney Airport**. The newbuild hotel is located on the doorstep of the Airport's domestic terminal, and minutes away from the international terminal. Including 247 rooms, the eight-storey hotel features aeronautically-themed motifs throughout, starting at the lobby, which features two large vintage propellers.



Paragon 700 Boutique Hotel & SPA, which has recently finished its restoration, is billed as a "tranquil oasis in the heart of Puglia's White City Ostuni". Returned to its former 17th-century glory, the building had remained empty for 40 years, before owner and interior designer Pascale Lauber worked with conservationists over three years to come up with an 11-bedroom "eclectic combination of traditional handcrafted techniques and contemporary flair".

Viking discounts

VIKING'S deal of the week is a 15-day Australia and New Zealand itinerary from Sydney to Auckland, or vice versa.

This departure is now priced from \$7,995pp, and includes savings of \$3,000 per couple.