



JOURNEY BEYOND
Experience
HUB

Introducing Journey Beyond's Experience Hub



ACCESS TO OUR
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LATEST NEWS,
 OFFERS & EVENTS



EXPERIENCE LEARNING:
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EVERYTHING YOU
 NEED TO KNOW



EXPERIENCE GUIDE:
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*Experience Hub is only available to access via our online booking engines, please register to sell Journey Beyond to access to this platform.
 2022 season rates released, bookings open soon!

Travel Daily on location aboard The Ghan

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of Journey Beyond, which is taking us on a special The Ghan departure from Darwin to Adelaide.

THIS morning we were greeted with a stunning Red Centre sunrise as The Ghan Expedition pulled into Alice Springs.

A day of special activities is planned, with our arrival coming on the eve of the 2021 Parrtjima Light Festival, a 10-day program of activities, live music and workshops with the theme "Future Kultcha".

Journey Beyond's extensive range of excursions includes an optional upgrade to a scenic Uluru flight, with the day wrapping up with a barbecue under the stars at the historic Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

Learning beyond

JOURNEY Beyond has launched its new Experience Hub, offering travel advisors a wide range of tools to help sell its adventures.

The hub includes access to marketing assets; Journey Beyond's latest news, offers, & events; a training platform; and an experience guide, pricing and product.

See the **front page** to learn more about the new hub.

Be the first to arrive: TA

TOURISM Australia has launched its first international campaign in more than a year following news of the upcoming trans-Tasman bubble (TD 07 Apr), kicking off a \$3 million marketing push across the ditch.

The 'Be the First' campaign commenced this morning and will run through to Jun with the aim of encouraging as many Kiwis as possible to take the trip across the Tasman and travel around Australia's many attractions.

Tourism Australia Managing Director Phillipa Harrison said the bubble represented an important touchstone for the resurgence of international travel in the region.

"Australia has long been the most popular outbound travel destination for New Zealanders, who spent \$2.6 billion on their travels here in 2019, while the travel bubble won't fill the void of all lost international business, it will provide an important boost to our industry by helping to drive demand to some of those areas that need it most," she said.

"After a year of almost no international travel, there is a real opportunity for us to capture pent-up demand by encouraging the 1.7 million New Zealand travellers who normally travel to other destinations overseas to instead choose Australia for their next holiday.

"Quarantine-free travel between our two countries is also an exciting and important step in

rebuilding international tourism to Australia and will also provide a framework for the resumption of inbound travel from other key int'l markets," she added.

The campaign will run across TV, out-of-home, online, print and radio media, with a range of PR and partner activities also lined up to amplify the message of the push which will focus on a range of food and wine, nature, and wildlife experiences.

Also in the spotlight will be road trip itineraries, the best swim and surf spots, the Red Centre and all of the health regulations that Kiwi travellers will need to know about before they embark on their Aussie trips.

For more information on the campaign, **CLICK HERE**.

Bunnik in Top End

BUNNIK Tours has added a 10-day Top End Discovery of the Northern Territory to its suite of adventures, featuring treks through Litchfield National Park and a visit to the Museum & Art Gallery of Northern Territory.

The tour is priced from \$5,295ppts and operates at a max of 20 people - see **HERE** for info.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news including our PUZZLE page plus a front cover from Journey Beyond.

Tokyo agent winners

THE winners of the Tokyo Tourism Expert Program participation competition have been announced, with five agents walking away with the grand prize of an Apple Watch Series 6 enclosed with a traditional Japanese lucky charm.

Anna Lowe from Travel Partners, Helen Koroneos from Helloworld, Maxine Adams from MTA Travel, Vanessa Solomon from Travel Associates and Maxine Barron from FBI Travel all scored the prizes after completing the training modules covering Tokyo's food, experiences & accommodation options.

Agents who have completed all six modules can access a special certificate through their my account screen **HERE**.

Winton day trips

ALLIANCE Airlines has launched new Brisbane to Winton day trip tours to the market, with three departure dates currently on offer starting 15 May.

The trips include return flights between Brisbane and Winton, lunch, transfers, a local tour guide and attraction entry fees, and are priced from \$695 for adults and \$655 for children (aged 2-14).

Alliance Airlines CEO Lee Schofield said he was hopeful that the Australian public would support the new Qld outback tours and, if successful, would be rolled out to other outback destinations next year.

Drive
OUTBACK
QUEENSLAND

THERE'S MORE TO EXPLORE IN QUEENSLAND'S BACKYARD

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GOOD TO GO

Outback Queensland
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Travelport Plus

TRAVELPORT has unveiled a next-generation platform that it believes will accelerate multi-source content distribution innovation in the travel sector.

Travelport+ aims to provide travel sellers with an improved user experience by offering them a single access point to air (ATPCO, LCC and NDC), car, hotel, and rail content, as well as a host of new tools such as new cross-sell and up-sell capabilities and embedded intelligence technology that assists both travel retailers and suppliers to continually optimise their offers.

The enhanced platform also aims to "reduce pain points" with regard to exchanges, refunds and order management by using better automation technology - for more details, [CLICK HERE](#).



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Digital passport boost

A NEW study commissioned by Amadeus has found that more than 90% of travellers would be comfortable using a digital passport for future trips to help rebuild the travel sector.

The report conducted by Censuswide on behalf of Amadeus surveyed more than 9,000 people across six countries, with three quarters of travellers stating they would be willing to store their travel health data electronically if it enabled them to pass through the airport faster with fewer face-to-face interactions.

Close to 70% of respondents agreed they would be more likely to share health data if the airlines they most often travelled with offered a secure way to store their travel health data.

Privacy concerns around personal data remains one of the biggest areas of resistance, with the study showing 38% of travellers are concerned about the prospect of being hacked, while close to one in three people expressed unease over a lack of transparency with what happens to their private information.

Interestingly, 62% of travellers surveyed said they would be more likely to use an app to store their health data if a travel

company partnered with a trusted healthcare company.

Technology preferences noted in the report that would help boost confidence in travel over the next year included mobile applications that could provide on-trip notifications and alerts.

Also in high demand were contactless mobile payments like Apple or Google Pay, as well as mobile boarding options.

WWT adds to Oz

WENDY Wu Tours has added to its range of local Australian tours, launching four new Australia short-break trips to destinations such as the Red Centre, Tasmania and North Queensland.

Highlights include the seven-day Treasures of the Red Centre tour which takes travellers to Uluru, Kings Canyon and Alice Springs featuring the Field of Lights and a nocturnal tour at the Alice Springs Desert Park.

Departures for the adventure are available in Sep and Oct and include most meals, transport, and accommodation at Voyages Sails Resort.

Also on offer is the seven-day Tasmanian Trails tour visiting Launceston, Hobart and Cradle Mountain - call 1300 727 998.



Window Seat

FANS of films like *Ghostbusters*, *Jumanji*, *Men in Black* and *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* will soon have a dedicated theme park in which to immerse themselves in all of the fun of the cinematic hits.

Columbia Pictures' *Aquaverse* will open in stages in Pattaya Thailand from Oct, and will boast eight different blockbuster-themed zones which will include rides, water attractions, live performances and shopping.

Let's just hope they stick to the popular releases and never launch a *Basic Instinct 2* ride.

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Flying through COVID

THE latest issue of *travelBulletin* is out now (pictured) and features a cover story about how Qatar Airways has successfully negotiated the many trials and tribulations tossed up by the global health crisis.

The airline has managed to maintain much of its international network under unprecedented strain, which has included border restrictions, quarantine limitations, and stepping up to help travellers via special repatriation flights.

In an encouraging sign of things to come for Australia's cruise sector, the issue also covers the resurgence of domestic cruising in the United Kingdom after the country's Minister for Aviation and Maritime, Robert Courts, declared the industry could reboot again from 17 May.

What has ensued is a storm of interest for cruising, with a



number of operators joining the list of those offering local sailings.

Destination features are also in the mix this issue, with the city of AIUla in Saudi Arabia in the spotlight, famed for its ancient sites, art and cultural appeal.

The city is a key pillar of Saudi Arabia's plan to make the country a thriving tourism draw by 2030.

Access the full online version of *travelBulletin* by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Ovolo recruits more

THE new Ovolo South Yarra hotel has appointed several senior staff to manage the property's debut in the market, with Amy Moylan joining as GM, Jacqueline Rosenstengel recruited as Director of Food & Beverage, as well as a trio of culinary experts Lona Misa, Shannon Martinez and Ian Curley.

Air NZ record sales

FOLLOWING news of the upcoming trans-Tasman bubble (*TD* 07 Apr), Air New Zealand has notched up a record day of sales this week, with the airline stating it was confident of Apr being its biggest month to date.

"While a lot of Kiwis are heading across the ditch, there have been really strong bookings for Australians coming to check out New Zealand," said Air New Zealand's CEO Greg Foran.

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Travel Daily

TTC makes it easier

THE Travel Corporation has used the good news of the trans-Tasman bubble to offer some extra incentive for Aussies to book a trip across the ditch.

Savings of up to \$600 per couple are on offer for select AAT Kings guided holidays in New Zealand, as well as 15% off Kiwi adventures through its Trafalgar brand.

Call 1800 002 007 for details.

NCL makes its return

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has introduced new itineraries in Europe and the Caribbean commencing 25 Jul, marking the line's return to cruising.

Sailings will operate at a reduced capacity on vessels including *Jade*, *Joy* and *Gem*, and includes new seven-day cruises to the Greek Isles on *Norwegian Jade* from Athens.

NCL has also launched week-long voyages in the Caribbean, with itineraries available from popular destinations such as Montego Bay in Jamaica.

More details in today's *CW*.

New AIUla awaits

FOUR key heritage sites in the ancient Saudi Arabian city of AIUla are now open to tourists for the first time all year round.

Major attractions include the recently restored Old Town, as well as the major commercial precinct Incense Road, boasting a range of shopping, restaurants and entertainment hubs.

To mark the new exciting new tourism chapter for AIUla, Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli this week delivered a special live performance against the backdrop of Hegra, Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO Heritage listed site.



SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Today's Sustainability Matters is brought to you by PONANT

The PONANT Foundation needs a hand to build much needed education facilities in Bijagós



This month I am proud to share one example of the more than 20 projects supported by the PONANT Foundation, exempling

commitment to sustainable tourism by providing tangible contributions to assist some of the needs of remote communities. In this instance, the commencement of construction for a much-needed school in the remote village of Anipoc on Caravela island in the Bijagós archipelago off West Africa.

PONANT has been working closely with the local Bijagós community for several years with a view to helping support education, yet so remote is Anipoc that a Google search does not instantly reveal the village or the location (so, a prime example of a PONANT expedition destination!).

With PONANT's support, the construction will provide housing for teachers and the only sanitation facilities in the village. They can now have a kindergarten, four levels of primary education, literacy classes for adults, a garden and awareness programme for sorting and recycling rubbish. PONANT has also helped fund access to drinking water and solar-powered electricity.

I encourage you to find out more about the Bijagós School Project [HERE](#), or search 'Ponant Foundation' for more information!

Deb Corbett

General Manager Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific.



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



WHO wouldn't want to relax like this after a day of fun and adventure in Outback Queensland?

This photo was taken in a quintessential Outback town that offers some of the most iconic Queensland tourism attractions that shouldn't be missed, including walking on the wing of a 747, a sunset cruise on the Thomson River, an exhilarating Cobb & Co stagecoach ride, or

listening to tales of our legendary Australian stockmen and women.

And just up the road (175km) you can visit the birthplace of the Waltzing Matilda ballad, and one of Australia's leading dinosaur attractions – home to the Dinosaur Canyon featuring four galleries containing life-sized dinosaur exhibits.

Do you know in which Outback Queensland town this photo was taken?

Whose animal is this?



©Charles James Sharp

THE Bengal tiger is endangered, with only around 2,000-3,000 of the animals estimated to be left in the wild.

They are native to the Indian subcontinent and are the national animal of two of the nations in this region.

In one of the countries, its army

are nicknamed the Bengal Tigers, while its cricket board features the creature on its logo.

In the other nation, the tiger is depicted on its currency notes and postal stamps.

Do you know which two countries the Bengal tiger is the national animal of?

ANSWERS 07 APR

Pub quiz: 1 Whitehall, 2 c) Finland, 3 Monaco, 4 Vancouver, 5 Busselton, 6 West Germany, 7 Potomac River, 8 Berlin, 9 Hobart, 10 Fremantle

Seen it at the movies: X-Men Origins: Wolverine

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

Pub quiz

- Which town is home to "Cooper" the Dinosaur?
- In which month is the iconic Mount Isa Rodeo held?
- Where would you find the Waltzing Matilda Centre?
- Which outback town is known for boulder opals?
- Which outback town has a very large bottle tree?
- Which outback town is home to the Great Artesian Spa?
- What is the name of the famous Outback Queensland horse race?
- Where is the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame?
- Which town is home to 'Jumbo' the circus elephant?
- Queensland's oldest pub is found in which town?

Today's puzzle page is brought to you by Outback Queensland



Etihad touches down in Israel



ETIHAD Airways' first scheduled flight from Abu Dhabi to Israel landed earlier this week (inset), with the country now added to the city's green list for quarantine-free travel.

The launch of scheduled operations comes as the next step in developing tourism, diplomatic, and trade ties between the United Arab Emirates and Israel, which were agreed to as part of Sep 2020's Abraham Accords.

Flight EY598, the first scheduled flight from Abu Dhabi International to Ben Gurion International, took to the skies Tue morning in Abu Dhabi with a diplomatic and economic delegation on board, including the first and current United Arab Emirates ambassador to Israel Mohamed Al Khaja, Israel's Head of Mission to the United Arab Emirates Eitan Nae'eh, and Etihad Group Chief Executive Officer Tony Douglas.

The flight landed at TLV at noon and was greeted with the



traditional water cannon salute, followed by a welcome reception and a number of speeches.

The route will initially be operated twice-weekly by one of Etihad's flagship aircraft, the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner.

EY and Israel's national carrier El Al are continuing preparations for wide-ranging cooperation on the route, having signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Nov 2020 covering codesharing on each other's routes, a frequent flyer tie-up, as well as cooperation in training and maintenance services (TD 23 Nov 2020).

Pictured: CEO of Ben-Gurion Airport Shmuel Zakay; Etihad Group CEO Tony Douglas; UAE Ambassador to Israel Mohamed Al-Khaja and Israel's Head of Mission to the UAE Eitan Na'eh.

SQ integrates Sabre

SINGAPORE Airlines has successfully migrated to Sabre's Crew Manager solution.

This latest implementation builds on the long-standing relationship between the two businesses, and means SQ can now take full advantage of Sabre's advanced crew planning, tracking, management and recovery ecosystem, at a time when crew management is more complex than ever before.

Aurora invites you

AURORA Expeditions is gearing up to host a number of in-person education events across the country starting later this month, showcasing the best of its Australia, Commonwealth Bay and Ross Sea 2021/22 sailings.

Attendees will be served light refreshments and offered exclusive special offers for joining, with two sessions to run in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide.

Catch up on the news of the week

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

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.

OTA Insight has named **Michelle Bates** as its newest Business Development Manager. Bates was made redundant nearly a year ago to the day, and said she hopes to inspire out-of-work industry members with the message there is hope for a future in travel. Her experience includes stints at Educational Tours, Travelzoo and Topdeck.

Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts has appointed **Marc Speichert** as its new Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer. He joins Four Seasons to oversee the company's commercial growth strategy from his newly created role, with his responsibilities to include the development of the company's integrated commercial strategy.

Nigel Morrison has been granted regulatory approval to join the board of **Crown Resorts**. The former SkyCity Entertainment Group Chief Executive Officer is the first new appointment since the damning Bergin Report was handed down in Feb.

House of Travel has announced the appointment of **Bruce Parton** as Chief Executive Officer. The former Air New Zealand executive was hailed by HOT founder & Chairman Chris Paulsen as a "well-known and highly respected figure within the trade".

Willie Walsh has taken the helm at the **International Air Transport Association**, stepping up as its new Director-General. Succeeding Alexandre de Juniac, Walsh was confirmed as IATA's eighth Director-General at the Association's annual general meeting in Nov 2020. He takes the IATA role after a 40-year career in the airline industry, which has included heading International Airlines Group from its establishment in 2011 through to Sep 2020.

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