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**30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2021**

**on the CVFR Consolidation Services ticketing platform:**



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## TTNQ calls for help

**TOURISM** Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ) believes there are thousands of jobs on the line unless the Federal Government steps up to create a wage support package for the struggling sector.

“When we come out of this we will still be locked out of our customers, New South Wales has the JobSaver wage program and if it’s good enough for New South Wales then it’s good enough for Queensland,” TTNQ Chair Ken Chapman argues.

Tourism businesses in the region have seen volumes plummet by 85% in the past few weeks - and close to 100% this week, Chapman added.

At the end of last week, the region’s tours were down to a loss of \$8.6 million a day.

## EY predicts “tidal wave”

**ETIHAD** Airways CEO Tony Douglas says there is a “tidal wave of demand waiting to be unleashed,” with the carrier seeing massive booking surges as soon as it reopens bookings to new destinations when they are added to safe travel corridors.

The carrier overnight announced a US\$400 million “core operating loss” for the six months to 30 Jun - half the \$800m loss figure for the previous corresponding period.

“Every day Etihad Airways is making up for lost ground,” Douglas said.

“Despite the curveball of the Delta variant disrupting the global recovery in air travel, we have continued to ramp up operations and are today in a much better place than this time in 2020.”

He said bookings were up sixfold on some newly reintroduced routes, with the carrier having launched or restarted operations to 10 destinations since the start of 2021, including the historic opening up of flights between Abu Dhabi and Tel Aviv in Apr.

“We are ready to welcome more

guests on board to experience why Etihad is second to none when it comes to ensuring passenger wellbeing,” he added.

Operating costs were slashed by 27%, to US\$1.4 billion, supported by reduced capacity, while fixed overheads and finance were down 22%, due to an “ongoing balance sheet de-leveraging” which saw the carrier rebuild its liquidity position to pre-pandemic levels, the EY CEO noted.

While passenger demand had been slower to recover than anticipated, operations were underpinned by a record cargo performance.

## CVFR flags NDC

**CVFR** Consolidation Services will launch its new NDC ticketing solution at the end of the month as an enhancement to the company’s TravelTech platform.

CVFR has also joined the push to encourage COVID-19 immunisations, with the intriguing tagline “Vaccinate for Vacation: Get your jab today!”

See the **cover page** for details.

## Today's issue of TD

*Travel Daily* today has five pages of news including our PUZZLE page plus a front cover page from **CVFR Group**.

## QF extends

**QANTAS** Airways has announced it will again offer a status extension to its top-tiered Frequent Flyers.

Those tiered Silver and above facing a possible tier downgrade between now and Jun 2022 will be thrown a retention lifeline.

Qantas made the same offer in Nov last year for members facing a possible tier downgrade, who are able to maintain their status for another year by booking an eligible flight prior to their membership year end, for travel until Jun 2022.



## NEW 2022 WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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22 Day Tour  
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From \$9,895pp\*



\*Conditions apply

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\*Conditions apply

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## Rex confirms stand-downs

REX Airlines has followed up its profit warning (**TD** yesterday) with confirmation it will temporarily stand down hundreds of staff from next Mon 16 Aug due to the ongoing lockdown situations.

An all-staff email detailed the stand-downs which will include pilots, engineers, ground handlers, sales, call centre, head office and other operational roles.

"We have already stopped all domestic [jet] operations until at least 12 Sep, and have also reduced regional flying to a skeleton schedule in our Sydney and Melbourne hubs to the same date," the message confirmed.

"Accordingly Rex has experienced a significant work stoppage which we anticipate to last at least up to 12 Sep... however we will continue to evaluate and monitor the situation closely in order for the

## BAC chief resigns

**EXECUTIVE** General Manager of the Aviation at Brisbane Airport Corporation (BAC), Jim Parashos, has announced his intention to resign from the position at the end of the year.

Motivated by a desire to move closer to family in Melbourne, Parashos said in his close-to-five years with BAC, it had been a pleasure to work with a "committed and enthusiastic team", and that Brisbane Airport was well positioned to take advantage of the travel recovery towards the end of the year.

Before joining BAC, Parashos spent more than seven years with Northern Territory Airports.

business to remain nimble and adapt as necessary."

However, that deadline may be extended depending on the "current deteriorating pandemic situation and uncertainty," staff were informed.

Yesterday's ASX update noted that the carrier now expects to report a full year loss of around \$18 million, initially expecting that the Jun lockdown in NSW would be "temporary and of short duration" meaning it didn't take action to mitigate its losses.

## 80% by mid-Nov, says Berejiklian

**THE** current pace of COVID-19 vaccinations in NSW will see the state reach the critical 80% of the population double-jabbed by the middle of Nov, according to the state's Premier Gladys Berejiklian.

Speaking during a daily update this morning, Berejiklian said NSW had already seen 4.5 million doses distributed as it works towards a target of 6 million by the end of this month.

"At the current pace we will reach 70% of the population double-dosed around the end of Oct, and 80% by mid-Nov," she said, noting "that's when life looks like getting back to normal".

Achieving the 80% target would also see the state on track for Phase C of the national plan to ease restrictions.

Hundreds of **TD** readers have already joined the jab push via the #givetravelshot #letsgetto80 #betravelprepared campaign, with the whole industry invited to get on board - **CLICK HERE** for logos, assets, Facebook frame & more.



Maria Rosa  
Maria Rosa Travel

### Why should you pay buying group fees when you do all the work?

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## Hurtigruten sails to Africa

**HURTIGRUTEN** Expeditions has launched its first-ever African cruises along the continent's west coast for the 2022/23 season, basing cruises in Dakar, Senegal.

The cruise line will be the only expedition operator to explore the region, as it introduces four new countries into its destinations in a 13-day itinerary aboard *Spitsbergen*: Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal.

Departing 27 Nov 2022, as well as 09 and 21 Dec, and 02 and 14 Jan 2023, the cruise will visit West Africa's unique archipelagos, including the Bissagos Islands, one of the world's most untouched destinations.

The season will also see Hurtigruten will introduce a series of itineraries to the Canary Islands and Madeira, showing a different side of the destinations - call 1300 322 062 for details.

## Regent Kyoto plan

**IHG** Hotels & Resorts is bringing its luxury Regent brand to Kyoto, Japan in 2024.

The Regent Kyoto will open with the world-famous Tsuruya restaurant and 100-year old gardens at its heart, originally landscaped by Kumakichi Kato.

There are currently seven Regent hotels open globally and another six in the pipeline, with this step an important addition to Kyoto's luxury travel appeal.

IHG's Vice President Development Australasia, Japan & Pacific Abhijay Sandilya believes Regent Kyoto will resonate with travellers who are looking for extraordinary experiences - more hotel updates on the **back page**.



## Window Seat

**SO IT** appears Delta is feeling a little sorry for Delta this week.

In a heartwarming turn of events, American carrier Delta Air Lines has reached out to a young girl with a care package after being alerted to her despair at being associated with the virulent strain of COVID-19.

Delta Gerardi (**pictured**), daughter of Virgin Galactic scientist Kellie Gerardi, was delighted to receive a bundle of goodies to cheer her up, including a DL-branded backpack, a box of Biscoff cookies and a model aircraft.

But perhaps most importantly was this handwritten note:

*We saw your tweet and just wanted to let you know that we think your daughter's name is amazing. It's the name for people who were meant to fly. We sent you a few things with our favorite name, so she can know how special she is. Wear it loud and #DeltaProud!*

The gift was made all the more special by the fact that young Delta had only recently learned to read and write her own name, so she was extra chuffed by the kind message.



# 24%

are planning outdoor adventures

Source: nib Travel Brands Survey, May 2021, Australian respondents - primary reason for travel in next 3 months.

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nibtravelinsurance.com.au/info



## Did you know?

Travel & Cruise Weekly's fortnightly consumer magazine called *Keep Dreaming* is specially designed for agents to send their clients.



## Explore Iran's gems

**ARCADIA** Expeditions has launched a new expedition to Iran which tells the story of the Wars of Alexander the Great.

Led by archaeologist John Tidmarsh, travellers explore the iconic highlights of Iran, immersing themselves in the country's bazaars, food, street life and architecture.

The group will also be joined by leading local historians who give exclusive access to fascinating dig sites, culminating in a search for Alexander's fabled lost city of Carmania.

Limited to just 16 people, this expedition has four set departures across 2022 & 2023, and priced from \$15,200 per person - [CLICK HERE](#) for details.

## TAG carbon deal

**EVENT** management company TAG has partnered with EarthCheck to certify its offices as carbon-neutral.

The project will impact TAG's office in Australia, the UK and the US over the next few years, with the partners to work on a variety of ESG projects.

## Restart and be ready: ATEC

**THE** Australian Tourism Export Council (ATEC) has collaborated with charity Beyond Blue to introduce a new series focused on the wellbeing and mental health of tourism business owners across the country.

The Restart Ready initiative will provide tourism businesses the opportunity to take part in the newly founded NewAccess for Small Business Owners program, providing free and confidential mental health advice developed by Beyond Blue to support business owners enduring hardship during the ongoing travel shutdown.

"While many millions of people across the country have been in cycles of lockdowns over the past 18 months, the tourism industry has been doing it extra tough, with lockdowns forcing businesses to start and stop several times – a process which is enormously exhausting both mentally and financially" ATEC MD Peter Shelley said.

"While much of ATEC's work has been focused on supporting the 'business' aspect of member

businesses, we know that what sits below these business names are passionate, dedicated people suffering the stress of keeping their business afloat during these very difficult times," he added.

ATEC has today announced that registrations are open to all in the tourism industry to access the much needed support, with the series of three tutorials to be held over consecutive weeks beginning tomorrow at 11am (AEST).

The first session will focus on small business owners and mental health and current pressures, while subsequent sessions will feature Beyond Blue's Mel Novak and Blue Voices Speaker Tim Hoopmann, who will discuss health and wellbeing for small business owners in the tourism industry followed by a Q&A session in week three.

For further information and to register attendance, [CLICK HERE](#).

## US split on vax travel

**NEW** polling from *CNBC* in the United States shows that Americans are divided on whether vaccination should be mandated for travel, with 49% in favour and 46% opposed.

However, opinions widened sharply depending on if people had already been jabbed, with nearly 80% of unvaccinated against mandates, while 63% of those jabbed supported the idea.

The survey run by the American news network also found 54% of US residents supported mask mandates on planes, but just 46% supported them for concerts.

A rift is also emerging along age and political lines, with the data showing Democrats and older Americans are leading the support for vaccine travel mandates, while Republicans and younger Americans are the biggest opponents.

The findings follow a broader vaccine trend which has shown Republicans to be more reticent than Democrats to get the jab.

## US/China lead IHG

**INCREASED** bookings in China and the United States have propelled IHG Hotels & Resorts' RevPAR for the six months to 30 Jun 2021 to 20% above the same period last year.

While most of the hotelier's key metrics were down across pre-COVID markers, the company has shown steady improvement on 2020 so far this year, in particular its operating profit which was up 314% to US\$188 million.

In terms of IHG's physical footprint, the company opened 132 hotels in H1 2021, a 46% increase on last year, bringing its total real estate to 5,994 hotels.

## Singapore fraud

**A SINGAPOREAN** woman has been sentenced to 20 weeks' jail this week after being found guilty of impersonating a travel agent and bilking clients out of money they thought they had paid for upcoming holidays.

The unlicensed S Leelavadi would seek her clients' agreement to postpone or refund their trips, using it as a pretext to disappear with the monies she was entrusted with for bookings.

The woman has worked in Singapore without a travel agent licence for over 20 years.

## Tassie voucher rush

**TASMANIA** has seen 148,525 ballots registered in the state for its \$7.5 million tourism voucher scheme designed to entice Tasmanians to holiday at home and support local businesses.

There will be 25,000 vouchers allocated via a ballot system, meaning that those who register have a one in six chance of receiving a voucher.

The last round of tourism vouchers injected an estimated \$27.5 million in additional spending to the state as Tasmanians organised much needed travel into Tasmania's regional areas in particular, supporting thousands of jobs.

AUSTRALIANS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL WHEN WE REACH 80% OF THE POPULATION VACCINATED, SO LETS

#givetravelashot  
#letsgetto80

## GET INVOLVED!

- 1 Get vaccinated
- 2 Use the social media hashtags
- 3 Access our toolkit of assets
- 4 Tag us: the best post wins a gift card





## China word search

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

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

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| BEIJING       | SHANGHAI       |
| CHOWMEIN      | SHENZHEN       |
| DUMPLINGS     | SICHUANPORK    |
| FORBIDDENCITY | TERRACOTTAARMY |
| GREATWALL     | THEBUND        |
| KUNGPAO       | TIANANMEN      |
| PANDA         | XIAN           |
| PEKINGDUCK    | YANGTZERIVER   |

## Unscramble

HOW many words can you make out of these nine letters? Every word needs to include the centre letter, have four letters or more and not be a proper noun or a plural. You can only use each letter once.

D	G	I
N	I	U
N	T	R

- Good – 15 words
- Very good – 22 words
- Excellent – 30 words

NOTE: We've used Chambers Dictionary to decide what words are acceptable.

## 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



## Whose animal is this?



©Shiv's fotographia

THE Asiatic lion is just one of a number of animals considered by this nation to be its national animal.

Others include the Persian leopard, Persian cat and Persian fallow deer, though the lion is the most official one.

The Asiatic lion is today only

found surviving in India (though it is not this country's national animal), but previously inhabited much of what was once Arabia and Mesopotamia, and it is sometimes referred to as the Persian lion.

Do you know whose national animal it is?

ANSWERS 11 AUG  
 Know your brands: 1 Allianz Australia, 2 Aware Super, 3 Australian Red Cross, 4 Auckland Airport  
 Whose animal is this: Asiatic lion - Iran  
 Unscramble: digit, ding, dining, dint, dirt, during, gird, girt, grid, grin, grind, grit, INTRUDING, injuring, rigid, rind, ring, ruin, ruling, ruining, tiding, tiring, trig, tuning, turgid, turning, unit, uniting, untiring

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## A ship by any other name...



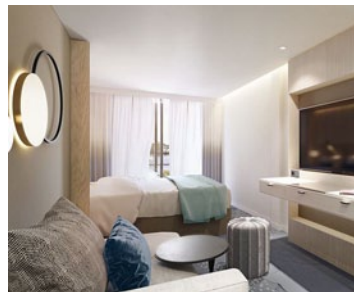
**A-ROSA** has unveiled more details about its upcoming, eco-friendly ship scheduled to set sail in May next year, with renders of the newly named *A-Rosa Sena* released this week.

The vessel will start life undertaking seven-night cruises on the Northern Rhine from Cologne, visiting cities such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Dordrecht and Antwerp, while passengers on board will enjoy a sundeck area (*inset below*) where guests can enjoy the river views, an elegant lobby, and a panorama lounge which will boast a stage and dance floor for guests to boogie the night away.

Catering strongly to families and multi-generational guests, the ship will also feature a range of family features such as a kids

club room, family cabins and a specially designed kids pool.

Sustainability will also be core to *A-Rosa Sena's* value proposition, featuring a hybrid propulsion system combining a diesel engine and a separate electric engine, which is powered by batteries.



"She will lead the way in sustainable river cruising and will open up river cruising further to the next generations and [these] new renders will give agents a taste of her look and feel and we really can't wait to showcase her next year when she starts sailing," *A-ROSA* River Cruises Regional Director Australia & New Zealand Birgit Eisbrenner said.

**Pictured:** A render of the ship's playful exterior, while *inset above* is one of the suites.



## Explore gets nod

**TOUR** operator Explore has been named a Recommended Provider of Escorted Tours by British consumer choice brand Which for the second year running.

Adventure World Travel is the exclusive sales representative of Explore Worldwide in Australia and NZ, with MD Neil Rodgers hailing the news as "high profile and well-earned accreditation", especially as Aussies are eager to rejoin the travel marketplace.

## AC expecting boost

**AIR** Canada's Senior Vice President of Network Planning Mark Galarado said the carrier is anticipating a major boost when Canada's borders reopen to vaccinated travellers on 07 Sep.

Speaking with *Routes Online*, Galarado said the airline was "not shut down" right now, operating at 30% of normal activity.

Turning attention to Australia, Galarado said he was hopeful of a "meaningful" recovery on Aussie routes by 2022/23.

## 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](mailto:accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au).



Debuting in the heart of Los Angeles, **Thompson Hollywood** has been unveiled on Wilcox Avenue, near the famous Hollywood and Vine intersection. The 190-room property expands Thompson's footprint on the west coast of the United States, and features interior design by Tara Bernerd & Partners, signature dining concepts from acclaimed Chef Lincoln Carson, the Bar Lis Rooftop Lounge, and more.



The popular Prestige Club Lounge just expanded at **The Venetian Resort Las Vegas** into a new second resort tower. The Prestige Club Lounge upgrade, previously available exclusively in The Palazzo tower, is now also available in the Venetian tower

on the 36th floor, offering stunning views of the Las Vegas Strip. Both private lounges place guests at the forefront of exclusivity and luxury, with expedited private check-in, a glass of Prosecco and more.



**Nesuto Curtin Hotel Perth**, which will open in Nov, will be the 10th property in the Australian Nesuto portfolio. The hotel is located in the new Curtin Exchange Precinct, a part of Curtin University's \$300 million campus redevelopment, 15 minutes from the city's downtown. The five-storey hotel includes flexible conference spacing and a modern rooftop terrace available for private events, making it an ideal space for both business and leisure guests.