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Tucan meeting

THE first creditors meeting for Tucan Travel Pty Ltd will take place at 11am AEDT this Fri 12 Feb at the offices of Rodgers Reidy, 210 Clarence Street Sydney.

The adventure travel specialist ceased trading last week (TD 03 Feb), but the Administrator Andrew Barnden has confirmed discussions about the company's position had occurred as early as 14 Oct last year, followed by further talks about its relationship with UK parent Tucan Limited on several occasions in late Jan.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only four spots are available for physical attendance at this week's meeting, which will also be conducted online via Zoom.

Prospective attendees are asked to complete formal proofs of debt in order to vote - more info from sjolly@roddersreidy.com.au.

A second meeting of creditors, where the Administrator will provide a detailed report, is likely to be held in early to mid-Mar.

Vax certificates raise hopes

THE Federal Government is in the final stages of developing a vaccine certificate platform which would provide proof of COVID-19 immunisations, recognised by other countries, to help facilitate post-pandemic travel.

Federal Government Services Minister Stuart Robert yesterday detailed enhancements to the MyGov portal and the Express Plus Medicare app to verify inoculations via the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

The Minister said accessing vaccination certificates is already possible, but the platform will continue to be made more user-friendly over the coming weeks.

"The capability is live now. We are ready now for the vaccine rollout," he promised.

Robert said it was "highly likely that a vaccination certificate or quarantine will still be required for international visitors to Australia," with the Government

continuing to work with international counterparts on an appropriate framework.

The Minister confirmed a range of platforms to facilitate international travel were being considered including IBM, Clear and CommonPass, with the ability for Australian immunisations to be verified via the AIR a key part of the plan for a "faster return to normal life for Australians".

"Any requirement for borders to open up will require vaccination, and it will require the widespread use of assured certificates."

By contrast, British Vaccines Minister Nadhim Zahawi yesterday confirmed the UK Govt had no plans to introduce "vaccine passports," describing them as "discriminatory".

"That's not how we do things in the UK," he said, suggesting that GPs could provide records of COVID-19 jabs if necessary due to regulations in other countries.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news including our PUZZLE page plus a full page from *Hurtigruten*.

AFTA visits Adelaide

AFTA CEO Darren Rudd will meet with South Australian Premier Stephen Marshall in Adelaide this week.

Today he and his team will also connect with a number of AFTA members including Bunnik Tours, Angas Travel, Thor Travel, South America Tours and Holidays of Australia.

Celebrate women!

LUNCHES to celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) will be hosted by Women in Tourism in Brisbane on 05 Mar and then in Sydney on 08 Mar.

Men are welcome too, with this year's IWD theme being "Choose to Challenge" - info and tickets at womenintourism.com.au.

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QF unlimited changes

WITH the competition for domestic airfare bookings starting to heat up, Qantas has announced Aussies can now make unlimited date changes on flights until at least Jan 2022.

Clients could previously only make one flight change for travel bookings until the end of Jun.

Qantas Group Chief Customer Officer Stephanie Tully said one of the motivators for the move was to inject confidence into its customer base in light of ongoing border closures.

"Customers have told us that sudden changes to border restrictions by state governments are giving them second thoughts about going on holidays or taking a business trip," Tully said.

"To help manage the uncertainty, we've introduced the highest level of flexibility in the market so people can plan their next trip with confidence.

"By giving customers unlimited flight date changes for almost a

year, we think it will encourage more people to book, helping to boost tourism which is so vital to local economies and businesses around the country," she added.

In addition to the added flexibility, Qantas has also revealed plans to improve its food and beverage offering, including free wine and beer for Economy passengers across all of its domestic and regional flights - previously only available on select Qantas services.

The carrier will also be rolling out new hot meal options for Economy from Mar, such as gourmet beef pies, roast vegetable quiches, mushroom ragout and roasted chicken with tomato, garlic and lemon sauce.

To mark the announcements, Qantas has introduced its one million seat sale across all capital cities, offering fares from \$99 one-way for travel from mid-Mar.

The sale period starts today and expires on 15 Feb.

TokyoTokyo Old meets New

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DealsAway launch

CONSUMER travel booking platform DealsAway has launched in the Australian market, pledging to beat the price of existing travel packages by 10%.

The site offers 45 exclusive pre-packaged global experiences across accommodation, tours, cruise and rail, with CEO Jurgen Himmelmann saying the site can mix it in a tough environment.

"We aren't shy to enter a competitive market against online booking juggernauts such as Luxury Escapes and TripADeal, as we are blending the best of both worlds...person-to-person customer service for the best booking experience," he said.

Vaccine will not stop quarantine

THE Federal Government has confirmed hotel quarantine will remain in place for international arrivals - even for those who have been vaccinated for COVID-19.

Speaking after a National Cabinet meeting on Fri, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the success of the quarantine program so far was enough reason for it to continue for the foreseeable future.

The government also revealed international arrival caps for returning travellers would be lifted from 4,127 to 6,362 from mid Feb, with Qld to increase its weekly limit to 1,000 people, while NSW will continue to do much of the heavy lifting by boosting its cap to 3,010 arrivals.

Window Seat



WE URGE a reclamation the phrase "Bay of Pigs" from the failed Cuban landing operation and bestow it upon the island of Ko Matsum, located 2km to the south of Ko Samui.

Located on the island is a family of pigs (**pictured**); how they got there, nobody is sure, but they are drawing in tourists by the boatload - literally.

Many Koh Samui tourism operators - including Banyan Tree Samui - now offer half-day tours to Ko Matsum, with snorkelling, swimming and snacks also included, as well as a chance to go hog-wild.



Bonailie goes live

TOURISM industry community platform Bonailie has formally launched to the market.

The new site which aims to "positively shape the future of tourism" (**TD** 29 Sep 2020) is the brainchild of well known travel and tourism identity Julie King, with a BoB Earth partnership enabling the platform to offer webinars to businesses wanting to unlock growth, become more sustainable and adapt to modes of "21st century thinking".

NT Product Showcase 2021

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VIKING

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Let's chat travel

TRAVEL Daily Editor-in-Chief Bruce Piper will join Council of Australian Tour Operators Chairman Dennis Bunnik at The Travel Industry Hub (TTIH) on 16 Feb to discuss what the coming months have in store for the travel industry and the likelihood of multiple false starts ahead. Also on the agenda will be "crisis fatigue" and how the travel industry is coping over such a protracted period, and what "saving travel" actually means. There will also be ample time for viewer questions - register to attend the chat [HERE](#). Also on the agenda later this month is Getting The Balance Right - PR & Messaging in 2021, with Amplify Me Director Andrea Plawutsky to discuss finding the right balance between optimism and pragmatism, and seeding hope amidst negativity. Plawutsky will appear at The Travel Industry Hub on 11 Feb at 1:30pm - more info [HERE](#).

Tourism faces challenges

TOURISM Australia will host the seventh annual Destination Australia conference at Sydney's International Convention Centre next month, with the event set to take place on 04 Mar. "After the unprecedented challenges of 2020, the conference will focus on the future of Australian tourism, with high profile speakers sharing consumer insights, global trends and discussing key opportunities for the tourism industry in a post-COVID world," according to the event website. Destination Australia will also be accessible online for those unable to attend in person. The event will take place almost exactly a year since the last Destination Australia conference in Adelaide (**TD** 12 Mar 2020), which took place just before the travel and tourism world collapsed as the coronavirus pandemic took hold.

Speakers this year will include Channel 9's Karl Stefanovic, Tourism Holdings Limited Chief Executive Officer Grant Webster and Boston Consulting Group Managing Director Tom Von Oertzen, as well as Tourism Australia Managing Director Phillipa Harrison. Other presenters set to share their thoughts on how tourism is tracking amid the health crisis will be Tourism Australia's CMO Susan Coghill, Head of Social at communication agency opr John Easson and the CEO of Indigenous business database Supply Nation, Laura Berry. Registrations are now open to take part, with in person attendance costing \$250, while virtual participation costs \$50 including online streaming of all conference sessions and access to presentations on demand. See events.tourism.australia.com for further information.

Yarra Valley Lodge joins Event network

THE 102-room Yarra Valley Lodge in Victoria has joined the portfolio of Event Hospitality & Entertainment, with the property to benefit from Event's loyalty and marketing networks. "The partnership heralds an exciting new era for the property, with our team looking forward to nurturing strong local partnerships," said Event's Director of Hotels and Resorts Norman Arundel.

VA warns of cuts

NEW Virgin Australia CEO Jayne Hrdlicka has warned the Federal Govt that if JobKeeper is not extended, thousands more jobs at the airline are likely to go. VA has retained approximately 6,000 employees after several rounds of cuts, with about half of those furloughed until domestic and international travel is able to ramp up post-COVID.



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GOING PLACES TOGETHER

Azamara zeroing in on Aus

AZAMARA'S expansion of its Australian sales team (**TD** 15 Oct 2020) followed the identification of the country as one of the cruise line's top strategic markets, newly appointed Azamara President Carol Cabezas told **TD**.

Assembled as part of an initiative to provide more in-market support for the region's travel partners, the now four-strong team will provide sales coverage in both New South Wales and Victoria.

"When we look out into the marketplace, it makes perfect sense to have the United Kingdom and Australia as strategic markets where we can continue to grow and expand as we move forward," Cabezas said.

In addition to bringing aboard NSW Business Development Managers Kristina Sambaher and Victorian BDM Jessica Marsh, as well as Trade Marketing Manager Natalie Bax, Azamara

also recently appointed Managing Director International Business Development Patrice Willoughby to oversee all of the cruise line's key markets, of which Australia now forms a major pillar.

The developments come as passengers are beginning to develop confidence in Azamara as the year progresses and the line inches toward a restart after the prolonged travel shutdown.

A return to cruising also invites other questions, including health & safety protocols, such as whether or not Azamara will require passengers to be vaccinated - which Cabezas said may be up to its ports of call.

"We're talking with [the destinations], we're making sure we're aligned in understanding how they're viewing any sort of protocols related to COVID up to and including vaccination, and we'll take our cues from our destinations," she said.

Captain bubbling with excitement



THE new Mumm Harbour Bar on Captain Cook Cruises' *Sydney 2000* (**TD** 05 Feb) was inaugurated in fine style last Fri by the company's GM Anthony Haworth, who is **pictured** cracking the bubbly with the enthusiastic support of SeaLink Travel Group's GM of Global Sales & Distribution Richard Doyle.

The new product provides 90 minutes of free-flowing Mumm along with a spectacular High Tea-style seafood platter (**inset**), all consumed as guests take in spectacular harbour vistas along with live musical accompaniment.

SeaLink has refurbished the lounge for a post-COVID environment, with the Mumm



Harbour Bar an ideal way to celebrate as the world emerges from the "extremely difficult" 2020, Haworth said.

The lush experience starts this Fri 12 Feb with a launch price of \$89 - captaincook.com.au.



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Fortitude Valley lux pivot



IHG'S upcoming Fortitude Valley hotel, originally flagged to open under the name Hotel Indigo Brisbane Fortitude Valley, has been elevated to the hospitality company's luxury segment.

With the development taking on a more luxurious feel than initially anticipated, IHG made the decision to transition the property to an independent name outside of the IHG brand family, with a new moniker to be announced early this week.

The new-build hotel will offer extravagant interior design with

premium amenities, including a rooftop pool & bar with an interactive lighting facade.

Opening dates will be revealed by IHG later this month.

Victorians wants restrictions to Dec

A CLEAR majority of Victorians (60%) want the current state of emergency to last until at least Dec, according to a special Roy Morgan Snap SMS survey.

The state's emergency condition allows the govt to make quick decisions relating to border restrictions, gathering sizes and intrastate movement.

Nearly two-thirds of Victorians aged 35-49 and 50-64 want the state of emergency extended, however, support is lower at either end of the age spectrum, with 59% of under 35s, and 57% of those aged over 65 wanting emergency powers extended.

Myanmar grounded

MILITARY leaders in Myanmar have ordered a ban on all travel to and from the embattled Asian country as it continues in its bid to consolidate a coup d'etat.

The decision arrives after the removal of leader Aung San Suu Kyi by the military who refute recent election results.

Kauai tourism plan

THE Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) has launched the 2021-2023 Kauai Destination Management Action Plan which aims to improve the visitor experience of holidaymakers.

The initiatives outlined include a greater investment in Hawaiian cultural programs, new policies to address over-tourism, the creation of new education materials for visitor etiquette and the reduction of island traffic.

See the full document [HERE](#).

UAE leads boom

THE UAE is leading the pipeline of future hotel development in the Middle East with 173 properties under construction, according to a new Top Hotel Construction report.

The UAE is followed by Saudi Arabia (156) and Qatar (42).

Come back Kiwis!

WITH Australia's one-way bubble with New Zealand resuming, Destination Gold Coast has rolled out a new campaign targeting Kiwi visitation.

The new video implores New Zealanders to come back and enjoy the destination's warm weather, beaches, theme parks and great restaurants.

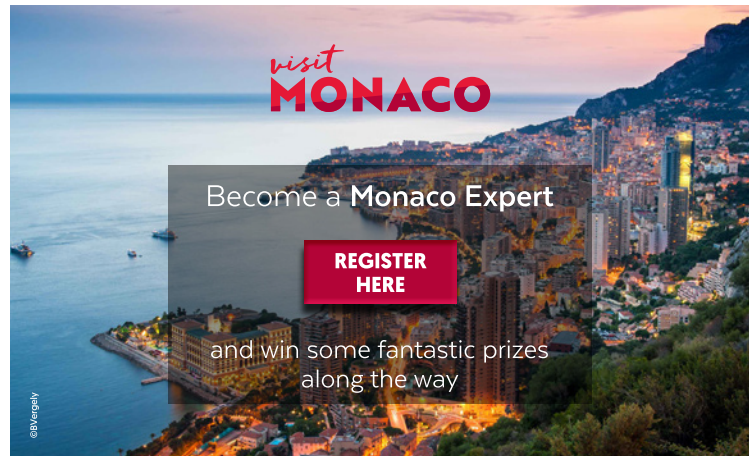
"Kiwis have a strong affinity with the Gold Coast and pre-COVID, we were the second most popular Australian holiday destination for New Zealand travellers, after Sydney," said the tourism body's CEO Patricia O'Callaghan.

See the full video [HERE](#).

France shuts down overseas islands

THE French Govt has mandated that a number of its overseas territories close to tourists indefinitely in a bid to curb the spread of COVID-19.

The announcement will affect the popular tourist hubs of Bora Bora in French Polynesia and the islands of St Martin and Martinique in the Caribbean.



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Where in the world?



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THIS hotel was first created in order to tempt wealthy travellers to take a train trip to the destination, after the rise of planes and cars had taken over trains as the preferred method of travel.

It was built to only function in summer, but by 1982 was

'winterised' and today offers visitors skiing, snowboarding and ice skating activities.

The oldest part of the hotel was built in 1913, and the most recent added in 2004.

Do you know the name of this luxury hotel and where in the world it is?

Pick the nation

COUNTRIES have unique geography, ethnicities and cultures which come together to often form very distinctive symbols.

Based off the four different symbols and famous faces, see if you can figure out which country they represent.



Sudoku

TRICKY

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

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

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

Whose mascot is this?



IT'S common to see athletes turn out for two teams in their career, but rarely do you see a mascot do so!

Created by a former Muppets designer, Youppi is without doubt

one of the most popular mascots of all-time.

Once his original team ceased to exist in 2005, he joined another of his city's teams, and has turned out for them ever since.

ANSWERS 05 FEB

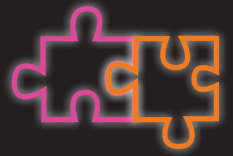
Test your airline knowledge: Airport codes - 1 Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 2 Islamabad, Pakistan, 3 Alice Springs, Australia, 4 Copenhagen, Denmark, Airline liveries - 1 Air Canada, 2 Air Serbia, 3 Finnair

Pub quiz: 1 Agra, 2 Abidjan, Buenos Aires, Cincinnati, Denver, Detroit, Merida, Montreal, San Francisco, 3 Tasmania, 4 Christchurch, 5 A post office, 6 a) Malaysia, 7 Leonardo da Vinci, 8 Berlin, 9 2010, 10 Crown Melbourne

Icon under a microscope: Sydney Harbour Bridge, Australia

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Travel Daily

Canada cruise blow

CANADA has banned large ships from entering its waters for a further 12 months, pushing the prohibition out to Feb 2022.

Cruise vessels carrying 100 or more people will continue to be banned from Canadian waters, Transport Canada announced last week, with the former ban set to expire at the end of this month.

Meanwhile passenger vessels carrying more than 12 people are also prohibited from entering Arctic coastal waters.

For more details, view Fri's issue of **Cruise Weekly**.

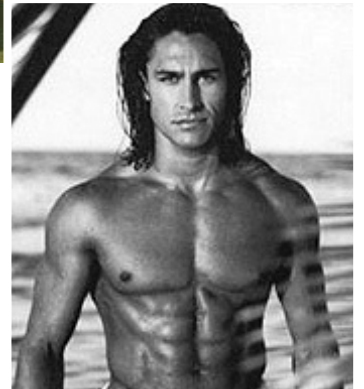
Igniting bookings

VISIT Sunshine Coast, Tourism Noosa and Ignite Travel Group have collaborated to launch a new campaign aimed at increasing bookings from interstate source markets like Greater Sydney and Melbourne.

The multichannel push will target a travel spike during the off-peak Feb to Aug period, with value packages also rolling out through Ignite Travel's various consumer touchpoints.

For more details on the packages available under the campaign, **CLICK HERE**.

If it would please the Durie...



ARCHITECTURE firm Chiodo has appointed Durie Design, founded by former television DIY king Jamie Durie, to develop Australia's first Fairmont in Port Douglas (**TD** 10 Sep 2020).

Nestled on the edge the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest, the new Fairmont Port Douglas will be designed by Durie Design with important eco elements in mind such as sustainability and humanity.

Fairmont Port Douglas will be the first new-build hotel to be constructed in the town in more than 20 years, offering 253 luxury rooms, several restaurants & bars, a day spa, a treetop walk and panoramic conference and wedding facilities - all designed to blend with the property's surrounding environment.

The resort will also provide guests with private gardens on every level, with some suites to include daybeds, exclusive plunge pools and private outdoor

bathtubs with panoramic views.

The expansive indoor-outdoor lobby, covered with a giant glass dome, will also boast its own rainforest, featuring a range of local fauna and flora.

"The Fairmont Port Douglas pushes the boundaries in the way it captures its natural surroundings and blends seamlessly with the interiors, to deliver a world-class green hotel," said Chiodo Principal Paul Chiodo.

Pictured: A render of the upcoming eco resort and inset, TV star-turned-luxury property designer Jamie Durie.

BROCHURES

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Windstar Cruises - 2021-2023 Voyage Collection
Windstar Cruises has gone to press with its 2021 Voyage Collection. The program celebrates almost three full years of cruising with Windstar, featuring new itineraries, transformed ships and the cruise line's updated health & safety protocols. Over the next three years, Windstar will debut its trio of renovated Star Plus Class ships, which will feature new restaurants, suite choices and environmental improvements. There are also new itineraries available in regions such as Australia, Alaska and Asia.



AAT Kings - 2021 New Zealand
AAT Kings' new 2021 New Zealand brochure provides information on the operator's itineraries in the country departing later this year. Detailing soaring mountains, volcanic valleys, Maori legend and unique wildlife, there is a range of holidays available for all kinds of travellers, with First Choice Guided Holidays including the three-day Jewels of the Bay, the seven-day Iconic North, and the 10-day Contrasts of New Zealand, while Best Guys Guided Holidays include the eight-day Northern Wonders, and more.

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

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