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Save 300k jobs pls!

THE Tourism & Transport Forum (TTF) is calling on the Federal Government to stump up a tourism rescue package worth \$7.74 billion that it claims would save more than 300,000 jobs.

Dubbed the Tourism Employee and Asset Maintenance (TEAM) program, the proposed rescue package would see assistance of between \$1,000-\$1,500 allocated to businesses each fortnight for every staff member employed so long as there is a 30-50% or more drop on 2019 turnover.

The package would cover the sector from 01 Apr through to 31 Dec and be reviewed quarterly, with TTF CEO Margie Osmond saying that without support, NSW would lose 118,000 jobs, while Qld would shed 60k and Vic 85k.

Fly365 refunds clarity

TRAVELLERS left out of pocket by the collapse of online travel agency Fly365.com (TD 21 Feb 2020) and subsequent pandemic cancellations are now being referred directly to their flight providers for refunds.

An update issued last week by the Fly365 administrators, Aston Chace Group, said they have undertaken a "thorough examination of the available resources, likely costs, and legal implications" of a Court application seeking permission for them to directly facilitate creditor refunds, and had concluded that such a process would be "unlikely to succeed".

Accordingly anyone who requested a refund on or after 20 Feb 2020 (the date the company entered liquidation) is now being told to approach airlines directly, with refunds and/or credits to be directly remitted to the client.

Aston Chace has provided a letter for customers to use as proof that no instruction from the liquidators is required.

Any shortfalls from refunds provided by airlines or consolidators will rank as unsecured claims in the liquidation - along with unpaid refunds which were requested before 20 Feb 2020.

The administrators said they were continuing their probe into the conduct of the directors of the company, both prior to and during the liquidation.

Previously Aston Chace had raised issues of large quantities of cash disappearing from the Fly365 bank accounts in the days leading up to the OTA's collapse.

Any creditors wishing to contribute funding to assist in the "ongoing investigations and recovery actions" is being invited to make contact - more details at astoncg.com.au/fly-365.

We're ecsTATic!

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has launched five new modules in its Amazing Thailand Specialist 2021 program, available on the *Travel Daily* Training Academy.

Each module features a quiz, with five flights to Thailand on offer to win as an incentive, and will focus on different types of travellers, including families, digital nomads, and senior travellers - see **page seven**.

Voyages wow deals

VOYAGES Ayers Rock Resort is offering "wow deals" on a number of its accommodation options, with prices for The Lost Camel starting at \$90 and Sails in the Desert leading in at \$190.

The special promo includes return airport transfers, in-room wi-fi, indigenous activities, and free stays for children under 15. See **page six** to book now.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news including our PUZZLE page plus full pages from:

- Voyages
- Tourism Authority of Thailand

TIMes are a-changing

THE Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) is making three "game-changing" enhancements to its program this year.

The mentoring program will broaden its brief to include mentees from all areas of Australia, online integration, the relaunch of the TIME website, and the reduction of the cost of its six-month mentoring experience from \$2,500 per person down to \$1,500.

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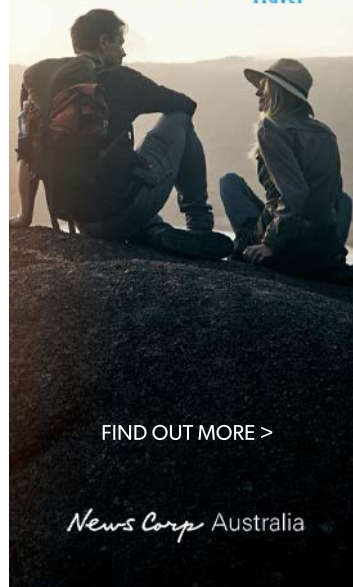
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News Corp Australia

CATO lobbies Canberra



THE Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO) was on the front foot in Canberra yesterday, meeting with Australia's Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan to lobby for an extension of the JobKeeper program for travel (**TD** 17 Feb).

The team on the ground included CATO Managing Director Brett Jardine, Chairman Dennis Bunnik, and board member Brad McDonnell (**pictured** with Tehan), with the trip aiming to communicate the complexities of the travel sector to the Minister and how it should be best supported in the future.

"We were able to explain the importance of protecting highly skilled jobs and their key to ensuring continued business operations, enabling the redemption of travel credits for consumers and allowing

Australians to travel safely once borders reopen," Jardine said.

"Whilst we understand the need to close borders, the travel industry has been the sacrificial lamb that has enabled our communities to remain largely COVID-free and the wider economy to recover.

"Whilst the Government continues to restrict our trade, it is vital that it provides support to enable us to survive," he added.

The group's efforts in Canberra led to a direct meeting with Treasurer Josh Frydenburg for further discussions, and while the Govt is yet to commit to any further assistance packages, CATO was encouraged to make sure the travel sector continues to lobby their locals MP for action.

People can locate their local MPs on a listing **HERE** to arrange a personal meeting.

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GET IN TOUCH

Princess unveils 2022/23

PRINCESS Cruises has lifted the lid on its upcoming 2022/23 Australia season, revealing Royal-Class sister ships *Royal Princess* and *Majestic Princess* will be based in Sydney for the first time.

The new program will see four ships in total service the local summer season and offer 134 departures across 90 itineraries, including *Grand Princess* which will make her Australian debut sailing cruises out of Melbourne.

The vessel will undertake six Southern Australia Explorer voyages priced from \$939ppts, as well as half a dozen Fiji cruises from Sydney and one from Melbourne, with rates leading in at \$2,139 per person, twin share.

Meanwhile, *Coral Princess* will return to Brisbane to sail the line's signature longer voyages, including a 28-day Round Australia adventure, as well as 35-day Hawaii, Tahiti & South Pacific itineraries.

Coral will also service the jewel in the season's crown in 2023, a mammoth 107-night Round World Cruise from Australia visiting 26 countries.

The 2022/23 season will go on sale initially for Princess Elite Guests from 02 Mar, and to the general public on 03 Mar.

Agents can call 1300 587 473.

VA Easter routes

VIRGIN Australia has announced it will introduce two new routes and up frequencies to cater for demand over Easter.

The carrier will launch direct links between Adelaide and the Sunshine Coast and Melbourne to Ballina Byron, operating from 29 Mar to 25 Apr and leading in at \$129 one-way for Economy.

Expanded frequencies will apply to places like Cairns, Hamilton Island, Hobart, Broome, Launceston and the Gold Coast.

Picture yourself here...

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News Corp Australia

Source: emma™ conducted by Ipsos, 12 months ending September 2020, Fused Nielsen Digital Panel calibrated to Digital Content Ratings, September 2020. All ppl 14+.



P&O extends pause

P&O Cruises Australia is extending its operational pause on Australian departures through to 18 Jun, citing the need to adopt a “realistic and pragmatic approach” to launching its highly anticipated restart.

The line said it will make contact with affected guests, either directly or via their appointed travel agent, to work out alternative cruise options.

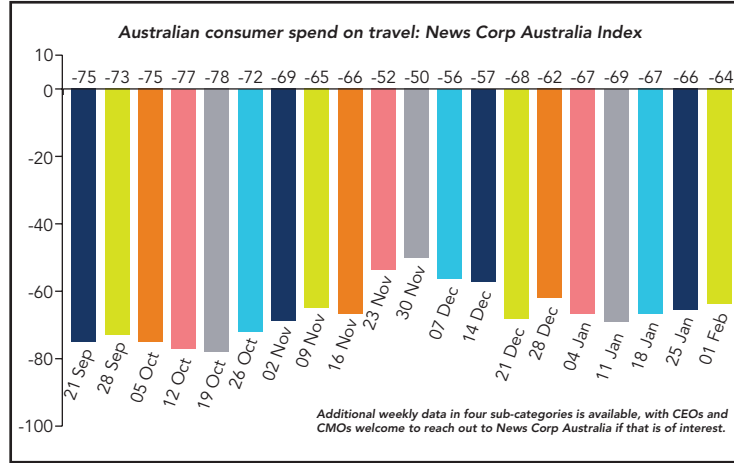
ATE entries open

APPLICATIONS are now open to attend the Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE) scheduled to take place in Sydney in Jun.

Tourism Australia’s ATE will be a hybrid event this year, merging in-person and virtual components to ensure the best forum for attendees to meet and maintain COVID safety at the same time.

The live event will run from 06-09 Jun and the online version from 10-17 Jun - register [HERE](#).

Spending still flatlined



EXCLUSIVE

THIS week’s News Corp Australia consumer spending data showed a fractional improvement, recording data from a rare lockdown-free period which saw an uptick of two points on the previous period.

Overall consumer spending on travel for the week was 64% lower year-on-year, and the

period also coincided with regular timeshare payments so “let’s not leap for joy until we see next week’s data,” said News Corp Head of Travel, Dwayne Birtles.

The Air Under \$350 and Travel Agents & Touring Businesses category saw a 1% uplift, while cruise dropped 1%, with Birtles warning that the five day snap Vic lockdown will hit future results.



Window Seat

WALKING trails are all the rage in Australia during this travel environment where international holidays are on ice, but be thankful the faces you tend to see staring back at you in our trees are cuddly koalas and cheeky possums.

Not so for a 62-year-old from Staffordshire in England, who on her morning constitutional this month was confronted with an unnerving collection of dolls nailed to the trunks of trees, complete with facial expressions of pained anguish - they must have heard about COVID too.



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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



Where in the world?



©Destination Lake Taupo

THIS is one of the favourite holiday and premier freshwater fishing destinations for travellers and residents of this country alike.

A perfect place for outdoor adventures – from kayaking

and cruising on the lake to snow sports, hiking, cycling and adrenaline adventures, this place has also become an iconic cultural attraction for the region.

This beauty is a must-visit, but do you know where it is?

Whose animal is this?

THE cod was initially the national animal of this country, used on seals to represent the country as early as the 16th century but in the 19th century it was replaced by the gyrfalcon, which was considered to be a better representation of their country.

The gyrfalcon has been admired in poetry by the nation for hundreds of years and hunting with them has been practiced in the region back to pagan times.

The gyrfalcon is the largest falcon and breeds on Arctic coasts and tundra.

Do you know whose animal the gyrfalcon is?



Maori culture in NZ

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

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

ROTORUA
WOODCARVING
TIKI
AOTEAROA
MARAÉ
WAITANGIDAY
TANEMAHUTA
ALLBLACKS

WHAKAREWAREWA
WHANAU
CANOE
FLAXLEAVES
HAKA
POUNAMU
HANGI

ANSWERS 17 FEB

Pub quiz: 1 Milan, 2 Park Avenue, 3 Seattle, 4 Richmond, 5 Roissy-en-France, 6 c) Moscow, 7 London, 8 Christchurch, 9 True – it is .aq, 10 Gulf of Finland

Seen it at the movies: The Notebook

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

Today's puzzle page is brought to you by 100% Pure New Zealand

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NCL appoints BDM

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has appointed Vanessa Green as the brand's Business Development Manager for NSW/ACT.

She joins the cruise line after working across a range of blue chip travel brands, including Flight Centre, Expedia and The Travel Corporation.

Green will be charged with nurturing key agent relationships.

Viking winners named



VIKING has announced its winners for Jan who will share in \$8,500 of Rewards by Viking points, as part of its ongoing Discovery Cruise Sale incentive.

The first prize winner is Poppie Cole from Helloworld Mudgeeraba, winner of \$5,000 worth of points (pictured inset).

Further prize winners include Jo Coolen from House of Travel Kapiti Coast in New Zealand (\$2,500 worth of points) and Joyce Blom from Travel Menai Metro (\$1,000 worth of points).



Viking Managing Director ANZ Michelle Black said it was essential to continue supporting the industry, with agents urged to secure clients' travel plans now.

Tourists fake tests

SIX tourists stand accused of submitting falsified swab test results in order to enter the Philippines' Boracay Island in Jan.

Of even more concern for authorities is that three of the tourists arrested have since tested positive for COVID, according to tests taken shortly after their arrests.

Tourists bound for Boracay are required to submit a negative RT-PCR test result within 72 hours before arrival, with roughly 8,000 tourists entering in Jan.

Mobile Euro rail

RAIL Europe is now offering agents and customers access to a mobile version of its Eurail Passes, allowing travellers to cross up to 33 countries on several railways using only one pass.

The pass can be obtained through its agent portal.





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SIA injects support

SINGAPORE Airlines was the carrier responsible for delivering the first batch of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to Sydney this week.

"We have celebrated many firsts in our history, but none more important, or proud as this one," said Regional Vice President South West Pacific Philip Goh.

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.

Ignite Travel Group has relocated its Senior Product Manager **Rebecca Rafter** to Western Australia in order to support its new relationship with Tourism Western Australia and help grow the WA market.

Business Events Industry Aotearoa has appointed **David Perks** from WellingtonNZ and experienced executive **David Downs** to become new board members for the industry group.

Chua Hui Wan has been named **Travelport's** new Head of Agency Sales for Asia Pacific. She was most recently the Regional Director, APAC at Hotelbeds Group and will be based in Singapore.

Birgit Vadlau has taken charge of **Silversea Cruises'** hotel operations, assuming responsibility for the role of Director, Hotel Operations and Newbuild. Vadlau has been with the line since 2005.

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

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