

## Discover the Med

**SILVERSEA** Cruises is inviting travellers to discover the cruise line's authentic beauty.

The line is planning to take cruisers closer to the timeless treasures of the Mediterranean, offering a wide array of itineraries in the region to suit all appetites.

Reduced deposits of 15% are also available on select voyages, as are early booking bonuses of up to 20%.

See [page seven](#) for details.



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## Vax passport tender issued

EXCLUSIVE

**THE** Australian Digital Health Agency has issued a Request for Tender for a new "digital health mobile channel" which will provide live, real-time confirmation of a user's COVID-19 vaccination and test status.

The proposed mobile smartphone app will be available for both iOS and Android platforms, with a timeframe for delivery "prior to Dec 2021".

Key features will see it link to the Government's My Health Record platform, providing a dashboard giving easy access to COVID-19 immunisation status, evidence of immunisation, COVID-19 pathology test results and "Service Australia's COVID-19 digital certificates for each authenticated vaccine dose a consumer receives".

The tender documents specify that the mobile application will display an animated tick (e.g.

red, amber, green) to indicate the user's status, as well as "multiple authenticity and anti-fraud measures".

The proposed app would also link to other health information such as organ donation status, health history, allergies and adverse reaction information and history of other immunisations.

Critical requirements also specify that the system has the capability to be integrated with external systems, including APIs.

An information briefing for prospective tenderers will be held online next Mon, while bids must be lodged electronically via the AusTender website by 30 Jul.

## AFTA close to announcing CEO

**THE** Australian Federation of Travel Agents is in the final stages of appointing its new Chief Executive Officer, with attendees at an AFTA member webinar yesterday told that Chairman Tom Manwaring is in negotiations with a preferred candidate.

The recruitment has been led by a committee including AFTA Director David Greenland from Reed & Mackay, who confirmed that the organisation is seeking someone with a blend of political lobbying expertise and significant travel industry experience.

An initial shortlist of five was whittled down to three who last week were given second interviews, "leading us to hopefully a selection of our preferred candidate in the coming days," Greenland said, with an announcement expected in the next week or two.

## TNZ revamps focus

**TOURISM** New Zealand has identified several key areas of focus to facilitate the recovery of the country's tourism economy.

These include driving more domestic demand to lay the foundation for long-term value, better supporting industry to deliver quality visitor experiences for international visitors, and scaling up high-value conversion across priority markets in the lead-up to borders re-opening.

The plan also calls for a greater injection of Maori culture into its tourism appeal, & helping with Govt programs - see TNZ's Rene de Monchy discuss plan [HERE](#).

## Today's issue of TD

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

- Tourism Tasmania
- Silversea Cruises

## Skroo offers agent exclusive Q&A

**FLIGHT** Centre CEO Graham Turner will answer questions from the Australian travel agent community in a live industry webinar to take place next week.

The one-off event at 5pm AEST on Wed 14 Jul will see Turner speak with Astrid Richardson, GM of Flight Centre's new Independent division, covering the company's roadmap and "tips to transform your business, survive and thrive as a travel agency in these changing times".

The session will then open to questions from the audience.

Registrations are now open for the free virtual Graham Turner event - to sign up [CLICK HERE](#).

## Should you charge?

**THE** Travel Community Hub will host one of its biggest webinars in recent memory this Fri, discussing the issues raised in *travelBulletin's* deep dive into the pros and cons of travel advisors charging a fee for service as opposed to the traditional commission model (**TB** Jul 21).

Taking place on Fri at 1pm AEST, **TD** Publisher Bruce Piper will join The Travel Community Hub founder Richard Taylor, as well as other industry figureheads Shelley Brice, Ann-Catherine Jones and Sonia Jones to discuss the issue - [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

## Join us for a Virtual Guided Tour through Central Switzerland

Highlights include a stroll through the old town of Lucerne, a boat tour on Lake Lucerne & a gondola trip to Mount Titlis.

This not to be missed Famil will run for approx.90 minutes so please join us.

**Date:** Wednesday 14th July

**Time:** 4.30pm AEST

To register, simply [click here](#)

To explore Lucerne visit:  
[www.mySwitzerland.com/lucerne](http://www.mySwitzerland.com/lucerne)



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**Quark Expeditions**

## CATO urges clear markers

**THE** travel industry urgently needs clearer trigger points from the Federal Government regarding vaccination levels to precipitate a meaningful travel resumption, the Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO) has expressed.

Responding to the four-phase plan announced by Prime Minister Scott Morrison last Fri (**TD** 05 Jul), CATO Chairman Dennis Bunnik said the strategy lacked any specific markers for travel businesses to adequately plan their futures around.

“We need more than a commitment to create a plan - we need dates and scientific numbers,” he said.

“We need a simple and easy-to-access vaccination passport for non-restricted domestic travel - this can be used to incentivise vaccinations so that Australians can see the positive benefits of

getting the jab.

“We also need approval of a seven-day home quarantine option for returning, fully-vaccinated international travellers,” Bunnik added.

CATO’s Chair also took aim at the Federal Government’s lack of public messaging around travel planning, arguing there needs to be more awareness created to encourage Australians to get the jab ahead of the borders opening, especially for those aged over 50.

Part of a plan to reboot the travel sector would also need to bolt in additional support schemes, Bunnik believes, such as extending grant schemes and improving eligibility.

“The Government needs to protect the remaining high-skilled jobs in the travel sector,” he said.

A proper lead-in time would also give operators the chance to plan and create new products.

## Royal pulls the pin

**IN MORE** bad news for the Australian cruise industry, Royal Caribbean International has announced it is withdrawing about a third of its upcoming Australian season due to the “ongoing uncertainty around the opening of international borders”.

Affected sailings include *Quantum of the Seas* cruises departing Brisbane and Sydney between Oct and Apr.

The cruise line has confirmed it is contacting impacted guests and travel partners directly to advise them of their alternative booking options, stating it would continue to assess the remainder of its 2021/2022 season.

**MEANWHILE** Royal Caribbean Group’s Celebrity Cruises brand has also decided to cancel its *Celebrity Eclipse* cruises in Australia to the end of the year.

The line said it continues to work with government to achieve a return to local sailings soon.



## Window Seat

**TALK** about an artistic idea with a bit of perk, Joanne Selby, GM of Cape Town’s The Table Bay Hotel in South Africa, recently commissioned a replica of the hotel’s mascot to be constructed out of recycled coffee capsules.

The aluminium version of Oscar the seal (**pictured**) was created by Zimbabwean artist Godfrey Dambuleni, taking more than three weeks to make and used over 3,000 capsules.



# STOP DREAMING ABOUT NEW ZEALAND AND GO

Wakey wakey, it’s time for a virtual journey and actual flights!

A new day has dawned, the Trans-Tasman Quarantine Free Travel Zone is now open and it’s time for us to get reacquainted. Join us for a virtual journey around each region of New Zealand with a chance to win flights during each session.

Register for your spot on the virtual journey and your chance to win flights to New Zealand.

[GO!](#)

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## Wind turns to ice

**HEIGHTENED** demand for ultra-luxury expedition sailings to polar regions has prompted Silversea Cruises to convert its *Silver Wind* vessel to an ice-class ship.

While refurbishments aboard the ship continue at the Remontowa shipyard in Poland, the line has revealed that when complete the vessel will be equipped with an ice-strengthened hull for cruising the inhospitable polar waters.

The reduced 274-passenger *Wind* will also have 24 Zodiacs and 14 kayaks installed, its casino refitted to become a photo studio, a mudroom and a special water heating system for the ship's swimming pool.

The revamped *Wind* will make her new-look debut on 20 Nov, where she will embark on a 22-day journey to Antarctica, providing guests with a chance to see a solar eclipse on 04 Dec.

View more details [HERE](#).

## AAA rating for plan

**AUSTRALIAN** Airports Association (AAA) CEO James Goodwin believes the Federal Government's road map back to travel normality is "exactly what airports have been asking for".

"Until now, there has been no clear reward or incentive for Australians who get vaccinated to be able to travel confidently," Goodwin said.

The AAA chief added that vaccination targets and dates now need to be announced ASAP.

## What an ice surprise



**AUSTRALIAN** travellers can now experience the desolate beauty of Antarctica all in a day's worth of flying from Canberra, thanks to new departures launched by the APT-owned Antarctica Flights.

The company is offering 10 journeys to choose from starting from 07 Nov, with a Qantas 787 Dreamliner to be chartered to navigate between 19 planned routes, depending on the weather conditions.

Prices for an Explorer Economy seat start from \$1,199 per person,

## Third job for travel?

**A SYDNEY-BASED** epidemiologist has cautioned that two COVID jabs may not provide enough protection for those wanting to jet off overseas.

Professor Mary-Louise McLaws also stated Aussies could be prohibited from some nations based on the brand of vax jab.

with the luxury Business class deluxe seats setting travellers back \$7,999 per person.

Canberra joins most of Australia's capital cities in offering the unique flights, with a special New Year's Eve jaunt departing Sydney on 31 Dec also on offer, leading in at \$2,199 per person.

For more info regarding the new Canberra departures, [CLICK HERE](#).

**Pictured:** A view of the icy continent from one of Antarctica Flights' chilled journeys.

## CI COVID-19 advice

**CHINA** Airlines has upgraded its traveller service website by introducing the Flysafe Information & Service, a one-stop-shop for services such as COVID-specific advice.

New details include quarantine hotel and pick-up reservations, hospitals offering PCR testing, wi-fi router rental and immigration restrictions - more info [HERE](#).

## Vax travel support

**MORE** than half of Australians, regardless of gender, state or income, want the country to make vaccinated travellers exempt from border restrictions.

The finding was part of a new survey commissioned by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA (CCIWA), which also found only one in five respondents disagreed with the notion of lifting all interstate border controls once phase 1A and 1B of the vaccination rollout has been completed.

Close to 60% of the 3,880 people surveyed want to see travel bubbles brokered with countries which have achieved at least 70% of the population vaccinated, while one in two Aussies expressed a desire to see home isolation implemented for returning travellers as "more of the population is vaccinated".

CCIWA CEO Chris Rodwell said the results showed that Aussies don't want to be held back by those not willing to vaccinate.

## Whitsunday Guides

**TOURISM** Whitsundays has launched a range of new "mini guides" that showcase the region's Airlie Beach, Bowen, Collinsville and Proserpine.

Each guide has been designed to shine a light on the key attractions that can be found within the area, from free bush walks to secret snorkelling spots, with the intention of driving wider tourism dispersal.

## Tasmania: Wine, Wildlife & Wilderness

Small Group Journey  
11 days from \$11,445 p.p. twin share  
Departs 9 Oct 2021, 19 Feb & 15 Oct 2022

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

# Abercrombie & Kent

## Korea word search

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

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

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| BARBEQUE      | INCHEON        |
| BIBIMBAP      | JAGALCHIMARKET |
| BULGOGI       | JEJU           |
| BUSAN         | KIMCHI         |
| GAMCHEON      | LOTTEWORLD     |
| GANGNAM       | SEONGSAN       |
| GYEONGBOKGUNG | SEOUL          |
| HANBOK        |                |

## 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	T	I
N	H	R
Y	A	O

- Good – 18 words  
 Very good – 27 words  
 Excellent – 35 words

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

## Did you know?

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



## 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



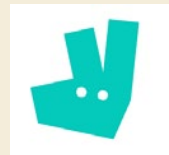
2



3



4



## Whose flag is this?



THIS flag was adopted by the country in 1985 when it became independent from Britain.

The current design is similar to its previous flag, which had the three striped colours but a coat of arms in the centre instead of the three diamonds there now.

The diamonds used in the flag

reference the country's name (which starts with V), and the nickname of the nation is "The Jewels of the Caribbean".

The position of them is also deliberately off-centre and represents its geographical positioning.

Do you know whose flag this is?

ANSWERS 07 JUL  
 Know your brands: 1 Silversea Cruises, 2 Aldi, 3 Red Bull, 4 Deliveroo  
 Whose flag is this: St Vincent and the Grenadines  
 Unscramble: ahoy, doth, doth, hadron, hair, hairdo, hairy, hand, handy, hard, hardy, hart, hind, hint, hiva, hoar, hoard, hoary, horn, horny, hydra, hydrant, HYDRATION, hydro, hydro, north, oath, rhino, tanh, than, thin, third, thorn, thorny, thyroid





The July issue of *travelBulletin* is out now. Take a deep dive into the question of whether agents should charge service fees and read about cruising Europe and more.

**CLICK to read** *travelBulletin*

## Grand Prix crashes

**THE** pandemic has claimed another major sporting event, with news this week that the popular Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix and Australian MotoGP will not take place this year due to health concerns.

The MotoGP had been scheduled to take place 24 Oct and the Formula 1 race for 21 Nov, but due to the sluggishness of vaccination rates, the sport's organisers said they didn't have enough assurance to proceed.

## Bebot rebooted

**NISEKO** Tourism in Japan has launched an updated version of the body's AI Chatbot called Bebot today, offering visitors to the country an updated suite of advice about the destination's summer season attractions.

Bebot was first introduced in Dec 2020, and is now used in many popular tourist spots such as Hotel New Otani, several major ski resorts including Hanazono, Grand Hirafu, Narita Airport and the cities of Toyama, and Mie.

## Surf's up in Port Douglas



**ONE** of Australia's regions hardest hit by the lack of international tourists may soon get a major boost after receiving a \$317 million surf park development application.

Port Douglas in Qld's far north has confirmed the receipt of the ambitious proposal put forward by RPS Group, which if approved, would see the Surf Port Douglas resort constructed at Mowbray, featuring a giant wave pool, a 4.5 star resort, holiday cabins, luxury serviced apartments, a restaurant and spa and conference facilities.

Blueprints for the site also show it would boast a large swimming lagoon and multiple food and beverage venues, with the two-year build to result in 1,247 full-time tourism jobs.

The planning report noted that the primary target market would be international tourists, day trippers and the tropical north Queensland surf market.

With surfing in North Qld a rare proposition given the lack of great breaks as a result of reef blocks, the surf park is expected to resonate well with locals as an

alternative to travelling offshore or to Australia's southern beaches.

"Surf Port Douglas has the potential to cater to locals and tourists who will pay for an experience that cannot be obtained elsewhere in the region in a tropical environment that is more comfortable than winter surfing," the report stated.

**Pictured:** A render of the park.

## Vax in all states: TAA

**TOURISM** Accommodation Australia (TAA) has called for all states to adopt the NSW Govt's policy change, which now mandates vaccination for all staff working in quarantine hotels.

"With the National Cabinet announcement last Fri of a quarantine hotel program review, all state and territories should implement a similar order of mandatory vaccination for quarantine hotel workers if it is not in place already," said CEO Michael Johnson, adding the quarantine business is the only thing keeping the struggling Sydney hotel market operating.

## 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).



**The Midnight Hotel** in Canberra is now serving up a limited edition truffle menu, which can be experienced on its own or as part of a special accommodation package suited to foodie travellers planning a winter weekend getaway. The three-course menu

showcases the diversity of Canberra's black truffles across a range of dishes like baked baby cauliflower with smoked almond cream, Bredbo black garlic and pangrattato. The truffles are on offer until 31 Jul.



**The Pavilions Hotels & Resorts** has announced the launch of a new hotel brand called **Explorar Hotels & Resorts**, with its first location scheduled to open its doors in Thailand on 01 Oct. The 24-suite Explorar Pawapi Koh Mook resort will be situated on

a private beach on the peninsula of Koh Mook Island in southern Thailand's secluded province of Trang. Amenities are set to include an open-air restaurant and spa room.



The 168-room **Hilton Garden Inn Jakarta Taman Palem** has opened its doors to the public in the last week, boasting a 24-hour fitness centre, free wi-fi, outdoor swimming pools and business meeting spaces. Rooms are also well equipped for family life,

offering guests a 43-inch high-definition television, mini-fridge, USB charging ports and a work desk, with separate rooms filled with play equipment on offer for the kids in the King Family Suite.

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WITHOUT A  
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THE OFF  
SEASON

TASMANIA  
COME DOWN FOR AIR



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