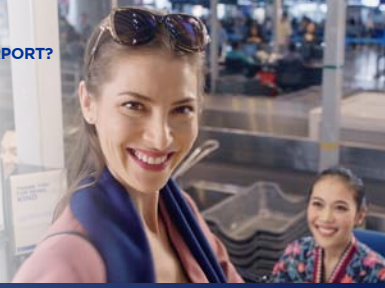


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83% of Aussies tick digital passport

MORE than four in five Australians would have no issues with carrying a digital health passport if it precipitated a quicker restart of international travel, a new study by Skyscanner has revealed.

Almost one third of respondents also noted they would be happy to be issued a digital health pass to avoid quarantine, while 35% of travellers said they would feel "more confident" booking a flight if they knew a health pass scheme was in place.

Only 9% of Aussies rejected a call to carry digital health info.

Stuba upgrades

ACCOMMODATION platform Stuba has refreshed its transfers booking module following feedback from travel agents.

Improvements include the ability for agents to book point-to-point transfers which gives them an unlimited combination of transfer routes, an expanded product range across 7,500 destinations, a wider choice of vehicles to choose from and a more intuitive interface.

All transfer bookings are instantly confirmed and added to the Stuba hotel itinerary.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news including our PUZZLE page.

Google's travel training

EXCLUSIVE

GOOGLE has announced a free digital upskilling series for the Australian travel industry, with three online sessions to be streamed on a weekly basis throughout Mar.

Google Australia's Head of Travel, Michelle Allen, is behind the initiative which aims to help small and medium businesses in the travel and tourism sector "develop their digital skills, show up and stand out online".

The sessions will discuss industry trends, insights and give examples of how travel and tourism businesses can grow using digital marketing.

Topics will include creating and managing a Business Profile on Google, gaining insight through Google Analytics and the growth of a business' brand awareness using Google Ads.

In the past Google has run similar sessions for different industries, typically in person, but "this is the first ever industry focused event we have run for travel and tourism that will live online," Allen said.

The sessions will stream at 2pm AEDT on Thu 11, 18 and 25 Mar, and there is no cost for registration or participation.

"Sometimes the simple act of creating a business profile on Google to become discoverable can have a huge impact...for those with a digital footprint

already there will be insights and tools to show participants how they can grow their business using digital marketing," she said.

See g.co/growonairau.

A members-only Q&A will take place for Travel Community Hub members after the Google sessions - join up at members.travelcommunityhub.com.

MEANWHILE hundreds of people across the industry have already signed up for an online discussion with the Google Travel chief taking place this Fri.

Allen will speak to **Travel Daily** publisher Bruce Piper and Richard Taylor from the Travel Community Hub at 1pm this Fri 05 Mar, with topics up for discussion including the latest figures on the travel intentions and consumer sentiment of Australians, based on unique Google insights.

"200,000 more households are shopping online since Apr 2020, and now is the time to be in consumer considerations," Allen said - register for this Fri's free Zoom session by **CLICKING HERE**.

Six of the best trips

COLLETTE has launched six new tours for next year, spanning Europe and North America.

New products include Alaska: America's Last Frontier; California Dreamin'; The Best of Ireland; and the Netherlands, Belgium & France - call 1300 792 195 for further information.

Flight Centre loan

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group has been approved by the Bank of England to access an extended loan of £50 million through to Mar 2022 to support its short-term liquidity as the travel shutdown continues to bite.

The company had previously borrowed £65 million from the Bank of England under its COVID Corporate Financing Facility last year, which will expire 31 Mar.

FLT currently has a cash position in excess of \$1.2 billion, inclusive of the first loan made last year.

Emirates spaces out

EMIRATES is now offering its Economy class passengers the option of pre-booking up to three empty seats for travellers seeking extra privacy and space.

The extra seats will be subject to availability and can be purchased at the airport check-in counter prior to flight departure, with costs ranging from US\$55 to US\$165 per seat, plus applicable taxes depending on flight sector.

Emirates said the new space option would suit travellers such as couples who wish to have the entire row to themselves (maximum of three seats), parents travelling with in-lap infants or passengers who want the extra confidence during the COVID pandemic.

Extra seats can also be purchased via travel agents, on board flights, Emirates contact centres and via Emirates.com.



NEW 2022/23 RIVER CRUISES BROCHURE

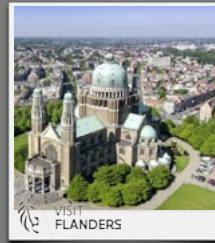
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Where is Flanders located?

Head to the *Travel Daily Training Academy* to find the answer and learn more about this and other destinations.

Tucan payouts up to 20c

CREDITORS of the collapsed Tucan Travel will receive up to 20c in the dollar, according to the formal Creditors Report from administrator Andrew Barnden of Rodgers Reidy which was circulated yesterday.

The report confirmed the outcome of Barnden's initial investigations into the closure of the company, which ceased trading last month alongside its UK parent (**TD** 03 Feb).

Citing ongoing uncertainty around international travel and increased requests for refunds from customers, Tucan was not in a position to provide a full refund to all clients, while Tucan UK was "unlikely to meet the annual solvency reporting requirement in respect to travel companies which is imposed by the UK Government," Barnden said.

The report confirms unsecured creditor claims of \$821,000 from the Australian entity, with up to \$164,000 available for distribution based on an estimated recovery from a UK inter-company loan account.

If no funds are forthcoming from Tucan UK, the payout will be more like 10c in the dollar.

Barnden provided a list of creditors, which includes a combination of consumers, trade suppliers and travel agents - including Tour Radar Australia Pty Ltd which is owed \$66,971.

Helloworld, Flight Centre,

TravelManagers, MTA, House of Travel and Travel Partners agencies are also owed money, while there is also about \$37,000 owed to four staff.

Barnden, who found that Tucan may have been insolvent from as early as 30 Jun 2020, has recommended that it is in the interest of creditors that the company be wound up.

That proposal will be voted on at a further meeting of creditors which has been convened for 11am (AEDT) next Tue 09 Mar.

Scenic Eclipse set for Kimberley

SCENIC Luxury Cruises and Tours is set to announce an eight-cruise Kimberley season for its luxury *Scenic Eclipse*, with the first departure scheduled for 30 May 2021.

The 11-day itineraries between Darwin and Broome are currently being promoted to clients of some of Scenic's top agents, who are urging customers to secure cabins as soon as possible due to strong demand - both from new bookings and re-bookings from suspended departures.

Earlybird fares lead in at \$15,475 per person for a Deck 5 verandah cabin, through to \$71,040pp for the two-bedroom Penthouse on deck nine.

The proposed season is set to run through until 19 Aug.

Exodus S. Korea

EXODUS Travels is inviting travellers to discover more of South Korea, introducing a new range of destinations for travellers to explore in 2022.

The tour operator has introduced a 12-day itinerary exploring the culture, traditions, history, cruising and landscapes of South Korea.

Travellers will explore some of the country's most vibrant cities, as well as Panmunjom and the Demilitarized Zone.

For more information, contact Exodus on 1300 131 564.

QF goes to Griffith

QANTASLINK has added Griffith to its domestic flight map, with the carrier now operating direct flights to the town in the Murrumbidgee region from Sydney for the first time, to meet increased demand for travel.

The inaugural flight, QF2121, arrived in Griffith from Sydney yesterday, with local business and community leaders on hand to welcome the first aircraft, a service which will operate daily on a turboprop 50-seat Q300.



Window Seat

TRANSPORTATION Security Administration officers at Fort Myers in Florida are rapidly undergoing retraining after a passenger on board a departing flight inadvertently set off some pepper spray just before takeoff.

The United Airlines flight to Newark New York was taxiing when the incident occurred, with those around the traveller coughing, spluttering and grabbing their COVID masks.

Official regulations ban pepper spray from carry-on bags, but passengers are allowed to bring a 100ml container of mace or pepper spray in their checked luggage - just in case.

Security screeners said they missed the spray canister, with agents given a quick "refresher course" to ensure they can spot them in the future.

UA confirmed the plane returned to the gate after a "disruptive incident," departing safely a short time later.

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Travel & Cruise Weekly

Dive in and read now!

THE latest issue of *travelBulletin* is out now (pictured), featuring a cover story about Ponant's Asia-Pacific Chair Sarina Bratton and her trials and tribulations with government bureaucracy in the face of restarting cruise operations.

The brand was forced to regroup after its planned New Zealand season was sunk by the country's Immigration Department.

Also in the exciting issue is Publisher Bruce Piper's thoughts on when the travel sector will see its belated bookings recovery, as well as opinions and insights on the state of play from industry groups like AFTA and CATO.

The magazine also provides a wrap on all of the latest financial reporting from top tier brands



like Helloworld and Flight Centre, the latest trends in the world of cruising, and a major destination feature on Fiji and the seven important reasons travellers should be planning their next trip to Australia's neighbouring tropical paradise.

Access the full online version of *travelBulletin* by **CLICKING HERE**.

Extraordinary stays

QT HOTELS & Resorts is inviting travellers to "Check Into Extraordinary" with its new over-the-top room packages.

The boutique accommodation provider has launched four of the packages - City Indulgence, Culinary, Lovers, and Rock Star, each coming with their own array of signature QT quirky inclusions - www.qthotels.com.

Ireland education

TOURISM Ireland is inviting travel advisors to register now for tomorrow's special Wild Atlantic Way webinar.

The next instalment of Tourism Ireland's education series will be presented tomorrow at 9.30am (AEDT), and will focus on the titular tourism trail and surrounding traveller appeal tracking Ireland's coast.

The webinar will include presentations from a selection of providers - register **HERE**.



GET YOUR MESSAGE TO LISTENING EARS

CLICK HERE FOR INFO ON PODCAST SPONSORSHIP

Travel Daily

Doors to the Markets open



HOTEL Indigo Adelaide Markets' doors opened yesterday (**TD** 25 Feb), with guests who checked in greeted with a glass of South Australian sparkling wine.

The 145-room property's formal opening marked the boutique lifestyle brand's debut in the Australian market.

Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets' contemporary design was inspired by the area's industrial heritage, with the property also

hoping to form neighbourhood connections through local artwork and guest experiences.

The hotel will also feature Adelaide's highest rooftop bar, which will boast a raw food focus and sweeping city views, as well as a ground-floor restaurant showcasing regional produce, spirits and beer.

Pictured are General Manager Thomas Zinn (front) and the Hotel Indigo Adelaide Markets team.

Help us discover
chocolate

AROUND THE WORLD

In the lead up to Easter, submit your chocolate recipes from around the world for our weekly feature.

CLICK HERE

Travel Daily

Travel Daily

Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Unscramble

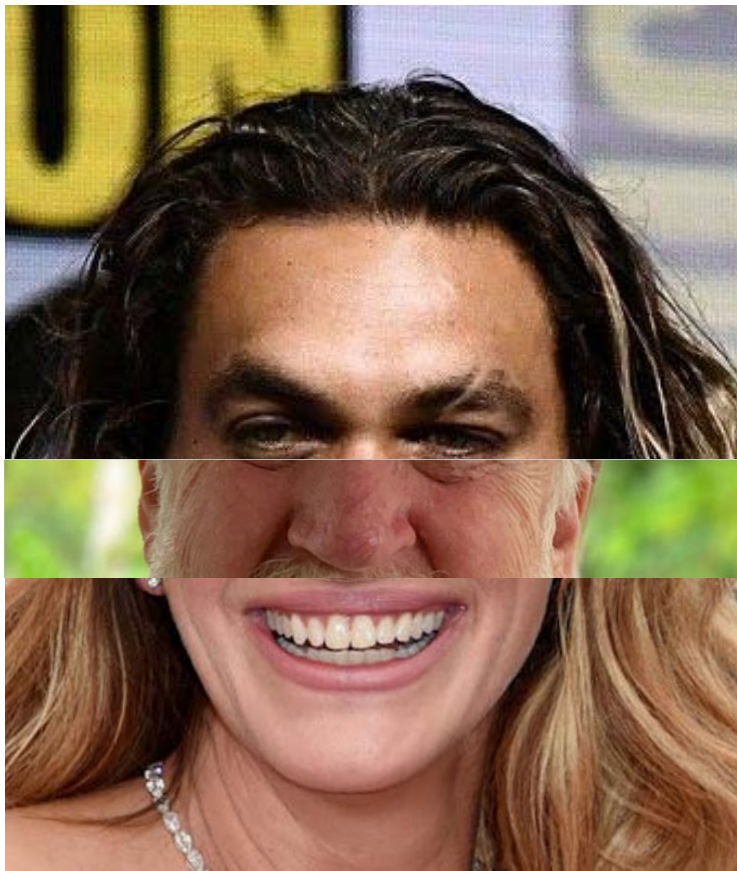
HOW many words can you make out of these nine letters? Every word needs to include the centre letter, have four letters or more and not be a proper noun or a plural. You can only use each letter once.

A	O	T
L	G	Y
H	N	O

Good – 13 words
 Very good – 20 words
 Excellent – 26 words

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

Famous faces



THERE are three different faces that make up this picture. They are a mixture of famous celebrities and travel names. Can you figure out who the

eyes, nose and mouth in this picture belong to? And don't worry if you can't guess them all, two out of three ain't bad!

Get your chocolate fix

JUST because a recipe has chocolate as the key ingredient doesn't make it necessarily unhealthy, as this cacao mousse recipe from COMO Hotels and Resorts proves.

The recipe comes from the COMO Shambhala cookbook called *The Pleasures of Eating Well*.

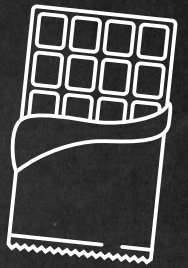
And if you really want to up the healthy-ante, if you soften the cacao butter in the sun,

you could consider this recipe raw as well as vegan.

Make sure to send your recipes to chocolate@traveldaily.com.au.

xx Jenny

Jenny Piper
 Owner,
 Business
 Publishing
 Group



Cacao Mousse with Fresh Raspberries and Pistachios

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup raw cacao powder
- 1 large banana, peeled and sliced
- 200g avocado flesh
- ¼ cup raw honey
- ¼ cup young coconut meat
- ¼ cup maple syrup
- 1 tbsp freshly squeezed lime juice
- 80g cacao butter, room temperature
- 1 pinch sea salt
- 175g raspberries (to serve)
- 35g shelled pistachios, chopped (to serve)

METHOD

To make the cacao mousse, place all the ingredients, except the cacao butter and salt, in a blender until well combined. Add the cacao butter and salt and blend until smooth and emulsified. Spoon into serving glasses, cover and refrigerate for at least a couple of hours, or until set. To serve, scatter the fresh raspberries on top of the mousse and sprinkle with the pistachios.

ANSWERS 01 MAR

Where in the world: Wrigley Field, Chicago, Illinois, USA

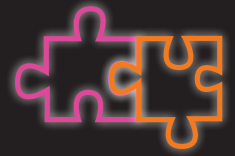
Pick the nation: Japan

Whose mascot is this: Bevo - University of Texas Longhorns (US college football)

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

**NEED A DISTRACTION
AMID THE DOOM
AND GLOOM?**

Check out our daily puzzle page.



Travel Daily

Regent programs

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises is offering 13 complimentary pre- and post-cruise land tours when bookings are made on 22 select voyages sailing between Oct 2021 and Mar 2022.

The free extended explorations offer is available for sailings across Africa, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and South America.

Call 1300 455 200 for more info.

Silversea bonuses

SILVERSEA Cruises is extending its \$270 bonus commission to agents on all bookings through to 30 Apr, with the offer now also applicable to new bookings made on any Silversea voyage departing between 01 Oct and 30 Jun 2022.

The line has also extended its reduced deposit promotion, requiring only 15% per suite for any new booking made on or before 30 Apr for voyages departing before 30 Apr 2022.

Interstate campaigns

THE Brisbane Economic Development Agency, Tourism and Events Queensland and Brisbane Airport Corporation have collaborated on a new interstate campaign targeting NSW and Victorian travellers.

Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said while regional tourism destinations around the country had boomed, Qld cities have seen some of the biggest decreases as a result of border closures.

MEANWHILE The NT Govt has launched a \$2.5m push across multiple platforms, encouraging Aussies to "Seek Different".

Pull a rabbit out of Mudgee



A GROUP of iTravel advisors and staff went to Mudgee over the weekend where they were able to open up to each other about the challenges the industry has faced over the past year.

While in the Central West New South Wales destination, the women bumped into three South Sydney Rabbitohs players, who were in town for the weekend's Charity Shield game against the

Wildlife framework

SCIENTISTS from Flinders University, the Georgia Aquarium, and Southern Cross University have teamed up to create a new framework for wildlife tourists to determine whether or not specific practices are sustainable.

The study looked at examples like shark cage-diving on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula, determining under the 26-factor framework that operators were well regulated in terms of numbers, but found baiting did impact fish diets - more **HERE**.

St. George Illawarra Dragons.

"By lifting each other up, we lift ourselves up and this weekend was a reminder of the unity and family-like culture we all share," the company said.

Pictured with Adam Reynolds, Damian Cook and Josh "the sauce" Mansour are: Rebecca McHenry, Emma Will, Joanne Rothwell, Sue Milosova, Megan Catterall, Dee Jaswal, Annalee Ilievski, Joanne Agius, Tiano Sakariia Cecil and Amy Morris.

Israel jobs at cruise

ROYAL Caribbean International will sail cruises from Israel for the first time aboard new ship *Odyssey of the Seas*, with voyages set to depart in May.

Itineraries will sail roundtrip from Haifa and visit a range of Mediterranean destinations such as Rhodes, Santorini, Mykonos and Athens and Cyprus on three- and seven-night journeys.

Sailings go on sale 09 Mar - more details in today's **CW**.

Green thumb tours

TRAVELRITE International has announced it will be running several garden adventures led by experts such as gardening journalist Sue McDougall and garden guru Bonnie-Marie Hibbs.

One of the trio of new tours also includes expertise from photography journalists Maureen and Paul Lucas, with trips departing in Sep and Oct and exploring the floral attractions of Canberra, Hunter Valley, Hobart, Bowral, Bathurst and Nowra.

MONEY

WELCOME to Money, *TD's* Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

AU\$1 = US\$0.777

AFTER a period of stronger value, the Aussie dollar continues its retreat from three-year highs last week as financial institutions start repositioning for a post-COVID economy.

A major anticipated return to growth in the United States has the Aussie on the back foot in global markets, with Americans predicted to start spending again as lockdowns ease and the stimulus package kicks in.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.777
UK	£0.558
NZ	\$1.069
Euro	€0.6345
Japan	¥83.02
Thailand	฿23.49
China	¥5.027
South Africa	11.659
Canada	\$0.983
Crude oil	US\$66.13

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Travel Daily

Travel Daily

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