DISCOVER OUR BOUTIQUE METROPOLIS

CURIOUS ABOUT SOUTH AUSTRALIA?



ROOFCLIMB, ADELAIDE OVAL

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Travel Daily First with the news

Adelaide in focus

ARE you curious about the charms of South Australia?

The state's Tourism Commission is inviting you to discover its "boutique metropolis" Adelaide, which offers experiences such as a climb of Adelaide Oval, located within picturesque Adelaide Park Lands - see the **front page**.

Spirit gets delayed

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has further delayed the resumption of sailings for *Carnival Spirit* voyages from Brisbane through to 21 Nov due to a rescheduling of the ship's drydock maintenance.

Affected guests can either choose a future cruise credit and onboard credit package, or collect a full refund.

Despite the delays from Brisbane, the cruise line has confirmed *Carnival Splendor* is still on track to return to undertake sailings from Sydney from 25 Sep.

Velocity links Medibank

VIRGIN Australia's Velocity Frequent Flyer program has announced Medibank as a new loyalty partner, allowing members to score up to 130,000 points when they take out new eligible hospital and extras cover with the insurance company by 31 Aug.

The tie-up will also see VA's loyalty members able to earn points through other various promotions by taking up hospital and extras policy all year-round, with the cheapest policy to earn a minimum of 15,000 points.

Velocity General Manager Loyalty and Engagement Rory MacManus said the agreement was another way for the airline to reward its more than 10 million Velocity members, boosting the chance of domestic travel by leveraging the everyday expenses that Australians have.

"We know around 13.7 million Australians have private health insurance and that's why we're



proud to welcome Medibank, one of Australia's most popular private health insurance providers, to Velocity," he said.

"With up to 130,000 Velocity Points on offer for taking up an eligible hospital and extras policy, there's never been a better time to sign up to Medibank."

The agreement is just the latest move by VA to consolidate its frequent flyer base, having recently unveiled loyalty deals with 7-Eleven (*TD* 13 Apr), and a range of status match offers with airlines like Air NZ, Air Canada & Emirates (*TD* 15 Dec 2020).

Quest Collingwood

QUEST Apartment Hotels has announced plans to open a new hotel in Victoria, with the 83-room Quest Collingwood Apartment Hotel scheduled to operate from Nov 2022.

The property will feature a combination of studio, one-, twoand three-room accommodation, as well as a business lounge, a gym and conference facilities for up to 80 attendees.

Head to Tasmania

AUSTRALIA & Beyond Holidays is currently inviting travellers to head to Tasmania, "a place of wild and beautiful landscapes, great food, wine and experiences".

Just a few of the adventures in the spotlight include Pumphouse Point and Eagles Nest Retreat for more details see **page seven**.

www.traveldaily.com.au Tuesday 25th May 2021

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has six pages of news including our PUZZLE page, a front cover page from **South Australian Tourism Commission** and a product profile from **Australia & Beyond Holidays**.

Viking adds tools

AUSTRALIAN travel agents can now create more engaging social media campaigns via a new video feature available in Viking's marketing centre.

The new tool allows agents access to the cruise line's content library that includes the company's popular river and ocean itineraries, ship tours and destination highlights.

Advisors can locate the Marketing Centre in the current agent portal, with users now more easily able to create attractive calls to action on social media by utilising Viking's range of flyers, digital banners, videos, tiles and images.

The line is also opening up greater access to digital brochures and information on group bookings.

MEANWHILE Viking has added a third ship to sail roundtrip voyages from the Maltese capital city of Valletta in the Mediterranean from Jul.

The itinerary takes passengers to destinations such as Sicily, Italy and Spain, calling in Messina, Naples, Civitavecchia, Livorno, Genoa and Barcelona, before returning to Valletta.



Travel Daily e info@traveldaily.com.au



NZ attraction drug bust

A TOURIST operation near Hokitika on the West Coast of New Zealand has been revealed as also housing a "sophisticated cannabis-growing operation" in a large underground bunker.

Cowboy Paradise owner Michael Kevin Milne was arrested in 2019 after a police raid on the facility which also revealed significant numbers of firearms.

After appearing in a local court and pleading not guilty he was released on bail, with the judge also issuing an order suppressing his identity from public reporting.

However the name suppression order has now lapsed, with *Stuff.co.nz* confirming the man's tourism links this week.

Cowboy Paradise is one of several accommodation options for NZ's West Coast Wilderness Trail which attracts about 10,000 cyclists each year as one of the country's 22 Great Rides.

On the cowboyparadise.co.nz website the property is also described as the "Lost City of the Wild West" allowing guests to experience being a cowboy or a cowgirl for a day - alongside facilities including an on-site shooting range.

The 2019 raid was the culmination of a long investigation into the large-scale commercial cultivation and supply of cannabis throughout the West Coast and Canterbury region, with \$5m in assets seized by police including cash, vehicles, farm machinery and guns.

Ponant NZ program

PONANT has announced 14 new voyages ex-New Zealand for 2021-2023, with a number of the itineraries to visit Tasmania's Macquarie Island.

Varying in duration from seven to 21 nights, the season will also deep dive into New Zealand's South Island, with visits to Snares Island, Ulva Island, Enderby Island, Campbell Island and the Antipodes Islands.

The voyages will operate using Ponant's *Le Laperouse* and *Le Soleal*, both of which are poised in New Caledonia to commence the line's Kimberley season as soon as permission is granted.



Explore our expanding network



flydubai ups islands

FLYDUBAI will operate three weekly flights to the Greek destinations of Mykonos and Santorini from 18 Jun to 29 Sep.

The launch of flights to the two Greek islands brings the number of seasonal routes served by flydubai to six, including Bodrum and Trabzon in Turkey (**TD** 20 Apr), Batumi in Georgia and Tivat in Montenegro.

MEANWHILE flydubai has also introduced a complimentary in-flight entertainment streaming service to its fleet of 36 Boeing 737-800 aircraft.

GC 4WD biz bought

GOLD Coast-based tourism operator The Tours & Attractions Group has announced the purchase of Southern Cross 4WD Tours, a company that offers allinclusive day and night tours to see glow worms in the Gold Coast Hinterland.

The road adventures include trips to check out the wildlife of Mt Tamborine, Springbrook, and the Lamington National Park, with the new owners revealing they will relaunch the brand to better adapt to the needs of domestic travellers and shift away from the previous target market of international travellers.

"They've done an amazing job in the international market and now we're going to rework the offering to ensure it also meets the different standards required by domestic tourists," said The Tours & Attractions Group owner Stephanie Wallace.

SIA goes for zero

SINGAPORE Airlines Group (SIA) has committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

SIA's airlines, Singapore Airlines, Scoot and SIA Cargo, will all invest in new-generation aircraft, move towards higher operational efficiency, adopt low-carbon technology and source highquality carbon offsets, in order to achieve the goal.

Cornwall wants you

Booking group travel with

VISIT Cornwall is gearing up to launch a new travel trade portal which aims to be a helpful hub for the trade to convey the latest information and attractions in the British region.

VisitCornwallTravelTrade.com will contain imagery, newly commissioned video footage, suggested itineraries and interesting facts about the county in England's south west.

To celebrate the upcoming launch, Aussie agents are being invited to attend a special live event taking place on 27 May at 5pm AEST, where Chief Executive of Visit Cornwall, Malcolm Bell, will provide an overview of the region's highlights and demonstrate the portal's most useful features - to register email **HERE** to reserve your spot.



oneworld



JNTO's PR pivot

JAPAN National Tourism Organization (JNTO) has appointed marketing agency Stand Out to manage its media and PR strategy for the 2021/22 financial year.

"We'll be working with the JNTO team to identify opportunities to keep Japan top of mind...the groundwork laid by us now will help Aussies remember what an amazing and dynamic destination Japan is," said Stand Out's PR & Marketing Director James Cooley.

The agency has flagged the use of high-profile Aussies to promote Japan in the coming months.

RB to improve UX

ROYAL Brunei Airlines will soon have an upgraded internet booking engine and mobile application after signing a tech deal with software business Hitit.

The tie-up will see the airline offer more intuitive booking and greater client personalisation.



Nearly half are uncertain

EXCLUSIVE

CLOSE to half of people working in the travel and tourism sector are unsure if they will still be working in the space in 12 months' time, the findings of an exclusive **Travel Daily** Survival Survey can reveal.

Only 43.7% of respondents said they could see themselves in the industry beyond May 2022, while 12.2% were adamant their future laid elsewhere and 44.1% said they would "maybe" continue.

The survey also painted a bleak picture of how travel companies were faring financially, with 92.8% conceding their worst month since the pandemic struck saw a plunge of more than 90% in year-on-year sales.

More recently, the data also showed that sales for Apr 2021 were still in a challenging state, with 57% of businesses stating sales were down more than 90% when compared to Apr 2019, while 22.6% said the number had dwindled by between 81-90%.

✓ 50% off the deposit amount

The figures also showed that the Federal Govt's JobKeeper program was widely subscribed, with 91.3% of businesses indicating they were able to access assistance while it was available to the end of Mar 2021.

In contrast the picture for the COVID-19 Travel Support Program was far less clear, with more than a quarter of those surveyed stating they could not access Round 2 of the funding because they either didn't qualify or didn't apply for Round 1.

Close to three quarters of successful applicants said they used the money to pay tech suppliers, 62% said they paid staff, around 50% used the cash for business rent and close to 40% said they used funds to pay back client refunds.



Get Group quote



TALK about getting your Australian campaign message back on track!

Jetstar Group Bookings – AU Domestic Promotion

For all NEW domestic Group bookings from 03 May - 30 June 2021:

✓ Unlimited name changes up to 24 hours before departure

Final payment extended to 30 days (from 45 days)*

Jetstar is marking its 17th birthday today by trying to convince train commuters in Sydney and Melbourne to ditch the train for a plane.

The carrier has installed more than 50 digital screens across Flinders Street Station in Melbourne and Central Station in Sydney, offering air vouchers to those who can scan and catch the plane on the screen.

"There's no doubt there will be lots of keen travellers at Flinders Street and Central Stations to snap up these travel vouchers to put towards their next trip," said Jetstar Chief Customer Officer Alan McIntyre. The promotion will run for the next 24 hours.





OR ORDER YOUR COPY AT TIFS





Virtuoso gathers in Sydney



THIS week's Virtuoso Forum Australia/NZ at Sydney's Four Seasons Hotel (TD vesterday) includes a trade exhibition, where a number of key Virtuoso partners are showcasing their wares to travel advisors from across the country.

The event opened yesterday with a session featuring keynote speaker Layne Beachley, who inspired the crowd with her story of endurance and overcoming both physical and mental obstacles on her rise to become a world surfing champion.

Participants are continuing their engagement with suppliers today in a series of workshops alongside networking opportunities & more.

Pictured Monique Ponfoort, Aurora Expeditions; Barbara Whitten, Anywhere Travel; Fiona Dalton, Virtuoso; Steve McLaughlin, Aurora Expeditions. More pics from the event at facebook.com/traveldaily.



ABOVE: Cameron Mannix, Celebrity Cruises with Kathy Pavlidis from Travel Associates.



ABOVE: Giulia Giorgi and Emanuele Attanasio, Italian National Tourist Board.



send us donut ditties

Send your entries to donuts@traveldaily.com.au

AFTA UPDATE

from the Australian Federation of Travel Agents

AFTA is incredibly proud of our role in securing the ongoing support of and for members via the COVID-19 **Consumer Travel** Support Program which has so far seen \$96.8 million in Round One

grant funding paid to 2,964 travel agents and businesses with 172 claims still being processed with a further \$19.5 million in Round Two funding paid to 964 travel agents so far.

We thank Federal Trade, Tourism and Investment Minister, the Hon Dan Tehan and his office for their support and ongoing commitment to making sure this important financial assistance gets to those businesses which most deserve it.

What is and remains abundantly clear as we continue to move through the challenges of COVID is the value of a travel agent and the incredibly important work we do in supporting consumers through the increasing complexities of travel.

Those complexities are not going to disappear and, more and more, consumers are relying on travel agents. This dependence is only going to increase as Safe Travel Zones open and international travel resumes. The reality is that COVID is going to be with us for some time yet perhaps for years to come - and consumers need us more than ever. It is this reality that makes service fees even more palatable

Sabre appeal denial

SABRE has failed in a bid to overturn the UK Competition and Markets Authority's rejection of its proposed acquisition of rival Farelogix (TD 14 Apr 2020).

The GDS giant had claimed the regulator did not have jurisdiction to block the deal, but Britain's **Competition Appeal Tribunal** disagreed.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF TRAVEL AGENTS

with so many consumers frustrated by the complexities especially once international travel opens up.

This also forms the basis of our case for ongoing support until international travel resumes.

Qantas' announcement last week that it is following the international lead of reducing front-end commission paid on international tickets from 5% to 1% effective o1 Jul 2022 was very disappointing.

AFTA had made strong representations on the need to maintain the status quo given the current reality, and while we note that Australia is one of the last markets to have front-end commission, the timing even with the year lead-in is very disappointing.

AFTA continues to work with key representative bodies including the Business Council of Australia, the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Australian Airports Association, Association of Australian Convention Bureaux, Minerals Council as well as medical/health bodies, technology companies, universities, and embassies. AFTA also continues to consult with CATO and CLIA.

From resumption of international travel to action on equally important priorities including chargebacks, AFTA is proud to be fighting on behalf of all of our members.

Star Legend is back

WINDSTAR Cruises has taken delivery of Star Legend from the Fincantieri shipyard in Palermo, Italy, after major works on the vessel were completed as part of the line's US\$250m Star Plus initiative which will see three of its ships lengthened.

50 new suites have been added, along with new public spaces.



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.



Good – 16 words Very good – 24 words Excellent – 31 words

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

eyes, nose and mouth in this

And don't worry if you can't

guess them all, two out of three

7 6 8

5 3 9 2 1 8

1 9 4 6 5 2

9 2

8 5 9 2 1 4 3 7 6

5 2 8 3 9 7 1 6 4

6 7 3 8 4 1 9 2 5

76

З 6 4

5 8 2

4 5

picture belong to?

3 1 2

4 6 7

ain't bad!

9 3 1 4

2 4 6 1 8 5 7 9 З

7 8 5

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

ANSWERS 24 MAY

Where in the world: Mandarin Oriental, London, England

Pick the nation: Dubai

Whose mascot is this: Rocky -Denver Nuggets (NBA)

Eyes on the pies

APT has headed all the way over to North America to bring us today's recipe.

This pie comes from the Wild Delights Cookbook -Blueberries and Polar Bears by Churchill Wild, an operator of rustic-luxurious ecolodges on

the coast of Hudson Bay which offers polar bear safaris.



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Jenny Piper Owner, Business Publishing Group



Coconut Cream Pie

INGREDIENTS

FLAKY PASTRY*

- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup lard
- 1 egg yolk
- 1/3 cup cold water

*This recipe makes enough pastry for two crusts, or one double crust pie.

METHOD

CRUST

COCONUT CREAM FILLING:

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3 tbsp cornstarch
- 2 cups milk
- 2 eggs beaten (Note 1)
- 1 1/2 cups coconut
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup whipping cream, whipped

To make the pastry, mix the flour and salt and then cut in the lard with a pastry blender or two knives until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Separate an egg yolk into a measuring cup. Add the vinegar and whisk with a fork. Fill to the 1/3 cup (75 mL) measure with cold water.

Add to the flour mixture and mix with a fork until it just clings together and cleans away from the side of the bowl.

Divide dough in half. Roll out pastry on a lightly floured surface and fold in half. Gently move the pastry to the pie plate and unfold. Coax the pastry into the plate and allow pastry to overhang edges to reduce shrinkage.

Bake pie shell in 180°C oven for 30 minutes or until browned. FILLING

Mix sugar and cornstarch in a saucepan. Gradually blend in the milk. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture comes to a boil and thickens.

Add a little of the hot milk mixture to the beaten eggs, then return the eggs to the saucepan and stir well. Heat to boiling, stirring vigorously.

Remove cream filling from heat and add the coconut and vanilla. Allow to cool. Fold in one cup (250 mL) whipped cream and pour it into the baked crust.

Top with remaining whipped cream. Chill and serve. If desired, sprinkle with toasted coconut.

Note 1 Since we are using whole eggs, the white may tend to cook in lumps. Just mix it with a hand blender until smooth. The flavour and texture will be lovely!

7 8 3

• 1 1/2 tsp. vinegar



Experiencing more

CELESTYAL Cruises has announced its deployment for the 2022-2023 season, which will see its new *Celestyal Experience* vessel debut next Mar.

The cruise line's new flagship will first set sail on 05 Mar 2022, offering the seven-night Three Continents itinerary, scheduled to call on Greece, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, and Cyprus.

Offering all-inclusive pricing starting from \$499 per person, sailings are available for booking for more details, **CLICK HERE**.

MONEY

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

AU\$1 = US0.773

THE Australian dollar was higher overnight, but gains were capped following a sell-off in iron ore prices, which have been down 25% over the last eight sessions.

Despite the AUDNZD falling, the New Zealand dollar was stronger across the board yesterday, after the country's retail sales data surprised markets with a 2.5% gain versus expectations of a 1.8% fall.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.773
UK	£0.546
NZ	\$1.067
Euro	€0.633
Japan	¥84.25
Thailand	ß24.11
China	¥4.909
South Africa	10.71
Canada	\$0.927
Crude oil	US\$65.11

Tuesday 25th May 2021

Skal Mel sold out

SKAL International Melbourne has sold out its Skal After 5 event at Young & Jackson's infamous Chloe's Room on Thu.

The club used some "cheeky mysterious guerilla marketing", encouraging members and guests to "enjoy a drink with the most infamous woman in Melbourne".

Richard jabs at Oz

VIRGIN founder and human headline Richard Branson believes Australia's travel sector will fall behind unless its citizens get vaccinated.

"If the government can speed up the vaccination program so everyone is vaccinated then there's no reason at all why you shouldn't be able to get it all opened up," Branson told *Channel Nine* this week.

ANA goes virtual

ALL Nippon Airways (ANA) and game studio JP Games have launched a virtual tourism platform called ANANEO.

The program is scheduled to kick off next year, and intends to "rekindle the experience of travel with friends and family".

ANANEO offers a virtual recreation of Kyoto, giving travellers the chance to tour historic sites using a connected smart device while they ponder their future holiday plans.

Key to the ANANEO platform is the SKY WHALE, where users will be able to travel and access interactive activities and other environments such as Sky Mall, Sky Park and Sky Village.

Travellers Choice chooses SA



A LUCKY group of Travellers Choice members (pictured) recently spent time discovering the many attractions blossoming across South Australia's famed Barossa, Riverland, Murraylands and Adelaide Hills regions.

Their itinerary included some iconic attractions, along with opportunities to taste a selection of regional foods and beverages.

Among the highlights was a visit to Australia's oldest familyowned winery, Yalumba, the taste your birth year experience at Seppeltsfield, and a relaxing trip to Renmark.

Galactic takes flight

VIRGIN Galactic has completed its first human spaceflight from Spaceport America in New Mexico this week.

Conducted under strict COVID-19 protocols, the Unity spacecraft achieved a speed of Mach 3 after being released from mothership *Eve* before landing smoothly with a safe runway landing at Spaceport America.

Virgin Galactic has flagged its first commercial flight is still aiming to take off in early 2022 following a number of delays.

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Summit of kunanyi/Mt Wellington ©Luke Tscharke

Head to Tasmania with AABH

Tasmania is a place of wild and beautiful landscapes, great food, wine and experiences.

There is so much to see in Tasmania it's a destination you can revisit many times. Here are some of Australia and Beyond Holidays' (AABH) favourite attractions in Tasmania:

kunanyi / Mt Wellington is a wilderness experience just a 20-minute drive from Hobart and is much loved by locals.

The Port Arthur Historic Site is Australia's most intact and evocative convict site and one of Australia's great tourist attractions.

Freycinet National Park and Oyster Bay offer absolutely stunning views, particularly when you first set eyes on Great Oyster Bay set against the backdrop of Freycinet National Park.

The Museum of Old and New

Art – Mona is Australia's largest private museum and one of the most controversial private collections of modern art and antiquities in the world.

Cradle Mountain is part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area and one of the most interesting and most visited places in Tasmania.

Cataract Gorge Reserve, known locally as the Gorge, is a unique natural formation within a two-minute drive of central Launceston - a rare natural phenomenon in any city.

Tasmania's Botanical Gardens may be small compared to other states, but many say they are the best.

The Blow Hole and Tasman Arch are just two of many unusual geological formations found in the Tasman National Park, a place of rugged beauty. The Tasmanian Museum and Art **Gallery** is the second oldest museum in Australia, but visiting the gallery, you wouldn't know it.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Talk to the team at Australia and Beyond Holidays, we know Tasmania like the back of our hands and cater for all categories of travel from luxury self-drive or small group journeys to budget and bush walking journeys.

Email agents@aabh.com.au or check out our Tasmanian product at aabh.com.au/Tasmania. Also look at our Hobart accommodation options including The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel.

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