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At Journey Beyond, we're privileged to operate some of Australia's most iconic tourism experiences. We are extremely pleased to announce that all trade partners now have exclusive access to the Experience Hub, empowering agents throughout the world with knowledge and flexible support to increase sales and become Journey Beyond ambassadors.



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# Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 30th November 2021

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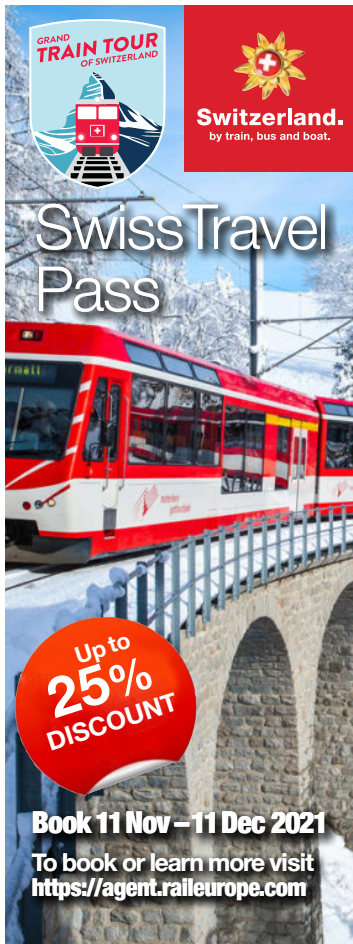
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## P&O out until Mar

P&O Cruises Australia today announced a further extension of its pause in operations from Sydney and Brisbane through until 03 Mar 2022, due to "continued uncertainty over when governments will allow the cruise industry to resume".

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## Travel restart "paused"

THE highly anticipated reopening of Australia's international borders to students, skilled visa holders and working holiday makers has been deferred for two weeks, to give the Government time to assess the potential threat from the new Omicron COVID-19 variant.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced the change yesterday, also confirming that the planned travel bubbles with Japan and South Korea would also be paused until 15 Dec.

"The temporary pause will ensure Australia can gather the information we need to better understand the Omicron variant, including the efficacy of the vaccine, the range of illness, including if it may generate more mild symptoms, and the level of transmission," he said.

The delayed reopening is in addition to other measures banning entry to Australia if they

have been in eight designated African countries - South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Eswatini, Malawi and Mozambique - in the last 14 days.

Seychelles was initially included in the list of countries of concern, but has now been removed under advice from Chief Medical Officer, Ralph Kelly.

A meeting of National Cabinet this afternoon is further discussing the new variant, with the PM highlighting Australia's high vaccination rates.

"We will continue to take sensible and responsive evidence-based action, led by medical experts," Morrison said, to "ensure the country can open safely, and stay safely open".

### Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news plus a front cover from Journey Beyond.



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## Experience Hub

JOURNEY Beyond is today showcasing its travel partner Experience Hub, giving advisors throughout the world the knowledge and flexible support to increase their sales and become "Journey Beyond Ambassadors" - more details on the **cover page**.



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- ETHICAL & SUSTAINABLE STRATEGY



# WHITSUNDAYS

Big Island Day Tour

## SEALINK

**COMING SOON!**

✓ Bookings Open 26 November 2021 ✓ Travel dates from 11 December 2021 ✓ Departing from Shute Harbour

## Bonza beefs up its team

**THE** boots on the ground for Bonza continues to grow, with the soon-to-launch Aussie carrier securing several more key hires in the run up to its debut.

Heading up the list of recruits is former Air Hong Kong Chief Training Captain Neville Hodges, who has been named the Head of Flying Operations for Bonza, where he will be charged with managing relationships with regulators, safety processes, and flight crew training

Joining in Jan, Hodges has also previously worked Emirates for 15 years as a Standards Captain and Type Rating Examiner.

A new Head of Finance has also been found, with Ellen Pickett joining the company from Superloop where she was the Head of Business Finance Partnering.

In her new position, she will spearhead cost control and

providing value for money for customers.

Carla Cations has also been recruited as Head of People and Culture, joining the business from Moreton Bay Council where she led business partnering, recruitment and onboarding, HR software and project teams.

The Head of Airport Operations role has been filled by former Swissport executive Melissa Wilson, a role that will see a focus on customers service from check-in through to the boarding gate and baggage handling, while Mark Davies has been recruited to the Head of Engineering and Maintenance position.

Bonza plans to launch to the local market before the middle of next year (**TD** 14 Oct).

## Celestyal purchased

**CELESTYAL** Cruises has received a major capital boost from private equity firm Searchlight Capital Partners, which has purchased a majority stake in the Mediterranean operator.

Searchlight will inject an initial US\$33.8 million into the line in senior debt financing, with a revolving US\$11.3m credit facility.

"This will enable Celestyal Cruises to amplify its brand globally, build upon its success to-date and expand its operational footprint while growing and renewing its fleet," the line said, adding it would continue to operate its two vessels.

## A chance for \$50

**AGENTS** can score themselves a \$50 gift card by attending a BYO Coffee Cluster detailing the highlights of Japan.

Taking place on Thu 02 Dec at 12pm AEDT, the session will cover the allure of Kyushu, the most southerly of Japan's four largest islands, as well as the Oita Prefecture and a follow up on Okinawa.

Registration for the three 15-minute sessions and live Q&A can be made **HERE**.



## Claudia resigns

**THE** Exhibition and Event Association of Australasia's (EAAA) Chief Executive Officer Claudia Sagripanti will step down from her role on 03 Dec.

Sagripanti's tenure has been marked by the challenges of the pandemic, having joined only weeks before COVID-19 emerged.

Former EAAA President Domenic Genua will fill the role on an interim basis until a new leader is recruited.

## Get ready to wave

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) is asking agents to get ready to wave by attending two exclusive trade webinars ahead of the industry's peak booking season.

Hosted by the cruise line's Senior Sales Manager Angela Middleton who will provide "five top tips", the webinars are scheduled to take place on Thu at either 10.30am AEDT (register **HERE**) or 2pm AEDT (register **HERE**).

## SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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This hands-on role requires strong creative conceptual skills, high level sense of design, layout and typography, a broad thinker who is able to offer a variety of design solutions through to press ready files, with strong attention to detail.

This position comes with a competitive salary package, fantastic industry perks and valuable health benefits.

With eight new ships set to launch over the next two years, now is the perfect time to become a Viking!

To apply, please send a cover letter and your resume to **jobsau@vikingcruises.com**

**Applications close 17 December 2021. Only successful candidates will be contacted. No agencies.**

# RETURN TO TRAVEL SALE

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SIMPLY BOOK COLLETTE UNTIL 30 JUNE 2022!



## Azamara last chance

**AZAMARA** and *Travel Daily* are providing one lucky travel agent and a guest with the once-in-a-lifetime experience of sailing on the five-night Pre-Inaugural cruise aboard *Azamara Onward*.

To enter, describe in 25 words or less why you need to win an Azamara cruise in Europe?

See **page five** for more details.

## Utah resort to open

**PENDRY** Park City ski resort will open up to the public in Jan 2022, located only 30 minutes from Salt Lake City International Airport.

The hotel features 152 rooms and suites, as well as facilities including a wellness spa, gourmet restaurants and a rooftop pool and bar.

While the resort is designed to be popular with ski visitors in the norther winter, the surrounding areas are also surrounded by popular walking trails in the summer months.



## Victoria's project

**VISIT** Victoria and OMD have will take Network 10's *The Project* to the streets of Melbourne to showcase a city that is "open, vibrant and welcoming."

The initiative will see *The Project* panellist Nazeem Hussain join the 60-minute live show from different Melbourne destinations each Fri night, with a goal to reintroduce Aussies to Melbourne and encourage them to return.

## Jayride primes rebound

**DESPITE** its global sales being slammed by the pandemic, airport transfer company Jayride said the early signs in the 2022/23 financial year are reflective of a strong recovery.

In Europe, one of the first regions in the world to begin to relax restrictions, the company's operations are now larger on the continent than before the pandemic, while sales momentum into the new financial year saw Q4 2021 record 38% more trips on the prior period.

Jayride lists three main factors in further driving its recovery in

the next 12 months; the phasing out of the COVID pandemic, a structural trend to online bookings and its enhanced competitive position - which the business ultimately believes will position it to be "larger and more profitable than pre-COVID".

A major investment in technology is also set to pay dividends, Jayride's latest financial results show, with a recent internal survey showing that 33% of travellers are more likely to book a private transfer online than before the pandemic.

Net revenues have been slowly climbing back to pre-COVID volumes, however they are still well short of where the company was in the 2019/20 FY, with figures showing a shortfall of close to \$3.44 million.

## Sun still shining

**THE** Sunshine Coast's tourism sector has shown resilience during the pandemic, as it pivots toward the recovery phase.

One-hundred-and-fifty Visit Sunshine Coast members were joined by Queensland Minister for Tourism Industry Development, Stirling Hinchliffe for the end-of-year annual general meeting, in which Chair David Ryan reported while 2020-21 had been one of the most challenging years ever for tourism operators, the region had been able to deliver record expenditure from the domestic market, and was optimistic for a strong revival in interstate, and eventually international travel.

Ryan said highlights of the region's tourism performance during the period was a new record of \$2.8 billion in domestic overnight visitor expenditure.

"This was a 24.5% increase year on year and a 7.7% increase compared to 2019," he reexported.

## Cebu takes A330neo

**CEBU** Pacific has received its first Airbus A330neo, as it beings its widebody fleet modernisation.

The aircraft is configured with 459 seats in single-class layout and will be operated by Cebu on longer range services to Australia and the Middle East, as well as trunk routes within the Philippines and the rest of Asia.

Altogether Cebu has ordered 16 A330neo.

## Japan, S Korea delay

**FEDERAL** Health Minister Greg Hunt has confirmed a two-week delay in launching its planned Japan and South Korea bubble while it assesses the risk of Omicron, pushing the date back from 01 Dec to 15 Dec.



## Window Seat

**AS GREG** Focker from *Meet the Parents* once famously said, "you can milk anything with nipples", arrives an unusual real-life sequel to those very strange words.

A woman travelling aboard a recent Delta Air Lines flight stands accused of breastfeeding her pet cat in the middle of the flight, and so brazen was the act that she even refused to stop doing so after getting caught.

An image circulating online describes the alleged act of reverse cat milking in a screen capture of a pilot's message sent using the Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System (ACARS).

"A passenger is seat 13A is breastfeeding a cat and will not put cat back in carrier," the message read in response to a request from a flight attendant, with a further call that the unsavoury situation be handled by the airline's "Red Coat" team upon landing.

This crackshot team is an elite band of airport customer service experts who are trained to handle on-the-spot, and sometime unusual customer service problems.

Perhaps making matters even worse, a flight attendant described the cat in question as hairless and swaddled in a blanket so it looked more like a human baby.

I think we all just wish this woman took a short cat nap on the flight instead

## Tiny houses get big boost



**BIG** Tiny has raised US\$3 million (A\$4.2 million) in pre-series A funding, giving the eco-tourism company a valuation cap of US\$22.5 million (A\$31 million).

The company designs and manufactures tiny homes in Singapore, and has two bases in Australia - Sydney and Melbourne - where it assembles and then deploys them, in partnership with host landowners.

The funding round was led by prominent Singaporean businessman Koh Boon Hwee, along with Phillip Private Equity, GPPC Capital, and Ascend Angels.

The latest funding will be used to build on Big Tiny's momentum, fuelling further growth in Australia as well as an anticipated expansion into the New Zealand

market next year.

City-dwellers looking for a post-lockdown break can book a tiny house stay through Big Tiny's accommodation platform, Tiny Away, as venture capitalists and consumers back sustainable accommodation as tourism bounces back.

In 2019, there were a total of 45 tiny houses in Tiny Away's portfolio in New South Wales and Victoria, but this has more than doubled to nearly 100 this year, in other states such as Queensland, South Australia, and recently Tasmania.

### Promising results

**AIRBUS'** first in-flight 100% sustainable fuels emissions study of a passenger jet has shown early promise, with no operational issues experienced.

The study, involving Airbus, Rolls-Royce, German research centre DLR and fuel producer Neste, marks the first time 100% SAF has been measured simultaneously on both engines of a commercial passenger aircraft, one of Airbus' A350s.

The University of Manchester researchers plan to publish their results in academic journals toward the end of next year and into 2023.

Aircraft are currently only allowed to operate on a 50% blend of SAF and standard fuel.

### Accor Gen Z push

**ACCOR** has partnered with Year13 to attract and retain Generation Z employees.

Through social media, video and editorial content pieces on Year13's channels, this strategic partnership seeks to inspire and support Gen Z to consider meaningful and rewarding careers that fit within their passions.

Year13 is Australia's largest digital platform to help high school leavers through their transition into employment.

Accor also recently redesigned its recruitment strategy.

*keep dreaming...*

Travel inspiration for your clients' next holiday!

[Click to read](#)

Travel & Cruise  
Weekly

## AFTA UPDATE

from the Australian Federation of Travel Agents

**WITH** the Federal Government closing the borders to South Africa and nine other African countries, the fears of clients and the sector were realised. This was closely followed by some state chief medical

officers calling for borders to close to all international incoming and outgoing passengers.

In NSW, they have mandated isolation for all returning travellers again further damaging confidence.

Our recent AFTA Industry survey told us the number one issue stopping Australians was the fear of the Government closing the border and not able to get home.

On Sat, this fear became a reality for many. Politicians in Canberra and around the Country believe the recovery was finished the day they opened the border. We all know this is not the case and with this recent closure the need for additional support is now more important than ever.

Last week AFTA Chair Tom Manwaring and I were in Canberra meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and key members of the Parliamentary National Party. These valuable meetings provided the final insights to



afta

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION  
OF TRAVEL AGENTS

allow us to best target the Government for ongoing support within their defined focus areas on skills and workforce renewal.

We have again updated our Member toolkit to fight for ongoing

support using the Government's own current frameworks and priorities. We have a significant fight ahead which if we are successful will require a full court press.

In the next couple of days we will be asking everyone to get in contact with your MPs and remind them our recovery is far from over and they cannot walk away from us. I will be asking you to make contact with MP's as this is the last sitting week of the Parliament for the year.

We must acknowledge the Government has been an important part of our recovery, but walking away from us now will mean Aussie consumers, our clients and subsequently our business will not be at the end of the year.

This week will start our final campaign to ensure the Governments around the country hear us and provide this critical support package.

### COMO update

**COMO** Hotels & Resorts will offer a live product update next Tue from Perth, Bali, the Maldives, and Thailand.

Attendees will join Jonica Paramor and Como's Cluster directors of sales and marketing at 1:30pm from a number of the company's key destinations for a quick update, latest news and a product refresh.

To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

### Hello to Resolution

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions has christened *National Geographic Resolution* in a ceremony led by the cruise line's first female Captain Heidi Norling.

Taking place in Antarctica, Lindblad's second polar vessel was christened on her inaugural voyage to Antarctica, South Georgia & the Falklands.

The ceremony took place in the Weddell Sea's Duse Bay.

In it for the **LONG** haul

Don't miss the November issue of *travelBulletin*, with the **EXCLUSIVE** first interview with AFTA's new CEO.



**travelBulletin**

## Japan blocks travel

**THE** Japanese Government has moved to temporarily pause foreign business travellers and students from visiting the country as it waits to find out more details about the Omicron strain.

The decision arrives only weeks after Japan opened up the country to travellers for study or business as part of an initial reopening phase (**TD 05 Nov**).

## Celebrity's windows are all glass



**CELEBRITY** Cruises has debuted its holiday season-themed window displays at luxury department store Saks Fifth Avenue in New York City (**pictured**).

The cruise line is celebrating the upcoming launch of its newest ship *Celebrity Beyond* with two window displays, which include an Eden window, inspired by the transformative environment of the on-board space.

There is also a Le Voyage by Daniel Boulud window, influenced by the chef's first restaurant at sea, coming next year.

## Dream clarifies

**DREAM** Cruises has clarified that *World Dream's* passenger capacity ex Singapore still remains at 50%, and has not moved to 75% as was reported in **Travel Daily** yesterday.

The cruise line is keen to boost capacity when more VTLs open up over time.

## NT gives green light

**AUSSIES** will soon be able to enjoy a trip to the Northern Territory irrespective of their hotspot classification.

From 20 Dec, the NT will open quarantine-free travel to fully vaccinated domestic travellers, but all visitors will need to take a rapid antigen test on arrival.

Fully vaccinated travellers arriving from a classified "red zone" by plane or car will also be required to return a negative PCR test 72 hours before arrival.

The NT Summer Sale campaign is still running - more info **HERE**.

## MONEY

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

**AU\$1 = US\$0.714**

**THE** Australian dollar is riding a wave of positivity after global markets rebounded after a major sell-off last Fri sparked by news of new Omicron COVID variant.

After falling against most of the majors late last week, the AUD has rallied by 0.2% against the American dollar, and also made back 0.7% of ground on the Euro and the Japanese Yen.

The AUDNZD was also higher this week, up 0.4%, as the pair climbed to one-month highs.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.714
UK	£0.536
NZ	\$1.046
Euro	€0.632
Japan	¥81.31
Thailand	฿24.09
China	¥4.563
South Africa	11.531
Canada	\$0.909
Crude oil	US\$72.72

### Win a Balcony stateroom on the Azamara Onward Pre-Inaugural Cruise!



Azamara and Travel Daily are providing one travel agent and guest with the once-in-a-lifetime experience of sailing on the 5 Night Pre-Inaugural Cruise of *Azamara Onward*. Sailing from Barcelona to Monte Carlo and staying in a Balcony stateroom, this is a special sailing not to be missed.

Prize includes Balcony stateroom for 2 on the 5 night pre-inaugural cruise. Minor Prizes will be awarded each week of one x \$100 VISA e-gift card. So get your entries in early.

To enter please tell us in 25 words or less why you need to win an Azamara cruise in Europe? Creativity counts!

**ENTER HERE**

**AZAMARA**

\* Terms and conditions apply

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