

## UNLOCK EUROPE FOR LESS & Earn More in 2022

Three epic European river offers, one single supplement you've been waiting for, and 100 complimentary self-famil cabins to be won

PASSAU, GERMANY

### 2022 EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE ONLY OFFERS

Help your clients explore Europe for less with these amazing cruise only fares valid for new bookings made between 1 April to 30 June 2022, or until sold out. The best part? You'll get commission this year and earn more thanks to Viking's No NCFs.



**15-DAY GRAND EUROPEAN CRUISE FROM \$3,995 PER PERSON** twin share cruise only on selected 2022 departures – that's only **\$266 per day** for an inclusive European holiday.



23-DAY EUROPEAN SOJOURN FROM \$7,445 PER PERSON twin share cruise only on selected 2022 departures – that's only \$324 per day for an inclusive European holiday.



8-DAY RHINE GETAWAY FROM \$2,695 PER PERSON twin share cruise only on selected 2022 departures – that's only \$337 per day for an inclusive European holiday. Available from 8 April.

## 75% OFF SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

It's finally here, the Viking single supplement you've been waiting for. Get 75% off the single supplement for the special cruise only fares in categories E & F.

### BE ONE OF THE FIRST 100 TO BOOK & WIN A FREE SELF-FAMIL

Just when you thought this couldn't get any better, we're taking it to the next level. The first 100 agents to make two or more new twin share or single supplement reservations for any 2022 Viking European river cruise before 30 June 2022 will win a complimentary self-famil stateroom on a select 8-day Viking European cruise in 2022.

Click here to learn more and unlock Europe for less. Terms and conditions apply. See website for details.

For more information contact your Commercial Manager or email agents.anz@vikingcruises.com

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Travel Daily First with the news Discover the beauty of Greece

### FCM Th!nk tank

**FLIGHT** Centre Travel Group's FCM Travel Solutions will host a global hybrid forum tackling the hot topics in corporate travel, and is inviting the industry to take part.

The Think event will be held 10-11 May, with "an original and thought-provoking program of carefully curated exclusive content," according to FCM Australia GM Melissa Elf.

To see the agenda and register for free see fcm-events.com.



## TREND FORECAST

Discover the key travel consumer trends shaping decision-making.

For category insights for your brand contact your News Corp representative.

#### **VIEW HIGHLIGHTS**

News Corp Australia

### Wednesday 6th April 2022

## eRoam, Sabre seal deal

#### EXCLUSIVE

**GDS GIANT** Sabre has announced a new partnership with Australia's eRoam Travel Technology, with the startup's B2B leisure sales platform to offer a new online travel solution for travel agencies.

Melbourne-based eRoam, backed by Sportsnet Holidays founder Rob Cecconi and chaired by Martin Cowley, is the latest Gold-Level member of Sabre's Developer Partner Network, which allows Sabre-connected agencies, tour operators and DMCs to find and utilise partner solutions which support their specific business needs.

"Through the partnership, eRoam is broadening Sabre's partner ecosystem by providing an Al-enabled leisure travel platform to Sabre's network," the companies said.

eRoam was beginning to roll out its solution in 2019 prior to the pandemic's onset, with the platform enabling agencies to create their own tailor-made packages quickly and efficiently, at the same time identifying additional tours and activities to diversify and help generate more revenue.

#### New Disney ride

**WALT** Disney World in Florida will debut a new *Guardians of the Galaxy*-themed ride next month.

Cosmic Rewind will launch on 27 May at the EPCOT theme park, and is said to be one of the largest fully-enclosed roller coasters in the world with Disney's first "reverse launch" see traveldaily.com.au/videos. The artificial intelligence in the system creates personalised offers and recommendations, with Cowley saying "our next generation leisure travel solution enables Sabre-connected agencies to create a compelling traveller experience helping to position them for growth".

Sabre's President of Partner Solutions, Marcos Pinedo, said the company was focusing on giving customers solutions to help them maximise business opportunities as travel rebounds.

"By partnering with leading industry developers such as eRoam, we are able to address our customers' needs, help them to tap into recovery growth and enhance the trust of travellers," Pinedo said.

eRoam's post-COVID resurgence is being led by former Travel Indochina chief Paul Hole, who has returned to the travel sector after taking a role as the company's GM last Sep.

#### Viking free famils!

VIKING Cruises has launched a massive promotion on 2022 European river cruises, with special pricing from \$3,995 per person on the 15-day Grand European voyage.

The company is also offering 75% off the single supplement for the special cruise only fares in categories E&F, and the first 100 travel advisors to make two or more new twin share or single supplement reservations before 30 Jun will win a complimentary self-famil stateroom on an 8-day Viking European cruise this year. See the **cover page** for details.

#### Today's issue of *TD*

oneworld

earn

more

Travel Daily today has seven pages, a cover page from Viking Cruises, product update from The Travel Junction & Travel Associates photo page.

#### Fiji opens to all

THE Fijian Govt has announced new protocols to be implemented from tomorrow, which will remove the country's existing Travel Partner entry system and instead see fully vaccinated travellers from anywhere in the world allowed to enter.

Effective 07 Apr, travellers will also no longer need a mandatory pre-booked three-night stay at a Care Fiji Commitment resort, with this requirement to be replaced by a simple pre-booked Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) at a registered resort or city/town-based facility within 48-72 hours of arrival in the country.

At check-in for their inbound flights to Fiji travellers will need to show evidence of full vaccination, a negative predeparture PCR (48 hours) or RAT (24 hours) test, travel insurance and their pre-booked Fijian RAT.

"Once you arrive you can holiday safely and enjoy the best of Fiji knowing that when sticking to Care Fiji Committed businesses, everyone you interact with will be fully vaccinated," the Tourism Fiji website states.

#### Your New York State

WHETHER it's tasting your way through the Hudson Valley's stunning vineyards or whitewater rafting down the rivers of the Adirondacks, New York State has a holiday for everyone.

See page eight for more.



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## Agents of good fortune

**MORE** than 40% of Australian travellers who intend on taking an international trip between Jul and Dec will be enlisting the services of a travel agent, a new report from News Corp suggests.

The News Travel Network Trend Forecast study found that travel advisors stand a good chance of scoring additional business as consumers seek out specialist advice needed for the "unique complexities" facing travel.

Just over one third of prospective travellers said they have either booked all or part of their next holidays, with more than half stating they are happy to pay a premium to guarantee a "safe and seamless getaway".

Short-haul destinations also appear to be the order of the day, with the soon-to-reopen New Zealand market topping the list of most sought-after destinations, accounting for 36% of travellers' overseas holiday plans. Fiji was also shown to be a strong performing market, leaping from eighth position during the last report to third spot this time around, with proximity and positive sentiment from previous travellers driving the bulk of the confidence.

Interestingly, the report also found that women are far more risk-averse when it comes to taking an international trip, with only 29% of females stating they are "confident" in jetting off, compared with 71% of men. Meanwhile millennials are the age demographic most keen to jaunt overseas (48%), outscoring baby boomers, with 37% expressing travel doubts.

While there has been some steady improvement in international bookings, the report also confirmed that intrastate travel is the most popular booking type, with short, comfortable trips dominating.



#### Huge Hertz EV deal

HERTZ has announced a major new global partnership with Sweden-based electric vehicle (EV) maker Polestar, which will see the car rental firm purchase up to 65,000 electric vehicles over the next five years.

Polestar is an offshoot of Volvo, which in 2017 announced the brand would begin producing high-end electric performance cars under its own badge.

The Hertz deal will see Polestar EVs available for rental in the coming months in Europe, and before the end of the year in Australia and North America.

Hertz said the deal was part of its commitment to "electrify shared mobility," with the EV fleet to be offered to business and leisure customers as well as for rideshare drivers.

"This partnership with Polestar further builds on our ambition to become a leading participant in the modern mobility ecosystem," said Hertz CEO Stephen Scherr.

#### Now we're Cooking

AUSTRALIANS will once again be able to visit the Cook Islands from next week, in line with changes in NZ which will allow quarantine and isolation-free travel for Aussie citizens and permanent residents from 13 Apr.

Graeme West, GM of the Cook Islands Tourism Corporation, said "Cook Islanders are waiting with open arms and big smiles to greet their first Australian visitors in just over two years".

All visitors over five years and three months of age must be fully vaccinated and provide an International COVID-19 Vaccination certificate (the age stipulation is changing to those over 16 from 02 May), along with proof of a supervised RAT taken in NZ within 24 hours of departure from Auckland to Rarotonga.

Access is via Air NZ services from 13 Apr, and from 02 Jun on Jetstar, while Air NZ's non-stop Sydney-Rarotonga flights are expected to restart later this year.



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LE adds Premium Collection

#### New Holiday Inn Express & Suites

AUSTRALIA'S first Holiday Inn Express & Suites property is set to open on the Sunshine Coast next month, as the latest development by Pro-invest Hotels in partnership with IHG.

The Maroochydoore City property has 181 guest rooms and suites, with IHG Australasia & Pacific MD Matthew Tripolone saying the opening is a "burst of optimism for the industry as we continue to grow our exciting brands across the region".

"Not only is this hotel the first Suites product for the Express brand in Australia, it's the ninth Holiday Inn Express opening with Pro-invest across Australia & NZ, and a testament to our ongoing partnership," he said.

The hotel is targeting a high NABERS energy and water rating and has a net zero 2030 target to reduce its carbon footprint - more accom updates on **page seven**. LUXURY Escapes (LE) is expanding beyond its existing "flash" sales model by highlighting the launch of the Lux Premium Collection, which promises "year-round access to incredible offers".

The initiative comprises a curated selection of hotels and resorts across the globe including offers available year-round, with the LE contracting team working with properties to negotiate a range of bonus inclusions which increase based on length of stay.

Almost 500 properties in destinations around the world are already part of the program, including brands such as Shangri-La, Outrigger and Kempinski Hotels.

Examples of value-adds include daily breakfast, a welcome drink or gift for those staying two or more nights, room upgrades based on length of stay and inhouse F&B credits. The company said the Lux Premium Collection, developed under the direction of CEO and co-founder Adam Schwab, would drive the next growth phase for Luxury Escapes.

Properties seeking to be part of the Collection can enquire via partner@luxuryescapes.com.

### JetBlue lobs bid

**CONSOLIDATION** in the US low cost carrier market is hotting up, with JetBlue throwing a spanner into the works of a previously announced deal between Spirit Airlines and Frontier Airlines.

The Frontier-Spirit merger was announced in Feb, but is yet to be finalised, and JetBlue is now offering US\$3.6 billion for Spirit in a deal described as a "game changer" by JetBlue CEO Robin Hayes who said the combined fleet would comprise 455 aircraft plus another 312 on order.



TALIA TOURI

**HE MAY** not make the Christmas card list of Qantas CEO Alan Joyce any time soon, but adventurer Torbjørn "Thor" Pedersen has certainly earned plenty of admirers during his eight-year across-the-globe trip.

The Danish man has so far visited a whopping 196 countries, adding Australia to the list this week, but what makes the travel feat so special is that he has managed to visit every country without boarding a single plane.

"About 200 people have managed to reach every country in the world, but no-one's been able to do it completely without flying," Pederson said.

The record attempt was slowed down by being stranded in Hong Kong for two years.



### European Christmas Markets Luxury River Cruising

- 4 new departures in Nov & Dec 2022 added due to popular demand OR
- Secure your client's 2023 river cruise with our Preview offers

With Scenic, it's more than river cruising. It's exploring Europe's Christmas markets in truly all-inclusive luxury.

Check live availability via ExpressBook





### New Jetstar Busselton flight



JETSTAR has today inaugurated a new nonstop flight between Melbourne and Busselton-Margaret River Airport in WA.

The direct services will operate three times a week, with representatives from Tourism Western Australia and Australia's South West region hosting a dinner for the Melbourne travel trade earlier this week at the new Pearl Diver Restaurant.

The WA Govt is giving visitors

another reason to explore the region with the South West Wanderer Pass which offers \$100 towards tours, experiences and attractions for those who book tickets on the new Jetstar route.

Pictured toasting with a Margaret River tipple are, from left: Mel Forbes, Tourism WA; Darren Rathbone. Xanadu Wines: Mel Johnson from Tourism WA; and Annabel Owen from Australia's South West.

keep dreaming... Travel inspiration for your clients' next holiday!

Travel & Cruise Weekly

#### SQ self service

**SINGAPORE** Airlines will launch a self-service request feature in AGENT360 known as Service Request Forms from 25 Apr.

The forms can be used to file requests to waive fees for name correction, itinerary changes and ticket refunds, as well as extend ticket time limits and apply for waitlist confirmation.

From 25 Apr, SQ's sales team will only support agent service requests via forms submitted through AGENT360, with general enquiries to continue via phone and email.

#### Emirates speeds up

**EMIRATES** will introduce shorter waiting times via new mobile check-in ports at Dubai International's Terminal 3.

The new tech will provide boarding passes as well as weigh and move bags to the designated belts for passengers.

No launch date has been given.

#### Warm Up Australia

**Click to** 

read

Special

Easter

issue

**ANZCRO** is inviting travellers to "warm up" with eight new holiday packages in Queensland.

From landing by helicopter at the exclusive Orpheus Island Lodge, snorkelling the Great Barrier Reef, to the sands of Heron Island, the Warm Up In Australia showcase is targeting a diverse type of traveller.

The packages are fully customsiable and ready-to-sell, with more destinations to be rolled out soon.

"Winter is knocking on our door, and with that, we know Aussies are going to start planning their escapes," explained Trade Marketing Manager Nate Gordon.

"We wanted to shine a light on the hidden treasures of Queensland, showcasing luxury lodges, coastal towns and islands you may not have considered."

Bookings can be made via ANZCRO's platform ANZCRO Connect - more info HERE.



Our long-awaited return to Australian shores is here! From the stunning Milford Sound in New Zealand to pristine Airlie Beach in Queensland, our dazzling voyages will explore a wealth of home-spun destinations and have been created to offer a wide-angle view of the region.

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### 30 years of paradise



**TO COMMEMORATE** 30 years of operation, the Kingfisher Bay Resort on K'gari (Fraser Island) has unveiled a full rebranding across its business to reflect a more "island-inspired" eco look.

The green accent fern in its logo symbolises the property's nature-based ethos, and follows the renaming to K'gari to acknowledge the local Butchulla people (**TD** 20 Sep 2021).

Joining the resort in a rebrand on the island is the Eurong Beach Resort and Fraser Explorer Tours, which have changed their names to K'gari Beach Resort and K'gari Explorer Tours respectively, a move welcomed by the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation Director Christine Royan.

"If you're doing business on K'gari, then respectfully call her by her traditional name, K'gari, which is paradise," she said.

30% discounts are now on offer at both resorts until 31 Jul for travel between 01 May and 31 Jul - more details **HERE**.

#### **Blue Mtns closures**

**THE** Blue Mountains National Park has closed today until further notice in the wake of a fatal landslide in Wentworth Falls this week.

The deluge of rain in recent weeks has made a number of walking tracks potentially unstable and a full safety review is now being carried out.

Blue Mountains Tourism President Jason Cronshaw told **TD** that he has every confidence in the expertise of the National Parks & Wildlife Service and Blue Mountains City Council to make decisions regarding bushwalking tracks throughout the region.

"In the meantime, the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area including the Three Sisters can still be viewed from Echo Point Lookout at Katoomba, and Govetts Leap and Evans lookouts at Blackheath," he said.

**CLICK HERE** to stay up to date for walking trail alerts.



#### Discover the World Marketing are looking for a QLD Sales Executive to represent Expedia TAAP

If you would like to represent Expedia TAAP a well-known global brand that travel agents love ,and you have 3 years Travel Industry Experience please contact Nathan Hughes nhughes@discovertheworld.com.au

Your application will be treated confidentially.

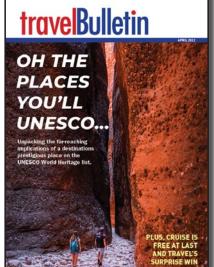
## April travelBulletin out

THIS month's issue of travelBulletin released on Mon is an absolute banger, featuring a cover story on how UNESCO and its World Heritage List has shaped tourism in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

In the story, Myles Stedman discovers what goes into a UNESCO World Heritage List submission, how it impacts tourism in a destination, the occasional negative effects a listing has, and how the process will sometimes see sparks fly.

travelBulletin for Apr also details the cruise industry's release from governmentimposed purgatory, and a surprise financial win for the travel industry.

There's also commentary from CATO and CLIA, our regular wrapup of some of the biggest travel, cruising and tourism industry stories from the last month, and



this month's feature on mental health from Tim Hoopmann. Regular columns also appear, such as "state of the industry", "issues & trends", "from the publisher", and "last word".

The magazine is available for viewing and download now at travelbulletin.com.au.



#### Cargo Supervisor – Sydney

As one of the world's largest global airline brands, we are in search of the best available talent.

We are currently looking for Cargo industry professionals with proven supervisory experience, to join our SkyCargo Team in Sydney.

In this role, the Cargo Supervisor will ensure efficient day to day operations by guiding and directing the team and ensure adherence to EK SkyCargo procedures and service standards as well as ensuring safety remains paramount.

The availability of the Cargo Supervisor position presents a great opportunity to make your career soar and join the Emirates SkyCargo team.

For more information and to apply, please visit emiratesgroupcareers.com and search using job reference number 220000PB.

Applications close Wednesday, 20 April 2022. Only apply on-line and candidates with the necessary experience, skills and work rights will be contacted.

## Travel Associates parties like it's 2022

THE FINAL evening of this week's Travel Associates Business Leaders conference on the Gold Coast (TD 04 Apr) took place poolside at The Star, with delegates invited to dress up in the style of their next holiday. By all indications there will be some pretty exotic trips coming up, with attendees pulling out all stops to showcase destinations across the globe including Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Scandinavia and of course plenty



Wednesday 6th April 2022



The final night party was preceded by an afternoon of updates from the supplier partners who had been invited to the event, with TD taking these photos and many more online at facebook.com/ traveldaily.



**ROGER** Condon from Star Clippers with Adventure World National Account Manager Andrea Morgan.

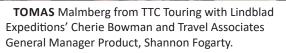




TRAVEL Associates GM Brand and Marketing Anna Burgdorf joined this group getting a Star Clippers update.

IT'S all about the merch for Destination Gold Coast.







LEFT: Ooh la la - France definitely on the travel agenda for FCTG GM Premium Leisure Brands, Dani Galloway and Travel Associates GM Rachel Kingwsell, while Melinda Spain from Jones & Turner is planning something more tropical - and Kerrie Fellowes from Maria, Fellowes & Turner Travel Associates in NSW is off to the F1!





FIONA Heron from Celebrity Cruises gives Travel Associates delegates the cruise marketing Edge.







#### Oceania event series

**OCEANIA** Cruises has announced an exclusive event series to celebrate the launch of its biggest collection in history.

The '2023/2024 Tropics & Exotics' and '2024 Europe & Americas Collections' have also launched, and to celebrate, Oceania is hosting a series of exclusive events, beginning 03 May in Perth, followed by Sydney, Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne, Hobart, and Gold Coast, before concluding in Brisbane on 01 Jun. Register to attend **HERE**.

#### A big Pisa history

**FLYDUBAI** has will soon start flights to Pisa in Italy, becoming the first UAE-baed carrier to operate the route from Dubai.

Flights to Pisa International Airport will take off for the first time on 24 Jun from Terminal 3 at Dubai International, operating three times a week.

Pisa is located in Italy's popular Tuscany region, best known for its iconic Leaning Tower.

**MEANWHILE** the carrier will also resume three weekly flights to Catania on the same date.

### 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.



Radisson Individuals has debuted with the opening of **Marina Resort Port Ghalib, a member of Radisson Individuals**. The property marks the launch of Radisson Hotel Group's newest brand, and brings the company's portfolio in the country to eight

hotels. Set in an ideal location along the desert coastline of the Red Sea, the property is located next to Port Ghalib's palm tree-lined promenade and yacht-docking harbour.



COMO Castello Del Nero, located in Italy, has reopened with new rituals, packages, and cultural experiences. Following a seasonal closure, the resort reopened Fri, with new packages which combine stays in one of its elegant suites with a series of

wellbeing experiences in the cocooning sanctuary of the new COMO Shambhala Retreat. One of the packages, Resdiscover & Restore, includes a three-night getaway and a restorative Shambhala Massage.



Aloft Hotels is continuing to expand its portfolio in Indonesia with the opening of **Aloft Bali Kuta**. The resort is the second Aloft hotel to open in Bali, and caters to the tech-savy, music-loving crowd. The 175-room hotel "animates the brand's bold

passion and sassy personality through an intriguing dining space, varied music lineups, and eclectic live events," Aloft boasted.

## A big travel feast at Easter

IN ADDITION to chocolate, Australians are set to spend billions on holidays this Easter, according to research released recently by Roy Morgan and the Australian Retailers Association.

Over four million Aussies are planning a trip away this Easter, with \$7.1 billion to be spent on holidays, according to the snap SMS survey.

Of the Australians going away this Easter, 63% will be travelling within their own state, 34% will be going interstate, and only 3% will be going overseas.

Those aged 35-49 are the most likely to have family in tow, and are set to spend an average of \$2,000 on their Easter holidays, which at \$2.6 billion, is more than any other age group.

"Australians have had their travel restricted at various stages throughout the pandemic, but with the borders opened, people will be taking advantage of the upcoming Easter long weekend, getting away and spending \$7.1 billion on their trips – a significant boost for tourism operators and local businesses who've been doing it tough these past two years," said Australian Retailers Association Chief Executive Officer Paul Zahra.

"This is the first holiday period in two years that many people will be taking advantage of the time off and getting away with family and friends, which is great to see.

"Travel plans were discarded in 2020 and 2021 due to the various snap lockdowns, and last Christmas was disrupted by Omicron."

Zahra said with minimal COVID restrictions in place, and Australia's high vaccination rate providing safety and confidence, we're now starting to go back to living our lives as normal, which includes travelling.

#### PRESENTS Trave Daily **AN EXECUTIVE** INTERVIEW with publisher Bruce Piper and the Norwegian Cruise Line executive leadership and sales team **The Great Cruise Comeback** Join us for a chat with NCL. There'll be a Q&A panel discussing exactly what cruising looks like today, what's in the pipeline for the global cruise innovator as well how to maximise your selling potential now that local cruising is back on the agenda, plus more. Ben Angell Damian Borg Angela amonn Ferrin **FRIDAY 8th APRIL** 1.00pm (AEST) REGISTER

Travel Daily

*Travel Daily* is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Produced each weekday since 1994, *Travel Daily* is Australia's leading travel industry publication. EDITORIAL Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper Associate Editors– Adam Bishop, Myles Stedman Contributen – Nicheles O'Dearchus

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# What's your New York State?

Whether it's tasting your way through the Hudson Valley's stunning vineyards, whitewater rafting down the rivers of the Adirondacks, strolling through the forests of the Catskills, or taking in the 'City that Never Sleeps', New York State has everything you need - whatever your holiday state is.

Help your clients find their New York State.

#### Sip, Bite, Smell and Taste NY State

From the State's extensive wine and craft brewery trails to the Hudson Valley's legendary restaurants and farm-to-table cuisine headed by celebrated chefs, New York's food selection goes far beyond the pizza and hotdogs.

Why not travel north to Buffalo and sample the original Buffalo wings, followed by wine-pairing dinners at the

THE TRAVEL JUNCTION

restaurants that line the Niagara Wine Trail?

#### **Explore New York State's landscapes**

New York State boasts some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

From the eleven Finger Lakes that cross the heart of New York, all the way up to the mighty Lake Ontario, your clients will spend their time weaving in and out of quaint and welcoming country towns, to vibrant old cities brimming with history and culture.

#### Take the State by road

New York State is full of treasures, and there's no better way to find them than at your own pace. Hire a car and experience all the state has to offer, from the picturesque shoreline and beautiful architecture of Long Island and the famous Hamptons to

E: sales@thetraveljunction.com.au W: thetraveljunction.com.au breathtaking vistas at Letchworth State Park, all the way to the roaring thunder of Niagara Falls.

#### MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE

You're there to make your clients' dreams come true; we're here to make that possible and reward you along the way. Plus - agents can earn up to 15% commission on all New York State bookings made through The Travel Junction. Learn more about New York State **HERE**. Log in to HELiO and start

booking HERE.

