

P&O fleet complete

P&O Cruises on Fri welcomed *Pacific Adventure* through the Sydney heads, completing its three-ship local complement with the addition of the 2,600-passenger vessel.

Pacific Adventure will be the tallest ship to sail under the Sydney Harbour Bridge, with some special marine engineering enabling the vessel to squeeze under the bridge and operate from the White Bay terminal.

Carnival Australia President Marguerite Fitzgerald told **TD** she was thrilled at the arrival, saying having *Pacific Adventure*, *Pacific Encounter* and *Pacific Explorer* back in Australia was perfectly timed as key destinations reopen.

Indonesia flight battle

VIRGIN Australia and Qantas are vying for additional seats on the Indonesia route, with the International Air Services Commission (IASC) noting it now has two competing applications for capacity between Australia and Bali's Denpasar Airport.

On 23 Aug the IASC received an application from Virgin Australia requesting the allocation of 172 seats of passenger capacity to Indonesia, on top of the airline's existing authorisation of 4,752 seats per week in each direction which sees it operate daily flights to DPS from SYD, MEL and BNE.

VA said with the return of demand it was planning

additional services for the Northern Winter 2022 season, meaning it will be "utilising the majority of its bilateral capacity allocation by the end of this year".

The additional capacity would allow VA to introduce an additional weekly 737-800 flight between MEL and DPS.

From Mar next year VA is also plotting new non-stop Bali flights from the Gold Coast, which do not fall under existing bilateral traffic restrictions.

In accordance with its standard procedures, the IASC then invited other applications for capacity on the route - seeing Qantas lodge a submission seeking 162 extra weekly seats per week.

The QF request would allow it to upgauge selected Sydney-Denpasar services from B737 to wide-bodied 271-seat A330 aircraft during periods of high demand, the carrier said.

The IASC noted that there is insufficient capacity available on the Indonesia route to satisfy both requests, and has written to both airlines to invite them to highlight the "public benefit criteria" of their applications, with a deadline of 23 Sep.

TD to honour ER

THERE will be no issues of *Travel Daily* or *Cruise Weekly* on Thu 22 Sep, as the Business Publishing Group joins the rest of Australia in the official day of mourning for Queen Elizabeth II.

Today's issue of TD

TD today has six pages of news including a **TravelManagers photo page** plus full pages from:

- Helloworld
- My Cruises

Industry jobs galore

OPPORTUNITIES continue to abound for people wanting to join some of Australia's key travel companies, with multiple roles being advertised throughout today's issue of **Travel Daily**.

Positions vacant include several Regional Manager and Account Manager roles across the country with Helloworld (see **page seven**), while MyCruises is recruiting for a product manager, groups and products coordinators and sales consultants on the **last page**.

SIA earlybirds

SINGAPORE Airlines launched a 2023 earlybird flight sale on Fri, offering "a wide range of highly attractive fares across our global network," the carrier said.

Detailed on the SQ AGENT360 platform, fare sheets also highlight 25% bonus KrisFlyer miles, 20% off a range of tours and activities on the SQ Pelago travel experiences platform, and a complimentary one-time change fee waiver for inbound travel dates after 05 Sep 2023.

Over 50 destinations are on offer from the airline's seven local ports, helping Aussies return to exploring the world, according to SIA Regional VP Southwest Pacific, Louis Arul.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE Digital Marketing & Public Relations

The Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) markets and promotes Hong Kong as a travel destination worldwide, driving inspiration and enhancing visitors' experience once they arrive. HKTB, Australia, New Zealand & South Pacific operations is looking for an experienced Digital Marketing & PR Executive to join their marketing team.



Based in Sydney, this role will focus on a combination of creative digital and publicity campaigns working with the Marketing & PR lead to support strategic development, campaign implementation and optimisation across the two disciplines.

Ideally, candidates will have relevant tertiary qualifications, excellent written & communication skills, extensive software capabilities & digital landscape knowledge.

This is an opportunity to join a dynamic team of dumpling enthusiasts!

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Applications should be sent by Tuesday 4th October 2022 to
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AIR Mauritius has confirmed plans to restart its Australian services, with direct PER-MRU flights to commence on 02 Nov with two weekly frequencies.

The carrier will launch a new travel trade platform later this month, including all relevant information on fares, contacts, policies and travel agency base commission levels which have now been adjusted to just 1%.

Air Mauritius is now represented locally by Aviareps, with agents advised to refer to GDS platforms for more details or contact mk.anz@aviareps.com.

Four more Vikings

VIKING Cruises has exercised options for four additional ocean ships to be constructed by Fincantieri, in line with a contract first announced in Mar 2018 which already has two vessels in the pipeline for delivery in 2024 and 2025.

The new generation of ships, based on the successful features of Viking's previous 930-passenger vessels, will be designed to be powered using hydrogen fuel cells and "set a new standard for the industry," the companies said.

Deliveries of the four additional newbuilds are scheduled for 2026, 2027 and two in 2028, with the news coming as Fincantieri prepares to deliver *Viking Saturn*, the 10th and final ship in Viking's original ocean vessel order which was finalised in 2012.

Big plans for Disney parks

DISNEY has unveiled a swathe of new initiatives for its theme parks in California and Florida, including a new "multiverse-centred attraction" coming to the Avengers Campus at Disney California Adventure.

Disney Parks, Experiences and Products Chairman, Josh D'Amaro, announced a host of attractions and enhancements during the D23 Expo in Anaheim over the weekend, including a major makeover of the Paradise Pier Hotel as Pixar Place Hotel.

Disneyland California will be the heart of celebrations of the company's 100th anniversary next year, with new "platinum-infused" decor, new looks for iconic characters including Mickey Mouse, and two new night-time spectacles.

Florida's Disney World will see a new TRON Lightcycle Run

attraction open in the Magic Kingdom in the second quarter of the year, along with the opening of major enhancements at EPCOT in late 2023.

New attractions are also planned for Disneyland Paris (a "Tangled"-themed area), Hong Kong Disneyland ("World of Frozen") and Tokyo Disney (a transformed Space Mountain), while Amaro also announced the huge news that *Disney Wonder* will begin sailing in Australia and New Zealand for the first time from late Oct next year (TD breaking news).

Disney's sixth cruise ship will be named *Disney Treasure*, while the company has also confirmed the development of another island destination in the Bahamas called Lighthouse Point, 90% of which will be operated on solar energy.

For more information on the local *Wonder* deployment see today's issue of *Cruise Weekly*.

APAC back to 65%

THE Asia-Pacific air travel market has recovered to about two-thirds of pre-COVID volumes in 2019, according to a presentation by Amadeus country head Kaylene Shuttlewood last Fri at the TravelManagers conference in Sydney.

Shuttlewood said the figures were impressive considering extremely limited travel to Japan and the ongoing closure of China, which is now forecast to remain in place until at least after Chinese New Year in 2023.

For the Pacific region the recovery is running at about 54% of total pre-pandemic bookings, with airline capacity remaining a significant issue continuing to drive big increases in fares.

"With just over 50% of airline capacity and seats to sell out of Australia versus 2019, there is a major supply and demand disalignment," she said, with current forecasts indicating capacity will reach 75% by the end of 2022.

El Kwang joins Venues Collection

RENOWNED business events expert El Kwang has been named as Chief Commercial Officer at Sydney-based The Venues Collection, kicking off his new role effective immediately.

Kwang has been based in Southeast Asia for a decade, with extensive experience and connections across the sector.

The Venues collection offers nine locations across NSW, with its flagship being Watersedge at Campbell's Store in The Rocks.



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Window Seat

ALTHOUGH Qatar will permit alcohol consumption at its upcoming 2022 FIFA World Cup, the country has warned soccer fans about sneaking it through customs themselves.

The head of Qatar's safety & security committee said there will be "specific measures" in place to take action against anyone attempting to smuggle liquor in their luggage.

Alcohol is strictly restricted in Qatar - drinking in public can lead to fines of up to QR3,000 (\$1,200) or a prison sentences of up to six months.

However, the supreme committee in charge of the World Cup has agreed to make beer available at stadiums and in fan zones through tournament sponsor Budweiser.

Free brekky a 'must'

FREE hotel breakfasts are high on the list of demands for international travellers holidaying in Australia, new research from Agoda has revealed.

Travellers from nine different markets were asked what they expected in terms of products and services offered by hotels, in comparison to expectations when staying at Agoda Homes style properties.

Over 70% of respondents said they expected a hotel to offer a complimentary brekky, followed by toiletries (69%), daily housekeeping (64%) and a concierge service (64%).

However, the mix of top three priorities varied greatly between countries, with South Korean travellers prioritising quality bedding, while toiletries were more important for Taiwanese guests.

Indonesian travellers were the only market to identify exercise facilities, such as swimming pools and gyms, as a top-three priority.

Japan DFAT update

SMARTTRAVELLER has confirmed that Japan's visa exemption scheme remains suspended, with international travellers only able to apply for a visa as part of a package tour booked through an authorised Japanese tour operator, including return flights, accommodation and a set itinerary.

However things may be set to ease further, according to operator InsideJapan, which cited a Japanese Government spokesperson who yesterday said entry rules would be further relaxed "in the not too distant future" and hopes of an official update in the next few weeks.

InsideJapan said it is already helping with visa arrangements for the "huge number of customers we have got booked in to travel in the coming weeks".

MEANWHILE, fully vaccinated travellers (with three or more doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccine) no longer need to do a pre-departure COVID-19 test to enter Japan.

UA threatens to leave JFK for good

UNITED Airlines has warned the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that it will permanently leave New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) by the end of Oct unless it is granted more permanent slots.

In a letter penned last week to employees, United Airlines CEO, Scott Kirby, said that the carrier has made "repeated requests" for additional permanent slots, as well as seeking commercial agreements to acquire slots from other airlines, to no avail.

"That would obviously be a tough and frustrating step to take and one that we have worked really hard to prevent," Kirby wrote.

The airline's JFK service currently consists of just two flights per day to each of Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Joyce under fire over pay

QANTAS CEO Alan Joyce took home just over \$2,140,000 for the 12 months to 30 Jun, a 21% increase on his cash base pay in 2021, with unions blasting the uplift which has come amid the widely reported issues affecting the airline's current performance.

However according to the Qantas Annual Report released late on Fri, Joyce took no short term or long term incentives, and his take-home pay was actually 77% lower than pre-pandemic levels of around \$9 million.

He was also granted 698,000 share rights under the airline's Reward and Retention program, contingent on the airline being profitable by Aug 2023.

Other top paid executives at the carrier included CEO Qantas Domestic and International Andrew David, whose base pay of \$996,000 was topped up to \$1.456 million including long term incentives; outgoing Jetstar Group CEO Gareth Evans, whose total package was worth \$1.583 million, and Chief Financial Officer Vanessa Hudson with a \$1.438 million payment.

Olivia Wirth, CEO of Qantas Loyalty, took home \$1.251 million including \$843,000 in cash pay and \$408,000 in incentives.

The annual report saw Chairman Richard Goyder thanking employees across the Qantas Group for their efforts during the challenging period of the pandemic and the restart.

"Before COVID-19 we safely flew more than 50 million passengers each year and had a well-earned global reputation for premium service; as we recover, we're all working hard to return to those heights," he said.

EK A380s to PER

EMIRATES is bringing forward the return of its Airbus A380 services to Perth by one month, with the superjumbo to resume daily flights to Dubai and offering over 500 seats each way effective from 01 Nov.

EK Divisional VP Australasia, Barry Brown, cited "consistently high demand for international travel out of Western Australia" for the accelerated deployment.



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Philippines gets on the buses



THE Philippine Department of Tourism (PDOT) has kicked off a four-week campaign to remind Sydneysiders that it is “more fun in the Philippines”.

The out-of-home creative will run across Sydney’s bus network, showcasing the Chocolate Hills of Bohol, with the campaign coming after PDOT recently selected The Lucid Agency to lead its local marketing and PR (**TD** 09 Sep).

Pictured: PDOT’s Officer-in-Charge, Eleanor Palima & Project Officer Karla Muller.

New Indian Pacific

JOURNEY Beyond has launched several new Off Train Experiences in conjunction with its iconic Sydney-Perth Indian Pacific transcontinental rail journey.

The additions include a visit to the historic Bells Milk Bar in Broken Hill and Adelaide’s Central Markets on westbound trips, while eastbound guests will enjoy an Adelaide Hills Scenic Drive and an enhanced Blue Mountains Discovery experience.



Canary Islands walk

SELF-GUIDED walk operator On Foot Holidays has launched a new hiking route in the Canary Islands.

The new walk on the remote Atlantic Island of La Gomera expands the On Foot portfolio to 25 hikes in 11 countries.

Packages include B&B accom along the route, transfers and breakfasts - onfootholidays.co.uk.

Sabre suing HA

SABRE is suing Hawaiian Airlines over its new distribution strategy which sees HA fares have an additional fee imposed for bookings via GDS platforms.

The tech firm claims the move is in breach of its contract with the carrier, and is also suing Hawaiian for withholding inter-island flights and fares from the GDS.

HA implemented the new policy on 31 Mar, with US travel agents only able to access inter-island fares via so-called “HA Connect Approved Partners”.

Star “not suitable”

STAR Entertainment Group’s shares were placed into a trading halt this morning, after News Corporation media suggested that the final report of the current NSW Government review into the company will conclude that Star is not fit to hold a casino licence.

The Australian cited the unreleased report from the probe being conducted by Adam Bell SC, which is likely to be publicly released tomorrow but which has been the subject of briefings to several NSW Government officials.

The inquiry, which heard claims that Star deliberately disguised about \$1 billion in illicit gaming transactions on Chinese debit cards, will require an overhaul of the Star’s board and reform of its compliance arrangements, the report claimed.

The company issued a statement saying it has “not received a copy of the report, is unaware of its contents, but understands the report will be released soon”.

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Suppliers out in force for TravelManagers

TRAVELMANAGERS enjoyed strong support from its preferred suppliers last Fri, with members of the group getting all the latest updates as they interacted with key partners in a trade show which formed part of the network's 2022 Conference in Sydney. The afternoon continued with an exclusive overview of the huge potential for the global cruise industry from Royal Caribbean International VP APAC Gavin Smith, before an inspirational conference wrap-up from Olympian Jana Pittman and then a disco-themed gala dinner.



TOP FJ producer Belinda Hackett took home two Fiji Airways tickets to San Francisco courtesy of FJ's John Nickel.



HUNDREDS of Personal Travel Managers and suppliers wrapping up the conference.

THE World's Leading Cruise Lines team were all smiles (and more) during the trade show.



ANDREA Morgan from Adventure World with Uniworld's Fran Gildon.



THE Stuba team showing off their colourful wares.



THE Entire Travel Group showcasing all its destinations to PTMs.



TOTAL Holiday Options, highlighting its huge range across India, the subcontinent and the Indian Ocean islands.



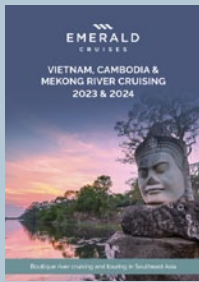
SCENIC Group's Rob Kalemba showcasing Emerald Cruises.



TAUCK'S Helen Eves and David Clark with some interested new PTM clients.

BROCHURES

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Emerald Cruises - Vietnam, Cambodia & Mekong
Next month Emerald Cruises will recommence operations on Southeast Asia's Mekong River and has launched its new 2023/24 program cruising aboard the 84-guest *Emerald Harmony*. Itineraries include the eight-day Majestic Mekong River Cruise between Ho Chi Minh City and Siem Reap, giving guests the opportunity to visit the Tam Nong Ramsar Bird Sanctuary in Tram Chim National Park, see the Chinese Congregational House in Kien An Cung, and enjoy local folk singing at the historical My An Hung Island.



Travel Associates - Luxury Cruise Guide
Travel Associates has put together a guide showcasing the best luxury cruises for 2023 and beyond, inspired by recommendations from its advisors. Featured lines include Cunard, Norwegian, Oceania, Ponant, Regent Seven Seas Cruises, Seabourn, Silversea, Viking, Azamara, Celebrity Cruises, Holland America Line, Princess, Scenic, Uniworld, Coral Expeditions, Hurtigruten, Virgin Voyages and Windstar - **CLICK HERE** to view.



Tiki Tours - Europe Small Group Tours 2023
Tiki Tours has emerged from hibernation mode and is looking to broaden its network of travel agent resellers across Australia. The ATAS-accredited AFTA and CATO member company has just released its 2023 program of immersive small group tours, featuring fully escorted luxury departures with average group sizes of 10-15 passengers. Available on a Land Only basis, clients travel in comfort with extended stays in historic hotels, villas, castles, palaces, monasteries and palaces - tikitours.com.au.



Ponant - Luxury Expeditions & Yacht-Style Voyages
Ponant has released this dedicated brochure covering Mar-Nov 2023 sailings, offering an "atlas of destinations and discovery" for the Australian and NZ markets. A total of 180 departures are showcased including new itineraries, 28 polar and 24 tropical luxury expeditions. The brochure is available to order in hard copy format and also viewable online, complete with QR codes to allow cruisers to immerse themselves in more online content - au.ponant.com.

SmartFlyer sees soaring sales



SMARTFLYER Australia is celebrating record sales and commissions for the month of Aug, spurred on by the surge in travel demand of high net worth clients and an increase in advisor numbers.

Part of the Goldman Group and a Virtuoso member, SmartFlyer is a collective of independent travel professionals from around the country, with headquarters in Sydney and Melbourne.

"The enthusiasm and passion of our Smarties results in increased sales and returns for their businesses," said Anthony Goldman, Joint Managing Director of Goldman Group.

"We concentrate on quality over quantity, which is evident in the positive feedback we get from our partners...the volume game is over," Goldman added.

Goldman Group's leisure-focused Travelcall businesses in

Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane are also experiencing record sales growth, the company noted

Pictured at ILTM Asia-Pacific in Singapore last week: Brent Wallace, Smartflyer Director; Vicky King, Journey Our World; Ariana Wong, independent affiliate; Stuart Reay, Smartflyer Director; Carolyn Evans, Luxury Travel Advisor; and Katrina Lesnie, Katrina Lesnie Travel.

Interislander return

INTERISLANDER'S Kaiarahi returned to the water over the weekend to undergo sea trials, after being out of action since the end of Aug 2021 following a major gearbox failure.

The 550-passenger vessel has been berthed in Waitohi Picton while undergoing repair works, and will operate as a freight-only service following sea trials and other tests before welcoming passengers back on board.

Radisson to Phuket

RADISSON Resort & Suites Phuket is now open, marking Radisson Hotel Group's fifth property in Thailand and a step closer to its goal of adding 100 hotels in the country by 2025.

Set on the island's west coast, the upscale hotel features 179 one- to three-bedroom suites, a lagoon pool, six restaurants and bars, spa, fitness centre, and a kids club.

Delta daily to CPT

DELTA Air Lines is set to expand its South Africa network with a new seasonal "triangular" route from Atlanta-Johannesburg-Cape Town-Atlanta starting 02 Dec.

The four-times weekly service, operated by Airbus A350-900, will provide both Cape Town and Johannesburg with daily connections to the US.

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- Maintain and develop a thorough knowledge of all Helloworld Group products
- Maintain CRM/Sales Tracker and accurately report on activity weekly
- Analyse and interpret sales data and use this analysis to inform sales growth activity
- Represent Helloworld Group at functions, events, expos, famils and conferences

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- 5+ years of diverse industry experience
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Helloworld Travel is a diverse business with a range of divisions across the company which are constantly evolving and growing, meaning that we can offer our employees career opportunities, professional growth and development.

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