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CI resumes BNE/AKL

CHINA Airlines has announced the resumption of its Brisbane - Auckland route from the start of next month, which will be serviced by its fleet of A350-900s.

From Oct to Dec 2022, the carrier has confirmed it will operate three flights a week on Tue, Fri and Sun; and from Jan to Mar 2023, the schedule will increase to five flights per week, on Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat and Sun.

Economy, Premium Economy, and Business class are available.

NCL walk challenge

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is calling for final registrations for its third annual Walk for Wellness challenge, with 30 Sep the last day that sign-ups will be open.

Hundreds of travel industry members have already registered to track their steps towards a combined goal of 140,000km.

CLICK HERE to register for the challenge, which kicks off 01 Oct.

Padman leaving Helloworld

HELLOWORLD Travel Group General Manager of Air Tickets, Independent and Corporate Networks is stepping down after 15 years with the company.

The respected longstanding senior executive started with HLO's predecessor Travelscene American Express as GM in 2006, and became Helloworld Head of Corporate, Associate and Affiliate Networks in 2013.

Padman told *Travel Daily* this morning he had resigned earlier in the year but had remained working on several projects, and will now finish up tomorrow.

He will take a break, including some time out to travel with family and friends, but Padman told *TD* he intends to remain in the industry and will be seeking an opportunity where he can continue to add value.

His departure from HLO means Padman is also leaving after a decade as Director of the

Australian Federation of Travel Agents, with Helloworld Travel to nominate a new candidate for the Board seat in due course.

AFTA Chairman Tom Manwaring hailed Padman's contribution, saying "David played a key role in championing the inherent value and increasing importance of travel professionals in the eyes of so many stakeholders".

Padman said he was incredibly proud to have been involved with AFTA, and particularly the Federation's pandemic role of raising industry issues with all levels of government, industry and consumers.

Tully to head Jetstar

QANTAS Chief Customer Officer Stephanie Tully was today named as the new CEO of Jetstar (*TD* breaking news), replacing the outgoing Gareth Evans.

More details on [page 3](#).

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features six pages of news, including a photo page from **Atout France**, plus a **TopDeck** cover page.

The real TopDeck

TOPDECK is highlighting its group itineraries for young travellers aged 18 to 39, with a focus on meaningful travel in places like Europe, New Zealand, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and the Americas - see the **front page** to find out more information.

Erkec lands ops role

ASKIN Erkec has been appointed Head of Operations for the Flight Centre-owned Travel Associates Australia.

He was previously the General Manager at Corporate Traveller for Victoria & Tasmania, and brings with him more than 20 years of sales and relationship experience in the travel industry.

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Hong Kong back online

HONG Kong is the latest destination to formally drop the bulk of its quarantine restrictions, announcing over the weekend that from today, travellers will no longer need to isolate in a designated hotel.

In making the declaration, the Chinese city-state's Chief Executive, John Lee, also confirmed that travellers won't need to do a PCR test within 48 hours before boarding a plane, with a RAT test conducted within 24 hours before a flight now sufficing protocols.

"While we can control the trend of the epidemic, we must allow the maximum room to allow connectivity with the world, so that we can have economic momentum and to reduce inconvenience to arriving travellers," Lee said.

While clearly a step in the right direction for the Aussie travel sector, the only rub will be a three-day period of self-monitoring after entry, during which period visitors will be prohibited from entering venues such as restaurants and bars.

Hong Kong-based carrier Cathay Pacific welcomed the announcement, stating the latest changes would help boost travel sentiment to the Asian island, and instigate the airline to launch more than 200 flights in Oct, to both regional and long-haul destinations.

Part of CX's scaling up will also see it resume daily flights to Tokyo (Haneda) from 01 Nov and four-times-weekly flights to Sapporo from 01 Dec, as well as frequencies increases to Tokyo (Narita) to 43 pairs and Osaka to 50 pairs in Oct.

"While we will continue to add back more flights as quickly as is feasible, it will take time to rebuild our capacity gradually," a spokesperson for the carrier said.

BA back to Tokyo

BRITISH Airways has confirmed it will resume daily Dreamliner flights between Tokyo and London from 13 Nov, following last week's exciting news of Japan deciding to relax its border restrictions (*TD* 23 Sep).



AAT Kings recently held its Kings lunch in Sydney, which kicked off with a presentation by CEO Ben Hall, who revealed statistics from the group's recent consumer survey which showed three in five people wish to travel more than they did prior to COVID.

Interestingly, 48% wanted to travel domestically and explore their own backyards, with those aged 55+ mainly focused on travelling within Australia and exploring domestic tourism.

Sustainability was also a strong focus of the event, with AAT Kings hoping to well and truly be operating electrical vehicles by 2050, and highlighting the sustainability driven experiences throughout its itineraries.

Some of these experiences include visits to 100% Indigenous-owned and run businesses in the Northern Territory, allowing

travellers to learn about bush medicine, food and way of life in local communities.

AAT Kings noted that it is seeing the most growth within the Inspiring Journeys brand, which focuses on small boutique style touring and creating bespoke culturally rich itineraries.

Tourism Australia also spoke at the event, saying it expects the soon-to-launch global Australian campaign will drive international travel but also give Australian travellers confidence to explore destinations such as The Great Barrier Reef and Northern Territory, which was on the top hot spots for Aussie travellers.

Pictured: Nikki Angell, Marketing Manager; Ben Hall, CEO; Bridie Commerford, Chief Marketing & Digital Officer; Dianne Morgan, Head of Customer.

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Cruise Month blitz!

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia MD Joel Katz said this year's Cruise Month has been met with "a huge wave of support", with Aussie agents blitzing social media with thousands of posts. "Cruise Month has a heavy focus on social media and we've seen some fantastic pick-up among agents who have amplified the initiative through... digital campaigns," Katz said.

GJNZ fares to Jun

GREAT Journeys New Zealand (GJNZ) has revealed the fare prices for its three scenic trains through until Jun 2024, including a simplified pricing model with fares now split into 'peak' (Oct-Apr) and 'off-peak' (May-Sep). GJNZ also extended its flexible booking policy so that bookings can still be amended free-of-charge up until 24hrs prior to departure - [CLICK HERE](#) for info.

Tully to head up Jetstar

QANTAS Group has announced the appointment of Stephanie Tully as the new CEO of Jetstar ([TD breaking news](#)), replacing Gareth Evans who will exit the position at the end of the year. Tully was formerly the Group Chief Customer Officer at Qantas, with her promotion also seeing Markus Svensson move into the Chief Customer Officer role and become a member of the Group Executive Committee, reporting to the Group CEO.

Tully joined Qantas in 2004 and has worked across a variety of key departments for the airline, including operations, commercial, marketing and customer loyalty. "Stephanie is an outstanding leader and she'll be leading a very experienced senior team at Jetstar to keep building on the strengths of that business," CEO Alan Joyce said.

"Managing this kind of executive renewal internally means we

keep our momentum and can leverage a huge amount of corporate knowledge, including through the transition."

Svensson was previously the Executive Manager of Network, Revenue Management and Alliances, where he managed relationships with alliance partners around the world.

Roles will formally start in Nov.

Boeing settles Max

BOEING has been ordered to pay US\$200m to settle charges that it misled investors regarding its 737 Max jets, which were involved in two fatal crashes.

According to the Securities and Exchange Commission, Boeing "knew that the Manoeuvring Characteristics Augmentation System posed an ongoing safety issue, but nevertheless assured the public that the 737 Max planes were safe".

Elephant education

TRAVEL agents are being offered a free course to better understand the need for responsible elephant tourism.

The online study session is being run by Asian Captive Elephant Standards (ACES), and is aiming to make the local travel trade more informed about choices around elephant tourism experiences in southeast Asia.

"Elephant-based tourism remains one of southeast Asia's most popular experiences but with its many sensitivities, it can be a challenging activity for tour operators and travel trade professionals to confidently support and promote to their customers," ACES said.

The hour-long course will cover community development, species conservation, animal cruelty and responsible tourism marketing in the rapidly-growing Elephant-based tourism sector.

Register to complete the free online course [HERE](#).

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Travel Daily



Window Seat

MORE toilets need to be constructed in strategic locations across backcountry snow areas to avoid a buildup of human excrement, a new report from Southern Cross University and the University of Wollongong suggests.

The call follows new research that indicated very few visitors to Kosciuszko National Park are carrying out their waste from overnight trips, instead leaving their droppings behind and creating an environmental issue for the area.

Further recommendations to reduce the smelly scourge is making the location of toilets better known to travellers, and giving out poo transport bags at entry points and gear shops.

Unlike the stools of native animals, human faeces deposited in winter won't decompose until spring.

Thredbo on its bike

THREDBO Resort is partnering with AusCycling to host the 2023 National MTB Championships at its Mountain Bike Park for the first time in 20 years, alongside the 2023 Cannonball MTB Festival presented by Boost Mobile.

The two prestigious events will be combined into 10 consecutive days of mountain bike racing, from 09-18 Feb.

Solomon celebrates 60 years



SOLOMON Airlines is gearing up for a raft of festivities ahead of the airline's 60th year next month, as well as the introduction of a brand new anniversary logo.

An Aviation Week Fair will be hosted at the airline's head office on 26-27 Oct to mark the occasion, along with the 'Solomon Airlines 60th Anniversary Peace Marathon' on 29 Oct.

The airline will also host a cocktail event that same evening for VIP government and commercial representatives, corporate sponsors and aviation and tourism partners, to honour the airline's legacy.

"As we celebrate 60 years of resilience, we also turn a page," CEO of Solomon Airlines Gus Kraus reflected, highlighting the difficult past two years of the pandemic made the milestone particularly significant.

CEO Gus Kraus pictured with long-serving Solomon Airlines staff: Florence Padabela, Timothy Neuwa, John Berry Anga, CEO Gus Kraus, Clement Ramoa, and Margaret Vatia.

Giving Grants open

APPLICATIONS for charities to put themselves forward for Flight Centre's Giving Grants program are now open, with \$15,000 worth of financial grants to be donated to five charities as voted by its Australian employees.

The theme this year is funding pathways to employment for vulnerable or disadvantaged community groups who may be experiencing barriers to mainstream employment.

Stay NSW reminder

HOUSEHOLDS are being reminded to use any outstanding Stay NSW vouchers by 09 Oct, with state residents aged 18 and older able to apply for one \$50 voucher to use towards the cost of accommodation bookings - for more details [CLICK HERE](#).

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A night in Provence Cote d'Azur!

ATOUT FRANCE once again showed its expertise in the art of entertaining earlier this month, with industry partners hosted for some fabulous gastronomy and French bonhomie in an exclusive event at Melbourne's Sofitel on Collins Hotel.

The gathering featured a strong delegation from Provence Côte d'Azur, France's second most visited region by Aussie travellers, commemorating next year's Rugby World Cup France 2023, now just 12 months away.

Provence Côte d'Azur's two iconic stadiums in Marseille and Nice will host 10 matches during the highly anticipated tournament, with the 150 guests at the dinner treated to succulent creations courtesy of chefs Dominique Frérard and David Faure, who cooked up a perfect culinary storm - more on [France.fr](https://france.fr).



ABOVE: Some of the Provence Côte d'Azur delegation: Marlène Mangani, Valérie Vuillerme, Catherine Anouilh, Cyrille Saboya, Loïc Chovelon and Florent Tesdesco.



ANNABELLE Brown from Ponant with Uniworld Boutique River Cruises MD Alice Ager.



THE French tourism industry is set to have a (rugby) ball in 2023.



CATHERINE Anouilh from Nice Côte d'Azur Tourism with Gabriel Gaté, TV presenter.



FRANCOIS Delahaye from Dorchester Collection with Scenic's Anthony Laver.



SOME of the delectable Provençal cuisine on offer during the Sofitel on Collins event.

SEND your clients to Provence for Rugby World Cup 2023 - you know it makes scents!





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.



Grand Pacific Tours - New Zealand Coach Holidays
Grand Pacific Tours has launched a new brochure showcasing 30 New Zealand itineraries for 2022/23, ranging from nine to 19 days with over 250 departure dates. The brochure also details the different touring style options, including small group, mid-size, classic and special interest group touring. The 19-day Ultimate Rail, Cruise and Coach is one of the itineraries on offer, which kicks off in Auckland and finishes at Christchurch. Guests are taken on four scenic rail journeys, including a 15km ride with Glenbrook Vintage Railway through picturesque countryside aboard a restored vintage train. Other highlights include a luxury catamaran cruise in the Bay of Islands and a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua.



Globus - 2022/23 Ultimate Touring Guide
With a focus on balancing popular must-see sights with off-the-beaten tracks and hidden gems, Globus has released its latest brochure showcasing its 2022/23 offerings. The 10-day Northern Italy's Highlights and Cinque Terre allows guests to explore cliffside fishing villages, taste fresh seafood along the coast, dine on authentic risotto at a Vercelli rice factory, sip wine in Gabiano, and visit the Ferrari Museum in Maranello. Also highlighted in the brochure is the 11-day Idyllic Aegean tour, which includes a seven-night cruise to the Greek Isles and Turkey, an exploration of the ancient ruins and resorts of the Aegean, a visits to the volcanic island of Milos and the Old Town of Rhodes.

Collette unveils fresh outlook



AT A recent breakfast in Sydney hosted by Collette's Executive VP of Global Business, Christian Leibl-Cote, the company revealed a brand refresh to mark its 105th year of touring.

"It's a new time for travel and it's the next part of Collette's prestigious history as we fully launch our 105th year...Collette has always been a window on the world for our travellers, and our slight change in look simply reinforces that," Leibl-Cote said.

New head of Sales, David Farrar, also used the forum to launch Collette's 'Season 105 Worldwide Sale' on 2023 tours, offering 15% off all tours in Jul & Aug, and 10% discounts for the rest of 2023

(excl Antarctica).

"We make it easy for agents with Collette's cancel for any reason policy and great call centre expertise together with low wait times," Farrar said.

"We are continuing to build an exceptional sales team to provide even better support for groups and retail business."

The sale is also being supported by the launch of a new brochure, showcasing some of its most popular classic and small group tours, as well as 160 tours available worldwide.

Pictured: David Farrar and Christian Leibl-Cote with Head of marketing and business development James Hewlett.

Join us for an evening to learn about the Northern Territory, enjoy great food and wine, and win fantastic prizes!

Melbourne 11 October, Luminare

Brisbane 12 October, The Calile Hotel

Sydney 13 October, MCA

Register now



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