

# Outback Spirit

SAVE UP TO  
**\$2,995\***  
PER PERSON

# The time is now.

## Arnhem Land Dreaming

Outback Spirit is one of the only tour companies with permission to travel right through the heart of Arnhem Land, a sacred and mystical region of Australia's Northern Territory that few have ever seen.

Inhabited by Aboriginal people for over 60,000 years, Arnhem Land boasts the oldest surviving culture in the world and offers visitors the chance to immerse themselves in unspoilt natural beauty.

Book by 30 June and save up to \$2,995pp\* on 2025 tours

JOURNEY BEYOND

Guaranteed Departures



All-inclusive



4WD Mercedes Benz Coach



Exclusive Camps & Lodges



To learn more, visit [outbackspirittours.com.au](https://outbackspirittours.com.au), or log into our Agent Experience Hub, [agents.journeybeyond.com/login](https://agents.journeybeyond.com/login)

\*T&Cs apply.



## Adjustable itineraries

Select hotel categories, excursions, flights, and more

Discover more!

exoticca

## Top FC performers

APT Travel Group is continuing to celebrate its top performing agents, this week highlighting its best sellers from Flight Centre Group stores around Australia.

The tour operator recently hosted an elegant soiree to convey its gratitude - see **page nine**.

## NZ on top, US halves

**NEW** Zealand has maintained its place in top spot as the most visited destination for Australian travellers, new ABS figures show.

In Feb, 111,310 trips were made by Aussies across the Tasman, a drop from the 210,380 recorded the previous month but still enough to edge out Indonesia.

The ongoing love affair with Bali was enough to keep Indonesia over the 100,000 mark in second place with 106,880 trips, and the gap between first and second narrowed by roughly 25,000.

A resurgent Japan was the third most frequented destination with 97,290, followed by India (83,860), China (70,590), and Thailand (46,100).

While most markets showed decreases from Jan to Feb, the drop off in outbound visits by Australians to the United States was most noticeable, more than halving from Jan to Feb.

Even accounting for the stronger holiday traffic period, the 40,690 trips made were a far cry from the 85,010 United States visits recorded in Jan.

The Feb number was also well off the pace of pre-pandemic volumes, with Feb 2019 notching up 57,470 arrivals.



A total of 923,360 short-term trips were taken by Australians in Feb, an increase of 19% when compared with the corresponding month in 2024.

The number of trips taken were also 23.8% higher than the pre-COVID level in Feb 2019. **AB**

## Big airline discounts

**VIRGIN** Australia has discounted a range of economy lite tickets to short-haul international destinations such as Bali, Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu and Queenstown in New Zealand.

Fares lead in at \$449 return and are on offer to book until 16 Apr on select flights taking off between 30 Apr & 12 Mar 2026.

**MEANWHILE**, Qantas has launched a 72-hour sale covering 15 Queensland destinations.

Economy fares start from \$99 one way from Sydney to Gold Coast and Brisbane to Prosperine, with discounted flights to the Sunshine State also on offer from Melbourne, Adelaide, Alice Springs, and more.

## Get your spirit on

**THE** time is now to book a trip to Arnhem Land with Journey Beyond's Outback Spirit brand.

Highlights of the all-inclusive journeys include exclusive camps and guaranteed departures.

Save up to \$2,995pp - see the **front cover** for further details.

**Wendy Wu Tours**

**2026 & 2027**

**CHERRY BLOSSOM**

**EARLY BIRD SALE**  
SAVE \$1,000<sup>PP</sup>

**AUSTRALIA'S #1 JAPAN TOUR OPERATOR**

**Daily Japan departures** **Fully-inclusive tours**

**Tours for everyone** **Travel with the experts**

**Dedicated solo departures**

## Today's issue of TD

**Travel Daily** today features a cover wrap from **Journey Beyond**, eight pages of the latest news, plus a full page from **APT Travel**.

**INSPIRING VACATIONS**

**TAKE OFF SALE**

**UP TO 20% OFF**

**TOUR & FLIGHT PACKAGES**

**LIMITED TIME ONLY**

**+ AGENTS BOOK IN APRIL TO WIN A VIETNAM FAMIL**

**FIND OUT MORE**

\*T&Cs apply.

## Enhanced servicing support for Qantas NDC



Access new support pages, or chat to our QAC consultants via Live Assist to help streamline your Qantas NDC servicing experience and manage your customer bookings with ease.

Start exploring these new tools today





## TM surpasses \$500m

**THE** financial performance of TravelManagers continues to improve year-on-year, with the agency network surpassing half a billion dollars in turnover for the financial year ending 31 Mar.

According to Chief Operating Officer Grant Campbell (**pictured**), TravelManagers' annual revenue has improved by close to 20% every year since 2008, at which time it recorded just over \$26 million.

Campbell also pointed out that strong retention throughout the business was a major factor behind its recent success, with more than 30% of advisors and office staff being retained for more than 10 years.

"Reaching \$500 million in annual turnover is cause for celebration, not just as a financial milestone, but as an indication of the calibre of our network of [agents] and the resilience of our business model," Campbell said.



"We are committed to delivering the training, tools and technological advancements for our PTMs to thrive in the industry they love, ensuring that we have many more reasons to celebrate in the years ahead," he added.

The latest financial update follows a strong focus on cruise bookings from TravelManagers, which after a significant increase in interest from clients, launched a customer-facing platform (**TD** 28 Mar) designed to complement its cruise wholesaler Fastbook, launched in Sept 2024. **AB**

## ASIC backs off Bonza

**THE** Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) will not prosecute any of the Australian and American directors who helmed Bonza when the challenger carrier collapsed.

"ASIC...confirms it does not intend to proceed to enforcement action at this stage," the financial services regulator said.

While the update is good news for the former directors - which included previous Bonza CEO Tim Jordan - ASIC has left the door open to recommence proceedings if any new evidence were to come to light.

The latest development follows a report from administrators Hall Chadwick last year that criticised the airline's directors for not acting on its troubled financial situation earlier (**TD** 28 Jun 2024).

The report at the time also stated Bonza was likely to have been insolvent for at least two months prior to appointing Hall Chadwick on 30 Apr 2024.

## New GM shoots high

**GREECE** and Mediterranean Travel Centre & Luxury Greece Collection has appointed Amanda Highfield (**pictured**) as its GM.

Highfield brings 25 years of industry experience to the position, including stints at Wendy Wu Tours Australia, Bill Peach Journeys, and most recently, Inside Travel Group.

"She brings extensive knowledge, strong leadership, and experience with the luxury market that will be crucial in maintaining our continued growth while upholding the high standards of service the company is renowned for," the company's MD Halina Kubica said.



 **AGENT INCENTIVE**

 Wendy Wu Tours

# SELL JAPAN TO SEE JAPAN

WIN a trip to Japan during the  
2026 Cherry Blossom Season

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Every agent who  
books goes in the  
draw to **win 1  
of 5 \$200 gift  
vouchers!**



## Hoffmann corp move

**PHIL** Hoffmann has promoted Kirstie Boulton to the position of Corporate Operations Manager as the agency continues to ramp up growth opportunities in the corporate travel sector.

The South Australian headquartered agency said Boulton will be charged with driving corporate bookings through a combination of customer service and technology initiatives for its partners.

"I am thrilled to lead [Phil Hoffmann's] corporate team into a new era of growth and innovation, and I look forward to the unlimited opportunities ahead," Boulton enthused.

The promotion arrives at a boom period in corporate travel growth, MD and CEO Peter Williams said, adding there has never been better to invest in the future of the segment.

Boulton was previously Business Travel Tech Coordinator for almost nine years.

## Hello there, Nasmith

**HELLOWORLD** Travel has appointed Juliana Nasmith to be its new Head of Growth - Cruise, signalling the company's intention to invest more resources in driving expansion in the sector.

Nasmith (**pictured**) commences the position today, and was most recently the Head of Cruise at Luxury Escapes, with her resume also boasting a range of sales and marketing roles with Travel the World Group.

"The experience that Juliana brings will be instrumental in ensuring that our cruise brands continue to deliver exceptional cruise experiences to our agents, while also expanding our market presence and increasing our cruise offerings," Helloworld Travel COO and Executive Director Cinzia Burnes said.

"We remain focused on meeting and exceeding the cruise needs of agents, and this role will be pivotal in ensuring that we



continue to be at the forefront of delivering unforgettable cruise experiences," she added.

The company's Group General Manager for Cruise Steve Brady added that Nasmith will help open up a range of "opportunities and innovations" for Helloworld's travel advisors moving forward.

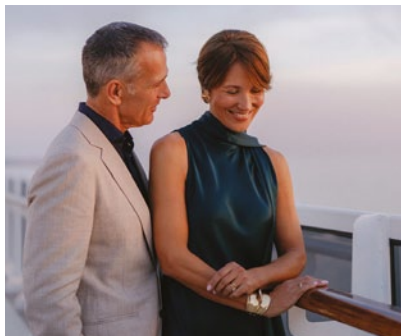
"We are confident that Juliana's leadership will help us strengthen our commitment to the cruise sector and drive our growth initiatives forward," Brady said. **AB**

## Vale Georgina Finn

**THE** travel industry is this week mourning the passing of much-loved Sydney travel agent and Travellers Choice member Georgina Finn (**pictured**).

A spokesperson for Travellers Choice said the Celtic Travel Services owner was widely respected for her dedication, deep knowledge, and unwavering support of both her clients and peers, adding she was also a proud and active member of the Irish community in Australia.

A funeral service will be held this Wed at St Patrick's Church in the Rocks at 1.30pm, and then at Morrison's at 2.30pm for a wake.



**THE REGENT & ROCKY MOUNTAINEER EXPERIENCE**

including  
6-NIGHT PRE-CRUISE  
LAND PROGRAMME

For full Terms & Conditions visit [RSCC.com/ROCKY-MOUNTAINEER](https://www.regent.com/ROCKY-MOUNTAINEER)

DISCOVER THE CAPTIVATING SCENERY OF CANADA AND ALASKA *with* AN EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY ACROSS RAIL & SEA

DOWNLOAD TOOLKIT

RESERVATIONS OPEN FOR 2026

UNRIVALLED *at sea*



## Brissy to push cruise

**FROM** next week, Brisbane Economic Development Agency's (BEDA) inaugural 'Cruise Tourism Trade Ready Program' will help businesses in the tourism, retail, and hospitality sectors take fuller advantage of the state's \$1.5 billion cruise industry.

The eight-week education initiative will provide operators with the knowledge and industry networks to further develop and market experiences to cruise passengers arriving in the Qld capital, a push that ultimately aims to increase the number and diversity of shore excursions and pre- and post-cruise stay options.

"Brisbane has so much to see and do, and there's a huge opportunity to create more pathways to connect cruise passengers with those experiences," Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said.

"The cruise-ready program will teach local businesses critical



skills to promote our incredible lifestyle to the cruising world, while driving economic growth."

The program will accelerate the economic benefits of an already-booming city for cruise visitation, with Brisbane becoming the country's second-largest cruise port in the 2023/24 season, according to the latest economic impact assessment of cruise tourism jointly by groups such as CLIA and the ACA.

During that season, Brisbane saw 196 ships arrive, bringing in roughly 980,000 passengers.

"Brisbane has become a key turnaround port...enhancing opportunities for global visitors to arrive in Australia by sea," ACA CEO Jill Abel said. *AB*



LEARN MORE ABOUT  
TOKYO WITH TRAVEL  
DAILY TRAINING  
ACADEMY

[Click here to discover](#)

Travel Daily

## Ideas on the road

**CONTIKI** is inviting agents to test their creativity by submitting ideas for the return of its 'Name A Coach' competition in 2025.

Whether it is a hilarious travel story, a heartwarming tale from the road, or an only-on-Contiki shared moment - or maybe Coachy McCoachFace - the tour operator is looking for 20 of the best to be shortened to a single name and sprayed on a bus for the European summer.

Entries will be shared on a public leaderboard for others to vote and mark their favourites, however the final selection will be chosen by Contiki's judges.

**CLICK HERE** to submit an entry.



## Sydney stays cool

**DESTINATION** NSW is about to launch a new campaign pushing Sydney as the ideal place to visit during the colder winter months.

In line with the global trend of 'coolcations' - visiting a city outside the peak summer period - the new 'Feel the Sydney side of winter' promotion will showcase the ideal cool-weather attractions available in the NSW capital.

NSW Premier Chris Minns has recently taken steps to unlock Sydney for holiday and recreation by relaxing restrictions on trade and outdoor dining, lifting concert caps and investing in attractions to boost the state's economy.

"Whether it is heading to your favourite cosy restaurant, or soaking up the winter sun on a coastal walk, Sydney shines all year-round as Australia's only truly global city," Minns said.

The campaign will run in Vic, Qld, ACT and regional NSW across digital media, radio, and through content partnerships.



## You're Invited to an Evening with AmaWaterways

Join us for our trade only event and hear the latest updates from Regional Sales Manager Christine Oliver and special guest appearance by Co-owner, Gary Murphy.

Connect with fellow travel advisors, and go in the draw to win exclusive prizes.

Choose your location and RSVP today:

**TUESDAY, 13 MAY 2025**  
6:00pm - 8:00pm  
(registration from 5:30pm)

The Star Casino  
Level 6 - Events Centre  
33 William St, Brisbane

**WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY 2025**  
6:00pm - 8:00pm  
(registration from 5:30pm)

HOTA - Home of the Arts Gold Coast  
135 Bundall Rd, Surfers Paradise



RSVP FOR YOUR  
PREFERRED LOCATION





## Discover our River Cruise Special Report

[Click here](#)

### Crawford leads Baillie

**AUSTRALIAN** boutique ultra-luxury hotel platform Baillie Lodges has named Michael Crawford as its new Chief Executive, effective 19 May.

The recruitment will see Executive Chairman Michael Moret-Lalli step down from the role to focus on business development as Head of Global M&A and Development.

Crawford joins the business from Hall of Fame Resort & Entertainment Company, where he has served as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer since 2018.

Baillie Lodges has grown rapidly since an investment from KSL Capital Partners in 2019, with the company using the capital to grow from four lodges in Australia to nine across four countries.

### Aqua's time in the sun



**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) has officially christened *Norwegian Aqua* in Miami, with more than 2,000 guests witnessing the ceremony.

**Travel Daily** was in attendance at the milestone event, which included a special appearance from American actor Eric Stonestreet, the ship's godfather.

The christening ceremony took place at Norwegian's terminal at PortMiami, ahead of a three-night shakedown to the Bahamas, and saw a preview of the cruise line's newest in-house production, *Revelation: A Celebration of Prince*.

Stonestreet and *Aqua* Captain Robert Lundberg gave remarks, while pastor Pete Pera made an official blessing of the ship, wishing safe travels for all who sail aboard.

The christening concluded with the ceremonial bottle break across *Aqua's* hull, which was initiated by Stonestreet, and signifies good fortune and safe travels for all who sail on board.

"It is a very special time for all of us at NCL - we are welcoming a new incredible ship into our fleet with the christening of the stunning and action-packed, *Norwegian Aqua*, and we are doing so alongside her godfather, Eric Stonestreet, who perfectly embodies the authenticity of what it means for our guests to 'Experience More at Sea,'" President David Herrera said.

The Norwegian head also revealed plans for the expansion of Great Stirrup Cay, the cruise line's private island destination, which *Aqua* will visit on Wed - read more in today's **CW**. **MS**

### Paul's shiny new look

**FRENCH** Polynesian line Paul Gauguin Cruises has completed a multi-million refurbishment of its sole ship, *MS Paul Gauguin*.

Flagged for renovation last year (**TD** 11 Dec 2024), guests can now enjoy new and transformed spaces on board, as well as enhanced amenities and sustainable upgrades, including a new seawater treatment system.

The refurbished *MS Paul Gauguin* now features eight new connecting staterooms catering to the growing multi-generational travel trend; a redesign of the indoor/outdoor restaurant, Le Grill; and an enhanced pool deck with a new canopy providing shade for cabana-like seating.

The ship also received updated livery to align it with the overall Ponant Explorations Group fleet.



### Viking Vor sails back

**VIKING** Vor Nights are about to return, offering attendees thousands of dollars in prizes.

To be hosted across five capital cities from 20 May, the trade events pledge to bring experienced advisors a deeper look at the luxury cruise brand, as well as cater for agents who are new to the world of Viking.

A three-course meal and beverages will also be included.

The venues and dates are as follows: Sydney on 20 May at Doltone House Hyde Park; Brisbane on 21 May at Emporium Hotel South Bank; Melbourne on 28 May at Arts Centre Melbourne; Perth on 03 Jun at Crown Perth; and Adelaide on 04 Jun at The Playford Hotel Adelaide - reserve a ticket by **CLICKING HERE**.



**Disneyland 70**  
RESORT CALIFORNIA

**AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND  
RESIDENT  
TICKET OFFER**  
On sale now through  
your preferred  
wholesaler!

Valid on all 3-, 4-, and 5-Day  
Theme Park Tickets.  
For travel between 16 May 2025  
and 9 October 2026.

Theme Park Reservations are required and  
are subject to availability. ©2025 Disney

## SELL YOUR WAY TO THE USA

Flying with  
American Airlines & Qantas



**LEARN MORE!**





## Window Seat

**TRAVELLERS** who take advantage of Booking.com's newest offering will be seeing stars - literally.

The 'Cosmic Cabin' is an out-of-this-world experience set in Tasmania's Port Arthur during the annual Eta Aquariids meteor shower.

From 05-07 May, two lucky guests will enjoy a personalised star-gazing journey guided by former *The Bachelor* star and scientist Dr Matt Agnew, gazing through a telescope at McHenry Distillery's private observatory.

The package also includes flights, car rental, and two nights' accommodation; premium food and wine; photographs captured by a dark sky photographer to celebrate the celestial event; and a day trip to the Port Arthur Historic Site and the Tasmanian Devil Unzoo.

The dazzling experience will open on 17 Apr at 12pm AEST on a first-come, first-served basis to Booking.com Genius members for just \$18.78.



## Sun shines on Cruiseabout



**CRUISEABOUT** has expanded its reach in Queensland after opening its third store in the sunshine state.

The cruise specialist retailer recently unveiled a new shopfront in Westfield North Lakes, with Queensland now accounting for half of the brand's bricks-and-mortar presence.

"Queensland has been a strong market for the brand since day one, amplified by the launch of our Carindale and Mermaid Waters stores," Cruiseabout GM Brad Kennedy explained, adding the two stores are "consistently high performers in the business".

Cruiseabout's Carindale store opened in Dec and broke company records within the first two months of trading.

"The Westfield centre is a go-to hub for residents in the Moreton Bay Region, so equally we see

our new store in North Lakes being a key growth driver for the business," Kennedy added.

The Cruiseabout North Lakes team, which boasts a combined 50 years of experience, is headed up by Kate Moulton, who led Flight Centre North Lakes for more than a decade.

"North Lakes is an amazing community, and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to combine my passion for cruising and love for the area by leading this brand-new business," Moulton said.

"Cruising is my favourite way to travel and I'm so excited to match my customers with the cruise holiday of their dreams, whether it be on the Douro River, down to Antarctica or, my favourite, up to Alaska."

Queensland now accounts for one third of Cruiseabout's customer base. *JM*

## Travel Daily ON LOCATION



### MIAMI

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of Norwegian Cruise Line, which is this week hosting us aboard *Norwegian Aqua's* christening voyage.

*TRAVEL Daily* is in Miami for the christening ceremony for Norwegian Cruise Line's all-new *Norwegian Aqua*.

The cruise line's new flagship is preparing to embark on her first voyage from her home port of Miami, with *TD* one of the lucky few to be invited.

*Aqua's* godfather, *Modern Family* star Eric Stonestreet, participated in the ceremonial bottle break to christen the ship - a maritime tradition wishing good luck and safe travels for all who sail aboard the vessel.


The ship will then embark on a three-night sailing to Norwegian's private island, Great Stirrup Cay - read more in today's issue of *Cruise Weekly*.

## Explore sale still on

**EXPLORE** Worldwide has extended its 'Great Europe Sale' until tomorrow.

Travellers can enjoy a 20% discount across hundreds of the brand's small group tours throughout Europe, Türkiye and Georgia, for travel between 01 Jun and 30 Nov 2025.


**CLICK HERE** for more details.




**CHINA AIRLINES**

**EXPERIENCE PREMIUM COMFORT ABOVE THE CLOUDS**

— Fly to London —

 **2 Checked Bags**





# Room-Res brings the party vibes

**AFTER** a six-week campaign, Room-Res Island: The Luxury Edition came to an end recently, culminating in festivities at The Room Residence, Room-Res' exclusive space for travel advisors at The Rocks in Sydney.

During the event, the final agent to win the last spot on Room-Res Island in Phuket in Aug was announced: Jen Ferry from Dreamweaver Travel, who triumphed over 39 other advisors in a fierce rock, paper, scissors tournament.

Ferry will join eight other lucky agents on the adventure, who have won all-expenses paid trips to Phuket, including return flights, luxury villa accommodation, curated Thai experiences, and the chance to win a \$1,000 prize in the inaugural Room-Res Island Games.

Room-Res Island: The Luxury Edition offered agents plenty of other incentives, including: 50% bonus Room-Res Rewards on every paid booking; \$50 milestone bonuses for 25 bookings; and instant tier upgrades for bookings at selected Marriott properties.

"This was our most generous promotion ever - and we knew it deserved a finale to match," said James Mooring, co-CEO of Room-Res.

"From incredible bookings to the sheer energy of the Room-Res Island Party, this campaign has shown what's possible when we focus on giving agents great tools and rewards.

"We couldn't be more excited to have Jen joining us for the experience of a lifetime in Phuket."



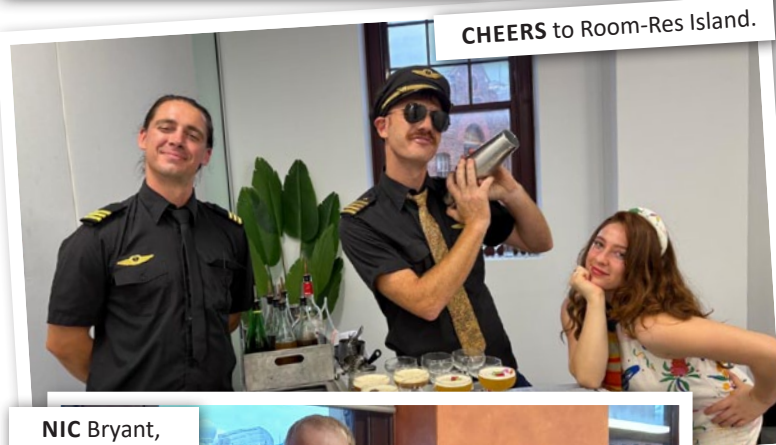
**BRAD** Rowland, HBA Travel steps up to rock, scissors, paper.



**THE** Room-Res team threw a great party.



Lusi Vatubua, TMA; David McCredie, DMac Travel; and Paul Thomas, Papa Tango Travel.

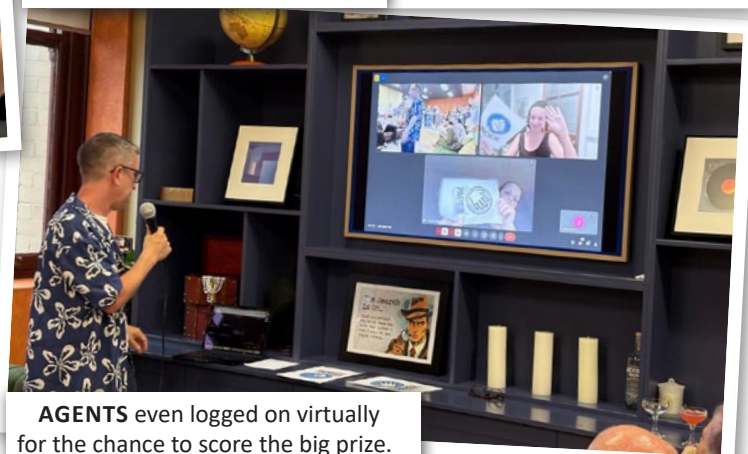


**CHEERS** to Room-Res Island.

**NIC** Bryant, Room-Res and Rebecca Wilkes, TravelManagers.



**JEN** Ferry, Dreamweaver Travel (right) and her guest, Jennifer.



**AGENTS** even logged on virtually for the chance to score the big prize.



## BROCHURES

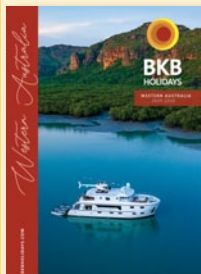
Send your special deals to:  
brochures@traveldaily.com.au

THIS week's Brochures of the Week is brought to you by  
**DriveAway.**



### DriveAway - France Road Trip Planner

Travellers are invited to discover the beauty of France their way with a self-drive holiday, with plenty of inspiration packed in DriveAway's latest brochure. Every region offers unique culture, flavours, and scenery, from iconic Paris to charming countryside towns. Whether it's hilltop villages, lively southern markets, or the Mediterranean coast, DriveAway allows your clients to explore France at their own pace. The 18-page guide features road trip itineraries like the 'Coastal Charms French Riviera', 'Vines & Villages: Toulouse to La Rochelle', and the 'Le Mans to Paris Grand Tour'. Discover more **HERE**.



### BKB Holidays - Western Australia 2025-26

BKB Holidays has launched its 2025-26 Western Australia brochure, filled with inspiring travel options across one of the country's most captivating states. From scenic self-drive itineraries to immersive day and extended tours, the brochure highlights a diverse range of experiences tailored to suit all travellers. A standout feature is BKB's signature Kimberley cruising, which offers a luxurious way to explore

this remote, rugged region. New additions also include updated accommodation, expanded tour choices, and flexible car hire options. Check out the brochure online, **HERE**.



### The Africa Safari Co. - Africa 2025/26

Celebrating its 28th year of operation and proudly 100% Australian owned and operated, The Africa Safari Co has just released its new 2025/26 brochure. With a new must-see collection including unique and remote offerings; a premium and platinum collection; and a to-do list, the 68-page brochure has a wide selection of tours and itineraries to whet any client's appetite for Africa. Readers can learn about the operator's itineraries across Southern Africa, East Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Morocco, and the Indian Ocean Islands by viewing the brochure online **HERE**.

**Stay Updated**  
on the latest travel news

Follow Travel Daily on social media to get your travel news first

Travel Daily

## Beach and boards in one trip



**CALIFORNIA** does not naturally conjure mental images of skiing, but it is actually home to some of the best mountains and ski resorts in the world.

Three lucky ski specialist agents recently had the chance to enjoy another side of the Golden State on a famil trip hosted by Gate 7 Tourism Development Manager, David McMahon.

Hosted by North Lake Tahoe and Mammoth Mountain, the group enjoyed 76cm of fresh falls, creating a winter wonderland on which to build their ski skills.

The trip also offered a chance to explore the best properties to stay at for any traveller heading to Tahoe, including rental homes and an all-season alpine retreat.

To thaw out, the group also enjoyed a few days sunning in Hawaii, staying at the Prince Waikiki in Honolulu.

Two members of the group, which included Kiri Lainela from Flight Centre Robina and Richard McKisack from SkiMax Holidays, are **pictured** above with McMahon (right). *ML*

## Airnorth connects

**DIRECT** flights between Cairns and Alice Springs are now in operation, with Airnorth beginning its new service (**TD 04 Feb**) from today.

Flying three times per week, the maiden flight between the two cities touches down today.

The service will be operated by Airnorth's 100-seat Embraer E190.

Once in operation, the new route will translate to more than 30,000 seats between the two destinations each year and will encourage longer stays by visitors.

After a stop in the Red Centre, the service continues to Perth, creating another one-stop option for travellers looking to quickly cross the country.

"Improved air access is critical to the success of our region, and this new route will provide greater opportunities to attract visitors, support local businesses, and strengthen the tourism economy across the Red Centre," said Tourism Central Australia Chairman, Patrick Bedford.





APT  
TRAVEL  
GROUP

## CELEBRATING APT TRAVEL GROUP'S TOP PERFORMING FLIGHT CENTRE PARTNERS

APT Travel Group is delighted to honour its top-performing Flight Centre partners at this year's national VIP Awards events. Their dedication, drive, and unwavering focus on delivering exceptional travel experiences continue to shine across the network. These teams play a key role in the shared success of both organisations, and their contribution is a testament to the strength of the ongoing partnership. From standout sales achievements to outstanding customer care, Flight Centre agents continue to raise the bar.

A heartfelt thank you to all of APT Travel Group's Flight Centre partners.



VIC: Flight Centre Eastland - Outstanding Sales Achievement 2024



TAS: Flight Centre Launceston - Platinum Agency 2025



NSW: Flight Centre Port Macquarie - Diamond Agency 2025



QLD: Flight Centre Bundaberg City - Outstanding Sales Achievement 2024



WA: Flight Centre Rockingham - Diamond Agency 2025



SA: Flight Centre West Lakes - Rising Star Agency 2024

