# Travel Daily First with the news







TravelManagers

#### Wednesday 16th Apr 2025

#### Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features eight pages of news, including our Luxury page, plus a product profile from Exoticca and full pages from: Singapore Airlines

APT Travel

#### SIA to boost Brissy

**SINGAPORE** Airlines is preparing to increase its Brisbane-Singapore services to four daily flights, beginning 16 Jun - learn more on page nine.

#### See the best of Bali

**EXOTICCA** is showcasing its 15-day adventure through Java and Bali, which takes travellers to hallowed temples, local markets, and iconic beaches - more on p11.



**CRUISE** industry dovenne Sarina Bratton will lead a revitalised Paspaley Pearl expedition cruise business exploring northern Australia and southeast Asia.

Pearl Expeditions will launch in Jul 2025 with an eponymous 30-passenger boutique luxury yacht (pictured) exploring the Kimberley, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Raja Ampat & Borneo.

Details on further itineraries in 2025, 2026 and beyond along with destinations, departure ports, the onboard experience and accommodation options will be released in coming weeks via a new website and social presence.

The Australia-owned venture's launch comes six months after an abrupt decision by French brand Ponant and Paspaley Pearl to walk away from its Paspaley Pearl by Ponant joint-venture.

Upon the cancellation, Ponant promptly moved to reassure agents who had booked clients on the vessel's itineraries that their commissions would be fully protected (TD 06 Nov 2024).

Paspaley Pearl will take guests deep into the Kimberley region to visit popular highlights and lesserknown gems including Horizontal Falls, Montgomery Reef, Hidden Island and Hell's Gate.

In Asia, travellers will be able to visit the Sepik River, the Trobriand Islands and enjoy experiences such as diving with whale sharks in Raja Ampat and mingling with orangutans in Borneo.

On board each expedition will be 21 dedicated crew members including four expedition guides.

Paspaley Group Executive Director, James Paspaley, said he is excited to leverage different skills from across the business into the new expedition brand.

"Imbued with the relaxed Australian hospitality that will define us, Pearl Expeditions represents a new spirit of exploration, where immersive adventure and elegance converge," Bratton added.



The new Australian-owned venture is another string in the Paspaley Pearl investment bow, with the company also owning New York's Wall Street Hotel and the Pinctata Hotel in Broome.

The new collaboration between Bratton and the Paspaley family also marks a continuation of a partnership which led to the formation of Orion Expedition Cruises in Mar 2005. ML

#### **Envoyage amplifies**

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group's independent network Envoyage brought together Australian members at its Amplify event in Brisbane this week.

Sponsored by Explora Journeys, the event offered insights on how to build a strong, sustainable brand in today's market, with Envoyage Global Head of Brand and Marketing Allie Sparr leading the discussion.

During her keynote presentation, Sparr unpacked the importance of brand consistency, customer connection, and authentic storytelling.

The panel (pictured) featured David Sumich from National Travel Group; Mark Hodgson, Mind and Body Travel; Adam Dickson, Infinity Holiday; and Sam Langton, Explora Journeys, who each shared how branding and purpose translate into everyday client impact.



#### Air NZ to bank \$20m

**TRAVELLERS** are being urged to check their credit balance with Air New Zealand as the carrier prepares to bank \$20 million of 'credit breakage' in the second half of 2025.

Investment advisor Jeremy Sullivan from Hamilton Hindin Greene said customers have accrued the credits across prepaid airfares, travel vouchers, and Airpoints - see page two for more Air New Zealand details.

#### **APT hails VIP victors**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to APT's Helloworld partners who won at the recent national VIP awards.

APT is thanking agents for their "passion, professionalism and commitment to excellence" - see page 10 for all the fun photos.



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## Air NZ dragged down by engine compo

**CHANGES** to engine compensation models with Pratt & Whitney and Rolls-Royce will place a significant earnings drag on Air New Zealand in 2025.

In an update released to the ASX today, the Kiwi carrier said it expects compensation from outof-service engines in the second half to be approximately NZ\$35-40 million, substantially lower than the NZ\$94 million recouped in the first half.

As a result, earnings before taxation for the 2025 financial year is predicted to fall within the range of NZ\$150-190 million.

Air New Zealand added that engine maintenance timeframes provided by the two manufacturers "remain unpredictable", keeping 11 aircraft grounded as a result.

The disappointing outcome counters efforts to add more capacity to its fleet, with Air NZ recently securing seven additional

> Rail Europe



leased engines and one further owned spare engine to stabilise the active number of grounded narrow-body Airbus neo and Boeing 787 Dreamliner jets.

Negotiations about improving compensation levels and faster turnaround times with Pratt & Whitney and Rolls-Royce are continuing, however Air NZ conceded that discussions continue to be complicated.

"Air New Zealand is exploring all possible avenues to ensure a fair outcome," the carrier noted.

The crux of the disagreement is around reduced compensation flexibility in the second half of 2025, which previously allowed

GWR

any engines that were not able to be used in commercial service to be treated as "unserviceable" for the purposes of compensation.

However, only engines that are off-wing, i.e. not physically fixed to the aircraft, will now trigger compensation under new models.

Air NZ argued that some of the engines requiring maintenance have remained on the aircraft to allow for easier repositioning of stored planes.

While the airline said it is currently benefitting from lower fuel prices, adjusting the business to reflect fewer aircraft in the short-term introduces "considerable complexity" as it attempts to return to normal operating capacity.

Recent US tariff announcements have also added uncertainty to the broader demand, Air NZ noted, adding that at this stage there are no material changes in bookings or cargo. *AB* 



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

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line's new flagship *Norwegian Aqua* is calling Great Stirrup Cay for the first time today.

The private island's redevelopment, set to be completed by the fourth quarter, will include an almost 20km<sup>2</sup> new pool area, as well as a new Vibe Beach Club, the adults-only outdoor lounge with private cabanas, loungers, and other upgraded amenities.

NCL will also introduce Horizon Park to Great Stirrup Cay - also found on *Norwegian Bliss* and *Norwegian Breakaway*.



Faster than car or coach, GWR connects London to the South West of England, South Wales and the Cotswolds.

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## Easter stretches travel

**AROUND** 12% of Aussies are planning to travel over the long weekend this Easter, spending just over \$1,000 on average on flights and accommodation.

The new insights were published by Finder this morning, which also detailed how Aussies are tightening the belt more broadly over the Easter period on traditional favourites like chocolate and entertainment.

While there might be some economic strain on leisure travel this month, new figures from Flight Centre's Corporate Traveller show around one in three business travellers are planning to stretch work trips into longer bleisure breaks.

This year's Easter-ANZAC period will see business travellers extend





trips to at least seven nights, representing an increase of 20% when compared to the same period last year.

"The opportunity to convert just three annual leave days into 10 consecutive days off is a compelling option for time-poor travellers," Corporate Traveller's Global Managing Director Tom Walley said.

"However, smart planning and flexibility on flight times are critical for making the most of this year's busy travel period."

Perth and Brisbane are leading domestic bleisure destinations, FCTG figures show, while London, Shanghai, Auckland, Jakarta, and NY were highest for overseas trips of over seven days. *AB* 

#### More Shanghai links

**CHINA** Eastern Airlines has added Geneva, Milan, and Copenhagen to its network, offering Australian travellers more options when flying to Europe through Shanghai.

The Geneva route kicks off on 16 Jun operating four times a week, while daily flights to Milan will start on 20 Jun.

Three times weekly services to Copenhagen take off on 17 Jul.

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## Savage to open TA location



#### EXCLUSIVE

**TRAVEL** Associates' topperforming business in Australia is preparing to unveil a new location - a luxury flagship office in Adelaide's eastern suburbs.

Owner Krystal Savage told **Travel Daily** the store in Burnside, which opens in Aug is "an exciting milestone and a natural progression" for the business.

"This expansion allows us to reach a new community, grow our client base, and create more opportunities for our team," Savage said.

"It also strengthens our brand presence in Adelaide and gives us the capacity to service even more clients looking for premium travel experience," she added.

The new location will potentially attract an upper market clientele, thanks to its positioning within the premium Burnside Village's expanded offering, featuring a luxury mall, dining precinct and home-and-lifestyle space.

Burnside will be the second location for the business, which also has a footprint in Norwood. "We've custom-designed our new office from the ground up to

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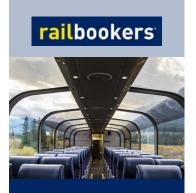
AND THE

CEHOTELS

embody the premium experience our clients have come to know and love when they walk into any of our Travel Associates offices," Savage said.

"This new space is a true reflection of the Travel Associates brand and unique to other travel agencies; it's a relaxed space to come and sit, and take the time to dream with your travel advisor," she added. JHM

Pictured: Savage and her team.



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## CATO to host Summit

AUSTRALIA'S touring sector will be front and centre at a new industry summit to be hosted later this year by the Council of Australian Tour Operators (CATO). The inaugural CATO Summit

will take place on 12 Jun at Watersedge in The Rocks, Sydney. Open to CATO members only,

the summit will be a half-day business event, which will precede the association's Annual General Meeting and a dinner.

In attendance will be senior industry executives, leaders and business owners for an agenda packed with expert-led sessions, panel discussions and networking.

CATO Managing Director Brett Jardine said the summit marked a step forward in its commitment to support members with useful industry insights, practical tools and forward-thinking strategies.

"This is a must-attend event for those looking to navigate complexity, capitalise on

AGENT INCENTIVE



opportunities, and strengthen their business in a changing environment," Jardine said.

Topics on the agenda for the summit will include sessions on legal strategy, business structures and risk management, along with foreign exchange and insurance essentials for tour operators.

Delegates will also hear from experts in travel technology and how to develop efficiencies and streamline operations, along with the latest in consumer trends and the future of touring.

Tickets to attend the 2025 inaugural CATO Summit is limited, with registration details to be shared with members in the coming days. *ML* 

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#### AA to connect wi-fi

**COMPLIMENTARY** inflight wi-fi will be available on more than two million American Airlines flights worldwide beginning from Jan 2026, in partnership with US telecommunications giant AT&T.

The service will be reserved as an exclusive perk for AAdvantage members and available on all aircraft equipped with Viasat and Intelsat satellite connectivity, or around 90% of its fleet.

The airline is currently working to retrofit more than 500 regional aircraft with satellite connections, a project it expects to complete before the end of this year.

"We've been working diligently to outfit our aircraft with bestin-class high-speed wi-fi and together with AT&T are proud to offer those services at no cost to our most loyal customers," said American Airlines Chief Customer Officer, Heather Garboden.

AA recently conducted speed tests of its wi-fi system, with results "exceeding expectations".

#### **Unforgettable 2026**

NEARLY 150 guaranteed departures have been scheduled in Unforgettable Croatia's 2026 small ship cruising program, which is now available to book.

The specialist cruise brand will offer eight itineraries over the year across eight ships, with the season running from May to Oct.

New for 2026 is a seven-night 'Hidden Gems' itinerary, sailing from Sibenik to Opatija, with one departure scheduled in each direction on 20 Jun and 27 Jun.

The line will again call in popular ports along the Dalmatian coast throughout the season, including Split and Dubrovnik along with lesser known stops Trogir, Hvar, Korcula, Vis and the national parks of Mljet and Krka.



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#### Inside Japan growth

**INSIDE** Travel Group's Japan specialist brand, InsideJapan, has experienced its biggest-ever sales quarter, with sales up 54% in Q1 2025 compared to the same period in 2024.

Inside Travel Group Small Group Tours Manager, Richard Farmer, said, "the popularity of Japan has been incredible over the last three years alone and everyone wants to go".

InsideJapan revamped many of its long-standing tours this year to include exclusive cultural experiences, such as the 'Must See Japan' itinerary, which includes a new bike tour of Osaka's lesser-known districts.

The demand for small group tours also saw fellow Inside Travel brand, InsideAsia, launch its first tour to South Korea this year.





A SMALL, tight-knit contingent of agents within the itravel community has just celebrated its two-year anniversary.

The LUXE by itravel subnetwork recently chalked up two years of steady growth, emboldened by a staunch commitment to welcome new members who achieve a high volume of luxury sales.

Founded in 2023, the network is backed by a dedicated and intricate support structure as it sources exclusive, personalised product for high net worth and ultra-high net worth clients.

LUXE by itravel is also a member of the Virtuoso network, which is recognised as a global leader for trusted luxury advisors.

This year, two of LUXE by itravel's agents - Garry McLaughlin and Megan Catterall were admitted to the prestigious Virtuoso Icon list (*TD* 12 Mar), a benchmark reserved for the elite

#### Vic regional grants

**FUNDING** of between \$100,000 and \$5 million have been awarded to a range of recipients in regional Victoria as part of the state govt's \$170 million Regional Tourism Investment Fund.

Successful projects will see 22 new rooms built at Sovereign Hill and a new yacht for overnight and day trips on the Snowy River estuary in East Gippsland. advisors anywhere worldwide. Itravel Chief Executive Officer Steve Labroski said he is proud to see members of the LUXE network thrive and grow stronger year after year.

"We've always believed in building a brand that puts the advisors first, providing them with the opportunities and tools to drive their product and to scale their business in the luxury space," Labroski said. *ML* 

The current members of LUXE by itravel are **pictured** above.

#### SQ T2 investment

**SINGAPORE** Airlines will spend S\$45 million (A\$53.8 million) to renovate its SilverKris and KrisFlyer Gold lounges at Changi Airport's Terminal 2.

The two-year phased project saw work begin yesterday, with mid-2027 set as an end date.

Once complete, the two lounges will feature 50% more space and seating capacity with upgraded facilities, wider F&B selections and popular features from the airline's T3 lounges installed.

New reclining armchairs will be installed alongside a living room area with wingback chairs, sofa seats and work stations.

Airlines operating from T2 include Singapore Airlines flights to Southeast Asia, Lufthansa, Etihad Airways and Air India.

#### True North refurb

**TRUE** North's small boat fleet *True North* and *True North II* is set to undergo a major \$3 million dollar makeover, featuring a redesigned bar lounge and new seating areas with a vantage point for unobstructed views.

"This is the most comprehensive refit we've ever undertaken, giving both ships a well-earned touch up," said Chad Avenell, Director of True North.

"Our guests expect nothing but the best, and these upgrades reaffirm our commitment to delivering once-in-a-lifetime adventures," he added.

The makeover follows last year's introduction of the Ocean Premium Cabin class through a previous renovation, which offers guests the choice of twin share or double bed layout.





Mick Duck Product & Contracting Manager Jessica Knight Inside Sales Manager

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## Top stop for Paul Gauguin



**MS PAUL** Gauguin has made a rare stop in Australia, docking in Darwin after a journey from Singapore, where it spent seven weeks in dry dock getting a detailed refurbishment.

To celebrate the occasion, a group of senior travel industry professionals including **Travel Daily** flew to Darwin to meet the vessel and take a tour of the ship with Ponant Asia Pacific CEO Deb Corbett as well as Captain of *MS Paul Gauguin*, Michel Quioc.

Proudly sporting the Ponant logo on the funnel, the refurbishment included a contemporary redesign of the Le Grill restaurant, a reimagined pool deck with a shaded cabana area, eight new connecting staterooms, refreshed furnishings throughout the ship, and the integration of a range of sustainable technologies.

Corbett said that Ponant and

#### Travel deals drop

**TRAVEL** deals remained resilient in Q1 2025, despite overall activity experiencing a 5% year-on-year decline, according to analytics company Global Data.

The number of M&A agreements registered 4% growth, while venture financing deals fell by 44% and private equity deal volume was down by 25% compared to Q1 2024. Paul Gauguin both had a strong end to 2024 which has continued into 2025.

"People are really wanting that immersive, close experience, and they are really wanting to connect with regional communities and the local culture," she said.

She pointed to travellers wanting to bring home "stories and experiences" rather than souvenirs, which is why exploration cruising was going through a boom.

Of the refreshed *MS Paul Gauguin*, she said, "It's relaxed luxury at its best, just oozing French Polynesia." *DF* 

#### Rossiter passes away

**RETIRED** Queensland travel industry veteran Lynette Rossiter has sadly passed away. Rossiter, who grew up in

North Queensland, previously worked for more than 20 years at Singapore Airlines and was known to generously share her professional knowledge with newcomers in the industry.

She began her SQ career as reservations supervisor, and quickly moved into sales positions before finding her place in various senior management roles.

Many will miss Rossiter, with a colleague describing her as "a strong, intelligent woman, with a wicked sense of humour".



### Discover our River Cruise Special Report

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## G hops aboard rail surge

**G ADVENTURES** has launched a new immersive travel option, the Rail Collection, featuring 60 trips across 20 countries.

The new range of rail journeys and lesser-known routes aim to offer travellers more flexible and responsible travel options, while encouraging cultural immersion.

The new products include trips from across G Adventures' travel styles, from 'Solo-ish' to 'Geluxe', with the majority of every journey taken by rail.

For instance, guests can experience China's high-speed bullet train from Shanghai to Yangzhou, Xi'an, Luoyang and Beijing on the 11-day 'Soloish China' adventure, or enjoy Vietnam's iconic sleeper trains on the 14-day 'Epic Vietnam: Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City & Handmade Noodles' tour.

"Rail travel can be so much more than just a mode of transportation; it's a gateway into



responsible cultural exploration, where the journey is just as enjoyable as the destination," said Yves Marceau, G Adventures Vice President Product.

By swapping flights for rail, travellers will reduce carbon footprint while also having a positive impact on harder-toreach local communities.

The trains will stop off at smaller transport hubs and stations, so the group can buy from local sellers and take in daily life in lesser-seen parts of the country.

The rail trips are available to book now - for more information, **CLICK HERE**. *JM* 

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FLOODGATES OPEN: APT BOOSTS LAKE EYRE TOURS

**APT** Travel Group has expanded its 2025 Lake Eyre touring program, giving travellers more chances to witness a rare natural event unfolding in the South Australian outback.

Following significant seasonal rainfall, Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre is currently experiencing a major flood event, leading to a transformation that only occurs every few years.

"The lake's dramatic shift from shimmering saltpan to vast inland sea is drawing travellers, birdlife and bursts of desert wildflowers to the region," the luxury tour operator explained.

To cater for the surge in demand, APT has added extra departures to its popular seven-day 'Lake Eyre and Flinders Ranges' journey,

#### The Tailor expands

AUSTRALIAN luxury travel specialist, The Tailor, has announced new appointments and promotions as part of its continued growth strategy.

The company has welcomed Tanya Jarman as its new Head of Product, while former Tourism Australia executive Penny Lion has joined the Travel Design Team.

Meanwhile, Emma Welling has been promoted to CCO, and Kirsty Siekmann will transition to the role of COO.



which has already seen its first departure sell out.

The operator has also introduced a new tour - the eightday 'Lake Eyre and Painted Hills', which includes the Painted Desert in the remote Arckaringa Basin,

priced from \$7,395pp. Guests will enjoy premium accommodation, outback experiences, expert local guides and exclusive scenic flights over the rare spectacle as the Georgina, Diamantina, and Cooper Creeks flood in unison.

"Our phones haven't stopped ringing," said APT Head of Product and Operations -

#### Londoners get a taste of Lujo's Turkish luxury

LUXURY Aegean retreat, Lujo Hotel Bodrum, is bringing its signature flair to London, with 100 branded taxis offering rides across the city, along with a glimpse of the Turkish escape. Situated on the Aegean Coast of Turkiye, 18km from Bodrum Airport, the property is preparing to launch 28 new villas this summer, spread across 7 distinct categories.

Each villa features luxurious and contemporary interiors, complemented by floor-toceiling windows offering breathtaking ocean views.



The resort features a series of restaurants and bars, with Italian, Japanese and Turkish traditional cuisine on offer, and multiple entertainment spaces. Australia, Cher Lontok.

"This is nature at its most aweinspiring, a once-in-a-decade moment that people are longing to witness.

"We've launched a brand-new tour and added departures to make sure more Australians have the chance to see it before it's gone," Lontok added.

APT confirmed it will also donate \$100 for every guest who joins one of APT's Lake Eyre tours in 2025 to Rural Aid's Queensland flood appeal.

APT's charitable fund, OneTomorrow, will match this contribution, doubling the amount donated.

Seats are limited, with guests encouraged to book early - more details **HERE**. *JM* 

#### A cocktail celebration

MGALLERY Hotels has launched limited-edition cocktails and designer glassware to mark World Cocktail Day.

All 120 MGallery boutique hotels around the world will offer a trio of cocktails crafted in partnership with artisan gin distiller, Citadelle, served in custom designed glassware by Maison Sarah Lavoine.

The cocktail selection, which includes the Crystal Diva, Timeless Negroni and Honey 75, will be available from 13 May to 21 Aug.

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## ACCOMMODATION

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Bali's Nuanu Creative City has welcomed its first luxury boutique hotel. Set on Pantai Nyanyi black sand beach, Oshom Bali features 18 uniquely styled suites, including treehouse hideaways and ocean suites. Highlights include a cliffside restaurantlounge with sunset views and seasonal menus; daily wellness rituals,

from yoga to sound healing; sunset DJ sessions and poolside lectures; and cozy nooks offering an ideal co-working space.



Offering a new and improved budget accommodation option for travellers, Hotel Beaurivage has reopened after undergoing a soft renovation in Noumea, New Caledonia. Just 20 metres from the popular Baie des Citrons beach, the property offers spacious and bright rooms, either garden-side with a private terrace or

lagoon-side with a balcony. Guests are within walking distance of the many shops and restaurants along the lively Roger Larogue promenade.



Chile's leading luxury resort Tierra Atacama has reopened this month following a 12-month, US\$20 million transformation. Set in the Atacama Desert, the property part of the Australia-based Baillie Lodges collection - boasts four new exclusive suites

with private plunge pools. The renovated spa now features a double treatment room for couples, while the dining experience has also been refreshed, with the addition of open grill areas and a new wine cellar.



Likuliku Lagoon Resort in Fiji has unveiled new additions and upgrades ahead of its reopening on 01 May. The major A\$7 million revitalisation project included the introduction of an innovative new dining concept showcasing Fijian-inspired Asian tapas; an interactive conservation hub dedicated to marine and ecological preservation and community care; and elevated luxury accommodations.

Ayana Bali has announced the opening of its brand-new Rimba Kids Club, marking the first of several new additions to the resort's family-friendly offerings. Designed to be a haven of adventure and creativity for young minds, the club is comprised of a

variety of themed playgrounds and interactive activity zones, with activities such as ziplining, climbing challenges, and nature hunts.



## Skal toasts peer from Africa



VICTORIA'S Skal travel industry networking chapter recently welcomed one of its African peers as the guest of honour at its annual Power Lunch event.

Faith Wathome from Skal Nairobi flew in especially for the event, which included a lunch, networking and banter, as well as a panel discussion drilling down on some of the industry's most key challenges.

The panel was moderated by Evolution Travel Collective founder Ingrid Berthelsen, and featured Victoria Tourism Industry Council CEO Felicia Mariani, Melbourne Airport Marketing Business Partner Gemma Bosworth and AKTG Director of Sales, Susan Haberle.

#### Next gen operators

**SIX** young travel operators are embarking on a Tasmanian Young **Tourism Network Education** Tour of Victoria, supported by the Tourism Industry Council Tasmania and Pennicott Wilderness Journeys.

The gathering also saw two new members inducted in Marissa Papas and Kellie Browning, both from Connected Travel.

The event was sponsored by Sabre and AV Dynamics & hosted by Pullman Albert Parkk. ML

Wathome is **pictured** above centre, flanked by Skal Melbourne President Richard Kellaway and Vice President, Alex Dugdale.

#### Gwinganna signs PR

**GOLD** Coast hinterland property Gwinganna has signed Effie&Co to manage its PR, influencer marketing and brand collaboration activity.

The health and wellness retreat specialises in a seven-night package featuring nutrition, movement and spa therapies.

A refreshed schedule of wellness seminars now also incorporates the latest research on cognitive health and longevity.

Guests can enjoy an organic, anti-inflammatory menu, daily activity program and access to expert wellness practitioners.

Travel Daily

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#### **INCREASING TO 4 DAILY FLIGHTS FROM 16 JUNE 2025**

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The additional services will operate on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from Brisbane to Singapore, commencing 16 June 2025. \*Accurate as at 14 April 2025 and based on the following flight connections from Brisbane - SQ266/SQ306 to LHR, SQ266/SQ346 to ZRH and SQ266/SQ366 to FCO.

A350-900

23:50

05:45(+1)

SQ246

DAILY



SQ235

A350-900

21:30

DAILY

06:55(+1)

# ATG APT TRAVEL GROUP

## CELEBRATING EXCELLI HONOURING OUR TOP VIP PAR

At this year's VIP Awards, APT Travel Group proudly celebrated the outstanding achievements of agencies across its major retail network partners. These agencies embody the passion, professionalism, and spirit of adventure that, as a proudly Australian, family-owned company for over 98 years, APT Travel Group connect with in defining the very best in travel for Australians, by Australians. APT Travel Group thanks their valued partners for their trust, energy, and commitment. Together, they are not just delivering holidays - but creating joyful, meaningful experiences that reflect the very best of what the Australian travel industry can be.



Geelong Travel, VIC



Magellan: Figtree Travel Centre, NSW



Envoyage: Holiday World, NSW



ATAC: Meridian Travel, VIC



Envoyage: Teresa Petrocco, NSW



Travel Associates: Earl & Turner Travel Associates, QLD



Luxury Travel Collective: Bicton Travel, WA







Link Travel Group: Atour Travel Services, NSW









21







## Blend, Rest & Adventure: Java & Bali

Indonesia is calling! Offer your customers a balance of luxurious relaxation and islandhopping adventures. This 15-day journey through Java and Bali includes visits to hallowed temples, local markets, and breathtaking beaches. Whether they prefer an activity-packed itinerary or three days straight of sun-soaking, the choice is theirs.

#### Java: A vibrant start

These first days on Java are immersive, but all set to the relaxed, easy-going rhythm of the island. In Jakarta, the Old Port of Sunda Kelapa and the historic Old Batavia offer a taste of the city's bustling trading past. Then, it's on to Yogyakarta, where they can explore UNESCO World Heritage sites like Borobudur Temple and dive into the heart of Javanese art.

#### Bali: Time to unwind

Ubud is the first stop on Bali, where they'll check out the renowned art village, Batu Bulan, famous for its traditional dances and volcanic stone carvings, and absorb the peaceful energy of Lake Batur in Kintamani. Next, Benoa offers the perfect spot for some well-deserved downtime. There's also time to visit the wild monkeys at the Alas Kedaton Monkey Forest. For those seeking a bit more adventure, they can add river rafting or snorkelling to their experience.

#### Paradise speaks for itself—this trip takes it even further

Island-studded and offering a rich cultural tapestry, this trip is ideal for both couples and groups. While sandy beaches, sunsets,

and tropical wonders are guaranteed, it's the attention to detail and inclusions—such as flights, charming accommodations, tours led by experts, and convenient transfers that elevate the experience of visiting Java and the Island of the Gods.

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