

Today's issue of TD

TD has 9 pages, including an MTA Travel photo page, our Luxury page, & full pages from:

- APT Travel
- Helloworld

A new final frontier

ONE of several major operators seeking to pioneer space tourism has been given a new lease of life after being acquired by former European-based rival Eos X Space.

US-based Space Perspective struck financial trouble late last year, causing Signature Travel Network to end its preferred-supplier deal with the company.

Before the agreement ended abruptly, a deal was also inked between Signature and TravelManagers to sell Space Perspective (TD 11 Nov 2022).

It is unclear how many deposits - if any - were taken by TM advisors in Australia before Signature made the call to part ways with Space Perspective.

Digital chief to lead Air NZ

AIR New Zealand's ongoing commitment to being a leading digital airline has been boosted by the naming of Nikhil Ravishankar (pictured) as its next CEO (TD breaking news).

Serving as the carrier's Chief Digital Officer for close to four years, Ravishankar will take over from outgoing chief Greg Foran on 20 Oct, bringing with him an impressive list of digital projects carried out across areas such as loyalty and customer proposition.

Air NZ Chair Therese Walsh heralded the appointment as marking the beginning of "the next chapter" for the airline.

"We have always been bold and not afraid to adapt and lead, and Nikhil brings the mindset and contemporary leadership we need to build on our strong foundations and focus on the future," she said.

"[Ravishankar's] ambition for the airline's future and his people



leadership skills, coupled with his pursuit of excellence, digital literacy, global outlook and relationships, and his deep care for the airline and New Zealand have shone through."

While retaining a business ethos grounded in New Zealand values, the airline is banking on Ravishankar bringing fresh ideas to the table to combat rising cost pressures, geopolitical tensions, and perhaps most importantly, the need to be more tech savvy.

Air NZ has battled supply chain and engine issues in recent times, denting financial forecasts and network expansion aims. AB

Digital guru tapped

WEBJET Group has appointed experienced e-commerce executive John Boris to the role of Independent Non-Executive Director, effective this Fri.

The Aussie OTA said Boris has a proven track record of building highly profitable consumer businesses and creating category-leading brands.

He is currently the President & Chief Growth Officer of Big Red Group, and formerly held senior roles at Tripadvisor, IfOnly, Shutterfly, and Lonely Planet.

Show love to APT

APT Travel Group is asking for support from the trade in its quest to take home three NTIA accolades this year - see page 10.

Helloworld thanks

HELLOWORLD Travel is up for eight potential gongs at the 2025 NTIA's and is thanking agents for their support - check out page 11.



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OTAs undercut direct

IN 75% of hotel rate searches, at least one OTA displays a lower price than the hotel's own website, a new *World Parity Report* examining the first six months of the year has found.

While at least one OTA is engaging in the practice on a per-search basis, hotel pricing was better than OTAs in 45% of cases.

However, when all available offers on an identical room and date were analysed, three in every four searches found at least one OTA offering a better price.

Searches from a mobile phone were worse, with OTAs undercutting 38% of the time.

Roberto Gobo from analyst firm Valamar said these disparities often stemmed from operational "blind spots", whereby OTAs are exploiting loosely managed distribution networks to offer unauthorised discounts.

The open-access study is based on Google metasearches and compares direct and OTA rates to help hotels maximise visibility.

CTM trumpets NDC savings

CORPORATE Travel Management (CTM) clients are enjoying savings of up to 16% on airfares booked through Qantas' New Distribution Capability (NDC), the company said today.

As an invite-only premium partner, CTM was one of the first companies to activate Qantas' retail model, which went live at the start of Jul, with customers now enjoying the benefits.

Early adopters of the new QF fare structure are also seeing improved access to air content, leading to better cost management and savings.

According to CTM, companies are saving an average of 8.44% on NDC fares, with traditional distribution models now seeing Qantas charge an \$11.50 ticketing fee to sellers.

The company added its clients are also able to access intuitive reporting via its CTM Data Hub dashboard, which displays data from CTM's mid-office ticketing

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and invoicing functions.

Corporate Travel Management Chief Partnership Officer Global Air and GDS, John Balloch, said the company's goal with NDC was simply to offer better content, pricing and control.

"CTM's NDC solution wasn't built to be just another plug-and-play tool," Balloch said.

"It is about making sure NDC works in the real world, saving money, simplifying bookings, and giving our customers more choice," Balloch added. *ML*

Travelex goes all in



FORMER William Hill CEO Philip Bowcock has been appointed the new Chief Executive at foreign currency exchange brand Travelex.

Effective immediately, Bowcock takes over from Richard Wazacz, who is stepping aside after three years in the top job.

Travelex Chairman Alexander Filshie said the announcement marked the next phase of the company's journey to adapt to changing customer requirements and the industry environment.

Bowcock joins Travelex from his former role at NM Money Group, which operates UK currency exchange brand Eurochange.

SAA fare restructure

SOUTH African Airways is moving to phase out its existing P airfare class, which is available exclusively on flights departing from Perth.

The carrier has advised all agent PNRs containing a P-class sector need to be ticketed by tomorrow to avoid an agency debit memo.

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NCL new water park

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has unveiled the Great Tides Waterpark, which will make its debut at the company's Great Stirrup Cay in the Bahamas in summer 2026.

The water attraction will feature cliff jumps, jet karts, swim-up bars, splash zones, and more.

Great Tides will be home to almost 20 water slides, eight of which will be housed in Tidal Tower, one of the centrepieces.

Another of Great Tides' highlights will be the 250-metre dynamic rapid river, which guests will be able to enter from several points, while Cliffside Cove will feature "racer slides", allowing guests to race against each other to get to the bottom.

Air added to HQ by itravel

ITRAVEL has expanded its booking platform by adding access to enhanced wholesale, net, and cruise airfares.

The new addition to HQ by itravel has been heralded by the agency network as providing members with better earning potential and competitive tools.

Specifically, itravel said the new airfare capabilities deliver better margins, a range of discounted airfares, and greater flexibility through extended ticketing limits.

"[The addition of air] is a significant step forward that puts more control and earning power into the hands of our advisors," itravel's Head of Commercial Joshua Gordon said.



"Access to exclusive airfare content - especially when paired with our existing wholesale offering - gives them a genuine edge in a competitive market."

The development follows itravel's recent efforts to implement greater flexibility to its member offering, including the introduction of Franchilli last year, designed to make it easier for members to transition from mobile to franchise operations.

Introduced last year (**TD** 01 Oct 2024), the company recently revealed strong interest from advisors pursuing the option, yielding new stores in the NSW towns of Camden and Eastern Creek, and Naracoorte in SA. **AB**

Tsunami warning

OFFICIAL evacuation orders have been issued on the Pacific coast of Japan and in Hawaii, after a major 8.8 magnitude quake struck near Russia.

"Damage due to tsunami waves is expected, evacuate immediately from coastal regions," the Japan Govt said.

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Ovolo boosts power

FIVE Ovolo hotels across Australia and Hong Kong will join Wyndham's global portfolio over the next five months.

Ovolo Group will continue to own and manage its brand under the new deal, however it will now be able to access Wyndham's sales, marketing and distribution platforms, unlocking new commercial opportunities.

The five Ovolo hotels represent over 450 rooms, and are located in Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, and Hong Kong.

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Bunnik unearths Egypt

BUNNIK Tours has unveiled its 2026-27 Egypt & Jordan program, which features 140 departures across six small group itineraries between Aug 2026 and Jul 2027.

Showcasing the desert landscapes, ancient wonders and cultures of the two destinations, the collection includes five Classic Tours and two deluxe In-Style Tours, all capped at a maximum of 20 travellers.

Highlights include the 16-day 'Egyptian Discovery', which features a cruise on the Nile, an exploration of Cairo, a visit to ancient tombs, and lunch with a panoramic view of the pyramids.

The program's launch comes as Bunnik's passenger numbers to the region have risen by 112% in the second half of 2025 compared to the same period last year, prompting it to boost departures for the 'Egypt & Jordan Discovery tour' by 24%.

"Egypt and Jordan continue



to capture the imagination of Australian travellers," said Dennis Bunnik, joint-CEO of Bunnik Tours.

"These destinations sit high on bucket lists and our travellers are still eager to experience them."

Bunnik also pointed out that demand remains strong, despite tensions in nearby regions.

"Travellers today are more informed - they understand that neither airlines nor tour operators will operate if it's unsafe." JM

Intrepid Asia tours

INTREPID Travel has released six new trips to northern and central Asia off the back of an all-time booking high for the region.

Ranging from eight to 16 days, the immersive itineraries explore remote mountain ranges, ancient cities and nomadic communities across destinations such as China, Hong Kong, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Mongolia.

According to the tour operator, demand for Asia is up 109% year-on-year among Australian and New Zealand travellers, and 66% globally, which the business attributes to increased interest in off-the-beaten-path adventures.



Blue Jasmine on track

A NEW luxury rail journey will soon debut in Thailand, aiming to attract high-value tourism.

Blue Jasmine, a freshly restored 1950s Japanese sleeper train, will begin operating 'The Blue Jasmine: A Timeless Rail Journey Through Thailand' in Nov.

The nine-day itinerary begins at Bangkok's Hua Lamphong Station and visits three historic World Heritage cities - Ayutthaya, Uthai Thani, and Sukhothai - as well as the foodie town of Chiang Mai.

Guests will be treated to a series of cultural experiences, such as a traditional dance performance by the Yom River and hands-on sessions in Sangkhalok ceramic making and Thai silk weaving.

On board Blue Jasmine, travellers will enjoy private cabins, panoramic lounges, and locally inspired cuisine.

Additional journeys are also planned for next year, with departures scheduled in Jan, Feb, Mar, Jul, Nov and Dec.

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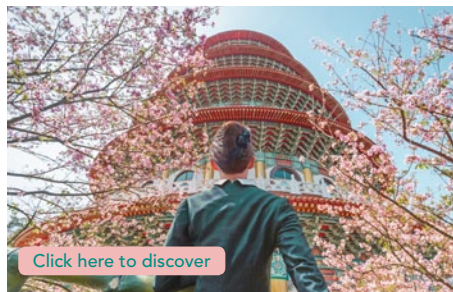
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SQ profits nosedive

SINGAPORE Airlines has seen its net profit plunge 59% for the first quarter of 2025, according to its latest financial statement.

The carrier blamed lower interest income and a share in losses incurred by associates for its net profit, which fell to S\$186 million (A\$221.9 million) from S\$452 million one year earlier.

Passenger yields declined over the quarter, which SQ said was due to industry-wide capacity growth and rising non-fuel costs.

In its statement, SQ reiterated it is well positioned to navigate challenges via “strong foundations, strategic initiatives & disciplined cost management”.

Are you fare dinkum?

JETSTAR has released more than 75,000 discounted one-way domestic fares as part of its latest ‘Fare Dinkum Sale’.

Travellers can secure Sydney to Gold Coast fares from \$45; Newcastle to Brisbane flights from \$53; Melbourne to Cairns from \$99; and many more.

The sale ends 03 Aug and covers travel dates between early Sep 2025 and late Mar 2026.

MEANWHILE, parent carrier Qantas has launched a sale of its own, offering 350,000 discounted seats across almost its entire international network.

Available until 04 Aug, economy fares start at \$499 return from Melbourne to Christchurch, with the sale covering travel dates between now and May 2026.

Vic racing GP legislation

MELBOURNE’S Albert Park may have its controlled ‘race period’ around the annual Formula 1 Grand Prix lengthened from seven to 21 days under amended legislation being considered by the Victorian Government.

The classification provides a closed environment each year for essential safety, security and public infrastructure work to be carried out either side of the four-day racing event.

Community feedback on the amended legislation is now being sought prior to it being tabled in parliament to become law.

The 2025 Australian Grand Prix lured more than 465,000 fans to Albert Park for the event - an attendance boost of more than 140,000 compared to 2019.

Victorian Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events, Steve Dimopoulos, said the Australian Grand Prix is becoming more popular each year, with changes needed to legislation to support its running and boost public safety.

“The Grand Prix is one of the highest attended races on the Formula 1 calendar - pumping more than \$268 million into the economy each year, supporting more than 1,000 jobs and keeping our hotels, restaurants and businesses busy,” Minister Dimopoulos said.

“This consultation will ensure we’re listening to the community as we create a safer and more secure Albert Park.”



Further proposed changes include increasing the annual payment to Parks Victoria to boost maintenance and upkeep of Albert Park each year.

Empowering the Australian Grand Prix Corporation to host non-motorsport events and a push to run new events is also part of the proposal.

Once ratified, the amended law will enable work to be carried out for longer periods either side of the event and create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists using the area. *ML*

Female-led DMC

A NEW female-led destination management company in Alaska will begin operations in Sep as an offshoot of the Within the Wild Adventure Company.

Known as Alaska Beyond, the new DMC will design high-end itineraries and food adventures that showcase the best of Alaska.

Activities will range from glacier treks to culinary showpiece events run by celebrated chefs.

The company has so far formed pre-launch partnerships that have funnelled US\$128,000 (A\$195,000) in grants to local tourism businesses including lodges, farms and restaurants.



Window Seat

A RESORT town in France is so unhappy with the expanding display of human flesh from tourists, that it has introduced fines for people walking around topless or in swimsuits anywhere other than a beach.

Les Sables-d’Olonne is popular with travellers for its warm climate and golden sand, however the view may turn to concrete and steel if visitors flout the new rules.

Interestingly, Mayor Yannick Moreau appeared more concerned about the proliferation of topless men.

“It’s a question of respect for locals who don’t want people wandering around their town half naked,” he said.

“It’s also a rule for basic hygiene in our markets.

“If you want to show off your pecs and your best swimming shorts in Les Sables d’Olonne, there are 11 kilometres of beach at your disposal.”

Fines of up to A\$266 are now in place for “half-naked” offenders walking in town.



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eVTOLs to take off sooner

ELECTRIC aircraft developer AMSL Aero has clinched landmark deals with regulators in Australia, the US, the UK, Canada and New Zealand to speed up the certification of eVTOLs around the world.

AMSL Aero manufactures eVTOLs, which take off and land like helicopters but can also fly as fast and smoothly as a regular fixed-wing aircraft.

At the moment, an eVTOL must be validated in each country to operate in a specific market but soon, due to the National Aviation Authorities (NAA) Network's new roadmap, once it is accepted in a member country, it will be recognised by all of the other member nations too.

These new international harmonisation deals that ASML have landed will play a significant role in the company's journey towards faster global expansion.

The company has already attracted interest from potential int'l buyers for Vertii, its zero-emissions eVTOL (**pictured**).

Vertii gained attention when



it completed its first flight in Nov last year, due to its 1,000km range, 300km/h cruising speed, and ability to achieve untethered horizontal flight.

"As we step up our development towards Australian certification of Vertii, we are delighted that CASA has come together with its peers in these four other leading aviation markets to harmonise and streamline the certification and validation process for eVTOLs across int'l boundaries," said CEO Adriano Di Pietro. *JHM*

Scenic offers abound

SCENIC has released a raft of new deals, including savings of up to \$2,900pp on 11-day 'Beautiful Bordeaux' river cruises in 2026 for bookings made by 31 Aug.

Additionally, travellers can save up to \$2,200 per person on the 15-day 'Christmas and New Year' sailing when they secure their spot by 30 Sep.

Until 31 Aug, the luxury cruise company is offering a bonus three-night stay in Christchurch with included Scenic Freechoice excursions, up to \$10k in savings, and a chopper to Mawson's Huts, on the 'Queenstown and Mawson's Antarctica: Along the East Coast' voyage.

Brand USA hits the road



BRAND USA and United Airlines hit the road and stopped in Perth last night, where they met with more than 70 travel agents at Crown Perth.

The Western Australian city was the first stop of 'The Great USA Road Trip - Australia' roadshow, which will see the two organisations continue their journey in Adelaide and the Gold Coast, sharing the diversity of self-drive travel in the USA.

During last night's event in Perth, agents enjoyed chatting with 20 US destination and product partners and taking part in interactive experiences, while sipping on milkshakes.

Advisors also enjoyed an interesting panel discussion that explored some of the USA's iconic highways and less-travelled roadtrip adventures. *JHM*

Pictured on their road trip are Dana Craven, LA Tourism; Jade Glashoff, Director Brand USA AU&NZ; Eva Huezo, Visit California; Elaine Patton, Brand USA; Lexie Miliatis, Brand USA.

Ruby ruling upheld

CARNIVAL Corporation has lost an appeal in the Federal Court against a ruling in which it was found to be negligent in proceeding with a New Zealand cruise which turned into a COVID-19 super-spreader event.

Nearly 30 people from the ship died as a result of contracting the coronavirus while onboard.

The Federal Court yesterday unanimously upheld a negligence ruling and said it will remain liable for further compensation.

Three Justices said the *Ruby Princess* cruise, which departed in Mar 2020, should have been cancelled due to knowledge of prior COVID outbreaks on other Carnival ships at the time.

Lead applicant Susan Karpik also had her appeal for \$360,000 in damages rejected, with the court instead awarding \$4,423 plus interest for medical expenses.

Federal Court Justice Angus Stewart will now determine the next steps for the case.

Laing joins US team

INTREPID Travel has promoted Louise Laing to the role of Vice President of USA Marketing.

Laing will join the company's President of the Americas Leigh Barnes in helping to expand Intrepid's reach in North America, which includes a new Canada team led by Tara McCallum.

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Celebrating 25 years of MTA Travel

MTA'S 25th anniversary conference in Adelaide this week not only celebrated the business' 25-year journey, but also looked to the future, with sessions on wellbeing, AI, luxury cruising and sustainable growth. CEO Don Beattie reinforced the importance of empowering advisors in a changing world, while keynote speakers former Olympian Grant Hackett and Glow London boss Emma Harris offered fresh perspectives on resilience and personal growth. Rob Mills lit up the room as MC and gala dinner performer, keeping the energy high from start to finish.



OVER 420 MTA advisors, head office staff, and suppliers gathered in Adelaide for the 25th anniversary conference.



PLANT 4 Bowden was transformed into a whimsical, greenery-filled setting for the welcome dinner.

Pictured: Maria Lombardi and Sue Warry, MTA WA.



ANDREA Borserio celebrates winning a Galapagos cruise, presented by Cam McDonnell from National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions.



KAREN and Roy Merricks were presented with a photo book celebrating 25 years of memories.



ROB Mills kicked off as MC with Michael Buble's *Feeling Good* and kept the crowd engaged with his effortless charm and insights.



ROB Mills and his band kept the dancefloor packed all night long.

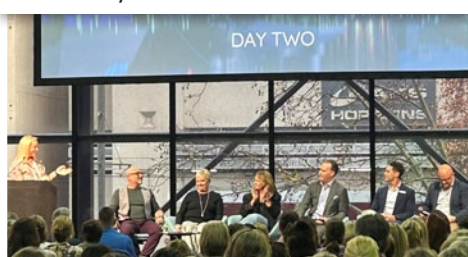


ROB Mills and Grant Hackett with MTA founders Karen and Roy Merricks, alongside Kerryn Taylor, MTA Marketing & Events.



COOKING for a Cause was the philanthropic activity, with the team preparing 230+ meals for the homeless.

A PANEL discussion featured Mark Fuller, Go Insurance; Di Cox and Kim Newton, MTA; Scott Graham, Regent Seven Seas Cruises; and James Sitters, Oceania Cruises; with Richard Taylor from ATIA as moderator.



ROBIN Stevens won the MTA Spirit Award presented by Karen and Roy.



MTA'S head office team wore Adelaide-themed shirts as a bit of fun, making them easy to spot.

A sense of wellness

SIX Senses Fiji is welcoming back holistic health coach Laura Warren from 23 Aug-05 Sep 2025 to lead science-backed wellness sessions.

This marks the third time Warren, who is also a clinical nutritionist and personal trainer, has brought her expertise to the resort as a visiting practitioner.

During her stay, Warren will offer a range of sessions, including a breathwork experience; a 1:1 consultation and personalised health plan; a dynamic movement session followed by contrast therapy (sauna and cold plunge); an educational session focused on sleep hygiene; a guided reset; and more.

QR gets Zimmered

QATAR Airways has partnered with award-winning composer Hans Zimmer to create a new "sonic identity" for the carrier, with the aim of elevating the passenger experience.

The exclusive score will be featured across Qatar Airways' onboard music, and will be released as a full album on major streaming platforms and the airline's official channels.

"This bespoke soundscape will be more than just music; it will be a reflection of our brand's elegance and ambition," said QR Group Chief Executive Officer, Badr Mohammed Al Meer.

LVMH FLIES INTO LUXE TRAVEL SPACE

FRENCH luxury giant LVMH is making a push into the aviation space, with an investment group led by its private equity arm agreeing to buy 20% of US-based private jet company Flexjet.

L Catterton, the private equity firm backed by LVMH, is leading a US\$800 million investment in Flexjet in a transaction that values the private aviation company at approximately US\$4 billion.

The deal, which includes brand partnerships and collaborations that have yet to be announced, connects Flexjet with the world's largest luxury giant and its portfolio of more than 75 brands, which includes travel brands Orient Express & Belmond Hotels.

"We have been trying to move Flexjet into an experiential role," said Kenn Ricci, Chairman of Flexjet and Principal of



Directional Aviation.

"L Catterton presented us some ideas about where they see the future of luxury.

"They basically see that the luxury of the future is time - and they see that in private travel, you can recoup time."

Ricci explained that the cash injection will go toward expanding and improving Flexjet's infrastructure, including purchasing larger, long-haul planes to cater to international travel demand.

Flexjet is focused on positioning

itself as a boutique operator, Ricci said, rather than competing with "a behemoth like NetJets".

He pointed to Flexjet's bespoke aircraft cabins, which are inspired by premium hotel rooms, as a competitive edge.

The deal comes as new research from Bain and Altagamma shows the global sale of luxury goods - which LVMH predominately focuses on - dropped 2% last year to US\$424 billion, while luxury hospitality grew by 4% and the sales of yachts and private jets jumped by 13%. *JM*

Resplendent Ceylon combines tea, sea & safari

IN CELEBRATION of its 20th anniversary, Resplendent Ceylon has launched a limited-edition 'Tea, Sea & Safari' journey across its three resorts.

Priced at US\$20,000, the 10-night, all-inclusive experience takes place across Ceylon Tea Trails, Wild Coast Tented Lodge, and Cape Weligama.

Guests will enjoy a private tea tasting with the resident tea planter at Dunkeld Estate; a scenic helicopter ride to the Elephant Transit Home; a



full-day safari; and a Southern Riviera culinary experience.

Travellers will also receive bespoke keepsakes including a limited-edition painting, engraved anniversary badge, personalised Dilmah tea collection and signed books.

The Palm's new GM

MINOR Hotels has appointed Michael Robinson as GM of Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort in the UAE.

The hospitality professional brings more than 15 years of experience in senior roles across the US, the Middle East, and Asia, most recently as GM at Anantara Riverside Bangkok Resort.

Robinson joins Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort as it embarks on a multi-million-dollar renovation.

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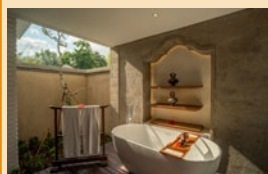
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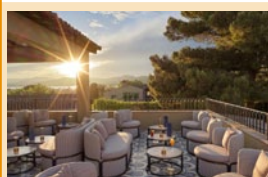
Panache Hotel Group has unveiled a fresh new look for **Peppers Docklands Melbourne**, which has undergone a refurbishment spanning guest rooms, corridors, the lobby, and public areas. Guests will notice new carpets, fresh paintwork, upgraded lighting, and refurbished doors, giving the property a modern, premium feel. The standout feature is the lobby though, which features Italian natural marble and gold-leaf walls.



Tanah Gajah, a Resort by Hadiprana in Ubud, Bali has expanded its accommodation offering with the addition of four Premier One Bedroom Club Pool Villas. Aimed at guests seeking luxury and serenity, the new villas span over 250m² and feature a built-in sofa bed, custom-designed lamps and armchairs, an alfresco dining pavilion, outdoor soaking tub and private eight-metre pool. Guests will be welcomed by elegant, large-scale sculptures of leaves and birds.



Affirming its commitment to pet-friendly travel, **Ovolo Hotels** has refreshed its V.I. Pooch offering, providing an elevated in-room experience for four-legged guests from 01 Aug. Dogs will enjoy the VIP treatment with gourmet meals, plush bedding, designer bowls, memory foam beds, and more, with a line-up of premium products provided by Dog Friendly Co., Frank Green, The Nosh Project, PetzPark and Petzyo.



Hotel Byblos, the Saint-Tropez property under family-owned hospitality group Floriat Signatures, has reopened following a six-month renovation of its F&B spaces. The hotel boasts a range of new culinary experiences and major design upgrades, including the debut of Il Giardino, an intimate Italian restaurant, and Sky Bar, a rooftop cocktail lounge with views of Saint-Tropez and the bay.



Seibu Prince Hotels & Resorts has announced the signing of **Prince Hotel Da Nang**, formerly Sel de Mer Hotel Suites. Located in the Vietnamese city of Da Nang, the property will reopen under its new branding in Oct 2025, featuring 164 guest rooms with private balconies, diverse dining options including a rooftop bar, an infinity pool, gym, and spa.

PTMs sling to Singapore



RUBBING shoulders with more than 650 luxury travel specialists was all the incentive needed for this group of TravelManagers agents to make the most of a visit to ILTM Singapore last month.

The home-based network selected 20 of its luxury specialist Personal Travel Managers (PTMs) to represent the company at the annual showcase event, held again at Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre.

Connecting the 20 agents was also their membership of Signature Travel Network's luxury travel program, available as part of a tie-up with TravelManagers.

Three days of rapid 15-minute appointments allowed the PTMs to connect with the world's luxury hotels, elite tourism boards and DMCs from around the world.

TravelManagers Operations Manager Troy Coelho described ILTM as a great opportunity to strengthen relationships with luxury partners, discover emerging trends and take home fresh inspiration in luxury travel.

The TravelManagers group is **pictured above** and features Chris Scott; Ally Casey; Michael Gazal; Tanya Nielsen; Kerry Cleasby; Merrilyn Priest; Kerstin Rheinlander; Kim Mason; Claire

Crosby; Carli Byrne; Daiana Magalhaes; and Lisa Harrison, Signature Travel Network Managing Director, Australia and New Zealand in the back row.

Front row - Sandii Pink; Troy Coelho; Rachael Portelli; and Lyndall Hewitt. *ML*

Spirit to downsize

US BUDGET carrier Spirit Airlines will downsize its flying schedule in an effort to lower costs and ensure survival.

Effective from 01 Oct, the company will downgrade ranks of 140 pilots to reduce wages, while standing down a further 270.

In a statement, the carrier said it is aligning its workforce to match a smaller operation.

"We are taking necessary steps to ensure we operate as efficiently as possible as part of our efforts to return to profitability," Spirit Airlines said.

The carrier emerged from bankruptcy protection earlier this year after sustaining a prolonged period of financial losses, ongoing debt and failed merger attempts.

Spirit had previously flagged an ambition to ditch its low-cost model and evolve into a more premium airline.

Show your support for APT today

CATEGORY 22
MOST OUTSTANDING
TOUR OPERATOR - GLOBAL

CATEGORY 30
MOST POPULAR
RIVER CRUISE OPERATOR

CATEGORY 32
MOST POPULAR
RESERVATIONS TEAM



VOTE NOW

Your vote means everything to us.





WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

VIVA Holidays, Cruiseco and Creative Crusing are thrilled to be nominated for the following categories:

CATEGORY 23

MOST OUTSTANDING
WHOLESALE - PRODUCT/SERVICE

CATEGORY 32

MOST OUTSTANDING
RESERVATIONS TEAM

VOTE NOW

Helloworld Travel has also been nominated multiple times across the following categories in the 2025 NTIAs:

CATEGORY 07

MOST OUTSTANDING
SALES EXECUTIVE - CRUISE

CATEGORY 09

MOST OUTSTANDING
SALES EXECUTIVE - WHOLESALE

CATEGORY 19

MOST OUTSTANDING
BRANDED TRAVEL AGENCY GROUP

CATEGORY 20

MOST OUTSTANDING
TRAVEL AGENCY NETWORK

CATEGORY 33

MOST OUTSTANDING
TRAVEL INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM

CATEGORY 36

MOST OUTSTANDING
MARKETING CAMPAIGN

NTIA ²⁰²⁵

NATIONAL TRAVEL
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