

Travel Daily ON LOCATION



AT SEA

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of Carnival Cruise Line, which this week is hosting us on a voyage to Moreton Island aboard *Carnival Adventure*.

FRESH from our sail away party and media dinner at Angelo's Italian dining last night, *Adventure* is now sailing north to Queensland.

Today, the Carnival team will walk VIPs through some of the ship's features after being refitted from its former P&O Cruises days.

After that, we are spicing things up at the Dragon Lady east Asian restaurant, before taking in the award-winning *Blanc de Blanc Uncorked*, described as an intoxicating Gatsby-esque ride with a unique brand of opulent, edge-of-your-seat humour.

Save big on Silversea

TRAVELLERS can save up to \$11,000, along with US\$500 shipboard credit, on Silversea voyages - details on **page nine**.

Cruise into events

IMAGINE Cruising is inviting holidaymakers to pair cruise escapes with the biggest global events - more info on **page 10**.

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Native Order a "concern"

EXCLUSIVE

FINNAIR'S decision this month to adopt Amadeus' Native Order distribution technology and move away from GDS structures has been labelled "concerning" by the Chief Executive Officer of UK-based company Agentivity, Riaan van Schoor (pictured).

Speaking with *Travel Daily*, van Schoor said while he congratulates the Nordic carrier for investing in change, a lack of engagement with agents on what those changes will mean should raise red flags.

"The change in offer/order versus the current process is huge," the travel data expert said.

"The fact that these bookings can be made on [Finnair's] B2C website suggests they are using NDC in their direct channel, which apart from not being the norm, or indeed what we have been told the intention was, adds to my worry about the lack of inclusion of the travel sellers."

For its part, Finnair is hailing the Native Order tech as a key way to transition from PNRs and e-tickets towards IATA's 'Offers and Orders' model, which brings together flight details, services, preferences and personal information into one integrated customer record.

"The move supports our move towards modern retailing, enabling...dynamic product bundles and enhanced ancillary sales," said Finnair Vice President Digital Customer and Revenue



Tiina Vesterinen.

"This is a massive technological transformation, where everything changes from architecture, integration, data, applications, processes, to ways of working."

"We...encourage all the parties in the industry to join the transformation," she added.

Finnair has been vocal about its ambition to eliminate EDIFACT and fully transition to NDC, however a previously stated objective of implementing such a move by the end of this year had to be delayed, with the carrier last year conceding the transition had not been as swift as it initially projected. *AB*

Exoticca's legacy

EXOTICCA is showcasing its 13-day 'Skylines & Legacies' trip from Shanghai to Chengdu - discover the details on the **back page**.

Today's issue of TD

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

- Silversea
- Imagine Holidays

All about Portugal

ORMINA Tours is inviting travel agents to join its upcoming Portugal webinar, which provides in-depth product training on the brand's offerings in the region.

The 30-minute session takes place Wed 11 Jun at 4pm AEST - register **HERE**.



Wendy Wu Tours



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Time is running out

TIME is running out for your chance to score a Classic Checked Set from cult Melbourne brand July, valued at \$700 - simply complete **Travel Daily's** readership survey for a chance to win.

The Insta-worthy July set includes the 122L Carry On and Checked cases.

A further 10 lucky winners will each walk away with a \$100 Prezzy gift card, which can be spent at hundreds of brands.

The short multiple-choice survey will play a significant role in how **Travel Daily** engages with its audience in the future, as it prepares to build on its strong position serving the industry.

The survey closes on Wed 28 May - **CLICK HERE** to enter.



New Rock protocols

AYERS Rock Resort will unveil revised protocols to help guests more meaningfully engage with traditional Anangu owners during their visit to Uluru.

The new guidelines, developed with the local owners, come as part of the property's National Reconciliation Week Program, which runs to 03 Jun.

Celebrations this week will also include a wood carving exhibition marking 40 years of Maruku Arts.

Guests can also engage in an immersive storytelling experience at the Town Square and enjoy free screenings of Indigenous movies.

MEL adds taxi ranks

MELBOURNE Airport has opened new taxi and Uber ranks at the front of its T2 International Terminal.

The new Uber lane sits adjacent to the existing T1 taxi rank, while room for taxis has also now been added to the T2 Uber rank.



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Virtuoso off to K-town

SEOUL has been named as the host of the 2026 Virtuoso Symposium, with the event set to take place from 15-19 Apr 2026.

Hosted in partnership with the Korea Tourism Organisation (KTO), the event will draw more than 400 luxury travel brand executives from 35 countries for five days of networking, business development and exploration.

Virtuoso's Senior Vice President, Global Events, Jennifer Campbell, said the South Korean capital was selected for demonstrating a growing demand for luxury experiences in unique settings.

"From the deeply rooted traditions of Seoul's palaces to the innovation in its design, wellness and technology sectors, Korea represents the future of luxury travel – one that blends meaning, beauty and human connection," Campbell said.

"Korea's unique appeal, cultural richness and diverse range of



experiences make it essential for our members and partners to explore and understand all that Korea has to offer."

The Virtuoso Symposium is held in a different country each year, with the event proving a catalyst for ongoing tourism growth.

The 2024 edition in Slovenia led to a 473% increase in sales from Virtuoso agents for summer holidays in 2025.

This year's edition of the event was held onboard Crystal Cruises' *Crystal Serenity* (TD 21 May), with delegates enjoying a luxury sailing from Barcelona to Marseille. *ML*

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Window Seat

IT IS important to get the right speakers for an event, especially when the trade media who are invited write petty 'funny' columns the day after said event.

And so it was that an exclusive group of trade media gathered last night in Sydney to witness the signing of an MoU between Fukushima prefecture and ATIA - Fukushima is, of course, famous for its powder and very popular amongst skiers looking for quieter runs.

Enter ATIA CEO Dean Long to share a few words of wisdom.

"I am someone who cannot ski, but I hear there is wood-fired pizza at the end of one of the ski runs, so I will learn," he proclaimed excitedly.

APT raises the luxe bar

EXCLUSIVE

APT CEO David Cox has lifted the lid on the rationale for the company's rebrand earlier in the year (*TD* 13 Jan), explaining that the move was needed to emphasise its luxury credentials against a backdrop of mass market appropriation of the term.

"Everybody's calling themselves luxury these days and we wanted to lift ourselves...and I suppose raise the brand above the pack," Cox told *Travel Daily*.

"The monogram is now a different style to any of our competitors' logos and the feedback has been that it looks luxury, feels regal, and is elevated - that really is what we were trying to do," he added.

Cox noted the rebrand is also serving to leverage its long-standing reputation in the market and emphasise trust with travellers, an important ingredient for a company that has



been in operation since 1927.

When announced in Jan, APT revealed the logo refresh alongside a new tagline of 'Everything to a T'.

At the time, Group Chief Marketing Officer Jason Shugg said the move would not "change the essence" of APT, but instead reinforce the brand's commitment to delivering unparalleled travel experiences.

Speaking about Australian cruise travellers and why they should choose APT, Cox said its vessels are designed by Australians for Australians, and embody a contemporary, light, and warm ambience on board for guests. *AB*

Allergy travel fears

THREE in four (76%) Australians living with a food allergy actively avoid travel due to potential allergy risks, new research from Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia (A&AA) has revealed.

Of 543 people surveyed, almost all (99%) experienced travel anxiety due to potential allergy risks, and more than half (56%) said plane travel causes 'a lot' of extra dread.

In response to the data, A&AA has launched a dedicated Food Allergy Travel Hub to help 1.5 million Australians living with food allergy to travel with more confidence and increased safety.

The free online hub (see [HERE](#)) provides resources that address common concerns, including airline policy comparisons, translated chef cards to advise hospitality staff of allergens, advice for travelling with adrenaline (epinephrine) devices, and check lists for everything from travel insurance to cruising.

Meet the Rail Europe team



Grant Robertson

Regional Manager – AU & NZ
grobertson@raileurope.com

Based: Sydney

Top tip: Book Eurostar Plus for comfort & value.

Favourite train: FART on the Centovalli Line.

Responsible for NSW.



Sandy Battle

Key Account Manager – AU & NZ
sbattle@raileurope.com

Based: Perth

Top tip: Night trains, travel while you sleep for more daylight exploring at your destination.

Favourite train: Eurostar

Responsible for WA, NT, SA and QLD.



James Hooper

Key Account Manager – AU & NZ
jhooper@raileurope.com

Based: Melbourne

Top tip: View **Product Fact Sheets** under Planning resources for heaps of useful carrier info.

Favourite train: Any IC train in Switzerland but the route from Chur to Saint Moritz is a winner!

Responsible for VIC, TAS, ACT and NZL.



Stephanie Hummels

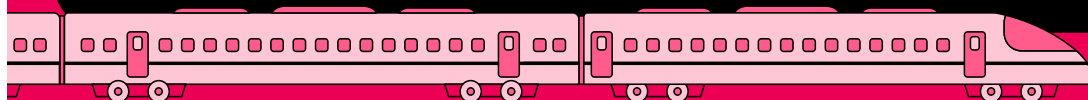
Business Support Exec – APAC
shummels@raileurope.com

Based: Brisbane

Top tip: Always check the System Connectivity Status page prior to booking.

Favourite train: TGV Lyria France-Switzerland.

Responsible for inside sales & marketing support.



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WA dreams of Asia

TOURISM WA has partnered with AirAsia to launch the latest iteration of its 'Walking on a Dream' campaign, which aims to encourage Malaysian travellers to visit the state.

Rolling out last week in Kuala Lumpur, the campaign comes ahead of AirAsia resuming its twice-daily flights from Kuala Lumpur to Perth from 23 Jun.

The airline will offer more than \$145,000 worth of discount codes for Malaysian travellers for flights from Kuala Lumpur to Perth, available until 31 Jul for travel until 31 Dec 2025.

Malaysia is WA's fifth-largest international tourism market by visitor numbers and spend, with 61,000 Malaysian visitors contributing \$136 million to the WA economy last year.

JQ glitch fixed

QANTAS subsidiary Jetstar has confirmed that the glitch related to its GPS, which led to multiple flight disruptions last week (**TD 23 May**), has now been resolved.

While it is believed that solar flares may be behind the fault, the exact cause has not yet been determined, with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority saying it will continue to work with the carrier to understand the issue.

The aviation regulator also confirmed that Jetstar's navigation systems and safety were not affected.

Guests quicken pace

TODAY'S traveller is "fast paced" and looking for "a more experiential stay" - that is the opinion of Leonard Gooz (**pictured**), Global Brand Leader, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, who was in Sydney recently to celebrate the 50th birthday of the city's Hilton Hotel.

The US-based executive was asked by **Travel Daily** how guests are evolving in an environment that is still settling after the pandemic and is being driven by significant shifts in how demographics are behaving.

"It's interesting when you say 'guests', it's such a broad population," Gooz replied.

"We have leisure travellers, business transient groups, meetings and events - and at Hilton, often the customers are also locals that come to the Marble Bar or to [the Glass Brasserie] - so we have many kinds of guests, but a lot of the positioning that we've developed is geared to address what we identified they're looking for."

Gooz suggested that the guest experience is changing and that it could be viewed as being from two different buckets: the fast-paced bucket and the experiential bucket.

"The guest of today is a little more fast-paced than the guest of the past...they like to get what they want, how they want, when they want."



"There's a lot of choice and flexibility you have to offer."

Gooz said that fast-paced behaviour is being accommodated by Hilton in a variety of ways, but pointed to dining options as an example of the experiential trend.

"If you look at the different kinds of outlets and venues like this morning, I'm not one who sits down to a full breakfast, so some people can go to Glass restaurant while some people like me will go down to the coffee shop and get a latte and a croissant quickly on the go."

"Choice and flexibility is a big one, but then this genuine feeling that is more experiential versus just a lodging product or just another hotel restaurant - it's really elevating the experiential part," he added.

With guests trying to do a lot in a short amount of time, Gooz stated that they are looking for "places that are truly creating an experience that is authentically welcoming". **DF**

An alternative slice

TRAVEL lay-by service Slice Pay has inked a new partnership with booking platform Alternative Airlines, a booking platform with a network of more than 650 airline options.

The tie-up combines Slice Pay's innovative payment solutions with Alternative Airlines' network, offering more flexibility for travellers.

Slice Pay hailed the collaboration as "setting the stage of a revolutionary shift in how travellers book flights and manage payments".

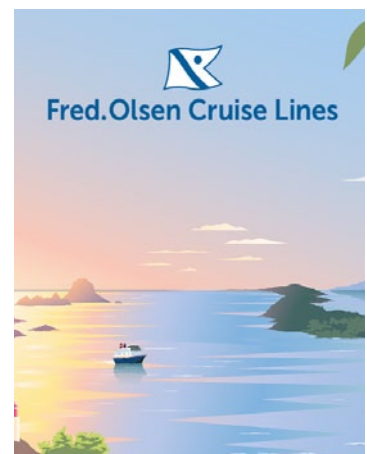
A320neo successor?

DEVELOPING a successor to its successful A320neo will be top of the agenda for Airbus' new Head of Technology, Remi Maillard.

The newly-created position for Airbus' former India and South Asia boss has been reported by Reuters, with Maillard to assume some of current Chief Technology Officer Sabine Klauke's duties.

In an internal memo, the company said its next aircraft project - rumoured to be in play by the end of the decade - will include exploring new propulsion, materials, systems and slender folding wings as part of the remit.

The news follows Airbus delaying its plan for a smaller regional hydrogen-powered plane, joining Boeing and turboprop maker ATR in dialling down hydrogen projects due to an immature market.



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Third HKG-SYD link coming



HONG Kong Airlines is gearing up to launch its direct daily Sydney-Hong Kong service on 21 Jun (**TD** 12 Feb), hosting trade at a celebratory event last week at the Shangri-La Hotel in Sydney.

The event was attended by prominent figures from the aviation and travel industries, including representatives from the Hong Kong Tourism Board and Shangri-La Hotels.

Greg Botham, Group Executive Aviation Growth & Group Strategy at Sydney Airport, was also there on the night alongside his team.

"The launch highlights Hong Kong Airlines' continued investment in the Australian market and its strategic ambition to grow its footprint across the region," the airline said.

HX will be the third carrier directly linking Australia with Hong Kong, alongside QF and CX.

The new Sydney service will be operated by A330-300 aircraft, boosting daily seat capacity on the route by 20%. *JM*

Pictured: Botham and Hong Kong Airlines' Assistant President, Gloria Slethhaug.



Discover our River Cruise Special Report

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AA made mistakes

AMERICAN Airlines' new Senior VP of Global Sales Lucas Martin last week addressed the carrier's previous disastrous decision to turn its back on travel advisors.

Speaking at the Travel Advisor Conference in Utah, Martin said the rationale to ditch its advisor channel was made because it was proving too expensive to operate and had been underperforming.

"We saw a lot of fundamental assets in the business [including] this new distribution tech called NDC...and the question was: 'does the business case make sense for this expensive channel?'" Martin explained.

However, when earnings started to shrink rapidly after chasing an aggressive NDC strategy, Martin conceded a "reset" was needed.

AA has pivoted back to supporting its advisor channel, with Martin acknowledging trust needs to be rebuilt with the trade, noting support from agents has waned since 2022.

Capella adds more

THE former Department of Lands building in Sydney, slated to become an extension of the adjacent Capella Sydney luxury hotel, now has a name, with a ceremony yesterday confirming The Lands by Capella branding.

The heritage-listed site will seek to add value to the emerging luxury precinct between Circular Quay, Macquarie and George Streets, referred to as 'the sandstone precinct'.

The Lands by Capella will open to the public in Q1 2026 and serve as a mixed-use area to bolster the appeal of the neighbouring Capella Sydney, offering high-end experiences.

The twin sandstone buildings also mark Pontiac Land Group's first mixed-use development in Australia, which is one of the largest privately funded tourism infrastructure projects in NSW.

It is estimated the hotel and precinct will add \$1.2 billion to Sydney's economic output.

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Whitsundays' 'Iconic' move

TOURISM Whitsundays has unveiled its 'Iconic' new brand and national campaign, celebrating the destination's natural beauty.

The new brand has been developed in partnership with creative agency Simple, sporting the tagline 'Naturally Iconic'.

At the heart of the new platform, which will form part of a national campaign, is a "laid-back" brand that leans into the personality of The Whitsunday Islands.

The brand heavily weaves in the Great Barrier Reef, as well as some of The Whitsundays' other natural wonders, including Whitehaven Beach, Heart Reef, its national parks, and more.

The platform's new brand pillars include 'mainland experiences', 'island life', 'natural icons', and 'dynamic adventures'.

The brand was launched



through an integrated campaign in partnership with denstu Queensland, spanning high-impact placements across out-of-home, social, digital, and search, targeting both interstate and intrastate travellers. *MS*

QR ditches MAX

QATAR Airways has ditched its Boeing 737 MAX 10 order, the airline confirmed in an interview with *Bloomberg*.

QR had 25 of the aircraft on order, placed during a spat with Airbus over paint degradation (*TD* 02 Feb 2023), but this has now been cancelled.

Contiki 2026 sale

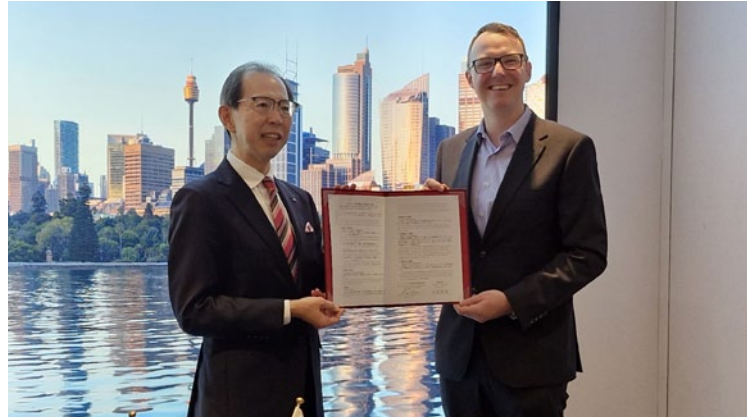
CONTIKI'S ultimate sale for next year is now live, with travellers able to save on 10 trips, with up to \$1,275 off.

Offers are available on 10 departures worldwide, with the sale running to 31 Jul.

Highlights include up to \$595 off Contiki's Ultimate South East Asia trip.

Other itineraries on sale include Contiki's 'Ultimate New Zealand' - book now [HERE](#).

Fukushima in full swing



FUKUSHIMA Prefecture and the Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA) last night signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) at an exclusive event in Sydney.

Masao Uchibori, Governor of Fukushima Prefecture (*pictured left*), was joined by ATIA CEO Dean Long to formalise the agreement, which aims to strengthen the relationship between the Prefecture and the Australian travel industry, particularly in terms of outbound tourism from Australia.

"There is so much room for growth, and Fukushima will be the powerhouse of the Australian travel industry going forward for Japan visitations," Long said.

"The MOU will enable the Australian travel trade to promote Fukushima in a much more sophisticated way, opening up famil opportunities and fantastic marketing opportunities to promote to the Australian people why they should visit Fukushima -

Japan and Australia have a critical role in the Indo-Pacific...and it's going to be a prosperous future."

When asked about over-tourism in Japan and how Fukushima would deal with this, the Governor exclaimed that there is no issue in the region and it is happy to welcome as many Australians as possible. *DF*

VA Pay with Points

VIRGIN Australia's Velocity Frequent Flyer program has launched an innovative new feature, 'Pay with Points', which allows passengers to pay for onboard food and drink with their loyalty points.

The new program, a first for an airline reward program, is available now on selected Virgin domestic and short-haul international flights.

It is available to Velocity members who link their account to a Visa credit or debit card via the app.

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'BOOK AND CLAIM' IN VIRGIN'S SAF PLAN

VIRGIN Australia and Boeing have signalled their support for an International 'Book and Claim' accounting structure for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), which offers tax incentives for local production and use.

In a new jointly commissioned report prepared by independent think-tank Pollination, Virgin and Boeing say 'Book and Claim' represents a major opportunity for a SAF industry in Australia.

'Book and Claim' is not a new concept, but a chain-of-custody that tracks and documents the environmental benefits of SAF, allowing businesses to claim the tax incentives while the fuel itself may be used by somebody else.

Virgin and Boeing say 'Book and Claim' will allow them to claim the environmental and financial benefits of buying SAF without physically storing the fuel or generation carbon emissions through transporting it.

Australia's greenhouse gas accounting system currently only allows airlines to recognise SAF emissions combusted locally, not from fuel used overseas.



The idea also highlights the slow progress being made on a local SAF production industry despite significant feedstock resources, with airlines eager to buy the fuel but only able to do so overseas.

"SAF is the most critical decarbonisation lever for the aviation sector to reach net zero emissions, but production and use of sustainable aviation fuel must accelerate significantly for the global aviation sector to achieve this goal," said Virgin Australia General Manager Sustainability, Fiona Walmsley.

"By enabling airlines to purchase SAF benefits regardless of location, we can accelerate

industry-wide adoption and ultimately drive down costs."

Boeing Sustainability Lead Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific, Dr Kimberly Camrass, said 'Book and Claim' is critical to scaling up SAF uptake globally.

"It eliminates geographical barriers, allowing airlines to access the environmental benefits of SAF even when they operate in regions where production is not possible or not yet established," Camrass added.

Earlier this year, Boeing chief rival Airbus said it would begin testing the 'Book and Claim' approach to boost both the supply and demand for SAF globally. *ML*

Electric aircraft a regional saving grace

AUSTRALIA'S regional airlines have "been pretty much a mess for decades" but the introduction of electric aviation vehicles could unlock a chance to turn the situation around, said leading aviation industry analyst, Peter Harbison.

Harbison, the founder of CAPA - Centre for Aviation, spoke at the Sydney Airline Leadership Forum last week.

While the Government now has control over the administration process, he suggested the "last thing we want" is a government-owned airline operating regional services but "after 2030, it gets really interesting".

Harbison was referring to

small electric aviation vehicles, which are becoming "a viable product" with a large number in development.

"This aircraft is today capable of a 250km range at a minimum cruise speed of 200kph and can carry about 350 kilograms, so you're talking three or four people conservatively for that.

"Those are ideal for regional services which don't necessarily want a daily service with 50 or 60 seats going there - it's much more advantageous for say hospital connections for doctors, for government employees, for locals to be having a variety of flights during the day of much smaller aircraft," Harbison said.

A year with WWF

NOVOTEL has launched two new food policies to mark one year of collaboration with the World Wildlife Fund.

Led by fisheries experts at WWF France, the Accor hotel brand's new Sustainable Seafood Principles ban 350 endangered species from being served or purchased across 600 hotels globally.

The brand has also committed to only buying MSC-certified wild-caught or responsibly-caught species.

Novotel will also work to ensure all hotels have a minimum of 25% plant-based items on its menus by 2026, up from the 39% of Novotel hotels currently practising it.



SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

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Director of
Sales AUNZ at
HX Expeditions,

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Designed to build an understanding of the region's unique environment, the course is helping transform travellers into informed advocates, and changing the way they see the world.

HX has dedicated a record 1,911 cruise nights to host guest scientists, while travellers have contributed over 30,000 citizen science submissions across 3,425 research sessions.

From tracking microplastics to mapping cetacean populations, these collective efforts drive real-world data into the hands of leading institutions like the British Antarctic Survey and Alfred Wegener Institute.

Informed travellers become powerful advocates for the planet. It is a meaningful step toward ensuring that exploration contributes to preservation.

If you would like to enrol in the UTAS HX Pre-Departure Course, please contact the HX GX Team on 1300 159 127.



MONEY

WELCOME to Money, TD's Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

AU\$1 = US\$0.648

THE Australian dollar has been buoyed by renewed trade tensions between the Trump administration and the European Union.

Over the weekend, the US President suggested he would introduce a hefty tax to European exports next month, prompting investors to ditch the US dollar, in turn lifting the AUD to higher levels.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.648
UK	£0.478
NZ	\$1.081
Euro	€0.569
Japan	¥92.51
Thailand	฿21.15
China	¥4.660
South Africa	11.57
Canada	\$0.891
Crude oil	US\$61.01

QF seeks capacity

QANTAS is seeking to renew its capacity of 1,927 seats a week to the Philippines capital Manila from Jun for another five years.

The carrier has also requested the International Air Services Commission reissue its 788 seats a week to New Caledonia for another five-year period.

Qantas' latest move follows an application in Apr to secure unlimited capacity for 99 years between Australia and the Philippines for all ports other than Manila and Clark.

APT's great charity bake-off



APT Travel Group has raised \$6,500 for Cancer Council Australia's Biggest Morning Tea initiative, exceeding the company's original goal of \$3,000, during an internal staff bake-off fundraiser.

The amount includes a dollar-for-dollar matching commitment from the group's not-for-profit foundation OneTomorrow, boosting the impact of every staff donation for life-saving cancer research across Australia.

The bake-off saw 20 APT Travel Group staff volunteers showcase their culinary talents in a friendly internal competition, complete with prizes for the top three bakers and a complimentary coffee cart to fuel their efforts.

"We're absolutely thrilled with the incredible generosity shown by our team," said Lorna Heyward, Chief Operating Officer at APT Travel Group.

"What started as a fun way to bring back a beloved tradition has resulted in a significant contribution to cancer research that affects so many Australian families," Heyward added.

"This success story shows what's possible when businesses engage their teams in charitable giving and have the infrastructure to amplify that impact."

The Biggest Morning Tea is Cancer Council's signature fundraising event, held annually across Australia to support cancer research, prevention programs, and support services. *JM*

Pictured: Grace Cullinan, Elise Plaza and Caitlin Welsh from APT.

NZ Southerner back

GREAT Journeys New Zealand has added another round of dates for The Southerner, following the historic rail route's successful revival last year.

The new Christchurch Explorer journey departs Dunedin on 25 Oct, with two nights' accommodation in a central Christchurch hotel and fully guided tours taking in Banks Peninsula, the port town of Lyttleton, and the beachside haven of Sumner.

For more information, contact the sales team on 1800 090 589.

Riyadh Air spills ink

IT HAS been a busy month for Saudi start-up airline Riyadh Air, which recently signed a deal with Ink Innovation to move away from legacy ticketing infrastructure to a management system aligned with IATA's Modern Airline Retailing model.

The airline said the changes will allow agents to manage bookings without relying on systems using PNLs or PNRs, offering benefits like real-time changes mid-trip, such as adding services and connecting with third-party content in one platform.

"Instead of static, pre-booked trips, travel becomes modular, personal, and responsive," Riyadh Air said of its retail model.

Ink and Riyadh Air have built the system to connect to hotels, airport transfers, local experiences, and multimodal transport like rail.

It is also designed to support upselling, cross-selling, and personalised service delivery.

The latest development follows the carrier inking a global distribution agreement with Sabre (*TD* 15 May), unveiling a dynamic loyalty program (*TD* 12 May), and a willingness to connect its network to Australia once up and running (*TD* 07 May).

Eco park gives back

WILDLIFE Habitat Port Douglas is offering free entry to local tourism, hospitality and service workers from now until 22 Jun, as a 'thank you' for their contribution to the community.

Additionally, three people for the price of two can enjoy the sanctuary's popular 'Swim with the Salties' adventure.



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Xi'an: history meets culinary treasures:

In Xi'an, the experience takes some fantastic twists and turns—starting with your customers gazing at over 8,000

sculpted figures at the Terracotta Warriors Museum, then strolling the winding streets of the Muslim Quarter, sampling local specialities like roujiamo (stuffed bread). And of course, they'll visit the Great Mosque.

Chengdu: Pandas, art, and hidden streets

Arriving by bullet train, your customers will spend their time in Chengdu learning about the endangered and beautiful giant pandas, discovering the art of Shu embroidery, and enjoying free time to wander the city's streets, from wide boulevards to narrow cobblestone lanes adorned with red lanterns.

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