

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features eight pages of the latest news, including a photo page from **Bon Voyage** and our **Corporate Update**, plus full pages from:

- **Celebrity Cruises**
- **Batik Air**

CLIA nominations close tonight

TODAY is the last opportunity for travel trade to cast their nominations for the upcoming Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) awards.

Nine out of 14 categories are open to peer- or self-nomination, with winners to be announced at a gala celebration on Sat 07 Mar 2026 at the ICC Sydney.

"We know there's an enormous amount of talent and dedication among our members, so this is an important opportunity to stand up and make sure this is recognised," said CLIA Managing Director in Australasia, Joel Katz.

Nominations close tonight - **CLICK HERE** to make sure your vote counts.

QR, IHG corp tie-up

QATAR Airways has signed a partnership with IHG Hotels & Resorts to launch a series of initiatives for business travel through their respective corporate travel programs.

Qatar's Beyond Business and IHG Business Edge will offer integrated loyalty benefits through mutual point earning and redemption opportunities across IHG's global hospitality footprint for program members.

Discover more corporate news on **page seven**.

BGH vies for Webjet

WEBJET Group Limited (ASX: WJL) has announced it has received a revised non-binding and indicative offer from BGH Capital Pty Ltd (BGH) to acquire all the shares in Webjet not already owned by BGH and its associates (**TD** breaking news).

The proposal is an off-market takeover at an all-cash price of \$0.91 per share and comes just two days after Helloworld tabled a bid to purchase all remaining shares in Webjet Group at \$0.90 a share (**TD** 19 Nov).

The revised BGH proposal will not be reduced by the \$0.02 dividend announced in connection with Webjet's 1H26 results and is subject to a number of conditions, including a 75% minimum acceptance.

It follows a previous non-binding indication of interest

New theme park?

MORETON Bay could be the home of Australia's next theme park, with a proposal put forth for a \$2.6 billion integrated entertainment city dubbed Infinity Planet.

The masterplan includes indoor and outdoor theme park attractions, 50 cultural pavilions providing a 'permanent world expo', a 9,000-seat 'city hall' venue for large-scale events, conventions and performances, a 136,000m² retail and dining precinct, and a business and technology park.

The precinct would cover a 68-hectare site occupied by strawberry and macadamia farmland at Elimbah, around 60km north of Brisbane CBD.

WebJet

from BGH to acquire a controlling interest in Webjet for \$0.80 cash per share, which was disclosed to Webjet shareholders on 13 May 2025 and subsequently rejected.

After considering the revised BGH Proposal, the Webjet Board has agreed with BGH's request to provide it with an opportunity to conduct due diligence, subject to the parties agreeing to a mutually acceptable non-disclosure agreement.

The news comes after Webjet Group cancelled a general meeting, which was due to take place today, following the withdrawal of a notice by Portfolio Services Pty Ltd and the lack of requisite shareholder support for the resolutions proposed (**TD** 20 Nov). *DF*

TA pitches to Brits

TOURISM Australia is inviting English travellers to 'Come and Say G'day' throughout the upcoming Ashes series, with a campaign launching this week featuring Australian Test cricket captain Pat Cummins and Ruby the Kangaroo.

The 'Howzat for a holiday?' creative will run on TV and online across England to remind the UK about the world-class destinations and experiences Australia has to offer.



Celebrity's Black Fri

CELEBRITY Cruises is offering up to 75% off your clients' second guest and savings of up to \$1,200 per room - find out more about the Black Fri sale on **page nine**.

Batik Air says thanks

BATIK Air Malaysia has expressed its gratitude to trade partners for their ongoing support, as the carrier celebrates 10 years of operations in Perth.

See the message on **page 10**.

collette
BY Travellers. FOR Travellers.

\$200*

**Gift Card
For Every
Black Friday
Booking**



BLACK FRIDAY SALE

UP TO 25%* OFF
TOURS WORLDWIDE

LEARN MORE

*Conditions Apply

AGENT INCENTIVE

BUNNIK'S BIG BIRTHDAY GIVEAWAY

T&Cs apply

1 week left of our biggest ever agent incentive!

Don't miss your chance to win 1 of 4 awesome tours. Click here to find out more.

**Bunnik
Tours**
Family-run since forever



Pagotto reveals 'tricky truth' in travel

ONE of the toughest challenges for tourists to navigate is knowing how to respectfully immerse themselves in different cultures, according to Crooked Compass' Lisa Pagotto.

"Think of traditional dress - a Maasai man wearing his shuka is seen as proud and dignified," she wrote in an opinion piece.

"A foreign visitor wearing it for a photo op?

"Suddenly, it's costume, not culture - one instance stems from belonging, the other from novelty," she added.

Pagotto described it as a paradox that sometimes faces global tourism - "the tension between admiration and offence, authenticity and appropriation".

She explained it is a double standard with privilege at the heart of it, especially as tourists "often hold the camera, the buying power and the global microphone".



"Locals...are expected to smile politely through missteps that would never be tolerated in reverse," she said, noting that travellers are often curious and genuinely mean well.

This is where travel agents and tour operators can step in and help educate tourists and shape their understanding of a culture before they have even stepped foot in a destination, she said.

"Education should not just be about where to go and what to pack, it's about how to show up - ensure you are respectful whilst learning," she wrote.

"From pre-departure briefings

on cultural etiquette to storytelling that centres around local voices, we can empower travellers to engage with culture consciously, not carelessly."

When travelling, self-awareness is key, and Pagotto recommended travellers consider how they are showing up in other cultures, whether participating in a ritual, wearing a costume or taking photos of locals.

She suggested travellers ask themselves if the act would feel acceptable if roles were reversed or whether they are "participating with permission, or simply assuming access".

"Cultural connection isn't built on mimicry, it's built on humility," Pagotto observed.

"When we learn to recognise the double standards embedded in our behaviour, we travel not just more respectfully, but more deeply," she added.

To read more, click [HERE](#). JHM

Travel Daily
ON LOCATION



Brisbane

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you from the inaugural [Link Live 2025](#), which is taking place at the [W Brisbane](#).

JOINT-VENTURE agency network Link Travel Group is holding its Link Live event in Brisbane today.

More than 180 delegates and agency owners are in attendance at the conference-style event, with highlights including a supplier showcase, workshops on AI and wellbeing, as well as a keynote speech from former Wallabies skipper John Eales.

Link Live will also host a celebration dinner where awards will be presented to members and supplier partners. Stay tuned for more details.

BLACK FRIDAY SUPER SALE

UP TO **50% OFF** CRUISES* + **FREE** UNLIMITED PREMIUM BEVERAGES & MORE!* + US **\$400** FREE ONBOARD CREDIT*

PARTNER INCENTIVE

Earn **TRIPLE** Points on **ALL SAILINGS!***



NCL NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE®

To book call our local Reservations Team
on **1300 255 200**

PARTNERSFIRST
REWARDS

*Valid on deposited bookings made between 18 November - 2 December 2025. T&Cs apply.



VA adopts AI concierge

VIRGIN Australia is the first airline to adopt Sabre's new Concierge IQ, an AI chat solution for airlines that helps travellers plan, book and manage trips in one conversation.

According to Sabre, the solution can understand layered questions and interpret intent to deliver accurate results.

"The result is genuine, scalable personalisation that also helps brands unlock additional annual revenue," it said.

To use the tech, travellers simply chat on their platform (web, airline mobile apps and WhatsApp) to find and book

recommendations of the best routes, dates and accommodation within their budget - without switching apps.

When promoted, Concierge IQ will suggest upgrades, bundles and other products, and when travellers are ready to book, the tech will help them redeem loyalty points, use multiple payment methods or combine both in a single transaction.

And if plans change, baggage needs to be tracked or refunds need to be processed, Concierge IQ will help when prompted.

"It understands context and intent and manages itinerary changes with the same empathy and judgement as a skilled human agent," said Sabre. *JHM*

Old cuts red tape

THE Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) has welcomed the introduction of new legislation that will streamline the ability for tourism operators to work in protected areas.

In what has been declared a "major win" for the state's eco-tourism operators, the Queensland Government will move to a single-permission framework for businesses working in national parks and protected areas.

The change is designed to cut red tape and reduce administrative burden.

"This legislation will help operators spend more time creating world-class experiences and less time navigating paperwork, while still ensuring strong environmental protections remain in place," said QTIC CEO Natassia Wheeler.

"This reform demonstrates that industry voices are being heard."

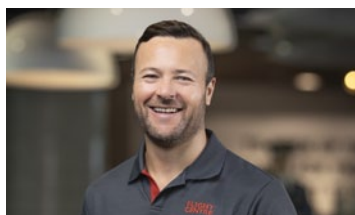
Stark gets on board

FLIGHT Centre global managing director Andrew Stark has been appointed to the Flight Centre Foundation's board of directors.

Stark (**pictured**) said he is looking forward to "strengthening the connection between our people, our customers and the communities we serve".

Foundation Chair Andrew Flannery noted Stark's expertise in the business will be vital as it "enters a new phase of growth and community engagement".

The foundation has distributed over \$20 million in donations since it launched in 2008.



A&K to have two on the Nile



ABERCROMBIE & Kent Travel Group (AKTG) is set to unveil a second ship on the Nile in 2028, off the back of signing an agreement today with Egyptian shipbuilder, The Arab Contractors.

The sister ship, whose name will be revealed in the next few months, will follow the launch of *Nile Seray*, which is scheduled for delivery in late 2026.

She will also take inspiration from *Seray* (**pictured**), which will feature 32 suites for 65 guests.

Each suite will offer a minimum of 33m² with floor-to-ceiling windows and waterside Juliet balconies overlooking the river.

Two suites will include full private balconies with outdoor spa pools.

She will also feature two restaurants led by world-class chefs, a spa with two treatment rooms, a gym, and a top deck with canopied daybeds, swimming pool, and outdoor bar with views of the Nile valley.

"This second vessel represents our absolute confidence in Egypt's enduring appeal and

our commitment to setting new standards in Nile cruising," said Cristina Levis, CEO of AKTG.

"Having two sister ships of this calibre allows us to offer even more travellers the exceptional experiences that have defined A&K's presence in Egypt since 1977," she added.

A&K's Egyptian fleet will now grow to six vessels, including the *Zein Nile Chateau* traditional sailboat and the *Sun Boat III* and *Sun Boat IV* riverboats.

According to Amr Badr, Senior Vice President for Egypt and the Middle East at A&K, Egypt is "experiencing a remarkable renaissance in luxury tourism" and the two new ships are a reflection of the line's commitment to the region.

The country has also gained attention on the global stage this year with the recent opening of the Grand Egyptian Museum, and the line's bookings for Egypt have "increased significantly year-on-year", with demand for its Tailormade holidays and private experiences. *JHM*



Martin Randall unveils 2026/27

MARTIN Randall Travel has announced several new cultural cruises for 2026 and 2027, with itineraries spanning European waterways and the Nile River.

Among the UK cultural tour operator's new offerings is the eight-day 'The Rhine Piano Festival' itinerary, which features nine private recitals by world-class pianists in Mannheim, Bruchsal and Narny, the Beethovenhaus in Bonn and the Felix Meritis Hall in Amsterdam.

The line-up also includes a week-long history and art themed cruise on the Danube; a Nile experience that combines four nights in Cairo with six nights aboard a privately chartered vessel; and a sailing that explores the wine-growing heritage, gardens and history of the Douro River region.

"Travellers are increasingly drawn to journeys that combine cultural depth with the advantages of small ships," said Kelly Ward, Australia & New Zealand Country Manager for Martin Randall Travel.

"Our cruises provide a sustainable way to explore, steering clear of over-touristed routes and granting access to archaeological sites and coastal towns without the logistical challenges of land travel or the impact of large vessels."

The release comes shortly after the operator began its push into the local market (**TD** 30 Sep).

France gives good impressions



AMAWATERWAYS, Air France, Rail Europe, and Atout France recently hosted travel advisors at the 'Impressions of France' event in Sydney.

Attendees gathered at Hyatt Regency Hotel, where they were provided with the latest updates from the brands while enjoying an elegant French dinner and entertainment, along with the chance to win prizes.

AmaWaterways Managing Director Australia and New Zealand, Steve Richards, shared updates on the line's itineraries across Europe, Africa, Asia, Colombia, and Egypt.

Guests also heard from Rail Europe's Regional Manager Australia and NZ, Grant Robertson (**pictured** inset), who provided an update on TGV INOUI - France's premium high-speed rail service, which is set to launch a new



generation of trains, as well as the TGV Lyria Mediterranean line, expected in 2026.

Additionally, Air France's National Account Manager Australia and NZ, George Siljanoski, discussed the carrier's new La Premiere experience (**TD** 14 Jul), which is now available on the daily night flight operated by a Boeing 777-300ER between Singapore and Paris.

Siljanoski also highlighted Air France's one-stop-shop agent portal, which provides easy access to the airline's latest updates, procedures, policies and other helpful information. *JM*



Window Seat

CELEBRITY Cruises is proving cruises are not just floating hotels - they are floating entertainment districts.

The latest instalment of the YouTube documentary *Ship Shape* pulls the curtain back on how the line's latest ship, *Celebrity Xcel*, keeps its passengers entertained, day and night.

The luxury vessel pulls out all the stops, with 75 resident performers, five original shows and a fully mechanical, revolving stage, as well as immersive shows, LED walls, lasers, after-parties, and more.

In the documentary, the staff on board explain the massive effort that goes into preparing more than 150 costumes for the main show alone.

Travelport Riyadh

TRAVELPORT has signed a multi-year agreement with Riyadh Air to power the airline's global NDC retailing strategy.

The deal enables the newly established Saudi Arabian carrier to supply NDC and traditional content through Travelport's marketplace, giving it access to a worldwide network of travel agencies and corporate buyers.

The move will support Riyadh Air's goal of flying to more than 100 destinations by 2030.



TAHITI - FEEL TREASURED

BOOK BY 19 DEC 2025

SAVE UP TO
\$4,000 PER COUPLE

INCLUDES 吃喝玩乐

Experiences Across the Islands of Tahiti:

- Exploring remote lagoons by kayak or boat
- Hiking through lush rainforests and past waterfalls
- Sharing meals and stories with locals who are proud of their culture

when experience matters

Link Live kicks off today

THE Link Live event will kick off today at the W Hotel in Brisbane, marking Link Travel Group's first full conference-style event (**TD** 06 Nov).

The action began early for Link Owners, who gathered for a dinner last night at Ciao Papi along Brisbane's Howard Smith Wharves, followed by the owners meeting this morning, where Link's GM Scott Darlow provided an overview of Link's financial performance and outlined strategies for the year ahead.

An exclusive owners and sponsors lunch took place after the meeting, ahead of all delegates arriving tonight for the welcome event at the W Hotel's Sundeck, sponsored by Norwegian Cruise Lines, Regent Seven Seas Cruises and Oceania Cruises.

The main conference will start tomorrow with an all-star line-up of speakers, panels and workshops headlined by former Wallabies captain and rugby union great John Eales, who will be a keynote speaker talking about success from the top.

It is also understood that Flight Centre Travel Group Chief Executive Officer, Graham 'Skroo' Turner, will make an appearance for a one-on-one interview.

Link will then hold a celebratory dinner on Sat night at Customs House courtesy of Qantas and Viking, and a half-day Sun will feature a supplier showcase with one-on-one business appointments, before the event



wraps after lunch.

"Put simply, we are delighted that the time has come, and we have kicked off Link Live after a year of planning," commented Darlow (**pictured**).

"Last night was a fantastic night for our owners and I look forward to the weekend, starting this morning where I have the honour and privilege of opening the books to our owners so they can celebrate and enjoy Link's success - success that they all contribute heavily to." *JM*

Big's new Compass

HOSPITALITY and events operator The Big Group has announced Compass Australia, the country's largest food and support services company, as its new strategic investor.

The partnership will accelerate The Big Group's expansion across Australia and the globe, allowing it to compete for and deliver experiences at a greater scale.

The company's leadership team will continue to steer The Big Red Group as it embarks on its next growth chapter.

Farewell to a fantastic duo



FBI Travel has announced the retirement of two long-standing travel agents, Deb Zimmermann and Vera Schwartzbord.

Zimmermann has stepped away after a 40-year career with the operator and its previous iterations, while Schwartzbord clocked up 36 years.

The FBI Travel team held a farewell celebration this week to honour both advisors' "incredible contribution", with Chief Executive Officer and Joint Managing Director, Mark Chaskiel, giving a speech.

"Both Deb and Vera shared a rare gift: the ability to build relationships that were sometimes deep, always

personal, and always genuine," Chaskiel said.

"Their clients didn't just book trips - they trusted them with their dreams, and that trust was earned through warmth, integrity, and countless conversations that went far beyond itineraries.

"You've helped create and shape our culture, inspired your colleagues, and set a standard of care that will live on long after today," Chaskiel added.

"As you step into retirement, we wish you joy, health, and maybe a few adventures of your own - without having to check anyone else's flight times." *JM*

Pictured: Zimmermann and Schwartzbord cut into the cake.



ROCKY MOUNTAINEER BLACK FRIDAY OFFER

BOOK BY 05 DEC 2025

SAVE UP TO
\$2,400 PER COUPLE

INCLUDES 4 4 1 4



ROCKY MOUNTAINEER

The Rocky Mountaineer Experience

- Journey in panoramic comfort through majestic mountains, valleys, and glaciers
- Savour regionally inspired cuisine and captivating storytelling that bring the landscapes to life
- Relax with a seamless pace designed for you to truly enjoy every moment

when experience matters

Farewelling 2025, Bon Voyage-style

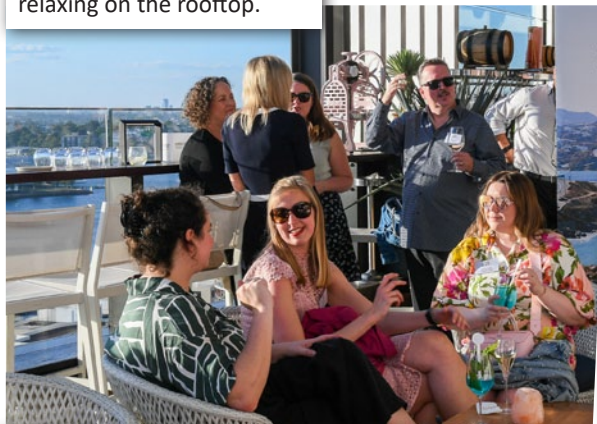
Travel Daily hosted its annual industry party this week at Zephyr rooftop bar at the Hyatt Regency, which was attended by more than 200 suppliers, trade partners, association representatives and travel agents. It was a great chance for **Travel Daily** to thank the industry for its support throughout the year and for guests to relax with cocktails while admiring Darling Harbour in the sunshine.

Guests included Princess Cruises' Matt Rutherford, Cruise Line Industry Association Australasia MD Joel Katz, Luxury Travel Collection GM Nikki Glading, itravel Australia CEO Steve Labroski, and plenty more.

Several lucky attendees won some great prizes, including a stay at Arkaba Homestead thanks to Wild Bush Luxury, a \$1000 tailoring experience from InStitchu and two wine journeys from Good Pair Days.

A special thanks to sponsors CVFR and Azamara Cruises.

ATTENDEES enjoyed blue skies and sunshine while relaxing on the rooftop.



THE itravel team showed up and showed out at Bon Voyage.



SIMON Bell and Belinda Ward from Wendy Wu Tours.



RICHARD Taylor, ATIA; Orley Makler, Above and Beyond Experiences; Graham Ware, AVIAREPS.



ASHLEIGH Wedd-Henson, Delta Airlines and Trina Shepherd, The Walshe Group



DELICIOUS cocktails were served, thanks to Azamara Cruises.



GUESTS loved catching up with friends and colleagues.



LUCKY attendees scored great prizes from Wild Bush Luxury, InStitchu and Good Pair Days.



CVFR'S Ram Chhabra with Greg McCallum from Entire.



KATRINA Carichini, MTA Travel with Rod Withers, Trundle Travel - MTA.

CORPORATE UPDATE

Travelogix's partnership

TRAVEL data management and reporting specialist Travelogix has confirmed its first direct-to-corporate customer agreement with Danish company Grundfos.

As part of the new partnership, Travelogix will provide the company team with travel reporting and data management capabilities, such as detailed analysis of globalised travel spend, traveller behaviour and program performance.

"The partnership will enable the secure integration of multiple data sources, combining both pre-trip and post-invoice booking data from their global TMC network with organisational information from Grundfos' internal systems to deliver real-time visibility, advanced analytics, and actionable insights," explained Travelogix.

The company's founder and Chief Executive Officer Chris



Lewis is excited about the agreement, which is a milestone in its continued expansion into the buyer community.

"This strategic expansion brings the solutions we've perfected over fourteen years in the TMC world directly to the corporate buyer community," he said. *JHM*

FACTS beefs up

NEXT week's Festival of Aviation Corporate Travel Summits (FACTS) event will focus on the rapid evolution of the aviation industry, from the change in travel program management and managing risk to sustainability and agentic AI adoption.

Taking place on 25-26 Nov at ICC Sydney, Australia's largest aviation event will feature a beefed up program, with 25 sessions across six stages and 130 speakers, including Western Sydney International Airport Chief Executive Officer Simon Hickey.

"Our core travel buyer audience last year gave us very clear guidance that they wished to see more educational content on the fast-growing business events sector, which has seen increased spend since the pandemic," said FACTS organiser Derek Sadubin.

"So we listened, and expanded the program for them."

QF, VA power ban

PASSENGERS will need to keep power banks within sight and easily accessible on Virgin flights from 01 Dec, with Qantas, Qantaslink and Jetstar following suit from 15 Dec.

A raft of international carriers also changed their requirements this year, including Singapore Airlines, Scoot, China Airlines, Thai Airways and others.

FCM Travel General Manager ANZ Renos Rologas offered tips for travelling safely with devices, such as packing a charging cord in carry-on baggage as most planes have USB plugs, or swapping a laptop for a tablet, which can be charged via a USB port.

Travel Daily
SHARPEN YOUR
KNOWLEDGE ON
MALAYSIA WITH
TRAVEL DAILY
TRAINING ACADEMY
Click here to discover



FCTG's corporate win



FCM Travel and Corporate Traveller have both been recognised as Great Places to Work across the 11 countries that they operate in, including Australia, Canada, China, India and beyond.

"This achievement reflects our team's hard work, dedication, and the positive culture we've built collectively," enthused Global Corporate COO Melissa Elf.

It is the companies' use of AI mixed with human expertise that has helped them to offer "an alternative and refreshed approach to business travel and at FCTG, our people are our most valuable asset".

Elf also highlighted the company's commitment to being a supportive workplace where everyone on the team can thrive by creating initiatives that promote work-life balance, diversity and inclusion, innovation and continuous learning.

"Our comprehensive employee programs and policies across the globe are designed to support these values, making us not just

a great place to work, but a place where careers flourish, innovative ideas come to life, and a bright future for progression thrives."

The Great Place to Work certification is based on extensive employee feedback. *JHM*

WWT biz upgrade

WENDY Wu Tours is offering Cathay Pacific business class upgrades from \$599pp on select 2026 and 2027 China group tours, available until 12 Dec 2025.

The offer is only available via phone bookings, not online.

WWT has also partnered with the Hong Kong Tourism Board to offer an exclusive \$500pp saving when a Hong Kong stopover is added to select 2026/27 China or Japan tours booked during Nov.

This includes the two-night 'Hong Kong Glimpses' or three-night 'Hong Kong in Focus' packages, which includes accommodation with breakfast daily, sightseeing and seat-in-coach transfers.

BLACK FRIDAY SALE

UP TO **40% OFF**
PLUS
UP TO **USD \$2,000**
AIR SAVINGS



LEARN MORE



ATLAS
OCEAN VOYAGES®

Represented by Cruise Traveller
1800 507 777

SPECIALS

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

Club Med has launched its Black Friday sale with up to 20% off premium all-inclusive escapes across Bali, Phuket, the Maldives, Morocco and the French Alps. The promotion ends 02 Dec - find more details [HERE](#).

UTracks will launch its Black Friday sale on Thu 27 Nov at 7am AEDT, offering travellers the chance to save on a selection of its most popular active holidays in Europe. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more.

New York City Tourism + Conventions has announced the start of reservations for NYC Hotel Week, offering 25% off standard room rates at participating hotels from 02 Jan through 12 Feb. Details are [HERE](#).

Bunnik Tours has launched its first-ever Black Friday sale, which runs until 05 Dec. There are four tours on sale, spanning its Classic, Short and In-Style ranges, which offer added value of up to \$2,500 - see [HERE](#).

As part of **Seabourn's** Black Friday sale, travellers can take advantage of up to US\$2,000 in ship credits and two-category suite upgrades on select sailings. Find out more [HERE](#).

AAT Kings is offering up to 20% off on selected Classic and Small Group tours across Australia and New Zealand - [CLICK HERE](#).

Travellers can save 15% on all of **Trafalgar's** summer sailings, such as the 10-day 'Best of the Rhine and Amsterdam' - see more [HERE](#).

JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong has launched a suite of room packages for the festive season, including one designed especially for multigenerational families - learn more [HERE](#).

Entire Travel Group is offering savings of up to \$2,400 per couple on Rocky Mountaineer packages until 05 Dec. The deal applies to select Canadian rail journeys and rail & cruise packages - details are [HERE](#).

Expedia Travel Agent Affiliate Program has launched its Black Friday sale, offering travel agent partners access to hotel discounts of at least 30% across thousands of properties worldwide. T&Cs apply, see [HERE](#).

Swan Hellenic is offering savings of up to \$1,700 per person for double occupancy staterooms on a collection of 36 voyages in 2026-27, plus an additional \$1,000 onboard credit. Book by 02 Dec - [CLICK HERE](#).

Travellers can save 20% on a selection of **Explore Worldwide's** small group adventures until 02 Dec - find out more [HERE](#).

Journey Beyond has announced several Black Friday deals, including 20% off Gold Twin cabins on selected Great Southern departures - see [HERE](#).

Discovery Parks is offering 30% off cabins, glamping tents and sites around Australia - [CLICK HERE](#) to see all the deals.

Until 02 Dec, **Cunard** is offering discounted fares on select 2026 voyages, including Queen Elizabeth's farewell Alaska season - see [HERE](#).

Accor farewells 2025



ACCOR is celebrating the end of a "landmark year" for the hotel property group, with seven more hotel openings before the year is over, including Mercure Sydney St Leonards and Ibis Styles Melbourne Southbank.

In addition, Saint Kilda Beach Hotel, BreakFree North Adelaide, Mantra Meridien Adelaide, Mantra Mount Gambier and Hobart Airport will be unveiled over the next seven weeks.

"What an incredible and defining year for Accor in the Pacific," said Adrian Williams, Chief Operating Officer for Accor in the Pacific ([pictured](#)).

"We've launched an array of new world-renowned brands into the region, bolstered our development pipeline, and championed hospitality's role in energising cities, regional centres, and local communities."

Looking ahead, Accor's pipeline for 2026 will feature further openings, including Mecure Melbourne La Trobe Street, Ennismore's Hyde Perth and Pullman Hamilton in NZ.

Some of the highlights of 2025 for the group included the arrival of the first Mondrian in Australia and the opening of 25hours in Sydney and the flagship Novotel in Western Sydney.

This year also included the unveiling of the Jo&Joe and Tribe brands in Auckland, as well as the debut of Hyde in Melbourne.

"Accor's booking pace across Australia has averaged 16% higher year-on-year since the start of 2025, while STR market demand is up 3.6%," stated the hotel group.

Meanwhile, inbound tourism continues to rebound, with international stays in Accor's Australian hotels up 9% year-on-year, fuelled by growth from China, the UK and Singapore.

Meanwhile, the NRL and NRLW Grand Finals drove record-breaking occupancy above 98% at Accor hotels in Sydney during that weekend.

The British and Irish Lions tour also "generated a surge in interstate and international stays", according to Accor. *JHM*

Celebrity **X** Cruises®

NOTHING COMES CLOSE

BLACK FRIDAY PREVIEW

TAKE
UP TO 75% OFF
2ND GUEST*

SAVE
UP TO \$1,200
PER ROOM*



VISIT THECELEBRITYCOMMITMENT.COM.AU

CALL 1800 965 874

*Cruise must be booked by 26/11/25, valid on select sailings departing 29/7/25 – 10/5/28 & 9+night Alaska Cruise tours on Celebrity Summit departing 8/5/26 – 4/9/26. Up to 75% off 2nd guest & up to \$1,200 Savings Offer are for non-refundable fares, new, individual bookings at standard and prevailing rates. 75% is off nonrefundable fares on 2nd guest in the same stateroom as first full fare guest. Cruise savings per stateroom varies by stateroom category and cruise length. Excludes Galapagos. Other T&Cs apply, visit celebrity.com/au.

Batik air

OUR **10** INCREDIBLE
YEARS
IN PERTH!

**Batik Air Malaysia proudly celebrates
10 years of operations into Perth.
We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our
valued trade partners for your ongoing support.**

batikair@airlinerepservices.com