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Emirates

*Valid for bookings (including groups) made between 1 October and 30 November 2025 with a minimum of one night's stay in Dubai during 1 October 2025 and 30 September 2026. Full terms and conditions on the Emirates Partners Portal.



Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features ten pages of news, plus a cover wrap from **Emirates**, a **Collette** photo page, a **Vietnam Airlines** product profile, our **Luxury** page, and full pages from:

- **Tourism New Zealand**
- **Back-Roads Travel**

100% Pure NZ

JOIN New Zealand's Explore Programme to take advantage of hundreds of discounts to build your self-famil - see **page 11**.

Small and mighty

DISCOVER the beauty of Greece with Back-Roads' well-crafted small group tours of the country - more on **page 12**.

Vietnam connection

AUSSIE travellers can now easily connect through Vietnam thanks to the free Transit Without Visa program - details on **page 13**.

Funding fuels Vic strategy

VISIT Victoria has announced a new five-year tourism strategy called Visit Victoria 2030, which will seek to grow the state's visitor economy to over \$53b.

Underpinned by Victoria's 'Every bit different' brand platform, the updated strategy is anchored by three key themes: creating demand, converting demand, and connecting demand.

Major developments unveiled under the strategy include a new Touring Victoria initiative to grow regional travel in the state, the launch of a redeveloped content hub to provide access to up-to-date digital content, as well as more training programs to boost access to international markets.

The 2030 strategy has been made possible by an additional \$43.7 million in Victorian Government funding announced last month (**TD** 18 Sep), lending added weight to the state's domestic and international



marketing campaigns over the next two years in key markets.

"Our new strategy is built on deep industry engagement and puts us in a strong position to deliver for Victoria both domestically and internationally," Visit Victoria CEO Brendan McClements (**pictured**) said.

"It recognises the existing capacity for Victoria to accommodate strong growth and the opportunity for Visit Victoria to work closely with our industry to drive this growth.

"This has been an energising process and we look forward to getting to work to put this strategy in action." **AB**

Prezzee vouchers

EMIRATES is offering travel agents the opportunity to win a \$30 Prezzee voucher for every booking made for clients visiting Dubai - see the **cover page**.

\$100b investment

DEMAND for ocean cruising is at a record high globally, with the world's shipyards currently working on more than \$100 billion worth of new vessels, according to Joel Katz, CLIA Managing Director in Australasia.

"We can expect to see around 80 new ships launched between now and the end of 2036 - equally split between small, medium and large," Katz said.

"The fleet of the future is already in development, and it will undoubtedly bring advances in every area of the cruise experience," he added.

Ocean cruising is this week's theme for Cruise Month, which kicked off last week.

The
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MAKE IT YOURS

Kyoto to slug hotel stays

ONE of Australia's most popular travel destinations will soon whack tourists with an increased hotel tax that will cost as much as \$A100 per person, per night.

In a bid to combat over-tourism, government officials for Kyoto confirmed they will implement a more expensive accommodation levy from 01 Mar next year, which will represent the highest of any hotel impost in Japan.

To be enacted on a tiered basis, stays costing more than ¥100,000 per night (A\$1,000) will see a ten-fold tax leap from ¥1,000 to ¥10,000 (A\$100).

Below the highest luxury rate, stays priced between ¥50,000-100,000 (A\$500-1000) a night will see the impost jump from ¥1,000 to ¥4,000 (A\$40).

Room nights costing ¥20,000-¥50,000 (A\$200-500) a night will incur a levy increase from ¥500 to ¥1,000 (A\$10).

On a positive note, budget



travellers will be unaffected by the new tax scheme, with stays under ¥6,000 (A\$60) a night to incur the same rate it does currently, around A\$2 a night.

By significantly increasing the accommodation tax rate, Kyoto is hoping to double its lodging revenue to around A\$130 million per annum, with funds to be invested in city infrastructure and measures to ease congestion.

Kyoto has undertaken several measures to mitigate over-tourism in recent years, including an investment in efforts to spread visitor numbers by season, time-of-day and location, in order to disperse visitation. AB

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Travelmarvel shifts



PREMIUM tour and river cruise brand Travelmarvel has today unveiled a brand refresh featuring a new logo, slogan and marketing assets (**TD** breaking news).

The APT Travel Group brand said the new look (**pictured** above), coupled with its 'Travelmarvel, My Style' slogan better resonates with experience-seeking travellers and connects on a deeper level.

"This investment in the Travelmarvel brand strengthens our position in the market and ensures we continue delivering premium travel that is thoughtfully curated, but always accessible," said CEO David Cox.

MEANWHILE, Travelmarvel has partnered with Murray River Paddlesteamers to release a new tour onboard the fully chartered paddlesteamer, *PS Emmylou*.

Travel Daily
ON LOCATION

MELBOURNE

Today's issue of **TD** is coming to you courtesy of Visit Victoria, where Destination Victoria is taking place today.

DESTINATION Victoria is the premier event bringing together stakeholders in the state's visitor economy to share ideas, insights and practical tools to drive growth in tourism.

Speakers include Minister for Tourism, Sport & Major Events Steve Dimopoulos, Visit Victoria CEO Brendan McClements, and acting Tourism Australia Managing Director Robin Mack.

A keynote address will also be delivered by advertising guru and *Gruen* regular Russel Howcroft, who will delve into the importance of marketing in growing tourism growth.

BUNNIK'S BIG BIRTHDAY GIVEAWAY



The countdown is on until the end of our biggest ever agent incentive!

If you book your clients on a Bunnik Tour before 30th November 2025, you'll automatically go in the running to win 1 of 4 awesome tour prizes. Peru, Portugal, Egypt or Sri Lanka - which would you choose?

[Click here](#) to find out more.



AGENT INCENTIVE



Jarvis on Mawson

CELEBRATED environmentalist and explorer Tim Jarvis will sail as the special guest onboard Aurora Expeditions' maiden voyage on its new ship, *Douglas Mawson MV*.

The trip will circumnavigate Tasmania, with Jarvis to conduct expert lectures & film screenings detailing his career experiences.



Wendy Wu Tours

NEW

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DISCOVER MORE

Tauk enhances rewards

TAUCK has today advised of major changes to its Advisor Rewards Program, led by a doubling in validity for points earned, from one to two years.

As part of some sweeping updates made to the program based on feedback from agents, the touring and river cruise brand has improved flexibility and increased value on redemptions.

Under the changes, agents can now redeem up to 100 points per year, equivalent to \$20,000 in travel value, with points earned also able to be combined across multiple years.

The change unlocks more time



for agents to redeem points earned through Tauck bookings, which the company said removes the pressure of points expirations each year.

Since its introduction in 2014, the Tauck Advisor Rewards Program has seen more than 5,000 agents use points to enjoy their own Tauck adventures.

"We understand that experiencing Tauck, firsthand, is extremely beneficial to our trusted, travel advisors, who are the heart and soul of our business," said Tauck Australia Managing Director, David Clark.

JQ passport scan

TRAVELLERS flying overseas with Jetstar can now check in for flights by scanning their passport details directly into the Jetstar mobile app.

The update means an end to manually entering details, with guests able to scan their passport page using their phone camera.

Jetstar said the change was made to reduce errors, with the feature available from today on many routes departing Australia.

MEANWHILE, Jetstar has today launched the first flights between Hobart and Newcastle, with a seasonal operation running from 02 Dec to 21 Apr next year.

NSW Minister for Jobs and Tourism Steve Kamper said the route will boost business and unlock new visitors for the Hunter.

LH adds Brussels

BRUSSELS Airlines has become the newest member of Lufthansa Group's expanded joint venture alliance with Singapore Airlines.

Valid for flights commencing from 26 Oct, agents and travellers can now book a Brussels Airlines codeshare on SQ flights between Singapore Changi and Brussels.

The carriers said the update will allow greater fare choice and easier connectivity for travel between Singapore and Belgium.

The LH/SQ joint venture now offers fares to 26 destinations across seven countries.

New STO executive

SINGAPORE Tourism Board Oceania has welcomed Edward Koh as its new Executive Director International Group and Oceania.

Beginning next month, Koh will help to drive marketing efforts to position Singapore as a top-of-mind destination for Australians and New Zealanders.

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Britain eyes multi-billion-dollar spend

EXCLUSIVE

AUSTRALIAN visits to Britain in 2025 are forecast to inject £1.76 billion (A\$3.6 billion) into its visitor economy, representing a 50% lift on 2019 visitor spend.

Speaking with **Travel Daily**, VisitBritain's new Country Manager for Australia and New Zealand, Kristen Angus, revealed the organisation's latest internal figures predict that 1.26 million visits will be made before the end of the year.

"That really is remarkable for a country that is over 24 hours away and was not open to Aussies until 2022," Angus said.

"We are not seeing that demand abate either, and we are also seeing air connectivity return, which is important because we know Australians are very robust at finding the way they want to travel to maximise their time."

Angus added that open-jaw travel is becoming more common,



not only flying into the UK but in the way people are travelling around the destination as well.

Looking further ahead to 2030, Angus said VisitBritain's forecast will cement Australia beyond a \$2 billion spend market.

While Australia remains a mature market rich in repeat visits, Angus noted the highest growth last year was made in the colder months of Jan to Mar.

"We saw this period increase by 19% when compared to the previous year before," Angus said.

"Australians are no longer

rusted-on, fair weather travellers.

"I think this market is increasingly understanding they want true authentic experiences, and that doesn't always come in summer months."

Part of that success is attributable to the experience and ongoing education of travel agents, Angus said, adding that Australia is over-indexed on its use of travel advisors.

"Travel advisors are such an important channel for what people choose to do, so for us, working with out agents and unlocking those uniquely British and hidden experiences is key," Angus explained.

"We really are seeing that Australians are increasingly wanting to get under the skin [of Britain], and a lot of that is bookable product, so we are working very closely with agents to accommodate for that shift in booking pattern." AB

Alliance MD leaves

STEWART Tully will take over as sole Managing Director at Alliance Aviation Services, with the airline today announcing the departure of its founder, Scott McMillan (**TD** breaking news).

As part of a planned leadership transition, McMillan (**pictured**) will wind down his responsibilities in a handover running through to the middle of next year.

Under McMillan's leadership, Alliance Aviation has grown over two decades to become one of Australia's largest aviation brands.

Tully was appointed as CEO of Alliance Aviation last year (**TD** 02 Feb 2024), before being elevated to Joint MD in Aug this year.



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Tourism jobs boom

TOURISM is on track to support 90 million new direct and indirect jobs over the next decade, new data from the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTTC) shows.

According to the new 'Future of the Travel and Tourism Workforce' report, the sector will have a hand in one in every three new jobs worldwide by 2035.

Last year, tourism accounted in some way for 357 million jobs worldwide - a number expected to hit 371 million this year.

Despite this, the report outlines how demographic changes, including a declining working-age population, could create a dearth in the workforce available to occupy these jobs.

Hospitality in particular is on course to face a workforce gap of 8.6 million people, or 18% below the number of people needed.

The WTTTC report said low-skilled roles will remain the most in-need, with 20 million more workers needed to fill vacancies.

ATIA expresses its thanks

ATIA'S upcoming Beyond Borders 2025 summit has the backing of a range of major sponsors, including Afterpay, Helloworld Travel and Mint Payments, who are supporting the sold-out annual event.

Beyond Borders will take place on Fri 17 Oct at The Star, Brisbane, the day before the National Travel Industry Awards (NTIA) at the same venue.

Meanwhile, Amadeus will be sponsoring the morning tea, Back-Roads has signed on as the lunch sponsor and Destination Canada will host the afternoon tea, ensuring attendees will enjoy a delicious culinary experience.

Several of the sponsors will also be exhibitors, including Helloworld, Amadeus, Mint Payments and Back-Roads Touring, joining destination organisations such as Explore Louisiana, Fukushima, Hong Kong Tourism Board, Tourism Authority of



Thailand, and Tourism Solomons.

Other brands on show will include Cover-More, Gow-Gates, HX, The Australian Passport Office and Smartraveller, The Intrepid Foundation and TravelPay.

"We're really grateful to our sponsors and exhibitor partners that support the Beyond Borders Travel Summit," said ATIA Director of Membership and Industry Affairs, Richard Taylor (pictured).

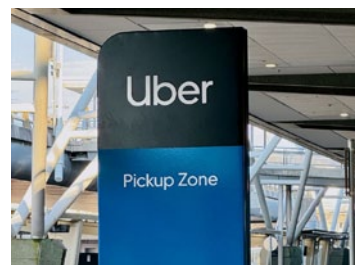
"With a bigger venue and event capacity in 2025, this means more variety for the attendees, who'll be able to connect with more organisations across more of our diverse industry segments." *JHM*


Uber Sydney to stay

SYDNEY Airport will make its new Uber rideshare rank permanent following its extended six-month trial (**TD** 24 Sep 2024), with the move approved by the NSW State Government.

The year-long trial has garnered positive feedback from travellers and Uber drivers, with more than 300,000 trips logged along with improvements in wait times, traffic flow and guest satisfaction.

The NSW Government recently introduced a flat \$60 fare for taxis on trips to the Sydney CBD in an effort to combat rogue drivers allegedly ripping off travellers, along with a tripling of the fine for offences to \$3,000.






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Regions getting ignored

MAJOR Australian cities and large coastal hotspots are at risk of overtourism, while many small towns are being ignored by travellers, new data is suggesting.

The Big Red study was carried out by Pureprofile last month and based on a nationally represented sample of 1,000 Australians.

More than half of Australians visited Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast or Byron Bay in the past five years, while less than one in five have explored beyond the country's biggest cities.

Other major cities drawing the majority of the travelling population include Brisbane, Perth, K'gari, Port Douglas, Cairns and Adelaide.

Conversely, only small fractions of Australians have ventured to small towns, with Exmouth only seeing 1.8% of the survey pool.

Australians recognise the pressure placed on major cities through overtourism, however



still show a clear preference to continue visiting, the study found.

Other former award-winning towns including Normanville, Stanley, Bowen, Huskisson and Devonport were also being largely ignored, with each attracting less than 5% of visitors.

Two-thirds of respondents said inspiration from friends and family is not enough to actually warrant a visit, largely due to limited travel options and prohibitively high costs.

Other barriers in place include access challenges, while 14% say they simply cannot decide where to take their holiday. *ML*

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TIME joins with Skai

TIME mentors joined with Skai last week to host a networking function to celebrate the depth of talent across the two networks and rising stars of the industry.

Sponsored by Oceania Cruises and Rydges Fortitude Valley, the event featured Skai members and Brisbane-based TIME mentors, along with past graduates for the sit-down dinner event.

Guests were addressed by Albatross Tours Managing Director Shelley Poten (**pictured**), who proudly shared that she is in her third TIME program as a mentor, supporting the next generation of leaders.

The event also featured a presentation by Oceania Cruises Director of Sales, James Sitters.



Africa fami invite

THE Africa Safari Co is inviting agents eager to explore Botswana and Zimbabwe on a discounted fami priced at \$3,395ppts.

Running from 14-22 Nov, the tour operator is now accepting applications to attend **HERE**.

Beware scammers

IN the lead-up to the festive season, South Africa's peak tourism board SATSA is warning the industry of scammers and unverified businesses.

As there have been instances of companies displaying a SATSA logo without authorisation, CEO David Frost advised operators to look for and verify business' SATSA membership by consulting SATSA's online directory or contacting the organisation.

"SATSA's logo indicates the tourism product's commitment to ethical conduct, financial transparency, and accountability," he said.



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exceptional value, genuine care, and unforgettable holidays.



Window Seat

EVERY corner of Great Britain is teeming with history and charming facts, but a new book aims to portray those facts in a different light.

Now on sale from Harper Collins, *Utterly British Maps* by Helen McKenzie offers a tongue-in-cheek look at the UK based on some quirky data, with the book supported by the UK National Trust.

For example, how many places are there in Britain with 'bottom' in their name, and how many people need to live there for it to be officially classified as a 'top bottom'?

The book will help you find the spot in Britain with the most roundabouts, the longest pier, the most garden centres, the oldest pubs and even the silliest place names.

Record 1000MTG growth

INDEPENDENT travel advisor network 1000 Mile Travel Group has revealed 20% of its Australian agent base achieved over \$4 million in sales in the past year.

The global network said the sizeable increase is a "remarkable" turnaround from the previous financial year and is a testament to the strength and dedication of its network.

Revealing its top performers for the year, 1000MTG lauded the efforts of Sydney-based corporate specialist agent Sam Rowe as its top corporate expert, paying tribute to his "strategic insight" and dedication to his clients.

Similarly, the company singled out Brisbane's Kurt Hufer as its top leisure expert, adding the accolade came on the back of his high-end client network and the sports focus of his business.

Top team for FY2025 was taken out by Melbourne-based The Travel Team, helmed by Emily



Davidson & Stephanie McDonald.

Further recognition was awarded to Ben Jenke as the network's rising star, while Amy Crossland was awarded the title of most engaged expert for her efforts delivering ticketing and Sabre training to fellow advisors.

"This year's results are not only impressive, they reflect the quality and professionalism of our advisor community," said 1000MTG General Manager - Australia, Lauren Gray (**pictured**).

The top performers will now be rewarded with a top achievers trip to New Zealand in Oct, with the incentive supported by Air New Zealand, Rosewood Kauri Cliffs and Horizon by SkyCity. *ML*

Punthill to Albury

GROUND has been officially broken to signal construction underway on Punthill Albury, with the serviced apartment brand set to open in the town's CBD.

Punthill Albury will open in late 2026 and feature 83 apartments.

Heaven-sent client

HEAVENS Portfolio is now represented in Australia and New Zealand by communications agency, Studio Atlas, led by founder Lauren Thomas.

Several of the brands represented by the business include Cheval Blanc by LVMH, The Beaumont Mayfair, Kalesma Mykonos, Fusion Hotel Group, Sri Lanka in Style, Swire Hotels, Castelfafi and more.

Launched over 20 years ago, Heavens Portfolio represents hospitality brands, DMCs and tourism boards all around the world and opened its 18th office in Melbourne this year.



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Game on: Agents serve up fun at Collette pickleball championship

OVER 55 travel agents gathered at the Pimpama Sports Hub on the Gold Coast on 02 Oct for a fun and friendly pickleball championship hosted by Collette.

The event marked the launch of Collette's renewed partnership as the official holiday partner of Pickleball Australia and was held during the Australian Pickleball Championships in Queensland.

The evening offered a relaxed environment for agents and the Collette team to connect off the court. With paddles and coaching provided, players of all skill levels were encouraged to join in. Agents from Helloworld, Flight Centre Travel Group, Express Travel Group and other agencies were out in full force, embracing the spirit of friendly competition.

Guests enjoyed music, dinner and drinks, while they waited excitedly to see who would take home the Collette prizes.

Congratulations to Kristianne Sauer from MTA Travel t/a Mark My World Travel and TravelManagers' Lorraine Mair who were the lucky winners of a Collette tour to Tuscany.



ALL smiles on and off the court.



ON Thursday, we pickleball.



COLLETTE crew: Nichole Steadman, Samantha Tamba, Kjirsten Trundle, David Farrar, Suzanne Clements, and Jackie Gordon.



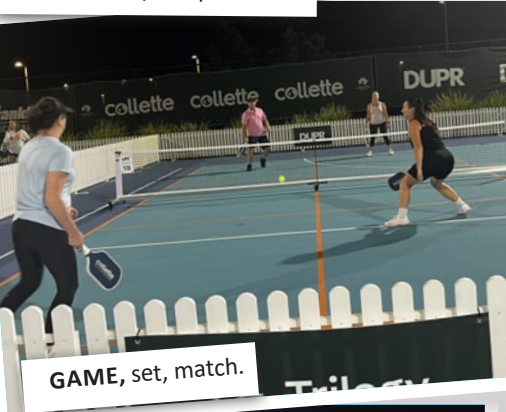
KJIRSTEN Trundle and Nichole Steadman from Collette.



FRIENDLY competitors.



WINNER Kristianne Sauer with Samantha Tamba.



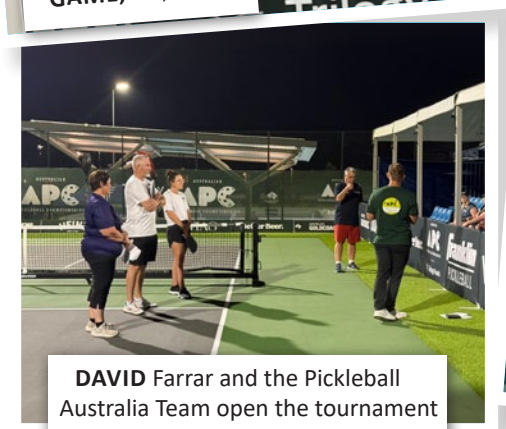
GAME, set, match.



SAMANTHA Tamba, Collette with winner Lorraine Mair, TravelManagers.



SAY "I love pickleball!"



DAVID Farrar and the Pickleball Australia Team open the tournament

Titanium on tour

EUROPEAN Destination Management Company Titanium Tours has launched its own tour operations division and a initial range of two small-group itineraries.

Known as Titanium Intimate Journeys, one tour will focus solely on Portugal, the other visiting Spain and France.

Further tour development is now underway, including standalone Paris and Spain product, each featuring private excursions not normally available to the mass market, including wine tastings, private dining and meetings with local artisans.

Two departure dates have been scheduled for the initial itinerary range, which can be booked by travel agents only.

Tea Trail appointments

RESPLENDENT Ceylon, the hospitality division of Dilmah Tea, has named two new general managers to take the helm at its collection of small luxurious retreats in Sri Lanka.

Asela Jayaweera and Sajith Grero have now taken charge at Cape Weligama and Ceylon Tea Trails respectively.

Together, the duo bring more than 20 years of leadership experience across luxury brands including The Ritz-Carlton, InterContinental and Sharq Village and Spa.

Advisors and hotels up: Virtuoso Luxe Report

LUXURY travel is bucking the trend and still on the rise, with hotels and travel advisors reaping a lot of the rewards, according to the Virtuoso Luxe Report 2026.

Revealed at an exclusive panel session in Sydney last week, the report, shared by VP of Global Communications, Misty Belles, showed that rates at Virtuoso global preferred hotels were up 8.1% in H1 2025 compared to the same time last year.

"When you look at where we are going to finish in December after the festive holiday period, we are almost at US\$2,100 for a hotel rate," Belles said.

Panelist Marc von Armim, GM of Capella Sydney, where the event was hosted, said that the role of the hotel was changing significantly and playing a more significant part in the traveller's



overall experience.

"Experience in creating memories is at the core of what we do... it's not just about a bed and a restaurant, it's about a journey of experiences," he said.

"It's the art, the culture, the food - it's about storytelling.

"If you're telling those stories and you are bringing those things to life, you're creating memories, and at the end of the day, memories are something you can't put a price on."

Additionally, according to the Luxe Report, there was a 76%

increase in the amount of people using a Virtuoso advisor this year.

LUXE by ittravel advisor Roslyn Ranse said that more travellers were seeking advice from luxury travel advisors.

"Those enquiries are increasing because of the knowledge, the expertise, who we can talk to, where we can get VIP treatment for them - we take away the guess work so it is real peace of mind for the luxury consumer to have somebody just take care of them," she said. *DF*

Pictured: The panel members

Celebrities on show for high-profile Dubai gala

LEGENDARY supermodel Naomi Campbell was a headline celebrity attendee at Atlantis the Royal in Dubai to mark the debut of Carbone at the resort.

The high-profile restaurant brand, designed to reflect classic 1950s New York, is now open and serving its style of classic New York-style Italian cuisine at the iconic property.

Guests at the event enjoyed sample size servings of caviar stracciatella toast, carpaccio piemontese, tortellini tartufo



nero and spicy rigatoni.

Also among the glitterati to parade the red carpet was Australian Olympic swimming gold medallist, Stephanie Rice.

Table reservations for casual dining at the new restaurant are now open.

Oceania press read

GUESTS on Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises now have included access to more than 40,000 global media titles through the line's new partnership with PressReader.

Available on *Oceania Allura* and *Seven Seas Navigator* currently, the deal unlocks access via personal devices to global newspapers, magazines and e-books and will be available across both lines' fleet from next month.

NEXT ISSUE: Southeast Asia special report

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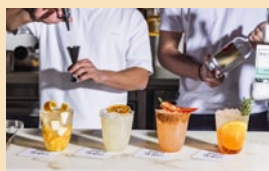


ACCOMMODATION

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A new wellness retreat has launched at **The Reef House Adults Retreat** in Palm Cove. Guests at the resort will be able to partake in beachfront yoga under palm trees, guided mindfulness, tea blending, and botanical drawing classes at the new retreat, which kicks off in Feb. Exclusive three- and five-night immersive escapes are available at the property, which is located just 30 minutes from Cairns.



PARKROYAL Parramatta is bringing the party to the Parramatta Lanes festival this year, transforming its property in the centre of town into a Latin-inspired party. The hotel will host BAR30 & Parrilla from 22-25 Oct - an open-air fiesta featuring flame-grilled Latin street food, cocktails, local collaborations, and live entertainment including DJ sets. There will also be a bar takeover from local operation Parramatta Distilling Co.



Adina Darling Harbour is preparing to unveil a major design overhaul, led by Brenton Smith from architecture firm Bates Smart. The 25-year-old hotel first welcomed guests for the 2000 Summer Olympics, and will now be updated in a multi-million-dollar renovation, which will add contemporary finishes aligning with Adina's brand evolution, and the precinct's evolution into a vibrant leisure and business hub.



Copthorne Hotel Wellington Oriental Bay has announced a major refurbishment, following a recent assessment of the property's stability. The hotel's Bay Accommodation Wing, which overlooks Wellington Harbour, will undergo works over the next two years, which will ensure the safety and comfort of guests and staff, and modernise its design.



QT Perth is inviting travellers to head to its rooftop this spring to experience its newly launched Sunset Cana Club. The pop-up will take place from Oct through Jan, with the hotel's rooftop transforming into a lush, laid-back playground featuring rum cocktails and DJ sets. The star of the Sunset Cana Club will be Flor de Cana Nicaraguan rum, which will inspire the venue's cocktail menu.

Magnifica joins the club



MSC Cruises will debut its first-ever MSC Yacht Club experience on the 2027 World Cruise - a 121-night journey across 25 countries onboard the newly refurbished *MSC Magnifica*.

The around-the-world voyage will feature a transit through the Panama Canal and overnight stays in iconic destinations such as Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Buenos Aires and Ushuaia, Argentina, Valparaiso, Chile, Papeete, French Polynesia, Hobart, and Sydney.

Guests will enjoy the line's luxury 'ship within a ship' experience, with keycard-only access to private facilities, 24-hour butler and concierge service, an exclusive restaurant, lounge, pool and sundeck.

Spanning five upper decks, the MSC Yacht Club will feature 63 suites across five categories.

The upgraded *MSC Magnifica* will also include two brand-new specialty restaurants - Butcher's Cut steakhouse, offering premium cuts of meat in an elegant setting, and Kaito Sushi Bar, where guests

can enjoy authentic Asian cuisine.

Additionally, guests will enjoy brand-new MSC Aurea Spa, spanning over 270m² with a sauna with panoramic sea views, two steam rooms, a salt room, Kneipp bath and 10 treatment rooms. **AB**

Pictured: A render of *MSC Magnifica's* Top Sail Lounge.

CCL brings thunder

CARNIVAL Cruise Line and Sydney Thunder have renewed their partnership, with the brand extending its role as an official partner of the team for the next two Big Bash League seasons.

Fans now have the chance to win an eight-day Tasmanian cruise aboard *Carnival Adventure*, departing Sydney on 24 Nov.


"Whether it's bringing joy to fans in the stands or guests on our ships, our mission is the same: creating lasting memories filled with energy and fun," said Anton Loeb, CCL's Senior Director of Sales & Marketing.

Click **HERE** for competition info.

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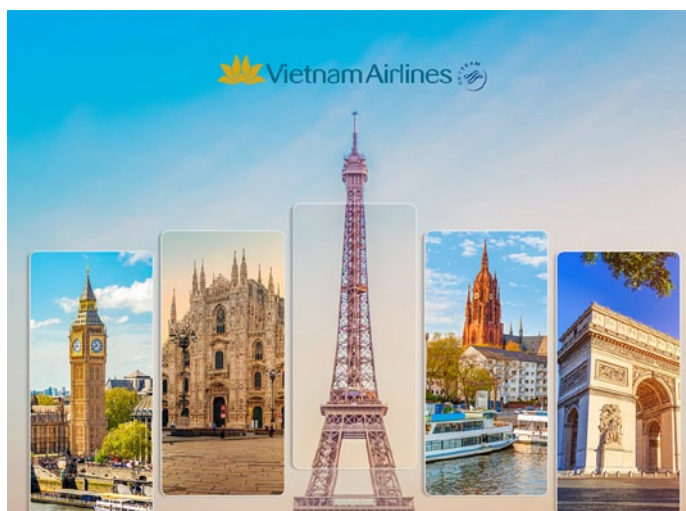
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A photograph of ancient Greek ruins in Delphi, Greece. In the foreground, several tall, weathered stone columns stand on a stone platform. The background shows a vast, hazy mountain range under a clear blue sky. The text 'Crafted for those' is in a clean, sans-serif font, and 'soaking up sacred' is in a large, white, cursive script.

Crafted for those
'soaking up sacred

stories in Delphi'
moments



Choose Vietnam as a stopover on your way to the world: Transit Without Visa (TWOV Program)

VIETNAM Airlines is pleased to offer a complimentary Transit Without Visa (TWOV) program for Australian travellers connecting through Vietnam to selected destinations.

This program allows eligible passengers to transit through Ho Chi Minh City (SGN) or Hanoi (HAN) without requiring a visa.

Eligible passengers who meet the fare class and transit time conditions will also enjoy complimentary accommodation and transportation during their stopover.

Eligible destinations

Germany, France, United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Taiwan

Eligible fare classes

Business Class, Premium Economy, Economy Flex, Economy Classic, and some Economy Lite* (Please refer to the detailed document linked below for full fare conditions).

Transit time conditions

- Minimum: Six hours (Ho Chi Minh City) / eight hours (Hanoi)
- Maximum: 35 hours (both cities)

Example itinerary

Depart Perth (Tuesday) → Transit Ho Chi Minh City → Arrive Paris

- Arrival in Ho Chi Minh City: 06:10 (Tuesday morning)
- Departure to Paris: 22:50 (Tuesday evening)
- Transit duration: approximately 16 hours – ideal for exploring

the city or relaxing through the TWOV program.

For full details, please check **HERE**.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- The TWOV program is not automatically applied after ticket booking.
- If the planned stay in Vietnam exceeds the maximum 35-hour limit, passengers will require a visa for entry. Please remind your passengers to review eligibility before travel.