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2027 - 2028

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Silversea 2027-28

SILVERSEA has unveiled 'Memories that Move You', its largest-ever voyage collection for 2027-28, with 414 new journeys to more than 600 destinations, and 100 maiden calls.

Bookings open from 23 Oct - see the **cover page** for details.

An event for good

A FORCE for Good is inviting the travel industry to a day of learning and inspiration at its upcoming event in Sydney - more details on **page seven**.

Escape to Europe

QATAR Airways is highlighting the culinary adventures that await travellers in Europe, now more accessible with the carrier's earlybird fares - see **page eight**.

Smaller agents, big voice

THE Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA) will form the Council of Independent Travel Agents and Advisors (CITAA), pledging to deliver smaller independent agencies with a stronger leadership voice moving forward (**TD** breaking news).

Announced at the Beyond Borders Travel Summit by Chair Christian Hunter, CITAA will allow independent agents to "move from commentary to leadership", and help better shape the future of the industry and ATIA's role.

"We recognise that there could be some independent agents who have felt the association favours larger businesses - as a board, we would probably fundamentally disagree with that, but this is our opportunity to demonstrate that we are open to constructive

dialogue," Hunter said.

While not directly addressed as a factor in the creation of CITAA, the development follows traction gained online in Sep (**TD** 04 Sep), which called for a new association to represent the specific interests of smaller agencies.

Interested independent agents can now nominate to join CITAA through the atia.travel website.

MEANWHILE, responding to feedback, ATIA revealed that from Mar next year, its members will have access to a new insurance scheme that provides comprehensive cover in respect to public liability and professional indemnity through a new partner.

In the coming weeks, ATIA will make a formal announcement to members and the corporate sector revealing more details. **AB**



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Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features six pages of the latest news, plus a cover wrap from **Silversea**, a Product Profile from **Qatar**, our **Corporate Update**, and a full page from **A Force for Good**.



New Zealand Getaway Sale

Help your customers save on flights to Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown.*

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*The New Zealand Getaway Sale ends 11:59pm (AEDT) 20 October 2025, unless sold out prior. Select routes, travel dates and conditions apply. Some flights are subject to government and regulatory approval.

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NEW

Fashion takes flight



FASHION and travel hit the runway this week as Qantas and David Jones celebrated their new loyalty partnership (**TD** 26 Sep).

The event took place inside Hangar 96 in Sydney in front of a Dreamliner aircraft, as David Jones unveiled its spring-summer 25 collection to a star-studded audience and singer-songwriter Kita Alexander performed.

High-profile personalities in attendance included David Jones ambassador and supermodel Megan Gale, former AFL star Adam Goodes, former foreign affairs minister Julie Bishop, boxer Harry Garside and a raft of Australian designers, including Bianca Spender and Camilla Freeman-Topper.

Executive leaders in the crowd included Qantas CEO Vanessa Hudson, Qantas Loyalty CEO Andrew Glance and David Jones CEO Scott Fyfe.

Since the new loyalty program launched three weeks ago, it has attracted 100,000 new mobile app downloads, 50,000 new members and more than 150 million Reward Points earned.

According to Glance, it is the "most comprehensive loyalty partnership" between a department store and airline in Australia.

"We know that one in two Qantas Frequent Flyers shop regularly at David Jones, and this partnership will unlock billions of points for our members and give them new ways to be rewarded."

"We've also seen a significant appetite from our 'frequent buyers' choosing to redeem their Qantas Points back on high-end fashion and homewares in addition to travel, which shows the value of this retail partnership to a broader group of Qantas members," Glance added. *JHM*



ATEC heading to Perth

AUSTRALIA'S tourism export sector will gather in Perth at the end of this month for the Australian Tourism Export Council's (ATEC) annual Meeting Place Event (**TD** 23 Apr).

Held in partnership with Tourism Western Australia from 27-29 Oct, the event is expected to attract 530 delegates, including 120 buyers.

"Meeting Place remains one of the most important events on the inbound tourism calendar, where relationships are built, opportunities are forged, and the future of Australia's visitor economy is shaped," ATEC MD Peter Shelley said.

More than 5,000 B2B meetings are set to take place over the three days, linking Australian supplier businesses with global distribution partners.

The program features ATEC's Annual Tourism Export Awards, celebrating excellence across

eight categories, and the graduation of almost 40 students of the ELITE Emerging Leaders Program, which this year recorded a 41% rise in participation.

"The ELITE Program continues to grow in strength and community and is a reflection of ATEC's commitment to nurturing the next generation of tourism leaders," Shelley said.

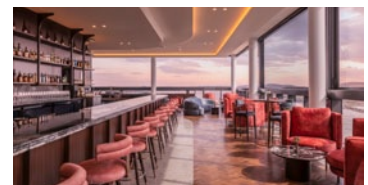
The ATEC director also pointed out that the council has seen strong growth in new membership and membership renewals, recording a 15% increase on last year. *JM*

Gosford goes voco

IHG Hotels & Resorts is preparing to bring its premium voco brand to the Central Coast, with voco Gosford opening on 01 Dec (**TD** 05 Dec 2023).

Marking the fifth voco hotel in Australia, the new property features 130 guest rooms - most of which have private balconies with views across the city or bay.

Guests can unwind by the swimming pool and enjoy a drink from the swim-up bar, recharge in the onsite wellness centre, and dine at six distinctive venues, including Astra, a Japanese rooftop dining and bar (**pictured**).



VN data breached

VIETNAM Airlines customers may have had their information exposed, due to a data breach involving a third-party customer service platform.

In a statement this week, the carrier said it is coordinating with relevant authorities to investigate the incident, which it confirmed did not affect payment information, passports, travel itineraries, Lotusmiles balances, and passport details.



11 NOVEMBER | BRISBANE

Rydges Hotel, 9 Glenelg Street, South Bank | 5.30pm - 8.30pm

12 NOVEMBER | MELBOURNE

Rydges, 186 Exhibition Street, Melbourne | 5.30pm - 8.30pm

13 NOVEMBER | SYDNEY

The Australian Museum, 1 William St, Darlinghurst | 5.30pm - 8.30pm



Air NZ goes electric

THE first electric aircraft to carry the Air New Zealand name has taken off today from Tauranga Airport, marking the BETA ALIA CX300's first test flight in NZ.

The US-manufactured aircraft will land at Hamilton Airport later today, where it will operate a program of flights in a range of conditions and altitudes over the next month, led by teams from Air NZ and BETA.

The plane will then move to Wellington Airport for a further two months in Dec.

Walshe appoints

THE Walshe Group, Australia and New Zealand airline GSA, has appointed Alvaro Rodas Fernandez as CCO.

Drawing on extensive travel experience, including 10 years spent in senior roles at Qantas, Rodas is tasked with driving the next phase of the company's new strategic direction.

ATIA adjusts ATAS standards

REQUIREMENTS for participants in the Australian Travel Accreditation Scheme (ATAS) are set to be amended, including the relaxation of the current mandatory Certificate III qualifications for frontline staff.

Changes to the program were announced this morning at the Beyond Borders conference in Brisbane by ATIA chairman Christian Hunter, who said they reflected recommendations of the recent ATAS Charter Review.

"There was a time not too long ago when a Cert III was the only way you could get into travel, but members are finding new ways to train staff that can better suit their needs, and this must be supported and encouraged," Hunter told delegates.

ATIA will provide a "published memorandum" on training that is deemed to be acceptable after consulting with the industry over the next few months.

Biennial professional development training on ATAS will also become mandatory for members to "further elevate the understanding of the code and the complaints management process", the ATIA chair added.

Other updates to the scheme include the refinement of insurance requirements, such as making public liability insurance optional for agencies that are not dealing with customers in person. The current mandatory professional indemnity insurance requirement for tour operators will also become optional, while mandatory cyber insurance is also "under consideration".

Ongoing collaboration within the sector was also a key focus of the review recommendations, with Hunter saying "we will continue to work closely with CATO and other industry bodies to honour the commitments we made when we de-regulated". *BP*

Travel Daily
ON LOCATION



BRISBANE

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you from ATIA, where *Beyond Borders* is taking place at The Star Brisbane.

THE big day has finally arrived for the ATIA 2025 Beyond Borders Travel Summit, where industry heavyweights will unpack all of travel's hot topics.

There will be a look back at the year that was with CEO and Chair Dean Long and Christian Hunter, as well as panel sessions about what the future holds.

ATIA will also reveal how the organisation is tracking against its vision for 2023, while aviation fans will receive unique insights into the Aviation Industry Ombuds Scheme, and how its development intends to drive consumer outcomes.



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Window Seat

THOSE looking to test their pumpkin-carving skills this Halloween will have a field day at Cammas Hall Farm in Essex, UK, home to what is likely the world's coolest pumpkin patch.

Not only does it have more than 30,000 pumpkins on display, there are also spooky tunnels to explore, Halloween characters to interact with, and a 'Pumpcano' - a giant stack of pumpkins with flames shooting out the top.

Visitors will also be awed by the mammoth pumpkin mosaic (**pictured**).



Silversea's biggest ever

SILVERSEA has unveiled its largest-ever voyage collection for 2027-28, revealing more than 400 new sailings to over 600 destinations for the season.

Highlights of the program include three new Grand Voyages, 30 maiden calls, and all new expeditions in destinations including Australia.

Silver Cloud will explore the Great Barrier Reef and Southeast Asia, among other destinations, including Ribbon Reef and Sandakan Bay.

Japan will take on a greater focus for this season, with more expeditions to Kanazawa and the Kerama Islands, as Silversea introduces its first-ever summer in the country.

Overnights in Osaka will enable guests to explore the city's vibrant street food and nightlife, while on board, the S.A.L.T. culinary program will see guests enjoy an umami discovery



in Osaka, and an exploration of Kyoto's regional specialties.

Exclusive access to marquee events and local festivals will be a key pillar of the season, with highlights to include visits to Monaco Grand Prix, Rio Carnival, and cherry blossom season and Awa Dance Festival in Japan.

Other key events visited by Silversea during the season include the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, the San Sebastian Street Festival in Puerto Rico, the Festival Puccini, and Bastille Day in France.

Another highlight for the season will be Silversea's 2027-28 Grand Voyages - more in **CW**. **MS**

Taste Oyster's Rally

BRITISH luxury yacht builder Oyster Yachts, known for its 16-month World Rallies, has launched a series of voyages for travellers who cannot commit to a full circumnavigation.

The new Oyster Explorers Club Rallies visit far-flung destinations like Norway's fjords and the islands of Polynesia, featuring offshore excursions and immersive cultural encounters.

Owners sail in the company of a fleet and are fully supported by Oyster's team, with four rally routes now available - see **HERE**.

TRIBE Auckland

TRIBE, an Accor hotel brand, has officially opened its first property in NZ, with **TRIBE Auckland Fort Street** now accepting guests (**TD** 17 May 2024).

Positioned between the city's waterfront and Spark Arena, the hotel features 60 guest rooms, social hubs, and a restaurant.

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CORPORATE UPDATE

FCTG's corporate champ

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group's (FCTG) Corporate Traveller has been recognised as a Customer Champion Leader by the *Australian Financial Review* (AFR), placing it among the top organisations in Australia and NZ.

The Customer Champions list celebrates ASX200 companies, multinationals, new businesses and government agencies that create great value for customers and shareholders.

"A Customer Champion is an organisation that has succeeded in purposefully delivering outstanding customer value and experiences while simultaneously growing revenue and shareholder returns," the AFR said.

Qualifying entries were evaluated on their ability to deliver distinctive customer value, generate attract shareholder value, and a unique approach to doing business.



Australia-based Corporate Traveller Global MD Tom Walley (pictured) said the company is honoured to appear in the list.

"Elevating the customer experience is central to everything we do," he said.

"Our significant buying power and negotiation prowess as a part of our Flight Centre Travel Group parent company gives us a competitive edge, giving our customers access to the widest choice of travel content in the global market." JM

CT adds self-serve

CT CONNECTIONS has announced the immediate rollout of self-service booking changes and cancellations through Zeno by Serko.

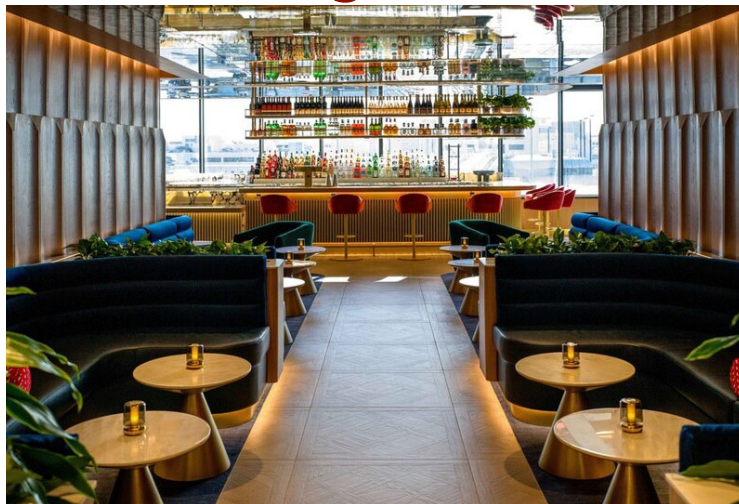
The upgrade gives corporate travellers the autonomy to change or cancel bookings themselves in Zeno, even after their tickets have been issued, saving time and offering more control.

The new feature offers instant pricing and real-time options and mirrors the existing EDIFACT change process with the added power of NDC content.

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BA lounges around



BRITISH Airways has rolled out its brand new lounge design concept, the latest phase of its £7 billion (A\$14.5b) transformation program, with significant recent investment in lounges.

The airline has unveiled the new lounges in both Miami and Dubai international airports, which pay tribute to BA's heritage, as well as the unique character of each destination, such as the Art Deco design well-known in Miami and the fretwork patterning and architecture in the UAE.

"These unique spaces have been created with our customers in mind and are the next step in our extensive lounge transformation plan," said BA Chief Customer Officer Calum Laming.

"Whether they're looking to relax, dine, work or enjoy a drink at the fully staffed bar, there's something for everyone."

The lounges also feature full-

service bars, menus that include local ingredients with a British twist, as well as the exclusive Concorde Dining Rooms.

Spanning 1,200m², BA's refreshed lounge in Miami is the first time in decades that it has been available in the city and is the largest outside of London.

In addition to the bar and restaurant, it also includes focus pods, a lowered central lounge, as well as shower suites and a self-serve dining area. JHM

BTS tickets open

REGISTRATIONS for the Business Travel Show Asia Pacific 2026 are now open.

Taking place in Singapore, the event will run from 14-15 Apr and is focused on helping attendees navigate the unique complexities of corporate travel in the APAC region - register **HERE**.

Air Tahiti's new class

AIR Tahiti Nui, the flagship carrier of the Islands of Tahiti, has launched a new travel class - the Manava Premium cabin.

Designed to enhance the travel experience, the new offering includes access to a fast security check-in lane and a baggage allowance of 2x 23kg bags.

Guests will also enjoy more legroom, a complimentary welcome drink, a new meal and drink selection, a redesigned eco-friendly comfort kit, and more.

NEXT ISSUE: Southeast Asia special report

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Collette is offering savings of \$750 per person on its Canadian Rockies and Alaska tours departing in 2026. Starting in Calgary, the 15-day itinerary takes guests through the Rockies aboard the Rocky Mountaineer, across British Columbia, and continuing on an Alaska Inside Passage Cruise. This limited-time offer is available for new bookings made from now until 12 Nov 2025. Call 1300 792 196 to learn more.

Agents can secure up to 20% off a range of **Club Med** destinations for their clients with the launch of the hospitality group's Endless Summer Sale 2026. The promotion features the brand-new Club Med South Africa Beach & Safari, as well as the newly refurbished Club Med Phuket. The sale will run until 27 Apr 2026, however those looking to book a Euro or South African adventure must act before 18 Oct 2025. For more information or to book, visit the Club Med for Travel Agents portal [HERE](#).


Crystal guests will receive a \$5,000 air credit per couple when they book **Abercrombie & Kent's** 19-day 'Antarctica, South Georgia & Falklands: Holiday Voyage', which departs 21 Dec 2025. International flights must be booked and ticketed with Abercrombie & Kent. Alternatively, solo travellers can take 50% off the single supplement in stateroom categories 1-3. Learn more about the offer [HERE](#).

Event planners can take advantage of a new offer from Hunter Valley property **The Lane Retreat**, which has launched an early booking incentive for corporate events held before 31 Mar 2026. Perks include 10% off the next team-building activity with Pinnacle Team Events, 10% off food and beverage at Esca Bimbadgen, and a bottle of Bimbadgen wine for each guest as a team gift. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more.

Coogee Bay Boutique Hotel has launched an all-inclusive spring escape deal, available for stays until 30 Nov. The package blends relaxed luxury with beachside living, offering overnight accommodation in either the hotel or the recently refurbished Bay Rooms above the hotel, complimentary arrival drinks, breakfast and dinner for two, undercover parking, wi-fi, and free cancellation. Travellers can find out more information about the offer [HERE](#).

Philippine Airlines has announced a one-week seat sale to celebrate 60 years of the Sydney-Manila route. Until 19 Oct, travellers can snatch up return fares from \$929 on the flight, for travel from 01 Feb 2026. Find out more or make a booking [HERE](#).



In celebration of being recognised in the top five Fijian resorts in Conde Nast Traveller's 2025 Readers Choice Awards, the adults-only **Royal Davui Island Resort** has launched a limited-time 'Conde Nast Traveller' package. Priced from A\$12,500 for a five-night stay in a Lagoon Plunge Pool Bungalow, it also includes roundtrip transfers for two people, a couple's 60-minute massage, and a A\$200 resort credit. Use code 'RD CONDE' for stays between now and 06 Jan - details [HERE](#).



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MEL parks it for charity



MELBOURNE Airport hosted its Car Park Sleepout last night, raising awareness and funds for women, non-binary people and children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness because of family violence.

Members of the public were invited to spend a night in their cars on the airport's rooftop carpark, with all funds raised going towards supporting Juno Services and McAuley Community Services for Women.

The initiative's top individual fundraiser was 11-year-old Melbourne Girls Grammar student Harriet, after a school project opened her eyes to how many women and children are forced to sleep in cars to escape family violence.

Harriet has more than doubled her goal, raising more than any other individual participant-enough money to fund 10 nights of safety for a woman and her children or help 20 families with costs of their groceries or essential items.

"This isn't about charity, it's about dignity, survival and basic human kindness," Harriet said.

Melbourne Airport CEO Lorie Argus praised Harriet's initiative. "Seeing young people step out and take action gives us hope for real change," she said.

For more information on the initiative, or to make a donation, [CLICK HERE](#). *JM*

Pictured: McAuley CEO Jocelyn Bignold, Juno CEO Tanya Corrie and Melbourne Airport Chief Executive Lorie Argus.

Summer of Marriott

MARRIOTT Bonvoy will return for a fifth year as the official hotel partner for the Australian Open and lead-in tournaments, continuing its strategic alliance with Tennis Australia.

The partnership will offer members of the loyalty program access to more than 55 packages featuring money-can't-buy events and experiences during the Australian tennis season, including premium viewing tickets.

Last year, Marriott Bonvoy member stays in Melbourne rose from 50% to 75% during the tournament, and 17 million points were spent.

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Paris is a pastry lover's dream - corner boulangeries, candlelit bistros, and elegant pâtisseries where a flaky croissant or glossy éclair feels like a rite of passage.

Rome invites connection: pizza al taglio savoured on cobbled streets, slow coffees in sunlit piazzas, and trattorias where recipes are passed down through generations. Amsterdam's canals lead to cosy cafés and vibrant street markets, where stroopwafels, herring, and Dutch cheeses mingle with inventive seasonal fare.

London offers a global foodstage - refined afternoon teas, buzzing street-food hubs, and modern spins on British classics.

Venice blends tradition and romance: cicchetti bars tucked along quiet canals, seafood risottos, and gelato enjoyed on moonlit bridges. Madrid pulses with energy, tapas trails, jamón ibérico, and rooftop

dining with sweeping city views. Hamburg surprises with its maritime soul - fresh fish markets, waterfront dining, and a rising reputation for innovative gastronomy.

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From Canberra

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