Travel Daily First with the news

Wednesday 10th September 2025



Regent sees the sun

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has launched five new Mediterranean vovages for 2026 and 2027 which will position guests to view the total solar eclipse.

Voyages will be operated by four ships, with departures scheduled from Barcelona, Reykjavik, Paris and two from Southampton.



Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features nine pages of news, including a photo page from Hawaii Tourism and our Luxury page, plus a full page from Infinity Holidays.

Agent cost savings

TRAVEL agents will be exempt from having to wear obligations on airline refunds arising from the proposed Aviation Ombudsman Scheme, ATIA has confirmed.

After extensive lobbying by the industry association, the move could see between \$40 million and up to \$100 million saved due to the proposed new regulations and compliance costs.

Previously, travel agents stood forced to cover airline refunds to their clients in line with the new regulations, leaving them out of pocket while waiting for funds to be sent back from the airline.

ATIA Chief Executive Dean Long said the outcome is proof of the power of a united voice leading the interests of the travel sector.

"This is money that stays in our members' businesses instead of being lost to red tape," Long said.

MEANWHILE, popular celebrity red carpet host Shelly Horton has been revealed as the host of the 2025 National Travel Industry Awards gala dinner in Brisbane.

ATIA said Horton will bring "her signature blend of cheeky charm and authentic storytelling" to the NTIA stage on 18 Oct.

Horton's appearance has been sponsored by Virgin Australia.

Fundell flies fractional flag

EXCLUSIVE

FORMER Globus family of brands Head of Marketing APAC, Chris Fundell, has announced the launch of Strativate Marketing, a new business centred around fractional CMO leadership he hopes will shake up travel marketing for small to medium enterprises (TD breaking news).

Fundell (pictured) lists services of Strativate as strategic planning, growth identification, and full delivery through top-tier internal and external resources.

"The tourism industry is undergoing a transformation with traveller expectations continually evolving - mixed media modelling touchpoints

Infinity UK Journeys

INFINITY Holidays has launched a new 'Journeys Without Limits' campaign showcasing new UK & Europe packages - see page 10.



dominate the customer journey, and competition, both local and global, is fiercer than ever," Fundell told Travel Daily.

"For many small to mid-sized tourism operators, these changes bring new opportunities, but also new challenges - hiring a full-time CMO is often out of reach for lean teams or growing businesses, but the need for senior strategic guidance has never been greater."

While the focus for Strativate Marketing will be on small to medium businesses, Fundell said established brands looking for guidance could also benefit.

The website for the new business is live - CLICK HERE. DF









AA elevates flavour

AMERICAN Airlines will expand its destination-inspired dining offerings to business class guests on flights to Sydney, Brisbane and Auckland from later this year.

The chef-curated menus have been designed to reflect the flavours of the Pacific, AA said.

Guests can enjoy dishes such as sweet chilli sea bass, Konacrusted beef filet, while economy guests can choose from teriyaki beef ragout or cauliflower pie.



Velocity doesn't need Lounge

FXCIUSIVE

VIRGIN Australia's Velocity rewards program is unlikely to create an equivalent to Qantas' top tier Chairman's Lounge above its existing Beyond Lounge anytime soon, however the airline has not ruled the idea out.

When asked about the prospect of a tactical launch to counter Qantas' high-profile invite-only club, Velocity Frequent Flyer CEO Nick Rohrlach said the program's focus is to "feel accessible and rewarding" for as many travellers as possible, while also satisfying its most loyal members.

"Platinum Plus and Forever Gold take us a long way in that direction, and for a select group of high-value travellers, we also offer the Beyond Lounge - our invitation-only tier that provides a discreet, premium experience for those who lead our largest corporate accounts," he said.

Rohrlach did leave the door slightly ajar for a change of heart however, telling *Travel Daily* that Virgin Australia will continue to assess what the market wants.

"However, our focus remains on rewarding loyalty in meaningful, accessible ways that make

Mawson delivered

AURORA Expeditions has taken delivery of its third ship - *Douglas Mawson* - from the China Merchants Heavy Industry shipyard in Haimen.

The 105-metre ship is certified as an ice-class 1A vessel and features the X-Bow hull design.

Douglas Mawson will debut in Tasmania before heading to Antarctica for the summer peak.

velocity frequent flyer

members feel genuinely valued."
When asked how VA competes

with a loyalty program like QFF, which is so entrenched across business and leisure, Rohrlach said Velocity's edge is faster rewards and recognition, flexible earning and standout features like Family Pooling.

"Status matching is also a lever we use selectively, but everyday value and accessibility are the differentiators that keep people in the program once they've moved across."

Rohrlach also batted away suggestions that Virgin Australia ending its reciprocal loyalty partnership with Hawaiian Airlines presented a challenge.

"[This won't affect us] at all, partnerships evolve, but our global network is stronger than ever through carriers like Singapore Airlines, Qatar Airways and United," he said.

Meanwhile, inking further Velocity partnerships is another key focus for the carrier, with recent additions such as Qatar Airways, DoorDash and AGL all adding to the value proposition of the program, Rohrlach said.

"[These tie-ups] alongside our existing partnerships with major international carriers, financial institutions, and lifestyle brands, highlight the strength of our program," he added.

"We have some exciting partnerships planned for 2025 - stay tuned." AB

Club Med savings

DISCOUNTS of up to 20% are now available to travel agents for holidays to Club Med resorts in Bali, Bintan Island and the Maldives as part of the brand's new 'Endless Summer Sale', valid for travel 29 May - 27 Nov 2026.

Club Med GM Pacific and New ESAP Markets Michelle Davies said travellers can look forward to an all-new look at Club Med Bintan, including renovated rooms and revamped dining areas.



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Wednesday 10th September 2025



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Africa tops 'Not Hot' list **TIWAI** Island in Sierra Leone is at the top of Intrepid's annual

'Not Hot List', released today. "The Not Hot List is our way of shining a light on places that don't usually make the headlines but absolutely should." Intrepid's MD for ANZ Brett Mitchell told Travel Daily.

According to the tour operator, Tiwai Island is in the midst of a transformative 10-year tourism strategy to attract visitors to its untamed landscapes, rare flora and fauna, and rich culture.

The destinations on Intrepid's list were selected based on criteria such as having less visitation and lower awareness compared to other locations and demonstrating tourism readiness, with initiatives in place to support visitors and promote tourism.

On the list, Tiwai Island was followed by Tien Shan Mountain Range, Kyrgyzstan; Sierra Norte, Mexico; and Vis Island, Croatia.

According to Erica Kritikides, GM of Experiences at Intrepid Travel, 80% of travellers visit just 10% of the world's tourism destinations.

"A key consideration when



we're developing trips is how we can spread the economic benefits of tourism more widely and how our presence in a destination can positively impact the communities we're visiting."

According to Mitchell, based on last year's Not Hot List, Mongolia is up 118% in bookings and Greenland has jumped 700%.

To view the list click HERE. JHM

Choose with Globus

TRAVELLERS with Globus can now select from a significantly boosted range of day excursions as part of their tour itineraries.

The launch of the brand's new 'Globus Choice Excursions' unlocks a "choose your own adventure" style on 80% of itineraries in Europe and North America, Globus said.

Options can include food tasting in Tuscany, a ride over the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, a thermal spa soak at Szechenyi Baths in Budapest and more.

"Research is pointing to flexibility to choose from included excursions as a major driver for the next generation of tour travellers," said Globus Managing Director Chris Hall commented.



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DISCOVER MORE



Travel Daily

Wednesday 10th September 2025



Window

WHILE the movie Cast Away may not be the first to spring to mind when travellers plan their upcoming trip, one Airbnb in the United Kingdom is offering tourists the opportunity to feel like a marooned Tom Hanks.

However, they will not be heading to a deserted island, but a "crashed plane" in the middle of the woods.

The unique accommodation comprises two parts of an old Lufthansa aircraft pieced together to resemble a "marooned" scene in the isolated Somerset countryside.

The former Dash 8 Q400 airliner was bought in two parts on eBay.

The aircraft was then transported for five hours in a trailer to the forest it now calls home - if you're interested in booking, CLICK HERE.



New countries for G

G ADVENTURES and National Geographic Expeditions have expanded their offerings with 14 new trips for next year.

Fresh destinations for the collection include South Korea, the five 'Stans', China, and more.

The trips take the collection to more than 100 itineraries in almost 60 destinations.

Ranging from eight to 24 days, National Geographic Journeys with G Adventures aiming to connect travellers to a destination through the lens of education.

There are also two new 'National Geographic Family Journeys with G Adventures', visiting Egypt and Portugal.

CATO's top agents

THE Council of Australian Tour Operator's (CATO) top 20 touring agents for the month have been announced, celebrating the most engaged learners on the organisation's Touring Academy.

Rosemary Spiteri (The Curated Traveller) took the number one spot outright with 775 points, continuing her impressive form.

The second spot was shared by Trent Rice (Flight Centre Renmark) and Debbie Jackson (All Abroad Travel), who both scored

Brett Atkinson (Flight Centre Forest Hill) and Cassandra Monteath (Flight Centre Wodonga) lead the chasing pack on 745 points.

Celebrity to Lelepa

CELEBRITY Cruises Vice **President International Giles** Hawke has confirmed the line will visit the Lelepa private destination in Vanuatu, currently in development by its sister brand Royal Caribbean.

Hawke said some of the cruise line's best feedback is for its calls at Perfect Day at CocoCay another Royal Caribbean private destination that Celebrity has only recently begun visiting.

Lelepa is scheduled to arrive in 2027, with the cruise line's Celebrity Edge and the recently renovated Celebrity Solstice scheduled to sail in Australia during the season - read more in today's issue of Cruise Weekly.

Events boost Syd

A MIX of events drove Sydney's hotel performance last month. with the city posting its highest Aug average daily rate on record.

Sydney also recorded a monthly high for its revenue available per room, according to preliminary data from CoStar.

Occupancy for the month was 84.4%, up 8.7% year-on-year, with the boost largely thanks to the first-ever Sydney Marathon, and the British & Irish Lions tour.

Travel Daily

A new season: By Travellers, For Travellers

With Karen Deveson, MD Collette Australia



AS COLLETTE enters its 108th season of guided touring, the excitement is palpable. With the

release of our 2026-27 small group Explorations brochure, we're not just launching a new season - we're unveiling our new tagline that has shaped the creation of every Collette journey: By Travellers, For Travellers.

This isn't just a tagline. It's a promise. Collette has been busy redefining what it means to be on a guided tour - a commitment to designing travel experiences that are deeply immersive, thoughtfully curated, and led by local experts who call our destinations home. Our small group Explorations tours, which have been evolving since 2008, are the embodiment of this philosophy.

Crafted by local designers to surpass the expected, these tours reject cookie-cutter itineraries and offer authentic experiences that go beyond major attractions.

Travellers are invited into side alleys, welcomed into locals' homes, and transported through destinations in ways that extend far beyond the coaches we travel in.

Our Explorations tours are built around the idea that the best travel moments are often the unscripted ones - dining with locals in Africa, taking cooking classes in Vietnam, or sleeping under the stars in Finland. These experiences aren't just memorable; they're transformative.

Jaclyn Leibl-Cote, our President and CEO, explains:

"Our tours include exclusive,

thoughtfully designed experiences that take travellers to some of the world's most incredible and hard-to-reach destinations.

For more than 100 years, we've taken pride in creating innovative tours that go beyond the ordinary- offering opportunities to explore, discover, and make meaningful connections everywhere we go.

With our small group tours, quests spend less time on the coach and more time immersed in the destination."

To watch our new season video and discover what "By Travellers, For Travellers" means to us - and how you can connect this with your curious travellers - CLICK HERE.

This season, we're proud to offer over 50 small group Explorations, 10 of which are brand new.

Standout itineraries like 'Cape Town to Cairo: The Ultimate African Experience', 'Journey through Northern Vietnam', and 'Aurora Adventure: Winter in the Canadian Rockies & the Yukon'.

These tours reflect trending destinations and a fresh perspective on what it means to travel meaningfully.

Beyond Explorations, we've launched over 170 Collette tours for our 2026 season, including 20 brand-new additions. These itineraries are designed to offer something a little different curious, thoughtful, and just the right amount of off-script travel moments - to make active and curious travellers feel right at home while exploring the world. To celebrate, our 2026 New Season Sale offers savings of up to \$1,500 per couple on bookings made between 4 Sep - 9 Oct 2025 for travel throughout 2026.

CLICK HERE for more details.





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ATCC course review

THE Australian Travel Careers Council (ATCC) will seek to consult with the Federal Government as it continues work to revise the Cert III in Travel industry qualification.

ATCC Chief Executive Rick Myatt said the qualification is in need of reform to align it with current industry skill needs, business practices and to broaden its appeal to school-based trainees to choose a career in travel.

Revisions have come in concert with a Travel Skills Taskforce formed by the ATCC earlier this year, which features input from a wide range of industry segments.

The organisation has already pitched to NSW Training Services and the Department of Education, with Myatt saying he was pleased with the outcome.

The ATCC said key challenges for the curriculum include a lack of appreciation by parents and career advisors of how broad a career in the travel sector is and that the sector is in decline.

Accor invests with Elanor



ACCOR will rebrand four hotels within the Elanor Hotel Accommodation Fund from Oct next year, with 1834 Hotels to retain day-to-day management.

The changes will see Byron Bay Hotel and Apartments become The Sebel Byron Bay; while Barossa Weintal will rebrand to Mercure Barossa Valley; Clare Country Club will change to Peppers Clare Valley and Adabco

Boutique Hotel Adelaide will switch its signage to Mantra Wakefield Adelaide.

Elanor said the rebrands come as part of its strategy to enhance asset performance and maximise Accor's global hotel distribution and leading ALL loyalty program.

Pictured above is Adrian Williams, Accor; Tony Fehon, Elanor Investors; and Andrew Bullock from 1834 Hotels.

Wamos back for NZ

SPANISH charter airline Wamos Air will once again operate select services from Auckland over the upcoming summer on behalf of Air New Zealand.

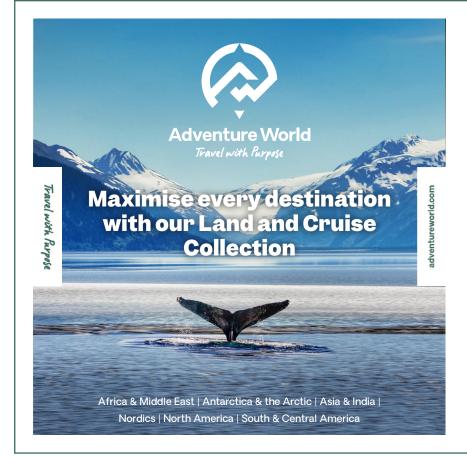
Wamos will fly from Auckland to Samoa, Fiji, Tahiti, Tokyo, and Bali from Oct through Apr, as Air New Zealand continues to tackle its ongoing aircraft engine supply challenges (TD 16 Apr).

The wet lease arrangement will see Wamos provide aircraft and operating crews.

Aqua-Aston training

AQUA-ASTON Hospitality and Hawaiian Airlines are inviting the travel industry to join them for a webinar they are hosting later this month.

The "vlog-cast-style" conversation will be hosted on 25 Sep, offering conversations with resorts, airlines, and must-do's to share with travellers who are visiting Hawaii - sign up HERE.



Cruise-Inclusive Itineraries

Land journeys that feature a cruise element as part of the experience.

These are curated itineraries that include a cruise – whether that's an Amazon expedition, a Galápagos sailing, a Nile river cruise, or a journey along Norway's spectacular fjords. Each of these trips seamlessly blends time on board with rich land exploration, allowing you to unpack less - and discover more.

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Loyalty to Circolo

LUXURY small ship line Aqua Expeditions has launched the first phase of its new global loyalty program for the trade.

Tailored for individual travel advisors and partner companies, the new Circolo Aqua Trade Loyalty Program will offer tierbased rewards with miles as a central currency, which can be used on Aqua Expeditions travel or future bookings.

The program will officially debut during the PURE travel conference in Marrakech this week, then retroactively apply to all qualifying bookings with departure dates from 1 Jan 2025.

"We wanted to celebrate the individuals and companies who drive our growth by offering meaningful rewards and recognition, structured with the same care and attention to detail we bring to every voyage," said Francesco Galli Zugaro, founder & CEO of Aqua Expeditions.

Japan's appeal still rising



THE Japan National Tourism Organization has concluded its roadshow series in Sydney and Melbourne, which was attended by 360 industry professionals and 49 suppliers.

"Japan has become a very popular destination, as evidenced by the success of this event, and Australia is projected to achieve the historic milestone of one million annual visitors," said Executive Director of JNTO Sydney Naoki Kitazawa.

Organised by Linkd Tourism, the event featured an exhibition space which was enhanced by ikebana flower arrangements and live koto performances. *JHM*

Pictured: Millie Browne, Sally Miles, Yuta Shimada and Harriett Bougher at the Sydney event.

K-Tourism task force

SOUTH Korea has launched a taskforce to boost tourism, led by Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism Chae Hwi-young and including members from government and academia.

"Although K-culture is enjoying enormous global influence, we need to carefully examine what Japan has done well over the past decade," observed Chae, adding that one of the goals will be dispersing tourism beyond Seoul.

Presley on the rails

VINTAGE Rail Journeys is ready to rock with its Elvis Festival Train package to the Parkes Elvis Festival, available now.

Departing 08 Jan next year, the trip will feature regional experiences and live rock 'n' roll.

Guests will also enjoy a stop at Rowlee Wines Estate in Orange for a long lunch, vineyard tours, wine masterclasses and more.

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*Sale ends 11.59pm (AEST) 15 September 2025 unless sold out prior. Select routes, travel dates and terms and conditions apply

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Aloha Down Under 2025 brings a taste of Hawai'i to Oceania

Wed 10 September 2025

Under exhibitor class photo.

HAWAI'I Tourism Oceania (HTO) has wrapped its annual Aloha Down Under roadshow, connecting the

Hawaiian Islands with travel professionals across Auckland, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney.

Featuring 14 leading Hawaiian suppliers and 700 RSVPs, the tour provided the latest updates from HTO and key partners, helping advisors inspire clients to discover Hawai'i.

Guests enjoyed lively performances and hula lessons with former Miss Hawai'i Raeceen Satele, Hawaiian-inspired cuisine, and holiday package giveaways.

HTO also launched its new 'Aloha Hawai'i' agent self-famil programme, offering flexible travel discounts for advisors and a companion to create their own Hawaiian holiday.

Mahalo to all attendees for joining the fun and sharing the aloha spirit that makes Hawai'i so unforgettable!



BRISBANE'S major prize winner was thrilled at being selected.



ANNA Riedel, Hawai'i Tourism Oceania; Nic Hawksley, Infinity Holidays; and Josh Hewett, Helloworld.



FORMER Miss Hawai'i Raeceen Satele demontrates the hula.



wait to get over to Hawai'i.



EXHIBITORS celebrate with Melbourne's major prize winner.



SHARING aloha with Robert Pascua, Kualoa Ranch.



FARID Hacene, Island Escapes; Andrew Best, Hawaiian Airlines and Andrew Gee from Outrigger Hospitality Group.



EMCEE Raeceen Satele with husband AJ



BRIAN Chan Ka La'i, Waikiki Beach and Gary DeLellis, KapohoKine Adventures.



SCOTT Kawasaki, Wayfinder Waikiki and Dylan Hearne, Aqua Aston Hospitality.

luxury@traveldaily.com.au Wednesday 10th September 2025

Hilton's small win

HILTON Hotels and Small Luxury Hotels of the World (SLH) have celebrated one year of their partnership.

The collaboration between the two has seen significant success according to the brands, adding on average more than one SLH property every week and expanding Hilton's luxury offerings.

There are now over 450 hotels across 90 countries that are part of the partnership between them.

Traffic to SLH properties via Hilton's digital booking channels has risen 78% yearon-year in Jul, the company said in a press release.

"This has been our strongest collaboration, driving significant bookings for our participating member hotels and attracting even more properties to our portfolio," said Richard Hyde, Chief Operating Officer, Small Luxury Hotels of the World.

Come from Away at sea

CUNARD will bring Tony-awardwinning production Come from Away to sea for the first time in a new partnership with Music Theatre International.

The endearing story about friendship during the 9/11 attacks in 2001 will make its debut onboard Queen Elizabeth when the ship begins her maiden Caribbean season from 16 Oct.

Loyalty key to gen Z, millennial lux market

GENERATION Z and millennials are a large focus for luxury brands across all major hotel platforms, and loyalty is vital for connecting with them.

That is the opinion of Tom Gibson, Director of CBRE Hotels Capital Markets, Australia, who recently spoke on the CBRE Talking Property Pacific podcast with Michael Crawford, Chief **Executive Officer of Baillie Lodges** and Tierra Hotels.

When asked by host Kathryn House about the broadening demographic of aspirational luxury travellers, Gibson said that gen Z and millennials are now part of the demographic and respond well to loyalty.

"Loyalty can be defined in many factors - it could be by service or it could be by points, and if you get that market early, they'll be loyal to you, so it's a large



opportunity for the luxury brands to target," he said.

He added that numbers wise, almost half of the world's population are now gen Z or millennials, and that "both of those combined account for almost two-thirds of the luxury travel spend globally".

That dollar value could reach \$9 trillion in the next three years, double what it was worth in 2020 prior to COVID, he added.

Crawford suggested that the pipeline for growth "has never been better for us right now", suggesting there is also a potential opportunity in tours.

"I think there's a business vertical out there for us potentially as operating tours with and without our own assets," he said.

"If we translate what we do really well, which is get to know you as an individual, curate top quality, everything you want, assets, lodging, food, experiences, I think we can do that with our own assets. DF

Swiss International Air Lines reinvents inflight service on first and business

LONG-HAUL travellers on Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) are now being offered an updated inflight service across business and first class covering everything from meals to bed linen.

In business, guests are provided new bed linen, while on night flights of more than 10 hours, guests are also offered a Muntagnard sleep shirt and an additional seat cover.

A new amenity kit has also been co-developed with the Swiss VIU brand, with items featuring the Alpine Valley signature scent.

A wider selection of beverages and snacks will be available between meals as well.

In first class, the entire food and beverage service is now presented on fine porcelain, while pyjamas and slippers by Zimmerli of Switzerland are

offered, which are accompanied by quality bed linen and a new amenity kit featuring Sisley care and other comfort items.

Further products from Swiss brands including Rohner and VIU are also given individually by the cabin personnel.

In both classes, the welcome drinks and meals have also been given an update.

SWISS has already refreshed premium economy and economy.



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ACCOMMODATION

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TFE Hotels has announced the opening of its new boutique property in Melbourne, Hannah St. Hotel. The \$150 million development forms part of the Queensbridge precinct in Southbank, and will offer 188 rooms within a 65-storey

residential and lifestyle tower. Guests can access a 25-metre lap pool steam room, fully equipped gym, and wellness spaces, as well as a flexible co-working lounge and fully equipped podcast recording studio.



Copenhagen is now home to nature-led luxury brand, 1 Hotels. Housed in the heritage-listing building of former Hotel Skt Petri, 1 Hotel Copenhagen is positioned close to the city's most iconic attractions, including Tivoli Gardens and Rosenborg

Castle. With 252 rooms and 30 suites, the hotel features lush greenery throughout, including outdoor terraces filled with wildflowers and seasonal herbs and an on-site bee hotel.



COMO Metropolitan London has teamed up with Michelin-starred restaurant Trivet to launch a new wine-focused dining venue, which opens next week. Located within the five-star hotel but with its own dedicated entrance on Old Park Lane,

Labombe by Trivet will offer guests the opportunity to sample premium wines alongside a selection of European-style snacks and small plates showcasing experimental flavours and combinations.



W New York - Union Square has re-opened following a US\$100m renovation. Located in the heart of New York City, the 256-key hotel boasts a reimagined grand entrance, with the grand staircase transformed in fresh colours and lush botanicals, while the

former ballroom is now the Living Room - a Beaux-Arts space with original white marble columns and ornate Corinthian capitals.



In celebration of its 20th anniversary, COMO Shambhala Estate has unveiled renovated accommodation and a redesigned wellness centre. To mark the opening, the property will offer a new series of one- to two-day wellness programmes, while those seeking a

deeper experience can opt for the 'wellness paths' - multi-night stays that combine diagnostics, diet, breathwork and hands-on healing.



Sydney's GPO marks 150



SYDNEY'S General Post Office building - now home to The Fullerton Hotel - recently brought together guests from across the business and travel sector to help mark its 150th birthday.

Amid reflections of the GPO's storied edifice and its legacy, the evening recognised and celebrated a building (pictured) that has stood as a beacon of Sydney's communications evolution since it opened in 1874.

Guests enjoyed an evening of fine dining and live music, hosted by renowned Australian journalist, Mike Munro.

The occasion was marked by a special moment as a \$50,000 donation was handed over by Sino Group - owner of The Fullerton Hotels & Resorts - to the hotel's long-term partner, the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF).

"From activations in the hotel, room packages featuring our heritage wing and the incredibly popular Heritage afternoon tea, we have been honoured to mark this remarkable milestone with Sydneysiders, guests and visitors," said The Fullerton Sydney General Manager, John O'Shea.

Guests were entertained at the event by music from Sydney Opera singer, Josephine Lonergan, who was accompanied by The Rosemont Strings and Sydney harpist, Rebekah Chandler.

The menu was designed by the culinary team from The Fullerton, with dishes especially crafted to pay homage to 19th century Victorian architecture, albeit with a modern Australian twist. ML

High speed at PVG

CHINA will construct a new 223-kilometre high-speed rail line between Shanghai and Hangzhou as part of an expansion strategy to grow the national rail system.

The line will link a new station being built adjacent to Shanghai Airport with Hangzhou, with the journey to take 40 minutes.

Once open, the new service brings a high-speed rail line to Shanghai Airport for the first time, with the service expected to boost Shanghai's competitiveness against regional Asian rivals including Hong Kong.

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