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## New Silversea fare structure

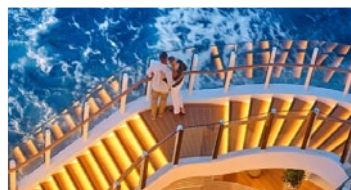
**SILVERSEA** has unveiled a new sales structure, introducing three fare types: All-Inclusive Plus, All-Inclusive, and Last-Minute.

The cruise line will continue to maintain its all-inclusive signature onboard experience, while allowing advisors to add on domestic flights, hotels, transfers, and curated land experiences.

The new 'All-Inclusive Plus' fare provides the greatest value to guests, offering a refundable deposit, as well as the peace of mind provided by the brand's fare guarantee program.

Passengers will also enjoy a shore excursion credit, determined by the length and region of the sailing.

All expedition voyages will continue to offer included shore excursions as part of the experience, as well as Zodiac tours, expert lectures, domestic



flights, pre- and post-cruise hotel nights as required, and more.

The 'All-Inclusive Fare', available only on oceangoing voyages, will not include a shore excursion credit, while the 'Last-Minute Fare' will offer favourable savings within five months of departure, in exchange for full payment at the time of booking. *MS*

### Inspire your friend

**INSPIRING** Vacations is offering travel advisors the opportunity to take a friend on a trip for half price, using the code 'buddy50' - more details on **page eight**.

### Log on with Vietnam

**VIETNAM** Airlines has launched a new in-flight wi-fi service, now available across all cabins.

More details on the new connectivity on **page nine**.

### Today's issue of TD

*Travel Daily* today features seven pages of news, plus a product profile from **Vietnam Airlines** and a full page from **Inspiring Vacations**.



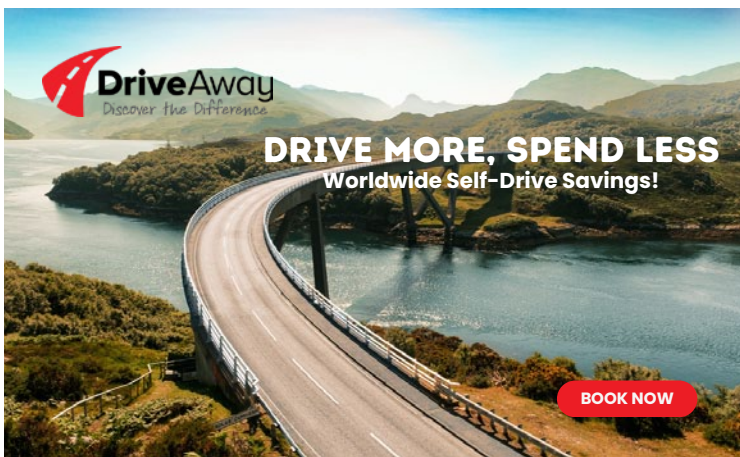
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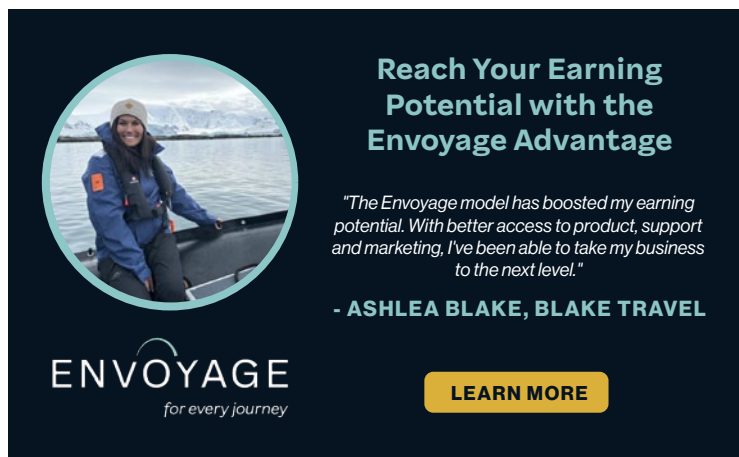


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## Jayride Thailand trial

**JAYRIDE** has begun the onboarding of the first 500 vehicles onto its SaaS platform in Thailand so it can commence a pilot program.

As part of the testing, it has released its first Jayride-branded application for customers.

## LATAM names local chief

**LATAM** Airlines Group has appointed Alberto Chico Garcia (**pictured**) to be its Country Manager for Oceania, effective from this week.

Garcia's remit includes Australia and New Zealand, and coincides with the prominent South American carrier flagging a big shift to daily flights to Sydney and Melbourne from Nov and Dec respectively (**TD** 12 Jun).

LATAM's new regional chief comes across from travel platform Kayak, where he was most recently Vertical Head, Commercial Partnerships, Asia Pacific for over two years.

Garcia also spent close to a decade in Australia working with Amadeus, rising to become its Commercial Strategy Manager, Asia Pacific.

"My focus will be on continuing to build strong partnerships, delivering value to our customers and ensuring LATAM is the airline



of choice for travellers across the region," Garcia said.

LATAM added the appointment represented an increase in commitment to the region as it seeks to expand and deepen its engagement with partners. **AB**

## CVFR parties on

**CVFR** Travel Group has been confirmed as the major sponsor for the NTIA after party for another year, while also confirming CVFR Consolidation Services will sponsor a range of activations as well, including an open-air photo booth.

**AGENT INCENTIVE**

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## Parrtjima sets a date

**PARRTJIMA** - A Festival in Light, the only Aboriginal-led event of its kind, has confirmed it will return to Alice Springs from 10-19 Apr 2026.

It will be the 11th running of the festival and will take place over 10 nights with free admission.

Set against the ancient MacDonnell Ranges, the festival transforms the desert into a living canvas of art, culture, storytelling, and more.

## SYD flags a flat fee

**IN AN** effort to combat overcharging, Sydney Airport will introduce a flat fee of \$60 for trips to the CBD from 03 Nov.

Launched as part of a 12-month trial, taxi drivers will no longer be allowed to pass on any additional tolls or surcharges on top of their fees, and follows a recommendation for a cap put forward by the NSW Point to Point Commission.

The development follows a new Taxi concierge program at Sydney Airport by the NSW Taxi Council, which is tasked with improving customer service (**TD** 30 Jun).

Taxi drivers at Sydney Airport have also come under fire for refusing to take shorter journeys from travellers with disabilities.

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## PER faster check-in

**FASTER** check-in is coming to Perth Airport, with almost 100 additional self-serve kiosks coming to terminal 1.

The project will also convert a number of the traditional check-in counters into 38 new automated bag drops.

## NZ on stage with Aus

**THE** New Zealand Govt will allocate NZ\$70 million to boost its events and tourism sectors.

Most of the new funding, announced by Prime Minister Christopher Luxon yesterday, will be dedicated to attracting more high-profile international events to compete with Australia.

NZ\$50 million of the funding alone will be added to the events attraction package to secure popular events from next year, as well as bolster support for existing events on the calendar.

"The investment will allow New Zealand to compete with Australia to host big acts, and will give international visitors even more reasons to come and explore New Zealand, while also encouraging Kiwis to get out and about," NZ Tourism and Hospitality Minister Louise Upston said.

"Major events - whether they are sports showdowns, the world's most popular artists or well-loved favourites - can be a bonanza for the cities and regions that host them, supporting local jobs and incomes in the hospitality and retail sectors and beyond," Upston added.



Meanwhile, NZ\$10 million will be invested in regional tourism by boosting campaigns to incentivise more international visitors, and up to NZ\$10 million has been set aside for tourism infrastructure upgrades like cycle trails.

The new funding is designed to create more tourism opportunities in New Zealand's regional areas in particular, with Upston conceding some regional cities are in need of a short-term economic boost from tourism.

The funding tranches will be rolled out over the next two years, with more announcements on events and infrastructure projects expected soon. *AB*

## Australia out to pitch

**TOURISM** Australia has opened a tender for its global media services over the next five years.

The country's peak tourism marketing organisation said it is seeking a partner or partners to promote Australia's "compelling tourism offering" in 16 major source markets overseas.

Tourism Australia will be looking to shortlist potential partners between Sep and Dec.

## Universal UK park

**UNIVERSAL** Destinations & Experiences has filed a trademark in Britain for the name 'Universal United Kingdom Resort'.

The company previously announced plans to build its first park in the UK (*TD* 11 Apr), due to open in Bedford in 2031.

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## US carriers suspend

**THE** US' 'big three' airlines Delta, American, and United all confirmed they have suspended workers for celebratory social media posts regarding the killing of influencer Charlie Kirk.

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## Up and away go airfares



Statistics courtesy of BITRE

**AIRFARES** across both business and economy classes are rising, according to the latest statistics from the Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics (BITRE).

Rated on an index that uses Jul 2023 as 100, Sep 2025's results have seen Best Discounts rise from 61.2 in Aug to 76.2,

restricted economy increase from 55.7 to 67.1, and business rates go up from 52.4 to 59.6.

While those figures show a significant drop since the baseline was set, it marks the first month of substantial rises across the board this year, with Best Discount seeing the biggest increase of the three. *DF*

## You can trust us: FC

**FLIGHT** Centre (FC) is leaning into its competitive advantage of trust with its latest brand campaign, 'Trusted by Travellers'.

The new long-tail brand drive spotlights real customers, celebrating the deep trust they place in FC as the one destination for all their travel needs.

Head of Marketing Megan Henderson said trust is the most powerful currency in travel, with the agency now embracing this virtue, which it is calling its "greatest competitive advantage".



Travel Daily  
ON LOCATION



**BALI**

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of **TravelManagers**, which is hosting its annual conference at **The Westin Resort & Spa in Ubud, Bali**.

### TRAVELMANAGERS

is bringing its network of hundreds of home-based travel advisors and around 80 suppliers to Ubud in Bali this week for its annual conference.

This year's theme is 'clarity', with guests preparing for three days of learning on the topic.

The plenary sessions begin tomorrow, but delegates are arriving today for some of the most anticipated events of the gathering, including the golf day and a VIP dinner tonight.



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## Slow down and read

**TRAVEL Daily's** special report series is back and this time we are exploring slow travel.

Jam-packed with in-depth features, exclusive interviews and insights, this issue takes a deep-dive into why travellers are increasingly yearning for longer, immersive adventures, exploring new destinations, communities and cultures.

The issue also discusses the rise of rail journeys and the joy of slow cruising, with a range of exec interviews, including Regent Seven Seas Cruises' Lisa Pile, Flight Centre Travel Group's James Kavanagh, APT Travel Group's David Cox, Railbookers' Frank Marini, and plenty more.

Also included is a slow travel destination guide, highlighting a diverse range of experiences from around the globe, designed to inspire and inform agents and their clients - read it [HERE](#).

## Celeb priority pays

**CELEBRITY** Cruises has revealed that priority booking access for its new river cruises was sold out just six minutes into launch.

Priority access gives guests the first chance to book the new river itineraries before they are launched to the general public.

An \$800 refundable deposit was required to join the list.

For those that missed out, there is still remaining inventory for the river cruises that will go on sale later this month.



Look out for our next issue covering Southeast Asia - for advertising enquiries, contact: [advertising@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:advertising@traveldaily.com.au).

## Nepal Airport open

**NEPAL** Airport has reopened after anti-corruption protests disrupted the city's transport and caused widespread violence, local media have reported.

The airport shut down on 09 Sep after authorities cited "unprecedented and serious" security concerns, with the local army deployed to secure the airport and surrounding area.

Stranded tourists were generally safe and provided with free shuttle buses between the airport and major hotels in and around Kathmandu.

FlightRadar24 is currently reporting a zero minute departure delay for the airport.



## Mandarin comes to town



**FOUR** Mandarin Oriental hoteliers hosted an elegant soiree in Sydney last week, sharing news and updates from each property and across the wider group.

Over a dinner with more than 100 travel agents, the event served to further the hotel group's relationships in Australia.

Headline news included the upcoming opening of Mandarin Oriental in Vienna (**TD** 12 Sep) and downtown Dubai.

Also celebrated was the group's collaboration with the Pantone Colour Institute, which has yielded a custom colour shade known as Mandarin Oriental Celadon Green. *ML*

**Pictured** above at the event are: Chadarat Vasukavin, Mandarin Oriental Bangkok; Irene Tan, Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong; Peter Hession, Mandarin Oriental

Sales and Marketing, Brenda Lim, Mandarin Oriental and Ayfer Bedir from Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London.

## FJ wins best airline

**FIJI** Airways has been awarded an APEX World Class Airline for 2026 Award, the smallest airline by fleet size ever to earn the honour, and the only airline in Oceania to be recognised.

Andre Viljoen, outgoing Managing Director and CEO of Fiji Airways, said "this recognition is a proud and historic moment for the airline and for Fiji".

"In 2016, we were ranked outside the world's Top 100 airlines," he said.

"We are the David in a world of Goliaths - and we are winning," Viljoen added.



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## JQ unlikely to return

**JETSTAR** will “probably never” return to regional flights in New Zealand due to high operating costs, Group CEO Stephanie Tully has revealed.

The regional routes began in 2015 and were cancelled in 2019, with former CEO Gareth Evans claiming there was only “patchy” demand (**TD** 16 Oct 2019)

“Customers love the option on the routes and the competition and the pricing, but for us, it was really unsustainable from a cost perspective, so that was a tough decision a long time ago,” Tully explained during an interview with *Stuff.co.nz*.

“There’s opportunity for maybe some more trunk flying, but not necessarily those regional flights.”

## Orlando hotel tax?

**ROSEN** Hotels CEO Frank Santos is calling for an Orlando hotel surcharge in Orange County to help boost local transportation for both visitors and residents.

Santos is proposing a 3% levy for every dollar spent by visitors on accommodation, which he believes would provide around US\$180 million (A\$270 million) for Orange County to spend on transport infrastructure.

If it went ahead, the tax would impact stays at Walt Disney World Resort, Universal Orlando, and other major theme parks and conference centres.

Orange County currently already has a 6% development tax that raised US\$33.7 million in Jun.

## Holly lends voice to help Travel Business Unlocked



### EXCLUSIVE

**GIVING** back to the industry that helped to make her home-based travel agency a success was a major motivator for Holly Velardo (**pictured**) to launch her new podcast venture.

*Travel Business Unlocked* kicked off this month (**TD** 01 Sep), the brainchild of the South Australian Hollyday Travel founder, targeting travel business owners that might need some helpful insights when first commencing operations.

Speaking with **TD**, Velardo said there are many travel entrepreneurs who no doubt feel daunted by the task of growing a successful enterprise.

“For those starting, or anywhere in their business, who might be stuck with how to do something,

then I can hopefully provide them with a resource they can come to and ask things like ‘where did we do this?’ or ‘how did you learn this?’” Velardo explained.

“When people see me around at events and ask things like ‘how can I set up a really good EDM?’, I thought [the podcast] could give people the steps on how to do it.

“One thing we don’t have in our industry is a breakdown about how people can create an EDM, all the steps to use, and how you can get your information and make it about you - that’s just one example,” she added.

There are no specific ambitions for the podcast in terms of numbers, with Velardo instead measuring success by how many people she can help. **AB**



## Window Seat

**AN AMERICAN** man has kayaked more than 40 kilometres from Santa Catalina Island in California back to the state’s mainland - and, on closer inspection, the feat is even more impressive than it initially appears.

Sam Shoemaker made the crossing in a kayak made entirely from mushrooms in an attempt to demonstrate the promise of fungi as a plastic alternative.

His journey marked the world’s longest open-water journey in a kayak built from fungi, and saw him battle seasickness, potential vessel degradation, and a scary pursuit from a fin whale.

Shoemaker belongs to a small community of scientists and artists exploring the potential of fungal innovation as an alternative material that could be used in everything including kayaks, buoys, and surfboards.

His stunning journey has hopefully raised a “psychedelic” amount of awareness for the cause.



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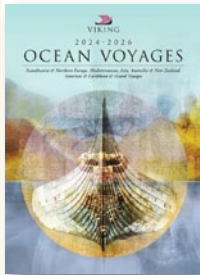
### Silversea - Australia and New Zealand 2026/27

Silversea has unveiled its latest Australia and New Zealand brochure, with a 16-page guide highlighting destinations like Kangaroo Island, the Barossa Valley, Fiordland National Park, and the Greater Barrier Reef. Readers will learn about the S.A.L.T program, which includes cooking experiences alongside rising culinary stars in Adelaide and Hobart. The brochure also features an 18-day 'Reefs & Rainforest' itinerary from Sydney to Singapore, which takes in Airlie Beach.



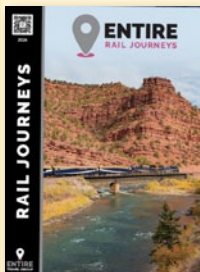
### Railbookers - Luxury Rail Journeys 2026-27

Travel agents can get their hands on Railbookers' new luxury rail brochure. With 94 pages packed full of the operator's 2026-27 offerings, there is something to suite every discerning traveller. From panoramic views of the Swiss Alps to the navy blue and gold carriages of Canada's Rocky Mountaineer, luxury rail offers fine dining, exemplary service and comfortable rooms. Readers can discover all the offerings on board The Ghan and many more.



### Viking Cruises - 2024-2026 Ocean Voyages

Across an exhaustive 250 pages, Viking's three-year ocean voyages program is an essential atlas of discovery, with a full-page spread dedicated to each itinerary. Scandinavia and Mediterranean cruises are well represented as Viking's heartland, while travellers can also find options in the USA, Caribbean and close to home in Australia and NZ. The guide also features transatlantic, World and longer Grand Voyages, plus a sneak peek at river and expedition cruising.



### Entire Rail Journeys - 2026

Known for its extensive collection of rail trips worldwide - even the lesser-known ones - Entire Travel Group's new Rail Journeys program features dozens of itineraries over 104 pages. Aussie agents can find out about premium and luxury adventures such as Canyon Spirit in the US, Britannic Explorer in the UK, the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express in Central Asia and much more. Complete holidays running from one to 21 nights are also detailed, with handy maps, full pricing, cabin classes and onboard dining details.

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## Good luck Skäl Sydney



**SKÄL International Sydney** has been named as one of three finalists in the Skäl International Club of the Year Award, recognising their promotion of the network's values and support of the travel industry.

"To be named as a finalist among almost 300 clubs worldwide is an incredible honour for Skäl International Sydney," said Rebecca Fleming, President of Skäl International Sydney.

Voting is now underway for the ultimate winner, with all 294 Skäl Clubs from 75 countries casting their votes on behalf of more than 12,500 members.

The winner will be announced at the Skäl International World Congress in Cusco, Peru in Sep.

Skäl International Cape Town in South Africa and Merida in Mexico were both named finalists alongside Sydney.

"This recognition reflects the hard work, passion, and commitment of our members to not only supporting each other, but also to advancing the tourism and travel industry both locally and globally," said Fleming.

"We are proud to showcase what Sydney brings to the international stage, and we are keeping our fingers crossed for a win in Cusco." JHM

## Auckland campaign

**AUCKLAND** has launched a new social media campaign, beginning today, to captivate Australian short-break travellers.

The digital-first approach, titled 'The Auckland Society of Discovery', targets travellers in the eastern states of Australia to consider the city for their next short break.

The renewed marketing drive will be highlighted on short-form video platforms, and borrows from the distinctive visual style of filmmaker Wes Anderson, while offering a chance to win a trip to Auckland.

It comprises six episodes alongside 12 still images, showcasing everything from Auckland's iconic Sky Tower and waterfront precincts to galleries, boutique hotels and Waiheke Island wine tours.






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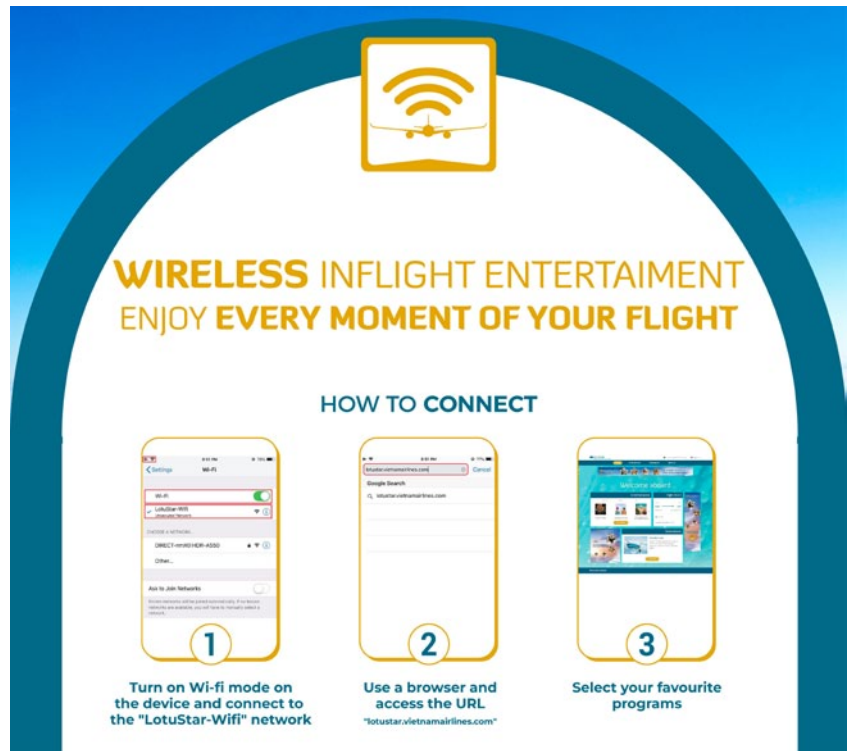
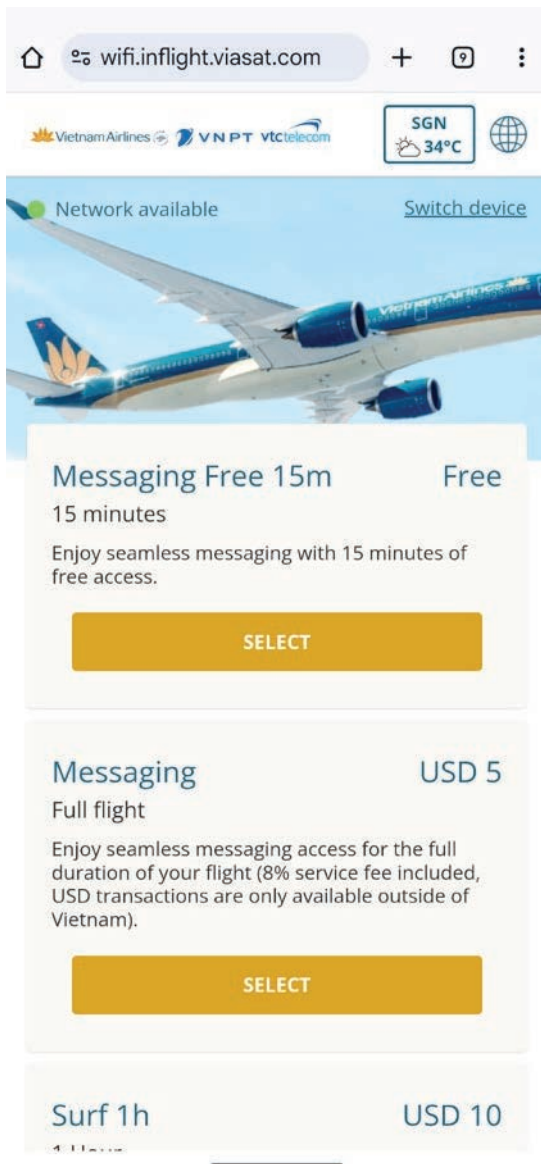
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# Vietnam Airlines launches in-flight wi-fi service

**VIETNAM** Airlines officially launched its pilot in-flight internet service on 05 August, with wi-fi now available across all cabins.

The airline is progressively introducing the service on a limited number of Airbus A350 and Boeing 787 aircraft operating select international routes, with plans for a wider rollout by 2026.

Currently, the service is available on international flights operated by Airbus A350 aircraft equipped with satellite internet systems

Passengers can connect via their personal devices and choose from three data packages:

- Messaging package – USD 5 for unlimited text messaging throughout the flight
- One-hour browsing package – USD 10 for internet browsing
- Full-flight browsing package – USD 20 for unlimited access during the entire journey.

In addition, all passengers - on both international and domestic flights - will enjoy 15 minutes of free messaging via popular apps such as Zalo, Viber, and WhatsApp.

For domestic routes, Vietnam Airlines is finalising its payment system before officially extending the service to the local market.

Business Class passengers are being offered complimentary unlimited internet access on these Wi-Fi-enabled flights.

The Perth–SGN route is in the process of being rolled out, with availability expected in 2026

If you have further queries, please reach out to us at: [sales.au@vietnamairlines.com](mailto:sales.au@vietnamairlines.com)