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Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features nine pages of industry news, including our **Sustainability** page and a cover wrap from **Journey Beyond**.

Entire floats deal

ENTIRE Travel Group has signed a preferred partner agreement to manage trade bookings in Australia for Le Boat, a provider of self-drive, inland water boating holidays in the United Kingdom, Europe and Canada.

Entire's Sales & Marketing Director Greg McCallum said the deal will elevate the brand's profile in Australia.

"Our new alliance means we can now use our technology, promotional expertise and strong trade relationships to take... boating holidays to a new level in the Australian marketplace."

Le Boat recently signed a major deal with Groupe Beneteau for 400 Delphia boats in N America.

'Super typhoon' nears HK

HUNDREDS of flights to Hong Kong have been cancelled as the destination batters down the hatches for the impending arrival of 'super typhoon' Ragasa (**TD** breaking news yesterday).

Hong Kong International will be closed from 10pm AEST this evening until 10am AEST on 25 Sep, as the city braces for one of its strongest storms in years.

Out of Australia, Qantas has cancelled eight flights between Australia and Hong Kong, telling *Travel Daily* that it has proactively notified affected customers and offered the flexibility to rebook future flights.

Customers booked to travel on impacted services can rebook their Qantas flight free of any fees, so long as it is within seven days of the original take-off date.

Qantas customers can also elect to instead receive a travel credit for future use, the carrier said.

Meanwhile, Hong Kong Airlines



has waived rebooking/rerouting/refund fees for all confirmed tickets issued on affected flights.

"Those who booked through a travel agent, or those travelling as part of a tour group, should contact their agent directly for assistance," the carrier told **TD**.

In further news, Cathay Pacific is imploring customers not to call the airline due to the high volume of inquiries being processed by its customer service team.

"We will notify affected customers of the latest flight information via SMS, email and the Cathay Pacific app," CX said.

"This 'super typhoon' will have a significant impact and we are positioning some of our aircraft away from HK for a staggered and resumption to our schedule throughout Thu into Fri." AB

Last chance Outback

TIME is running out to take advantage of Outback Spirit's 2026 earlybird sale, which offers up to \$2,600 per person on all-inclusive small group 4WD adventures - see the **cover page**.

Steward joins Julie

JULIE King and Associates has welcomed Nancy Steward as its new Director of Strategic Partnerships, working on its Destination Canada account.

Steward brings more than 15 years in senior tourism leadership roles, most recently working as Senior Manager, Global Marketing at Destination Canada.

Steward's "wealth of experience, both globally and within the Destination Canada family, makes her uniquely qualified to further elevate our strategic partnerships and drive meaningful, long-term impact", said Destination Canada Australia Managing Director Julie King.

Until 1 December 2025, clients can enjoy free flight offers across selected 2026-2028 river, ocean and expedition voyages.

If clients choose not to take the flight offer, they may receive a discount of equal value in lieu of flights.

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TA wants First voice

TOURISM Australia, in partnership with YarnnUp, is seeking expressions of interest from First Nations artists to create a suite of artworks representing the interconnected Songlines of Country for future campaigns.

THE PLACE TO BE IN PHI PHI ISLAND



CENTARA
HOTELS & RESORTS

Air NZ COO departs

AIR New Zealand has announced a raft of executive changes in the lead-up to new CEO Nikhil Ravishankar (**TD** 30 Jul) taking over to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

Heading up the big moves will be the departure of Chief Operating Officer Alex Marren (**pictured**), who today advised she will step down on 29 Mar 2026.

Marren joined Air New Zealand in 2022, and during her time with the carrier has helped to rebuild operational performance post-pandemic, introducing new tools and processes to support



frontline teams, and help combat complex challenges such as ongoing global fleet constraints.

A replacement will be revealed in the coming months.

In further news, Jeremy O'Brien will step into the newly-created role of Chief Customer and Digital Officer, shifting across from the acting CCO role, and follows years working across sales, customer, loyalty, marketing and brand at the company.

Before joining Air NZ, O'Brien was the Commercial Director at TVNZ, where he led key aspects of the content streaming strategy and digital transformation.

Meanwhile Scott Wilkinson will commence as Chief Commercial Officer on 07 Oct, first revealed in Feb (**TD** 14 Feb).

Air NZ's loyalty business will soon report to Wilkinson, who returns to the Kiwi brand after a decade with Qantas, where he held senior roles across digital, customer experience and commercial strategy. **AB**

HK daily to Sydney

HONG Kong Airlines will boost frequencies to Sydney from four weekly to daily in the first half of Mar 2026, GDS displays show.

Flown by an Airbus A330, the increased schedule will operate between 01-13 Mar.

VIEW DEAL

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Gatwick to expand

LONDON Gatwick Airport has received the tick of approval from UK Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander for a second runway, which will allow the hub to handle nearly 390,000 flights annually by the late 2030s.

Currently the busiest single-runway airport in Europe, London Gatwick serves more than 40 million passengers every year - a number that could double with the addition of a second runway.

The A\$4.49bn privately financed project will see the Northern Runway - which is only used for taxiing or as a backup facility - converted into a fully operational runway dedicated to short-haul flights, with capacity also freed up for more long-haul services from the main runway.



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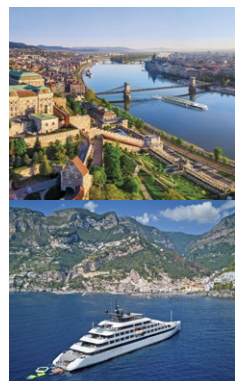
David Goldman
Goldman Group
Joint Managing Director

ARE YOU A 5 STAR PRODUCT CO-ORDINATOR?

Scenic Group which includes Scenic & Emerald Cruises brands is looking for a Product Co-ordinator to work in the Sydney office Product Team.

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- Clear attention to detail, customer-minded & solution-oriented
- Passionate about "exceeding expectations"
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Please click here to submit your application, including salary expectations, by 26th September 2025.



SCENIC
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ATPI acquired by Direct

COLORADO-BASED corporate travel management brand Direct Travel has acquired long-term strategic partner ATPI, combining to drive over US\$6 billion in total annual trade volume.

Direct Travel said it aims to build on the successful history of ATPI and invest in growing its market reach, as well as impact in business travel and event management.

Post acquisition, the combined entity will clear the path for an accelerated rollout of Direct Travel's new platform Avenir Travel Edition, which is designed to provide travel managers with real-time intelligence.

Direct Travel CEO Christal Belmont said ATPI has a significant presence in the international travel management space and a strong history of collaboration with its new owner. "This partnership represents a pivotal moment in reshaping



managed travel, allowing us to deliver tailored solutions and a seamless experience for clients across a range of sectors and of all sizes and locations - together, we will redefine what it means to offer 'The Perfect Trip' on a global scale," Belmont said.

The company has made its own acquisitions, and purchased Voyager Travel Corporation in 2014, Plan B Travel in 2016, and The Travel Authority in 2022 (TD 22 Feb 2022).

ATPI had previously formed a business partnership with Direct Travel in 2017. *ML*

NONSTOP: AUSTRALIA TO LOS ANGELES.

SYD-LAX: Daily, year-round
BNE-LAX: Returns 2 Nov 2025
MEL-LAX: Launches 5 Dec 2025



ATG record week

APT Travel Group (ATG) has recorded its biggest booking week ever, driven by strong demand across Europe and Canada.

The launch of Travelmarvel's Small Group Touring collection also drove sales, as did ATG's Captain's Choice private jet itineraries, specifically its once-in-a-lifetime 'Kangaroo Route'.

"We are seeing unprecedented enthusiasm for our 2026 programs," ATG Chief Executive Officer David Cox enthused.

"From APT's European river cruises to Travelmarvel's new small group tours and Captain's Choice private jet expeditions, the response has been outstanding."

Australian travellers are becoming more nuanced with tour selection too, added Cox.

"Travellers at the high-end luxury level are showing they can tell the difference between true luxury products and other so-called products so-called luxury that don't measure up," he said.

It's TIME for friends

THE Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) has announced a new initiative, Friends of TIME.

A new category of membership, small businesses and passionate individuals will be able to become a Friends of TIME member in order to support the organisation in a different way.

These members will be included in the TIME family through acknowledgement at every function held by the organisation, a welcome thank you post on social media, invitations to all events throughout Australia, and more.

Two new Friends of TIME have so far joined this month.

"This new initiative opens the door for more passionate advocates to be part of TIME's journey, contributing to the development of future leaders while strengthening the community that makes our industry thrive," founder Penny Spencer said.

Enjoy more for longer!



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31 March 2026

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Explora gives credit

EXPLORA Journeys has introduced its exclusive 'an invitation to discover' offer, which for a limited time will provide guests with \$1,500 worth of shore excursion credit per suite.

The promotion is available to guests who reserve their journey between 17 Sep and 14 Oct.

Credit is provided to the first and second traveller listed in each suite - call 1800 595 257 for info.

Going large on small

INSIDEJAPAN has launched a record small group tour program for next year.

The expanded schedule has been introduced following rising demand this year, with more departures than ever before on offer for travellers.

These include additional shoulder and off-peak options.

InsideJapan said it has seen a 21% increase in travel to the country from Jul 2024-Jun 2025.

Take an AI crash course

TRAVEL.COM.AU co-founder and Chief Executive of ITbyus Dave Upton (**pictured**) is inviting travel agents to close the AI skills gap and learn more about how the ubiquitous technology can benefit the daily workflow.

Upton has launched a new AI Crash Course - a hands-on program designed to empower agents and owners to harness the potential of AI, such as by automating mundane or repetitive tasks.

The course features numerous real-world industry-specific case studies and ways AI technology can improve efficiency and other general travel industry needs.

Advisors will also learn practical solutions that can be applied to their business, with participants gaining access to a library of evaluated AI tools, which can be easily implemented without any formal coding knowledge.

"The focus is on augmenting



rather than replacing travel professionals' expertise, allowing them to boost productivity, personalise the customer journey, and future-proof their businesses," Upton said.

Mini-courses include modules on understanding AI fundamentals, a quick reference guide to AI terminology, and a handy resource comparing tools designed to do similar tasks.

Individual agents can take the course for a one-time payment of US\$399, while teams of 10 can access the course for US\$1,197.

Agents interested in learning more can **CLICK HERE**. *ML*

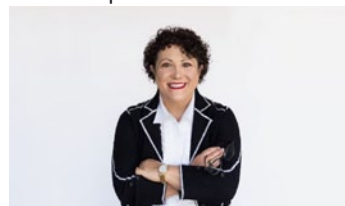
Vale Rose Wright

ROSE Wright, the founder and Managing Director of tourism business Regionality, passed away last Fri after a battle with cancer.

Wright was known as a pioneering leader in agritourism, culinary tourism and regional food systems in Australia.

"Over more than 30 years in business, she worked alongside farmers, agritourism operators and regional communities to help shape stronger, more sustainable futures," Wright's family wrote.

She was also a member of the Australian Regional Tourism Ltd (ART) Board, an Auxiliary Committee Chair of the Global Agritourism Network, and an alumna of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation.



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New Brochure!

Collette's 2026-2027 small group Explorations brochure is out now! Available at Tifs or download a copy today.



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Pacific Islands' new high

THE Pacific Islands have recorded its biggest-ever month for Aussie travellers, logging 71,710 visits in Jul, research from travelinsurance.com.au shows. Vanuatu was especially popular among Aussie tourists, with a 130% visitation surge compared to Jul last year - an increase of 8%



on pre-COVID levels.

Samoa also saw significant growth, achieving a 52% increase in Jul visits from Australians, marking its biggest Jul in history.

Meanwhile, Fiji maintained its position as Australia's number one Pacific Islands destination, experiencing a solid 2.3% growth.

"Vanuatu's 130% Jul growth shows how Pacific destinations can turn challenges into opportunities," said Shaun McGowan, CEO of travelinsurance.com.au.

"While Fiji maintains its spot as the clear favourite, we're seeing Australians actively seek out lesser-travelled gems for more authentic island experiences." JM

Adventurer preview

HERITAGE Expeditions has offered a sneak peek of its flagship *Heritage Adventurer's* major refurbishment.

The first 'wave' of the refresh includes the Dining Room, and Bistro, staterooms on Deck 5, and Worsley Suites on Deck 6.

The second wave will commence Mar next year, when all staterooms on Decks 3 and 4 will be refurbished, as well as stairwells, passageways and the observation lounge on Deck 7. See the preview pics [HERE](#).



SPECIAL REPORT OUT NOW

Discover the magic of slow travel

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Wendy adds more

WENDY Wu Tours has launched a series of new itineraries across Asia and Africa, designed to meet growing demand for culturally rich and experience-led travel.

There are seven new trips, including a 15-day 'Treasures of Kenya & Tanzania' Go Beyond group tour, where travellers will track the Big Five on game drives, visit Maasai and Hadzabe communities, walk Crescent Island, and support conservation at the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and Giraffe Centre.

Other highlights include a 21-day exploration of Madagascar, a 16-day trip that takes in the best of Mongolia, and a 12-day tour of Kyushu's cultural treasures and volcanic landscapes.

For a limited time, travellers can save up to \$600 per person on the new journeys.



Travelport recruits

TRAVELPORT has named former Skyscanner CEO John Mangelaars ([pictured](#)) as its new Chief Operating Officer and deputy Chief Executive Officer.

Taking over from John Elieson, who departs 30 Sep, Mangelaars will focus on strengthening relationships with the UK travel tech company's global customer base and driving faster growth.

Mangelaars brings more than 30 years experience - most recently a four-year stint at the helm of Skyscanner, and prior to that, was CEO at Travix International for more than 10 years.





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DXB is now all ears

DUBAI Airports has increased accessibility for guests with hearing loss with the installation of 530 hearing loops.

Located at check-in counters, immigration desks, boarding gates and information desks across all three terminals, users are able to connect automatically by activating the 'T' (telecoil) setting on their device.

MGM exec changes

MGM Resorts International has welcomed on board Ayesha Molino as Chief Operating Officer and Gary Fritz as Chief Commercial Officer and President of MGM Digital.

Fritz was previously President of MGM Resorts International Interactive, while Molino is still President and COO of ARIA, and Vdara will begin in Jan 2026.

Outgoing Chief Operating Officer Corey Sanders was with MGM for more than 30 years.

Finalists are "exceptional"

THE calibre of this year's NTIA finalists have been "exceptional", according to ATIA Chief Executive Officer Dean Long, as judging has concluded and the countdown for the night has begun.

Winners will be announced on the industry's night of nights on 18 Oct at The Star in Brisbane and as per tradition, the NTIA 2025 Finalists Celebration will take place the night before at the Star's Leisure Deck.

"The calibre of entries across this year's judged categories has been exceptional, reflecting the incredible depth of talent and expertise within our industry," Long said.

"The competition was incredibly close, with only the smallest margins separating many of the finalists," he added.

NTIA judge Trish Shepherd echoed Long's sentiments, praising each of the finalists' high-quality presentations.



"Each finalist told a unique story of exceptional service, innovation, and dedication to travellers.

"The finalists truly represent the very best of our industry, setting a benchmark for excellence that others can aspire to."

Meanwhile, the Beyond Borders Summit will also take place on 17 Oct during the day at the same venue, giving attendees the opportunity to hear directly from the ATIA Board and leadership team, as well as expert speakers.

This year, attendees can join ATIA's inaugural 5K wellness event on Sun 18 Oct after the awards night, joining the South Bank park run (**TD** 18 Sep). *JHM*

Flights for the footy

QANTAS and Jetstar have added up to 27 flights and more than 4,500 seats between Melbourne and Brisbane as the AFL grand final approaches this weekend between the Geelong Cats and the Brisbane Lions.

Between today and Mon 29 Sep, Qantas has added seven special footy return flights between the cities, while budget carrier Jetstar has added six return flights.

PAL beefs up flights

PHILIPPINE Airlines will expand domestic flights to cities from Manila from next month in the lead up to peak travel season.

Frequencies will be added to select routes including Manila to Butuan (14 to 21 times weekly), Cagayan de Oro (35 to 42 times weekly), Cotabato (11 to 14 times weekly), Legazpi (21 to 28 times weekly), Dumaguete (14 to 18 times weekly), and Tacloban (21 to 25 times weekly).

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Tuesday 23rd September 2025

Emirates serves up to kids



EMIRATES partnered with the Australian Team Foundation (ATF) on the weekend to deliver its Schools Future Fit program to nearly 550 students from low socioeconomic and multicultural communities in Western Sydney. Held at the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre, the free program offered students a combination of physical activity and mental wellbeing support, focusing on social connection and building team work.

The enrichment program included on-court tennis clinics led by Australian tennis legend and ATF Ambassador Wally Masur and qualified coaches, interactive mental health workshops delivered by the LifeChanger Foundation and team-building exercises designed to foster social connection and overall wellbeing.

Students also got a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the world of

professional tennis when they received a special tour of the Ken Rosewall Arena.

The Schools Future Fit program was delivered in Brisbane on 04 Sep, which was attended by 250 primary school students.

The two-day event was part of Emirates' Force for Good program, a five-year \$2.25 million commitment across Australia, which will this year support more than 3,000 disadvantaged children, offering more than 10,000 opportunities to play across more than 60 schools and community courts.

"Emirates is passionate about ensuring our commitment to Australia extends beyond the flights we operate," said Dean Cleaver, Regional Sales Manager at Emirates.

"For us, the Force for Good program is an opportunity for us to give back to the communities we serve in Australia." JHM

ATIA UPDATE

from Richard Taylor, Director of Membership and Industry Affairs



OVER the past month, the Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA) team has been receiving a large number

of enquiries about NTIA tickets.

With this year's event being in Brisbane, a first for the NTIA's, the first question was: 'Would people want to attend?'

The answer is 'yes', they will. They most certainly will.

We know that many people, quite understandably, want to find out whether they are a finalist before committing to attending the event.

It is for this reason that ATIA reserves an allocation of tickets for these requests.

However, this year's demand has overwhelmingly exceeded anyone's expectations, and at one stage we had over 700 people on the waitlist.

This would translate to an event in excess of 1,500 people, and this year's venue cannot accommodate these numbers.

This is frustrating for some hoping to attend, but equally for our team.

We have had many discussions about increasing the capacity.

Can we get cosier and have more people at each table?

No, it'd be shoulder to shoulder.

Can the spacing between tables be decreased? No, because it would negatively impact serviceability, raise crowd safety concerns, and there's also the small matter of it making things difficult for winners to come up

to the stage.

How about a 'watch party' on the Leisure Deck at the venue for people to watch the awards in a relaxed setting, before joining everyone for the after party?

Again that's a negative, but definitely one idea to consider for the future.

It would have been much easier to release the reserved tickets on a 'first in, best dressed' basis.

We would sell out a quarter way down the waitlist, be done with it, and 'too bad so sad' for those that miss out.

However, that's not how it works, because the team spend time ensuring that all the finalists have access to the event.

That's not ideal for everyone, especially those who become a finalist and request an entire table, but if this is your situation and you don't receive your requested allocation, we hope you will understand that the right thing is to ensure that every finalist is represented in the room on the night.

It is safe to say that the event is shaping up to be a sellout each and every year.

While it is ATIA's responsibility to look into increasingly bigger and better venues, it is also yours to get in as early as possible with your requests in 2026.

With NTIA weekend growing each year, including Beyond Borders, our finalist event that celebrates their wonderful achievements, and the all-new 'ATIA Wellness 5k' running event, we will keep expanding capacity to include as many people as possible for these celebrations of the travel industry.

You're Invited

Visit our **2026 Departure Lounge** for exclusive brochure launches and travel updates.

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KE expands SAF use

KOREAN Airlines has introduced the use of domestically produced sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) on flights to Kobe and Osaka in Japan.

While the flights are far from fully SAF operational, Korean Air will use a 1% SAF blend on flights from Incheon to Kobe (KE731) and Gimpo to Osaka (KE2117) from this month to 31 Dec 2026.

The program will cover approximately 90 flights on the Kobe route and 26 flights on the Osaka route.

Korean Air sources its SAF from domestic suppliers including HD Hyundai Oilbank and GS Caltex.

The green fuel is produced mainly from used cooking oil and the fuel is certified under the International Civil Aviation Organization's Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation.

The airline previously used the SAF blend on the Incheon-Haneda route.



SYD: Billion-dollar investment is first step

THE Federal Government's investment of \$1.1 billion to boost economic opportunities on offer from low carbon liquid fuels is welcome but a "first step", according to Sydney Airport.

The airport's CEO, Scott Charlton, said he looked forward to turning "policy into projects" in light of the announcement.

"This funding is an important and welcome step, and we look forward to working with government and all industry stakeholders to turn policy into projects that could help create a resilient domestic SAF industry," Charlton said.

"This investment will create momentum for private investment," he added.

"Proposals like the development of a SAF refinery at Kurnell, with its existing pipeline access to



Sydney Airport, present a ready-made opportunity to help scale the SAF supply chain and support the decarbonisation of aviation."

According to a statement from the airport, SYD accounts for approximately 40% of Australia's total annual aviation fuel uplift, and has an ambition for 50% of

this to be SAF by 2050.

According to Federal Minister for Transport, Catherine King, "The new 10-year Cleaner Fuels Program will stimulate private investment in Australian onshore production of low carbon liquid fuels, such as renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel".

She revealed that the first production of these cleaner fuels is estimated to be delivered in 2029, and also said that "Australia already exports nearly \$4 billion of suitable feedstocks like canola and tallow".

However, the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) estimates an Australian low carbon liquid fuel industry could be worth \$36 billion by 2050 - highlighting the potential of developing local refining and value-adding capability. *DF*

Forget being catfished, lionfish are the target

CULTURAL expedition cruise line Swan Hellenic has launched a Lionfish Control Initiative in partnership with the NGOs Elafonisos Eco and SDG4MED.

The program is dedicated to raising awareness of the ecological threat posed by this invasive species of fish in Mediterranean waters.

Lionfish are ambush predators that primarily feed on juvenile fish, shrimp, small lobsters, crab and other small fish, seriously endangering native species.

They are native to the Indo-Pacific but were first detected along Florida coasts in the mid-1980s, and now the whole US east coast, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea are infested.

Swan Hellenic will turn the lionfish into haute cuisine, acting on the United Nations' recommendation that the most effective strategy to counter invasive species is to fish and eat them - a practical and sustainable solution to curb the spread of the fish.

Malta bans smokes

NEW smoking bans have been implemented in two popular beaches at Malta, Golden Bay and Ramla l-Hamra, from 01 Jan 2026.

Smoking will be allowed only in specified zones.

Enforcement on visitors will be carried out by the Environment and Resources Authority, the Health Department, the Malta Tourism Authority, the Local Enforcement System Agency, and the Malta Police Force.

NEXT ISSUE: Southeast Asia special report

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MONEY

WELCOME to Money, TD's Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

AU\$1 = US\$0.659

THE Australian dollar is experiencing a subtle rebound off the back of the RBA Governor's speech, which declared that the country's economy is "in a good place".

Governor Bullock noted that slowing inflation and a resilient labour market means the central bank has some wiggle room to lower interest rates.

In particular, the AUD is experiencing a strong upward trend against the NZD.

Wholesale rates this morning.

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| US | \$0.659 |
| UK | £0.488 |
| NZ | \$1.125 |
| Euro | €0.559 |
| Japan | ¥97.40 |
| Thailand | ฿20.96 |
| China | ¥4.692 |
| South Africa | 11.44 |
| Canada | \$0.912 |
| Bitcoin | 170,587.63 |

SA holiday vouchers

THE SA Government is giving out 20,000 travel vouchers to South Australians this week, in a bid to boost tourism to coastal regions affected by algal bloom.

There are \$100 experience vouchers up for grabs, as well as accommodation vouchers valued up to \$500, valid until 30 Nov.

South Australian residents were able to enter a draw for the vouchers yesterday, with the winners to be announced today.

LAX unveils new look



LOS Angeles World Airports has unveiled a new identity for Los Angeles International Airport, which aims to transform the hub "from a point of transit to a destination that feels welcoming, intentional and distinctly LA".

Over the next three years, the airport will undergo planned upgrades, including new branding and refreshed architecture and design that focuses on delivering LA-themed terminals that pay homage to culture, history, seasons, sports and more.

Additionally, retail and dining offerings and amenities will be overhauled to showcase local flavours as well as globally recognised brands.

The vision will guide all major investments at the airport, such as terminal upgrades, wayfinding, enhanced arrivals experience and more, ahead of major events like the 2026 FIFA World Cup and 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"With this new identity, we're putting the 'LA' in LAX," said John Ackerman, Chief Executive Officer at Los Angeles World Airports.

"Our goal is to create an airport experience that doesn't just connect people to destinations, but also reflects the creativity, variety and energy that makes Los

Angeles unlike anywhere else in the world." *JM*

Pictured: A vision of what the LAX Observatory will look like, courtesy of LA World Airports.

On the Go payments

ON THE Go Tours has appointed TravelPay B2B as one of its official payment partners, with the operator's products now live on the platform.

"This collaboration will make it even easier and more seamless for agents to work with us," said On the Go Tours Global Sales Director, Carl Cross.

"As proud CATO members, we greatly value the support TravelPay B2B brings to the Australian travel industry by providing innovative, flexible, and secure payment solutions."

Harmony upsized

ROYAL Caribbean will add 91 additional staterooms to its Oasis-class ship *Harmony of the Seas* as part of an upcoming 'Royal Amplified' drydock refit in Apr.

Nearly 30 new interior cabins will be installed on deck 3, replacing the current conference centre, while another 60 will be added on decks 14 and 15.



Window Seat

AN AMBITIOUS thief in the US has managed to commit both an actual crime and a fashion crime all at once.

Police in Orlando, Florida are searching for a man who recently robbed a popular restaurant in a Disney-owned entertainment area, located close to the city's theme parks and hotels.

Instead of donning a balaclava like most regular thieves, the man in question opted to make a statement, choosing to deck himself out in scuba gear before entering the restaurant, taking cash, and leaving again.

Thankfully, the eatery was closed at the time, so no patrons were present.

Authorities released a photo of the suspect, who is seen wearing goggles, a wetsuit, gloves, and what looks to be a scuba diving hood.

We must admit, he was quite on theme, considering the venue was Paddlefish - a seafood restaurant on a modern steamboat in the water at Disney Springs.

Perhaps he dove into the water to make his escape?

