

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features six pages of news, plus full pages from:

- Viking
- Entire Travel Group

HLO chiefs withdraw

WEBJET Group has advised that Andrew and Cinzia Burnes have withdrawn their nominations as directors of the company, as per an update from Helloworld subsidiary Retail Travel Investments (**TD** breaking news).

Helloworld had put forward the nominations at the end of Jun and were set to be voted upon at Webjet's AGM later this week.

The travel agency was formerly at the centre of an acquisition tussle for control of Webjet. **AB**

Flying to Valhalla

VIKING is offering included economy airfares of up to \$2,800 on a range of 2027-29 voyages. See more on **page seven**.

SIA back as major sponsor

SINGAPORE Airlines will return as a major sponsor of the National Travel Industry Awards (NTIAs) in Oct, marking the fifth consecutive year the Asian carrier has pledged its support for travel's night of nights.

"[The NTIAs] put a spotlight on the businesses and individuals delivering outstanding service and experiences for Australian travellers, and we are delighted to help make that recognition possible," Singapore Airlines GM agency sales Australia Greg McJarrow (**pictured** with ATIA CEO Dean Long) said.

"Our partnership with the industry runs deep, and we are proud to play our part in



celebrating its people and backing a sector that continues to show real strength," he added.

The positive commercial news arrives as the NTIAs enter their second stage of judging for the majority of the coveted Most Outstanding categories.

Finalists have progressed through the independent assessment stage of written and video submissions, with university-level assessors scoring entries against defined criteria.

The next judging stage puts finalists in front of panels of experienced industry experts, where they will be assessed on the combined strength of their submission and live interview to determine the NTIA winners. **AB**

Entire heads North

ENTIRE Travel Group is allowing agents to effectively sell Canada with Canada Travel.

See more on the **back page**.

I repeat, that's double

TRAFALGAR and Insight Vacations have launched a double global tour rewards deal, offering former guests twice the standard repeat-travel discounts of up to 10% on eligible touring and cruise departures in 2026 & 2027.

The promotion is applicable for new bookings made on Trafalgar or Insight Vacations tours by 18 Sep 2026, and by 30 Sep for Trafalgar river cruise bookings.

The Travel Corporation brands are also allowing the deal to be combined with earlybird deals.

Aviation role for Roll

AIRLINE Marketing New Zealand has appointed Simon Roll as general manager, following the retirement of Julie Rice after more than 20 years with the airline representation.

Roll was the senior regional managing director ANZ for Sabre, and possesses close to 40 years of travel industry experience. **AB**

2028-2029 OCEAN SEASON NOW OPEN



We have launched our **expansive 2028-2029 ocean deployment**, including two new ocean itineraries and more than **700 new departure dates**.

Among these offerings is the new **15-day Alaskan Fjords & the Inside Passage voyage**, which explores Kodiak and two new Alaska ports, and the **16-day Mediterranean, Malta & North Africa journey**.

Sell either of these two brand-new ocean itineraries by 31 August and **we'll double your Rewards by Viking points**.



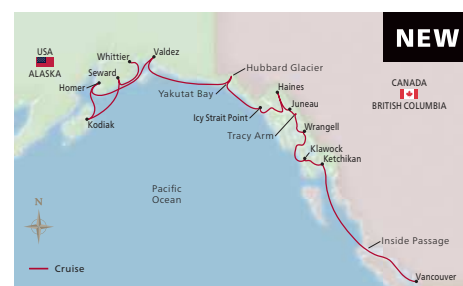
MEDITERRANEAN, MALTA & NORTH AFRICA

Roundtrip Rome, Italy

16 DAYS • 7 COUNTRIES • 9 GUIDED TOURS
SET SAIL • OCT-NOV 2028; MAR-MAY 2029

From **\$16,995pp** in Veranda Stateroom
From **\$19,995pp** in Penthouse Veranda

Based on 16 November 2028 departure



ALASKAN FJORDS & THE INSIDE PASSAGE

Vancouver to Whittier or vice versa

15 DAYS • 2 COUNTRIES • 10 GUIDED TOURS
SET SAIL • JUN-AUG 2029

From **\$14,995pp** in Veranda Stateroom
From **\$17,695pp** in Penthouse Veranda

Based on 9 July 2029 departure

NO KIDS • NO CASINOS • NO NCFS

Book online & download marketing assets at viking.com/advisor or call 138 747

Monday 24th Aug 2026

Travel Daily
SHARPEN YOUR
KNOWLEDGE ON
MONACO WITH
TRAVEL DAILY
TRAINING ACADEMY
Click here to discover



WWT offers 50% off

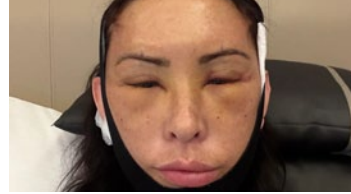
AGENTS can enjoy 50% off land-only costs on any of Wendy Wu Tours' 2026 China departures, including the 10-day 'In Pursuit of Pandas' itinerary, bringing the price down to \$2,540ppts.

The offer applies to land-based costs only - for more information, click [HERE](#). *JM*

Get smart, not snatched

SMARTTRAVELLER is warning tourists about the risks of travelling overseas for medical procedures that are often marketed as cheaper with shorter waiting times than in Australia.

"Standards of care, infection control and legal protections can be very different in other countries," the website warned. "If something goes wrong, you could face serious health



problems, extra costs, and trouble getting follow-up care."

A cosmetic surgery social media trend has recently seen users documenting their journey towards 'snatched' bodies, often travelling to Turkiye, showcasing their bruised and bloodied faces and the ugly complications.

As a result of these botched jobs, Australasian Society of Plastic Surgeons president Dr Brigid Corrigan said that in severe cases, Australian doctors have been left to treat permanently damaged nerves, dead skin, and abnormal wound scarring requiring revision surgery.

"We are really seeing the full spectrum of complications," Corrigan told the *SMH*. *JHM*

More with Marriott

INFINITY Holidays and Marriott International have partnered to launch promo rates across Asia and the South Pacific for travel agents and their clients.

Savings are now available on properties in Osaka, Kyoto, Bangkok, Phuket, Denarau and Bali, with other specials such as food and beverage credits.

The promotion is also available to agents through Helloworld Travel via VIVA Holidays. *JHM*

Silversea sets sail

SILVERSEA has begun its 'Grand South Pacific Expedition 2026', with *Silver Cloud* sailing from Perth to Chile over 77 days.

The first leg of the journey will trace WA's coast before entering the Kimberley for a call at Adele Island, the Hunter River region, and concluding in Darwin. *JM*



For travel advisors who want more.

- ✓ More support
- ✓ More flexibility
- ✓ More commission
- ✓ More growth

Let's Chat

MOBILE | FRANCHISE | LINK
LUXE | FRANCHILLI



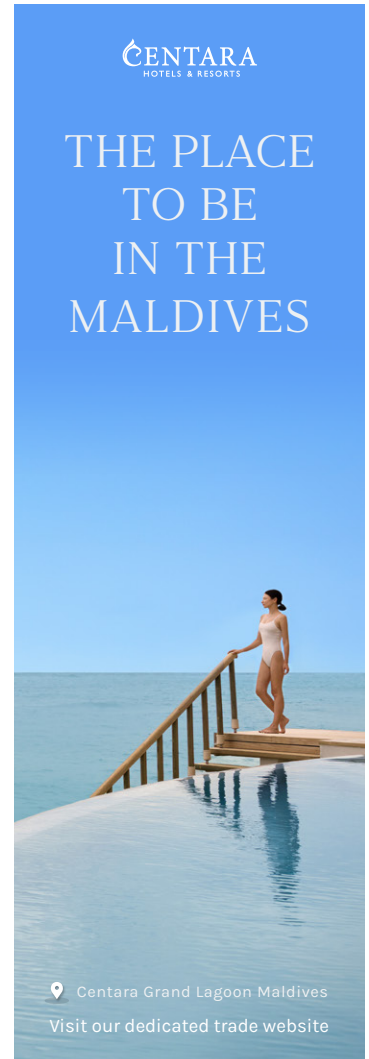
AATKings

SAVE up to \$2,200
per couple on selected 2027/2028 tours*

Book now

Ord River, near Kununurra, Western Australia

*T&C's apply



CENTARA
HOTELS & RESORTS

THE PLACE TO BE IN THE MALDIVES

Centara Grand Lagoon Maldives

Visit our dedicated trade website

Discover the Northern Territory at NT Muster 2026

Join us for an evening of NT inspiration with 20 passionate tourism operators. Build your Northern Territory knowledge, enjoy delicious canapés and drinks, and go in the draw to win incredible NT prize packages.

Melbourne Tuesday, 8 September Crowne Plaza Melbourne

Brisbane Wednesday, 9 September Emporium Hotel Brisbane

Sydney Thursday, 10 September InterContinental Sydney by IHG

Register here



Monday 24th Aug 2026

Clock ticking on cruise idea

AUSTRALIAN Cruise Association (ACA) CEO Jill Abel said "the clock is ticking" to start organising cruise ships to fill the accommodation void for the 2032 Olympic Games.

Responding to concerns about a 10,000-room deficit for the Games, the ACA chief said deploying cruise ships to Brisbane to bolster visitor capacity was a viable idea, but that formal planning needed to take place as soon as possible.

"Working with the cruise sector for the 2032 Games could have long-lasting benefits for the cruise and broader tourism sectors for decades to come," Abel told *The Courier-Mail*.

"We must put an Olympics cruise activation program in place now," she urged, adding that there was precedent for such a move, with cruising making

a "significant contribution to almost every Olympic Games for the last 40 years".

Queensland Tourism Industry Council CEO Natassia Wheeler has backed the idea, conceding that despite a pipeline of new hotels coming online over the next six years, it would not be enough to service all visitors.

"Every part of our accommodation sector is going to be full and we are still likely to have a shortage, so why can't we drag in two or three cruise ships?" Wheeler queried.

"That could get you 7,000 extra rooms straight up."

Brisbane's international cruise terminal has capacity to handle one ship at a time, but there is scope for further expansion while other ships moor in Moreton Bay with guests ferried back and forth to events in the city. **AB**



CRUISE WEEKLY

Cruise guide OUT NOW
The must-have guide for selling cruise

READ NOW

VA looking closely

VIRGIN Australia is looking closely at opportunities at Western Sydney Airport and assessing whether the upcoming hub would fit into its network and best serve its customers, *Travel Daily* understands.

While no decision has been made, Virgin Australia is in the process of deciding on the right footprint in the Sydney region and appropriate timings that would balance supply and demand across the two airports.

The update follows recent comments from WSI CEO Simon Hickey, who told *TD* that he was confident of getting VA on board and that WSI was a great fit. **AB**

Serko's share request

SERKO has requested that shareholders allow the business to lift the capacity of equity it can offer strategic new hires.

The technology company said its share price had been "significantly impacted by a broad market re-rating", meaning it may need to lift restricted share units issued to new recruits required to expand in markets like the US.

If the resolution passes, Serko would have capacity to issue 4,146,013 extra restricted share units, equivalent to 3.28%.

Serko has identified three growth pillars, a new multi-agent AI product, US growth, & scaling Booking.com for Business. **AB**

EXTRA CASH WITH ETIHAD

ETIHAD
BEYOND BORDERS

*For Terms and Conditions Login to TravelTech

EARN EXTRA 4% COMMISSION ECONOMY

EARN EXTRA 7% COMMISSION PREMIUM

Issue your tickets via

TravelTech

Email sales@cvfrconsolidation.com to open an account with CVFR Consolidation Services and start issuing 24x7.

LEARN MORE LOGIN



JOIN OUR TEAM OF DESTINATION SPECIALISTS

We're growing our specialist destination teams and are looking for experienced Senior Reservation Consultants to join us.

If you have strong destination knowledge of Europe, Canada & Alaska, Islands or Asia, along with excellent sales and customer service skills, we'd love to hear from you. Enjoy ongoing training, family opportunities and the support of a passionate team while helping create unforgettable holiday experiences for our travel partners.

Please e-mail your CV to

employment@entiretravel.com.au

TRAFALGAR

Your New Era with
Trafalgar is coming...

SEPTEMBER 2026



Learn about our biggest
change in 80 years.

Register for Webinar



ITAA takes shape

IN THE first two months since ATIA's new Independent Travel Agents Association (ITAA) committee launched (**TD** 08 Apr 2026), the organisation has held its first meeting, tackled major issues faced by its peers, and determined its key priorities for the next 12 months.

The focus for the collective will be on demystifying industry changes for members and providing support for businesses, ensuring member resources are fit for purpose.

ITAA has also provided regular feedback on ATIA's surcharging webinar and ATIA's advice for members on the recently announced Fiji Tourism Service Tax (**TD** 14 Aug 2026). *JHM*



Avoid a Musk-led market

FORMER Qantas chief Alan Joyce has warned the aviation sector not to allow Elon Musk's Starlink business to gain monopolistic power over the onboard wi-fi segment.

In Joyce's opinion, the major issue facing the industry will be the ability of airlines to seamlessly switch to other providers when more players launch wi-fi options serviced by low-earth-orbit satellites, which for now is a space dominated by Musk's SpaceX business.

"I think everybody would be looking at making sure that you would have some contestability," Joyce told the *SMH*.

"I'm sure, like any market, Starlink seems to be making good money out of this...[but] also like any market, other people will be attracted to it too," he added.

Amazon Leo is one of those brands emerging in the space, but as it stands, is a long way behind



SpaceX's infrastructure.

Amazon has 400 low-earth-orbit satellites in operation vs more than 10,000 for Starlink, providing a considerable early advantage.

However, Joyce believes that carriers should consider Chinese companies as they launch in the future, which he said would open up more commercial flexibility.

Starlink has inked a flurry of new contracts with commercial carriers in recent months, including American Airlines, Lufthansa Group, & Cebu Pacific.

No major Australian carrier has signed on to Starlink. *AB*

MSC alters cruises

MSC Cruises' *MSC World Europa* will remain in the Mediterranean in 2027/28, the cruise line has announced, having originally been scheduled to cruise in the Middle East.

The season is the second of *World Europa's* deployments in the region to be cancelled, after MSC earlier this year moved the ship out of the Middle East for winter 2026/27. *MS*

TAF's California love

TRAVEL Agent Finder (TAF) has announced the winners of its Los Angeles Blog Incentive, run in partnership with Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board.

The best blog in the competition went to FCTG's Ellen Goodwin, who won a \$500 gift card.

The best blog written by a LITE member was Hannah Brearley, who won a 12-month member upgrade and a personal audit from Anna Shannon. *MS*

The Tahiti Specialist Program just got better!

A smarter way to learn, connect & grow with industry offers and opportunities to help you experience *The Islands of Tahiti* for yourself.

Including Air Tahiti Nui's industry fare:
SYDNEY → PAPEETE
\$390 RETURN*

New direct service launching 15 December!



Join now

TAHITI
SPECIALIST
PROGRAM

THE ISLANDS of
TAHITI


AIR TAHITI NUI

* Fares are subject to change without notice. Fare level shown do not include airport taxes.

WSI wants to score more

EXCLUSIVE

WESTERN Sydney Airport (WSI) CEO Simon Hickey has expressed a desire to see more professional sports teams use charter flights in and out of the airport, building on the already established partnership with the Western Sydney Wanderers A-League soccer team (**TD** 05 May 2026).

Despite confirming that the airport has not held discussions with any other sports clubs, Hickey told **Travel Daily** he was aware of the key commercial upside of securing additional sporting partnerships.

"I did read the NRL is looking at an aircraft, and we have not been talking to them about those opportunities, but that will come as we open up," Hickey said.

"We are a great sporting area - not only do we have the best sporting teams, but some of the best sportspeople in Australia come from Western Sydney.



"It is an important part of who we are in Western Sydney, and I'm sure those things will continue to evolve," he added.

The current partnership with the Wanderers sees the airport acting as the club's inclusion & belonging partner, supporting the delivery of community programs and school holiday clinics, as well as hosting the club's annual season launch. *JB*

Spain fire warning

WILDFIRES are continuing to impact the eastern Valencia region in Spain, with evacuations occurring across the country, Smarttraveller has warned.

Aussies are advised to stay away from affected areas. *MS*



LEARN MORE ABOUT
TOKYO WITH TRAVEL
DAILY TRAINING
ACADEMY

Click here to discover

Travel Daily

Lucky seven for A&K

ABERCROMBIE & Kent (A&K) has unveiled its first around-the-world private jet journey which will visit all seven continents.

'The Seven Continents by Private Jet: One Extraordinary World' is a 28-day around-the-globe expedition departing Jan 2028 and visits 11 destinations, including Australia.

Departing from Miami, some of the itinerary visits include Iguazu Falls, the Antarctic Peninsula, Easter Island, New Zealand, Uluru, Hanoi, Luang Prabang, the Maldives, and the Nile, before finishing in Madrid.

Limited to 50 guests, the trip travels aboard A&K's reconfigured Boeing 757, where every seat reclines into a lie-flat bed - **CLICK HERE** for more information.

The release follows another A&K Private Jet itinerary, the 'Tropics to the Arctic' in May, which sold out almost straight away, with 20 pax on the waitlist when bookings closed. *MS*



Window seat

GOING for a run while travelling is starting to get tourists into trouble, as one American found out recently.

The New Yorker was out for a run with his partner in Venice while on holiday, and in an attempt to beat the heatwave currently baking Europe, was jogging with his shirt off.

However, after coping some rude stares and finger-wagging from several locals, the tourist decided to investigate, and after a quick Google, he figured out that it is illegal to run without a shirt on.

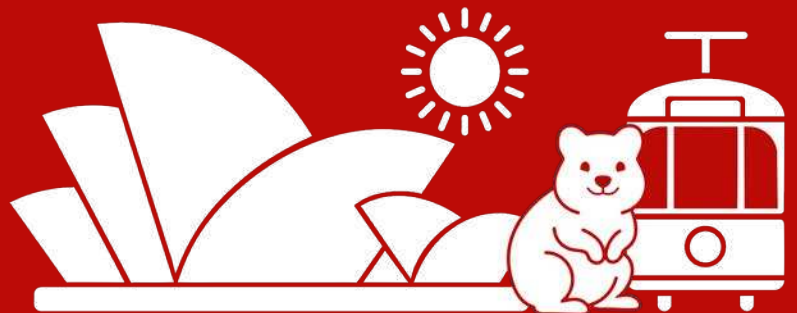
In fact, being bare-chested or wearing swimwear is strictly prohibited in all public streets, squares, and historic areas in Venice, as well as anywhere outside the city's designated beach areas.



Australia RED TAIL SALE

Help your customers save on flights across Australia. Hurry! Ends 25 August.*

Find out more



*Sale ends 11.59pm (AEST) 25 August 2026, unless sold out prior. Select routes, travel dates and conditions apply.

BROCHURES

Send your special deals to:
brochures@traveldaily.com.au



Intrepid Travel: Premium Experiences

Intrepid has revealed two new flyers providing a rundown of its premium trip options and signature experiences. All of Intrepid's premium trips have been updated to ensure that accommodation is consistently in the four- and five-star range, with new destinations such as Costa Rica, Greenland and Norway. Every trip is capped at 12 travellers, providing guests with more opportunities to interact with the locals and explore off-the-beaten-path experiences. Each trip is also highlighted with a feature stay, which showcases unique properties, such as a

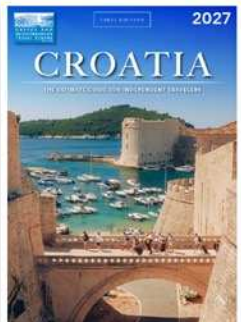
Ming Dynasty heritage house in China or a cabana in the Peruvian Amazon. Contact the operator to access the two new flyers.



Travelmarvel: Africa 2027/28

Travelmarvel has launched its brochure showcasing the 2027/28 Africa season, featuring small-group tours across South Africa, Botswana, Kenya and Tanzania. Not only does the season include safaris and game drives across Kruger, Chobe, Maasai Mara and Serengeti National Parks, but guests can also partake in local experiences, including visiting villages and schools across East Africa, an ostrich farm in Oudtshoorn, South Africa, and hopping aboard an ocean encounter cruise at

Knysna. Travelmarvel is offering earlybird savings of up to \$2,000 per couple for bookings made before 31 Oct 2027. Click [HERE](#) to see more.



Greece and Mediterranean Travel Centre: Croatia 2027

This new brochure provides a detailed overview of the Croatia travel experiences guests can enjoy in 2027 with the Greece and Mediterranean Travel Centre. The guide features a range of small ship cruise itineraries, such as the eight-day 'Dalmatian Jewels' from Dubrovnik to Trogir, the eight-day 'Taste of Adriatic' cruise, round-trip from Trogir, as well as the eight-day 'Marco Polo' itinerary, calling at the islands of Hvar, Brac, Vis and Bisevo. For guests looking for a private boat charter, the brochure features a range of options such as bareboat charter, hiring a professional skipper and opting for a motorboat. See it in full [HERE](#).

Stay Updated

on the latest travel news

Follow Travel Daily on social media to get your travel news first

AA makes capital move



THE national board of Accommodation Australia (AA) recently met in Canberra to discuss core issues currently affecting the sector.

Held at Parliament House, the meeting was attended by Trade and Tourism Minister Don Farrell; Assistant Minister for Tourism, Nita Green; Tourism Australia managing director Robin Mack; Nicholas Dowie from the Office for Tourism and Visitor Economy; and Shadow Minister for Tourism David Littleproud.

Key topics discussed included workforce challenges, migration settings and the current tourism outlook in the country.

"Right now, there are more than 40,000 job vacancies in hospitality across Australia and there are simply not enough workers to fill them," said AA CEO James Goodwin.

"Just like in other important industries like construction and aged care, targeted migration is necessary to fill the large gaps to ease the worker shortage and unlock investment and growth.

"Cutting the number of skilled

workers in hospitality is only going to make a bad situation worse," he added. *JB*

Pictured: The delegation on the ground in Canberra with Tourism Minister Don Farrell.

Fiji visitor record

FIJI recorded its highest-ever monthly visitor arrival number in Jul, which saw 105,791 tourists head to the nation.

It also marked the first time the country's monthly arrivals exceeded 100,000, and represented a 6.5% increase compared to Jul 2025.

Aussie travellers continued to be the nation's largest source market, accounting for 43% of all arrivals during Jul.

Australian visitors also saw 2.1% growth from Jul 2025, along with 5% YoY growth for the first half of 2026 and 3% YoY rise in the 12 months to Jul.

Total arrivals for the year-to-date stand at 566,419, up 4.3% compared to the same period in 2025, with holiday arrivals leading the way (80%). *JB*

EDITORIAL

Editor - Adam Bishop
Cruise Editor - Myles Stedman
Journalists - Janie Medbury, James Bale
Editor-at-large - Bruce Piper
Editorial Director - Damian Francis
Associate Publisher - Jo-Anne Hui-Miller
info@traveldaily.com.au
Social Editor - Alexandra Lilly

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Head of Sales & Marketing
Sean Harrigan
Business Development Manager
Kara Stanley
advertising@traveldaily.com.au

GENERAL MANAGER & PUBLISHER

Matthew Vince

ACCOUNTS

accounts@traveldaily.com.au
Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61) 2 8007 6760
info@traveldaily.com.au



Flights *ON US*

Economy airfares included
up to \$2,800 per person*

For a limited time, clients will enjoy included economy airfares up to AU\$2,800pp when they book a river, ocean or expedition voyage. These offers are available for select 2027-2029 voyages from 5 August 2026 until sold out.



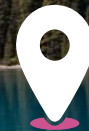
BOOK ONLINE & DOWNLOAD MARKETING ASSETS AT
VIKING.COM/ADVISOR OR CALL **138 747** TO SPEAK TO
OUR LOCAL CRUISE RESERVATIONS TEAM

*Terms and conditions apply.



CANADA TRAVEL

POWERED BY



ENTIRE
TRAVEL GROUP

YOUR ACCREDITED CANADA SPECIALIST

Moraine Lake © Rocky Mountaineer



CANADA
SPECIALISTS



20+ YEARS
EXPERIENCE



ACCREDITED
& TRUSTED



ESTABLISHED
PARTNERSHIPS



TAILORED
ITINERARIES



ON GROUND
SUPPORT

YOUR CANADA SPECIALISTS



For over 20 years, our specialist team has been designing exceptional journeys across Canada, delivering experiences with confidence, precision and care.

[VIEW PACKAGES](#)

WIN A HOSTED CANADA FAMIL



Sell British Columbia for your chance to join our hosted famil and discover spectacular scenery and unique experiences.

[LEARN MORE](#)

THANK YOU



To thank you for your ongoing support, we're offering Travel Advisors a \$100 Digital Mastercard with every booking deposited by 30 September 2026.

[LEARN MORE](#)

CANADA BROCHURE



Your essential guide to Canada, featuring inspiring itineraries, iconic rail journeys, wildlife encounters and unforgettable holiday experiences.

[DOWNLOAD BROCHURE](#)