

## Welcome to the Winter Edition of Above and Beyond

We are excited that the Queensland borders are now open as of the 10th of July for all States and Territories, except Victoria. This still gives you time to book something for the end of the school holidays. We are ready and waiting for your bookings!

Although we are still on reduced working hours, we do have consultants working every day. It has been a difficult time and we are still not out of the woods, but we are remaining positive with the news of Virgin Australia's sale and that our clients want to start travelling again.

The travel industry has been hit hard by this and we would love your support by booking anything domestically, locally as well as referring your friends or family to us. Travelling in Australia conjures all sorts of wonderful itineraries and places that you would not normally visit or think of and we have included some of these in this issue.

# We look forward to giving you above & beyond service when you contact us next.

Penny Spencer - Managing Director Lisa Allan - Shire Travel Heather, Lucy & Maria - Spencer Travel Eastside Carissa Johnson - Travel Southside

#### **Health And Safety**

From airlines to hotels, from car hire and transfer companies, every supplier will have a health and hygiene policy and we are working closely with our supplier partners to ensure we understand these policies and what it means for our clients. Our aim is to be able to provide you with as much information as we can at the time of booking. We will be keeping you informed of any Immigration and Health requirements for future international travel, in addition to our usual visa advice.

This is also a good reason to use a travel agent as a lot of this information changes daily and we will have the most up to date policies.

We are here to keep you safe and well informed.



### **Tips On Booking**

It's a common assumption that when borders are open and travel bans are lifted that there will be lots of availability, however this is not necessarily the case as many properties have less rooms available due to capacity restrictions. Although the Queensland borders are opening soon, many hotels are reporting they are almost full for the September school holidays and over Christmas. Hotels and resorts are being flexible with their cancellation policies and also many are offering Stay/Pay deals so our advice is to make enquiries with your consultant now to avoid disappointment.

Book your holiday now

#### Unusual Australian Itineraries

If you are looking for something different, a company that we work closely with have put together some amazing new itineraries such as Wildlife, Culture and Seafood in the Eyre Peninsula, East Arnhem Land and the Wessel Islands, Bruny Island & Derwent Valley Explorer in Tasmania. Australia has a lot to offer and this is the perfect time to explore it.

### Luxury Lodges In Australia

Longitu*de* 131





We all could use a bit of luxury at the moment and Australia has some beautiful lodges to offer.

Arkaba in the Flinders Ranges, Mt Mulligan Lodge in Northern Outback Queensland and some of our favourites being Longitude 131 in Ayers Rock, Saffire in Tasmania and my favourite of all lodges, qualia on Hamilton Island.

#### **Private Plane Travel**

Captains Choice have some wonderful Australian itineraries. The best part of Captains Choice is you fly in their private plane. They have also implemented additional measures to keep guests healthy and safe.

What about a weekend in the Outback, discovering Broken Hill, Cooper Pedy, Lake Eyre and Birdsville or, the loons of remote Queensland such as Longreach, Winton and Mount Isa. Now is the time to explore these wonderful Australian destinations.



#### **Close to Home**

Travelling close to home may be more appealing at the moment. There are so many wonderful properties, such as Bannisters Port Stephens, Halcyon House on the Northern NSW Coast and Wolgan Valley, a luxury lodge only 3 hours' drive from Sydney.

Even closer could be a staycation in one of Sydney's hotels. We have exceptional packages with the Park Hyatt, Four Seasons, Shangri-La and The Fullerton.



Please call us to book and enjoy the value adds.

