

24 July 2024

## TOURISM AUSTRALIA ACTIVITY



### Australia represented in Paris

With the start of the new non-stop Qantas Paris to Perth services last week, the Tourism Australia team in Continental Europe met with a number of trade partners in the market. On Tuesday, Tourism Australia hosted an industry roundtable with seven key distribution and industry



### 15 million Japanese viewers tune in to Gold Coast-shot series

The Gold Coast shone on the silver screen to approximately 15 million people in Japan during the season two premiere of TBS Network drama series, [Black Forceps](#). Curated in consultation with Tourism Australia, Tourism

association partners, Qantas management and Tourism WA representatives in Paris. The roundtable, which was attended by Her Excellency, Ms Gillian Bird, Australia's Ambassador to France and The Hon Patrick Gorman MP, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister of Australia, was an opportunity to highlight the importance of the French travel market to Australia's visitor economy and to discuss future opportunities. Additional meetings as well as the official airport ribbon cutting ceremony have also taken place. The latest figures show that visitors from France to Australia were at 106 per cent of 2019 levels for the month of May, whilst the latest total visitor expenditure figures were at \$0.9 billion for the March 2024 year end.

*Photo credit: Brent Winston  
Qantas*

and Events Queensland, Experience Gold Coast and Qantas Airways, filming for the hit series' return episode took place across 10 days on the Gold Coast, with various landmarks featured including Surfers Paradise, The Star Gold Coast, and The Imperial Hotel. After premiering on TBS, season two of Black Forceps is now available across Asia on Netflix, with the series becoming the most streamed show on Netflix in Japan. In the episode, the Gold Coast stars as the enviable destination for an academic conference attended by the series' star surgeon Seijiro Tokai (played by Kazunari Ninomiya, one of Japan's most popular entertainers). Season two of Black Forceps will be available to stream in Australia in September.

*Photo credit: TBS / Black Forceps  
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### Indonesia's Muslim consortia 'Come and Say G'day' to Western Australia

Last month, Tourism Australia and Tourism Western Australia invited eight member agents from three Muslim consortia agencies on a familiarisation trip. The agents



### Registrations are open for Tourism Australia's 2024 Industry Briefings

Industry are invited to register for the event nearest to them. The free of charge briefings will include an update from Tourism Australia,

visited points of interest including Caversham Wildlife Park, Fremantle Prison and Swan Valley Mosque and Islamic Centre, with the itinerary focusing on Muslim-friendly attractions and amenities. The trip aimed to promote Western Australia's products for the Muslim segment, with the goal to drive awareness of Australia as a Muslim-friendly destination for Indonesian travellers. Participating agencies included AntaVaya Umroh, Cheria Holiday and Ramah Umroh & Halal Tour. The agents returned from the trip with the experience to develop ready-to-sell packages, bundled with attractive fares from airlines partners.

followed by a networking event on the following dates:

20 August – Darwin / Gulumerrdgen  
25 September - Gold Coast  
26 September – Brisbane / Meanjin  
23 October – Perth / Boorloo  
1 November – Melbourne / Narrm  
6 November – Sydney / Warrane  
13 November – Adelaide / Tarntanya  
14 November – Hobart / nipaluna

Register to attend [here](#). Venues will be announced shortly.

## TOURISM INDUSTRY NEWS



### Capricorn Coast earns ECO destination certification

The Capricorn Coast has achieved Ecotourism Australia's ECO destination certification, joining the top tier of sustainable tourism destinations in Australia. As the fifth certified destination in Queensland, this recognition underscores the region's commitment to global best



### 2024 Australian Regional Tourism Convention (ARTC)

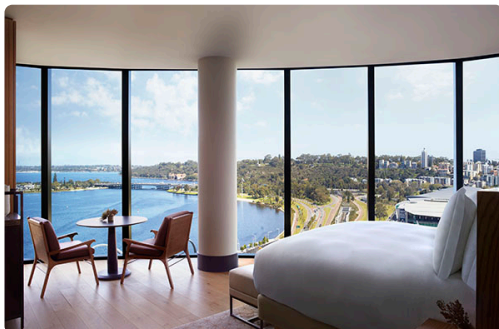
This year the ARTC will be held in Mackay, Queensland from 9 to 11 October 2024. Working with the theme *Regional Tourism: Inspiring Success*, the convention is an event for anyone who wishes to contribute to the future of regional tourism in Australia and is tailored for all sectors of the tourism



practices in sustainable tourism. Supported by the Queensland Government, the certification process involved extensive collaboration with local operators. The achievement aligns with the Capricorn Coast's dedication to preserving its natural beauty and enhancing visitor experiences. Visitors can enjoy eco-friendly activities such as snorkelling, diving, and exploring national parks, contributing to a more sustainable tourism future. [Discover the Capricorn Coast here.](#)

industry. It is a great networking opportunity and forum to exchange ideas about ways to grow a sustainable regional destination and to showcase best practice success. Included in the registration attendees will have the opportunity to attend the Agritourism Forum in partnership with Tourism Australia, as part of the 2024 Convention program. The forum will be held on Wednesday, 9 October from 1.30pm - 5.30pm. For the program and to register click [here](#).

## AUSTRALIAN STORIES



### Luxury travel elevated with Ritz-Carlton, Perth / Boorloo's bespoke itineraries

The [Ritz-Carlton](#), Perth / Boorloo has introduced a new bespoke travel adventure transporting guests from Perth to West Australia's remote wilderness. Evolving its partnership with roving culinary creative [Fervor](#), travellers are invited to celebrate WA's exceptional culinary heritage, rich Indigenous culture, and stunning natural landscapes through bespoke itineraries. The unique



### KOI Dessert Bar arrives in Melbourne / Narm

[KOI Dessert Bar](#) has officially opened the doors to its flagship store in Melbourne / Narm at the iconic Queen & Collins precinct. KOI originally opened in Sydney / Warrane and is run by Ike Malada and her sons Reynold, Ronald and Arnold Poernomo. With Melbournians frequently flying the impeccably crafted desserts across the border for friends and family, this permanent fixture has been highly anticipated for many years.

trips are catered to suit all travellers from couples, families, groups of friends and corporate groups. A sample itinerary features a two-night's stay at the Ritz Carlton, Perth, a two-night stay at [Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm](#), a reef waterfall tour, a foraging experience, and more. For more information and bookings, contact [reservations.perth@ritzcarlton.com](mailto:reservations.perth@ritzcarlton.com).



### Capella Sydney partners with Whale Watching Sydney

[Capella Sydney](#) has announced a partnership with [Whale Watching Sydney](#), launching a new [Family Moments](#) package designed for families seeking a unique blend of luxury accommodation and adventure. Capella Sydney's Family Moments Whale Watching package includes overnight accommodation at Capella Sydney, gourmet breakfast at Brasserie 1930 and a two-hour whale watching cruise with Whale Watching Sydney from Circular Quay, providing prime views of humpback and southern right whales as they migrate along the New South Wales coastline. With over 25 years of experience, Whale Watching Sydney is

KOI Melbourne has been fitted out with a 42-seat dining space, state-of-the-art pastry kitchen and a retail offering. Expect 150 desserts on rotation, with new and exciting signatures to come, meaning no two visits will be the same. KOI Melbourne is open Tuesday to Thursday from 10am until 10pm.



### Affordable Art Fair returns to Melbourne / Narmm

Celebrating its 25th global anniversary, [Affordable Art Fair](#) will be returning to the world-heritage listed Royal Exhibition in Melbourne / Narmm from 29 August until 1 September. This year's program features rotating artworks from over 55 of the nation's best regional, suburban, and metro galleries, plus live artist demonstrations and life-size installations. One of the longest running Aboriginal-owned art centres, [Warlukurlangu Artists](#), returns as the Fair's Access Partner. Based in Northern Territory, the team will present a series of authentic works with 100 per cent of sales going back to support First Nations artists. From

committed to providing guests with thrilling and educational whale watching experiences along Australia's east coast, while focusing on sustainability and conservation efforts. The package is available until 31 October 2024.

art aficionados to budding beginners, and everyone in between, Affordable Art Fair promises to have something for everyone. Purchase tickets online [here](#).

## NEWS IN BRIEF

- [NSW to host Agritourism Summit](#)
- [River Revival Voucher program for South Australia's Murray River regions](#)
- [South Australia's Experience Nature Tourism Fund \(ENTF\) round three applications](#)
- [The Wet Tropics Management 20<sup>th</sup> Cassowary Awards – nominations now open](#)
- [Tourism Events Queensland trade events calendar released](#)
- [Winter. Our Way. South Australian industry toolkit](#)



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