



**Stakeholder Communication from Tourism Australia
Andrew McEvoy, Managing Director**

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Qantas international and domestic operations to recommence with Fair Work Australia ruling

In an important breakthrough to the Qantas flight grounding situation, Fair Work Australia (FWA) made a decision of immediate termination of all industrial action by Qantas and three trade unions.

The national workplace relations umpire's early morning decision means Qantas and the unions involved have 21 days to resolve their dispute and reach an agreement that is binding. A failure to do so by this time would see FWA undertake compulsory arbitration between them.

This is a most welcome outcome and breakthrough for Australian tourism- an industry worth \$97 billion to our economy and generating hundreds of millions in daily spending.

Importantly the industrial disputation at Qantas has been concluded through this decision – perhaps the strongest and cleanest message we can communicate. It means Qantas international and domestic operations will progressively recommence (with Qantas confirming first services prior to noon today).

There will be a backlog to clear, in particular from our international markets, but our industry is resilient and experienced in reenergising and getting quickly back on track.

The decision also provides surety to guarantee visitors access to travel now and in the weeks ahead in what is one of Australian tourism's busiest times.

Surety of our air services and ease of access are further critical messages Tourism Australia will promote overseas and within Australia in the coming days and weeks ahead.

Australian tourism is open for business and we need to ensure whatever existing damage to our industry, can now be minimised.

All our external channels including Australia.com and Facebook (See Australia) will carry these messages and our regional offices around the globe will be proactive in communicating to their stakeholders and the travel trade.

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