

# POST JOBKEEPER STIMULUS

*Targeted at Travel & Tourism*

On the 11th March the Morrison Government announced its Post Job Keeper Stimulus Package. It is targeted at industries that continue to be affected by the coronavirus crisis namely travel and tourism.



**Under the support package, discounts will be halved on tens of thousands of fares per week across 13 key tourism regions in the country.**

The half-price ticket program will initially operate in regions including the Gold Coast, Cairns, the Whitsundays and Mackay region (Proserpine and Hamilton Island), the Sunshine Coast, Lasseter and Alice Springs, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie, Broome, Avalon, Merimbula and Kangaroo Island.

The discounts will be off the average fare and will be available on airline websites from 1 April. In addition, flights, routes and the total number of tickets will be driven by demand and are subject to final discussions with the airlines.

Other new measures in the support package include new international aviation support to help international passenger airlines maintain more than 8,000 core jobs. Support has also been announced for regular passenger airports to meet their domestic security screening costs.

Now, it is easy to become cynical with regards the half-price ticket program and one would hope that the airlines won't just increase their pricing to make the most of what is undoubtedly the worst year the airlines are likely to ever see.

Hopefully, the Government will take the appropriate steps to ensure that this doesn't happen and that thousands of Aussies who have no where else to holiday will start to appreciate the wonders of their own back yards!

On the flip side, all of this optimism regarding boosting travel and tourism needs to be accompanied with a fast and efficient vaccine rollout and State Premiers who aren't going to shut out the would be travellers from interstate every time Covid outbreaks occur.