

Burns quits Tiger

TIGER Airways commercial director for Australia, Steve Burns, has left the carrier according to a report in today's *Sydney Morning Herald*.

He's set to be replaced by Bernard Berger, who has been with Irish low-cost pioneer Ryanair for more than 20 years.

Today's Travel Daily

Travel Daily today has six pages of news and photos, plus a full page from: • AA Appointments



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Give it to me one more time...

Travel Daily First with the news Wed 04 Aug 10 Page 1

EDITORS: Bruce Piper and Guy Dundas E-mail: info@traveldaily.com.au Ph: 1300 799 220

Outbound travel record

AUSTRALIANS took more than 6.8 million trips overseas during the 12 months to 30 Jun, with the record figures up by more than 17% compared to 2008/09.

The short term departure results released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics this morning confirm the boom in outbound travel, with the number of trips more than doubling over the last ten years.

New Zealand was the most popular destination for Aussies, with more than 1 million trips, followed by Indonesia at 650,000, then the USA at 630,000, the UK with 460,000 visits and then Thailand at 430,000 - with these top five destinations accounting for more than half of the total departures during the year.

Holiday travel comprised 55% of the total, with VFR at 24% and business accounting for 11%.

During Jun there was a 1.5% increase in the trend estimate for short term departures, while arrivals slipped slightly, down 0.1% for the month year on year.

The ABS said that for the year to 30 Jun there were also a record 25.9 million crossings of Australia's international borders. Just over half (13 million) of

the total movements were arrivals to Australia, comprising

> BALI SAFARI MARINE PARK

6.7m residents returning after a trip, 5.7m short term visitors and 605,000 permanent arrivals.

The top inbound market was NZ, with a 3.1% annual increase in the trend estimate of short term arrivals.

There was strong 2009/10 inbound growth from China (up 33.3%), Korea (up 22.4%), and Indonesia (up 16.3%), while Japanese arrivals also rose 16.8%.

Guillan to Hayman

ANNA Guillan is set to return to Hayman Island, having been appointed to the position of Executive General Manager Sales & Marketing for Hayman and Mulpha Hotels Australia.

Guillan returns to Hayman where she worked for some years as Director of Sales and Marketing before departing to head up sales & marketing for Voyages.

Well known in the industry, she is vice-chair of the Australian Tourism Export Council as well as being a member of Tourism Australia's Business Events Industry Advisory Panel.

The Mulpha portfolio includes Hayman, Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove, the Sydney InterContinental Hotel, Hilton Melbourne Airport and The Hotel School Sydney.

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Red Gum Lounge

GREAT Southern Rail is set to introduce newly refurbished lounge carriages in its Red Service onboard The Ghan and Indian Pacific trains.

The budget carriages will be fitted with lounge chairs and booth seating, with access to the lounge free of charge for Red Sleeper guests and a \$10-\$15 fee for Red Seat passengers.

Tony Braxton-Smith, ceo of GSR said: "we have invested a significant amount into... these lounge carriages to create more space for guests to enjoy their rail journey".



Celebrity Cruises returns to Australia and New Zealand.

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TSAX heads north

TRAVELSCENE American Express will hold its first ever National Consultants Conference in Cairns this weekend, with about 300 consultants and 90 preferred suppliers attending.

TSAX gm Jacqui Timmins said the event was being very well supported by members, with many offices sending multiple representatives.

The conference will also include the inaugural TSAX Consultant Awards, to be announced on Sun.

TD will be reporting on location from the event so see Mon's issue for all of the details.





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Amadeus to push JQ deal

THE global head of Amadeus today revealed the travel technology service provider is negotiating with Jetstar over an improved commercial relationship. Speaking at a briefing in Sydney

this morning, CEO David Jones

Express adds QBE

EXPRESS Ticketing has added an automated travel insurance quoting facility to its offering for travel agents, aiming to make it easier for consultants to sell insurance to their clients.

The system is powered by Sabre and utilises Express Insurance by QBE, with QBE gm Business Partners, Colin Ahern, saying Express Ticketing would be "a significant distribution channel" for the company's products.

Orient Express Travel Group ceo Tom Manwaring said the system means agents can add travel insurance into a MySabre booking in the same way that other land & air components are added.

Finnair extra A340s

FINNAIR has announced it will acquire two extra Airbus A340 wide-body aircraft from later this year, with the extra capacity enabling its new Singapore route and boosts to Hong Kong frequencies (*TD* 05 Jul).



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described the current Jetstar arrangements as "not a satisfactory distribution deal".

Jones was discussing the trend for carriers to unbundle services, with Amadeus undertaking considerable development to assist agents when booking ancillary services for their clients.

He also confirmed that Amadeus was seeing considerable industry recovery, with "stronger GDS inventory" and air bookings up across the board for the year to 31 Mar - just prior to the firm being publicly listed.

Since the Amadeus IPO on 29 Apr the company's share price has risen 20% despite market volatility, with results for the next quarter set to be released shortly.

Mexicana bankrupt

ONEWORLD member Mexicana Airlines has declared bankruptcy, with court filings to protect its assets from creditors.

The carrier has asked for a temporary restraining order to stop its aircraft from being seized in the US, after two of its planes were detained in Canada (*TD* yest).

MX plans to continue flying a reduced network during a major restructuring, with a plan to lay off 40% of its pilots and flight attendants and wage cuts of up to 41% for those who stay on.

Management has also offered to sell the company to unions for a token sum of one peso as an alternative to the restructuring.

Responding to statements by the Mexicana pilots union that it would reject the proposals, the company said: "it is time to acknowledge reality, that the paradigm of commercial aviation has changed worldwide and that only airlines that operate at competitive costs can hope to survive and continue flying".

Oneworld said Mexicana's position within the alliance was unaffected by its insolvency.



Window Seat

LOOKS like old habits die hard at Continental Airlines.

The carrier has just released an updated PDF version of its timetable for the period 31 Jul-28 Aug 2010 - and unfortunately for someone, it proudly still carries the logo of the SkyTeam airline alliance.

CO left SkyTeam last Oct with much fanfare when it joined the rival Star Alliance, in the lead-up to its proposed merger with Star Alliance founding member United Airlines.

A GERMAN couple are heading off on an unusual summer holiday, with a planned 500km river swim from central Germany to the North Sea.

And the pair won't be doing it alone - they're also taking along their seven pet ducks.

The odyssey will start in the town of Kassel and travel down the Fulda and Weser rivers, with hopes of reaching the port of Bremerhaven in about 6 weeks. "It's our version of the

pilgrimage to Santiago, " said 58year-old Wilfried Arnold.

He said they plan to swim up to 15km a day - too far for the ducks who will follow by car or boat when they get too tired.

FRENCH President Nicolas Sarkozy will shortly take delivery of his very own plane - a refitted A330-200 which is scheduled for handover in Oct.

The former commercial plane has been purchased and revamped at a cost of €176 million, with 60 business class seats, a 12-person meeting room, a bedroom and shower, plus a special air filter system so Sarkozy can smoke cigars while on board.

The plane has been dubbed 'Air Carla One' after his exsupermodel wife, Carla Bruni.

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Taxes to be added. until 30 Nov 2010 www.thaiairways.com.au THA





ABOVE: Air Tickets recently held a promotion in conjunction with Hawaiian Airlines, where travel agents had the chance to win two Economy class return tickets to Honolulu with HA, three nights accom at the Park Shore Hotel in Waikiki, a \$200 voucher

for Surf, Dive and Ski, an Apple iPad and a PlayStation 3 including a Pro Surfer game.

The team from Lifeplan Travel in South Australia are pictured above receiving their prize from Maggie Bootsman of TSAX and Frank Gatta from Air Tickets.

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Cockatoo listed

with the news

SYDNEY Harbour's Cockatoo Island is one of eleven national landmarks to have been added to the UNESCO World Heritage Listing under the Australian Convict Sites banner.

Page 3

Other Sydney sites recognised in the listing include Hyde Park Barracks, Old Government House and the Domain, WA's Fremantle Prison, Port Arthur in Tasmania and parts of Norfolk Island.

IATA boss to Sydney

THE director general and ceo of the International Air Transport Association, Giovanni Bisignani is heading to Sydney this month. where he will make an address at the National Aviation Press Club.

The outspoken IATA head honcho will deliver a speech on 'Global Opportunities for Australian Aviation' on 25 Aug.

Modesty protection

TRAVELLERS concerned about airport full-body scanners can now cover their private parts with a new product developed by a LAbased company (see below).

"Flying Pasties" are made from 2mm-thick rubber and can be slipped under clothing to conceal sensitive areas which would otherwise be visible in the scan.

The gadgets are available with humorous slogans such as "Only my boyfriend sees me naked".

A spokesperson for the company said "Until now, citizens haven't had a proper way to voice their displeasure over the intrusive nature of airport scanners".

He said Flying Pasties are meant to allow travellers "the ability to retain their self dignity" while not interfering with security.



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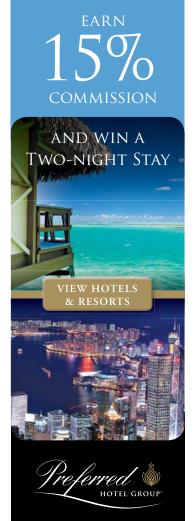


New BIG4 chairman

MERV King has been named as the new chairman of BIG4 Holiday Parks, following the resignation of current chair Rodger Powell who held the position for five years.

Powell said that due to "recent and substantial increases in his other professional business commitments" and with the imminent engagement of a new CEO for BIG4, he thought it in the best interest of the group to hand over the chairmanship three months ahead of schedule.

However he will stay on as a director of BIG4.





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EDITORS: Bruce Piper and Guy Dundas E-mail: info@traveldaily.com.au

Trafalgar USA deals

TRAFALGAR is offering fares with Qantas to Los Angeles or San Francisco priced from \$1,816pp when booked in conjunction with a minimum 14-day 2011 US tour.

The deal is available until 27 Aug, and based on travel between 01 Apr-16 Jun and 18 Jul-31 Aug.

The tour operator is also offering fares to Las Vegas leading in at \$1,894, and to New York priced from \$2,222.

Skal MEL luncheon

SKAL International Melbourne will be hosting its Aug luncheon at The Rendezvous, Flinders St, from 12:30pm on Thu 19 Aug.

RSVP by 11am 17 Aug to Sandy at sandy@apartmentsonlygon.com.au.

EK Metro check-in

EMIRATES has rolled out self service check-in kiosks at a number of Dubai Metro stations, including the Mall of the Emirates and Burj Khalifa/Dubai Mall.

Passengers will need to check-in at the kiosks no later than two hours prior to their flight's departure time, and they will be issued with a boarding pass, and then proceed to EK's Terminal 3.

Pax are permitted to carry only two luggage pieces on the Metro.

Med cruise savings

WINDSTAR Cruises has slashed prices on some of its seven night voyages in the Mediterranean from now until Nov, with savings of up to 56% on offer.

Discounts are available on select Istanbul to Athens sailing on *Wind Spirit* and *Wind Star*, the Venice Roundtrip cruise on *Wind Surf*, Rome to Barcelona voyage on *Wind Spirit*, and others. Phone 1300 950 622.

NT wants more air

NORTHERN Territory Tourism Minister Malarndirri McCarthy has made it her mission to drum up additional air services to the NT, this week meeting with top execs at Qantas, Jetstar and Virgin to forge stronger relationships.

McCarthy says the talks will include the growth of sustainable flights to strengthen the NT's local tourism industry.

"Building on existing airline services is a major part of the Territory Government's Aviation Futures 2015 strategy, launched in April - and builds on meetings I've also held with Tiger Airways and Malaysian Airlines," she said.

Aqua agent promo

HAWAIIAN hotelier Aqua Hotels and Resorts is offering travel agent rates priced between \$US45 and \$US99 per night at its Waikiki, Maui, Kauai & Molokai properties.

The deal is offered for dates up until 07 Dec, and requires a threenight minimum stay.

For more information or to book go to www.aquaresorts.com.



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Your chance to be a TD roving reporter!

Travel Daily is giving subscribers a chance to become a *Travel Daily* roving reporter and travel trade blogger on location in Europe from September 28 to October 9 on the 'Switzerland Mega Famil'.

This amazing competition is being sponsored by **Rail Europe**, **Switzerland Tourism** and **THAI**, in support of **Rail Plus**, **Rail Tickets**, **CIT Holidays** and **Infinity Rail**.

Over the next 2 weeks impress the judges:

In 100 words or less describe a favourite place you've visited including a picture (max res 1MB) and a website link featuring this favourite place.

This description can be about anything you

choose: a city, restaurant, hotel, resort, bar, monument - whatever you think makes an interesting story that your colleagues will love to read and even inspire them to visit your nominated 'place' too!

The chosen 'reporter/blogger' will be packed off with the specialised tools of the trade to capture the trip in full, including camera and will be expected to report back on what's happening every 2nd day to be captured in *Travel Daily*, on the TD insiders bog, THAI's eNews and dedicated agent website/Blog plus also Switzerland Tourism website/Blog.

The winner will be announced on September 6, so get those thinking caps on and email your entries together with your full name, position/title, travel agency and location to reporter@traveldaily.com.au

Click here for competition terms & conditions



Cross border bridge

US authorities have given approval for a new cross-border pedestrian bridge between the US and Mexico, which would allow travellers to cross from San Diego to the Rodriguez International Airport in Tijuana.

The not-for-profit proposal aims to give southern Californians easier access to flights at the Mexican airport, and is the brainchild of billionaire Sam Zell and a number of members of the board of the company which owns the Tijuana terminal.

TAM network grows

TAM Airlines subsidiary Pantanal Airlines is increasing the number of cities served in Brazil from six to 15 after being given the green light to expand its network by the National Civil Aviation Agency. Sky co-locate at JFK

THE SkyTeam airline alliance is planning to co-locate its operation at New York's JFK Airport in a bid to improve its market position.

The alliance already co-locates operations at London Heathrow.

Avis outbids Hertz

THE Avis Budget Group has offered US\$46.50 per share for the Dollar Thrifty Group, trumping a US\$41 per share offer from Hertz.

Dollar has already accepted the Hertz bid (*TD* 27 Apr) but its directors said they would entertain a rival bid from Avis (*TD* 04 May), despite this incurring a 3.5% "break fee" payable to Hertz (worth about US\$40m) if it backs out of the deal.

The Hertz bid is the subject of a special shareholder meeting scheduled for 16 Sep.

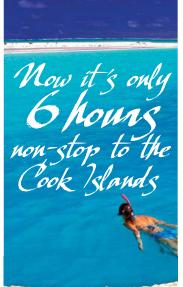






VIRGIN Blue AYQ ground staff and flight crew are pictured above celebrating the carrier's inaugural non-stop service between Sydney and Ayers Rock (*TD* yesterday).

It was a double milestone, with the flight carrying DJ's first all-



The Cook Islands are now just 6 hours away on Air New Zealand's non-stop, direct flight departing every Sunday evening.



indigenous flight crew who upon arrival participated in an authentic Inma with members of the Mutitjulu community.

Later, at a special Sounds of Silence dinner for passengers, Voyages ceo Chris Tallent said the flights "further endorse Uluru's significance within the Australian landscape and provide great opportunities for expansion and promotion of the region".

30% off Six Senses

SIX Senses Resorts is offering a 30% discount off normal prices at a number of key properties, for travel up until 19 Dec, when booked before 16 Sep.

The deal applies to Six Senses Yao Noi Phang Nga Bay; Six Senses Samui; Six Senses Hua Hin; Six Senses Destination Spa - Naka, all in Thailand; Six Senses Ninh Van Bay, Nha Trang in Vietnam and Six Senses Zighy Bay - Musandam Peninsular, Sultanate of Oman. See www.sixsenses.com.

US Parks going foc

THE US National Park Service is trialling free park entry at all 146 parks around America which enforce a fee, in a move aimed at drawing greater crowds to the natural and historic sites.

It represents a saving of US\$3 to US\$25pp, with the offer applying for the weekend of 14-15 Aug.

EY US routes ex T3

ETIHAD Airways will begin operating services to Chicago and New York from its Terminal 3 facility at Abu Dhabi Int'l Airport, after gaining security approval.

Accommodation Updates

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, Travel Daily's Wednesday feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.

The **MERCURE SYDNEY AIRPORT** has unveiled three reburbished floors. Levels seven to nine feature new rooms with comtemporary decor and a more spacious layout. The hotel's suites have also been transformed to offer a separate lounge and dining area.



Carlson has expanded its Country Inn and Suites portfolio with the addition of the COUNTRY INN AND SUITES SARALAND in Alabama, USA. The 60 room hotel has a no smoking policy and features an outdoor pool, whirlpool and fitness centre. Room types include one bedroom suites, extended stay suites and quest rooms with free



high speed internet, microwaves, fridges, and televisions.

The MERCURE SOUTHAMPTON CENTRE Hotel in the UK has undergone a £3 million refurbishment upgrading its 90 rooms while retaining the historical significance of the hotel, which is famous for being where iconic novelist Jane Austen celebrated her eighteenth birthday.

The **SOFITEL DONGGUAN HUMEN ORIENTAL** in China opened this month in a 62 storey mixed use tower also featuring housing and a retail and wholesale fashion mall. The 409 guest rooms and suites begin on the 29th floor of the building and the property also offers a tea and





coffee lounge, poolside bar, Cantonese and Japanese restaurants, and western dining with a view on the 61st floor.

CARLSON has announced its thirtieth Indian hotel, the RADISSON HOTEL INDORE. The 201 room hotel is located in the hub of Indore and is a 20 minute drive from Devi Ahilyabai airport. It's the twelfth Radisson in India.

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FIFA rates soar

THE FIFA World Cup in South Africa during Jun saw hotel prices more than double during Jun.

The 100.9% increase compared to a jump of just 33% in average room rates in Germany during the 2006 World Cup.

'YOU DESERVE TAHITI'... TELL US WHY AND WIN



To celebrate 'You Deserve Tahiti' month, throughout August, Travel Daily is giving travel consultant readers the chance to win an incredible seven-night holiday to Tahiti for two people, courtesy of . Tahiti Travel Connection.

This fantastic prize includes:

- Return economy airfares on Air Tahiti Nui for two
- Two nights twin share accommodation at Manava Suite Resort Tahiti in a Standard Room (one pre and one post Manihi Island)
- Five nights' accommodation at Manihi Pearl Beach Resort in a Beach Bungalow
- Return economy flights for two from Tahiti to Manihi Island
- All land transfers on Tahiti and Manihi

For your chance to win this incredible holiday...

Tell us in 50 words or less why you deserve to win a seven-night sensational escape to one of the most beautiful places on the planet - Tahiti

Feel free to support your case with 1 image only. Entries must be accompanied by the agent's full name, agency name, phone contact and email contact.

Email your entries to: tahiticomp@traveldaily.com.au

Note: Only one entry per agent/consultant.

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Air Tahiti Nui

Peru plague

AUTHORITIES in Peru have warned of an outbreak of bubonic plaque, with one death reported and 31 more people infected.

The fatal flea-borne disease has appeared in the northern coastal province of Ascope, which includes Chicama beach which is popular with surfing tourists.

largest low cost airline, Wizz Air, has renewed its agreement with passenger sales and management call centre reservations plus real



Israel resort blasts

THE Israeli tourist city of Eilat was rocked by a series of explosions yesterday, with five rockets fired at the city.

The missiles landed in the nearby Red Sea causing no injuries or reported damage, and officials are searching for the motive of the attack.

MEANWHILE DFAT has also advised travellers of a blast in the city of Aqaba, Jordan injuring four people.

Haggle with Haggis

HAGGIS Adventures is offering discounts on its Hogmanay and Christmas tours which allow travellers to celebrate the festive season in Edinburgh and the Scottish Highlands.

Christmas tours include the 3and 5-day Christmas in a Castle departing 23/24 Dec and 5-day Highland Christmas leaving 24 Dec. More at haggisadventures.com.

TravelManagers up

TRAVELMANAGERS has reported an increase in Jan-Jun sales, which were up 82% year on year.

Average commission income per personal travel manager across the group grew 16% over the six month period, with a 127% increase in those achieving more than \$50,000 commission.

Bali's rabid dogs

THE US State Department has issued a travel warning for American citizens travelling to Bali, due to the island's rabid dog problem that has seen 78 people killed in the last two years.

Wicked Accor BNE

A NUMBER of Accor properties in Brisbane are offering packages to see the acclaimed theatre production of Wicked.

Packages start from \$220ppts with accom and an 'A' Reserve show ticket from 16 Jan 2011.

Participating hotels include the Brisbane Sofitel, Novotel, Mercure Brisbane North Quay and the Hotel Ibis Brisbane.

Bench winner



BENCH International has announced the winner of its exclusive eight day 'Out of Africa' air safari in Kenya.

The lucky winner is Lauren Oliver from Travelscene Lyn McNaught in Mooroopna, Victoria who is pictured above with Mertin Edwards, national sales manager for Bench International.

Lauren will travel in style to some of Africa's most beautiful terrain including Kenya's famous Masai Mara, Amboseli National Park and Tsavo West and Tsavo East National Parks.

AIR CANADA

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Air Canada QLD/WA Leisure Sales Executive

An exciting opportunity has become available in Brisbane for a full time Leisure Sales Executive.

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The Leisure Sales Executive role will have a strong emphasis on both maintaining and developing mutually productive business relationships with our key agencies and partners as well as identifying new opportunities for growth.

The successful candidate will need to be proactive in a competitive marketplace, conduct presentations as well as attend trade shows and seminars.

They will also need to work autonomously, be self motivated and have a high level of customer service and professionalism.

Previous experience in travel and sales is essential.

Applications close by 13 August 2010. Please send your expression of interest to melaniep@airlinemarketing.com.au.

Note: Due to the high level of interest only successful applicants will be contacted.

Interviews will be held in Brisbane on 24 August.

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FANCY BEING ON THE OTHER SIDE IN-HOUSE RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST MELBOURNE (CITY FRINGE) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$60K

Is Travel Consulting not inspiring you anymore? This leading retail travel company is looking for a dynamic consultant to assist them in their recruitment department. This is a perfect opportunity to try something new whilst still utilising all the knowledge you have gained over your travel consulting career. Full training is provided by the company but a min 3-5 years experience in the travel industry is a definite MUST.

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FLAIR FOR FARES? FARES AND TICKETING CONSULTANT BRISBANE CBD – SALARY PKGE \$42K OTE

Consider yourself a fares expert and wanting to round out your skills? Have the retail/selling side down pat, but lacking ticketing expertise? We have a great opportunity for an experienced retail consultant to be trained in a fares and ticketing role. You must have strong CRS experience, preferably Fares and Ticketing 1&2 and thrive on attention to detail. Sound like you? Make the change from face to face retail and become the specialist you want to bel Call today.

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Prefer the thrill of organising a challenging booking? Then we have the perfect solution. We are currently searching for a talented consultant to join this busy groups leisure department. You will enjoy working on a diverse range of groups up to 400, Mon to Fri only in a top team where you can take your skills to the limit.. To succeed, you will need a min 2 yrs retail or groups experience, strong organisation & interpersonal skills & be a high achiever.

KICK START YOUR CAREER IN CORPORATE TRAVEL DOMESTIC TRAVEL CONSULTANTS x 5

MELBOURNE (INNER) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$44K Looking for a fun & social working environment that will also see you in a professional and career driven organisation? This national travel management company requires 5 domestic corporate consultants to assist on their major account. This is a fantastic opportunity to move from retail travel to corporate & progress your skills. Monday to Friday business hours only, together with an annual salary increasel

MIX BUSINESS WITH LEISURE CORPORATE/LEISURE TRAVEL CONSULTANT PERTH (INNER) - SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K

Prefer a little variety in your day? Working for this reputable agency in Perth, you will get just that! With a client base made up of both corporate and leisure clientele, no two days will be the same. As you will be dealing with predominately high end enquires, a strong knowledge of luxury products is required along with a minimum of 3 years experience as a travel consultant.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF TRAVEL PRODUCT SUPPORT CONSULTANT

BRISBANE CBD – SALARY PKGE ote \$42K + bonuses Bored with retail consulting but still passionate about the industry? Curious about new areas such as product management? If so this is the role for you. This global product team is looking for an experienced travel consultant to join their support team. Your role will include assisting consultants with booking queries, along with maintaining databases on new product. You will enjoy access to top industry training, progression and bonuses. Make the switch today.