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Travel Daily AU

First with the news

Fri 12 Feb 10 **Page 1**

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

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Etihaad set to lift flights

UAE flag carrier Etihad has been granted the rights to operate up to 42 flights a week from Abu Dhabi into Australia - double its current 21 weekly frequencies (*TD* breaking news).

The move follows negotiations in Canberra this week between Australian and UAE officials, with seven additional frequencies into major gateways such as Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth available from next month.

A further seven unrestricted flights will be available from Mar 2011, while the carrier is also able to operate seven more under

the condition that they fly via or into a regional airport such as Adelaide or Cairns.

EY ceo James Hogan said the announcement was "an indication of the airline's deepening bond with Australia".

A spokesperson for transport minister Anthony Albanese told *TD* that extra frequencies went to Etihad in recognition that Emirates, currently at 70 flights per week, is already scheduled to receive another seven frequencies next month and a further seven in Mar 2011, taking its total to 84.

FCm targets Asia

FLIGHT Centre's corporate division FCm Travel Solutions says Asia is expected to be one of the strongest drivers in its worldwide growth over the next three years.

FCm exec gm Asia, Rob Flint, said Asian corporates are expected to become "more mature" in their approach to travel management, with FCm planning to expand into more Asian countries.

"Asian airlines recovered at nearly twice the global rate last year, so we believe we are looking ahead to a steady and continued resumption of business travel activity in this region."

Thailand calling!

THE Tourism Council of Thailand is inviting agents to meet some of the country's best small to medium operators, in a 23 Feb function at Star City Casino in Sydney - details p10.

Four stars for GA

GARUDA Indonesia is celebrating having been ranked as a 'world 4-Star Airline' by aviation awards group Skytrax - see p9.

Olympic sized issue!

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news, plus full pages:

- AA Appointments
- Garuda Indonesia
- Tourism Council of Thailand

Olympic interview

AS the start of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games is now only hours away, *TD* took the opportunity to have a yarn with a past Winter Olympic Gold Medalist for today's celebrity interview.

For our exclusive chat with Alisa Camplin, and for the chance to win 1 of 3 super cute 2010 Winter Games mascot toys turn to page 7.

Choice new office

TRAVELLERS Choice has advised it has moved its West Australian head office operation to a new premise, now in East Perth.

Their new street address is: Ground Floor, 130 Royal Street, East Perth.

All contact details, including phone and fax remain unchanged.

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sabahinfo@bigpond.com
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Garuda Indonesia

* Ex SYD/MEL for sale until 19 Feb 10, ex PER for sale until 26 Feb 10. Ex SYD/MEL travel from 08 Feb - 15 Nov 10 ex PER 08Feb - 15 Nov 10. Prices at 28 Jan 10 incl taxes & subject to currency fluctuations. Seasonal surcharges apply.

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Travel Daily AU

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Fri 12 Feb 10

Page 2

EDITORS: Bruce Piper and Guy Dundas
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From \$465 Per Person Return
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Bentours price drop

THE acquisition of Bentours by Cox & Kings (TD 11 Jan) has seen the Scandinavian and Eastern European operator's prices cut by up to 15%.

C&K Australia ceo Steve Reynolds said many of the prices in the current Bentours brochure had now dropped significantly, and urged agents to check the website for updated costings, or call Bentours reservations for more details.

Reductions apply to a range of products including Hurtigruten Cruises, the Scenes of the North Tour, Gota Canal, Russian Focus, Grand Packages, Iceland's Grand Countryside and hotels in Iceland, Denmark and Finland.

"These decreases, amongst other things, have resulted from the strong buying power of the Cox & Kings group," he said.

For information call 1800 221 712 or www.bentours.com.au.

Jetstar service charter

JETSTAR has unveiled a new 10-point 'Jetstar Customer Guarantee' charter which it says demonstrates its "ongoing commitment to deliver outstanding customer service and low fares."

The charter, which applies across its businesses in Australia, NZ and Singapore, includes a commitment to providing "direct and timely communication to ensure customers are informed of delays and cancellations as early as possible."

Jetstar is also promising to provide alternative arrangements when their flight is no longer available, and acknowledge all complaints within 24 hours.

A maximum 15-day turnaround

for complaint responses and processing of refunds is also targeted, and if Jetstar fails in any of these commitments it will provide affected customers with travel vouchers of up to \$100 in local currency.

"Jetstar has chosen to move first and set the standard by outlining its customer service commitments in writing and with self-imposed penalties for the benefit of customers," said ceo Bruce Buchanan.

He said the Charter follows more than 12 months of work to "build and improve upon Jetstar's capability around customer resolution, tools to improve information flow to customers, increased resourcing to resolve customer issues in a timely manner and an overarching staff engagement and customer service training program."

The move is also being seen as a way of capitalising on the customer service woes experienced by Tiger Airways, as brutally exposed in the warts-and-all ch 7 Airways TV show.

Buchanan launched the new Charter via a Youtube video which is online today at **Travel Daily TV** - see www.traveldaily.com.au.

Wild US weather

THIS week has seen one of the biggest flight disruptions across the USA since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

More than 5,700 flights were cancelled on Wed due to a series of huge winter storms which particularly hit the country's east incl New York and Washington DC.

Wu Asia delays

WENDY Wu Tours is advising agents it's expecting delays with confirmations and requests in the week ahead due to the Chinese Spring Festival, which takes place between 13-19 Feb.

The China specialist said the event virtually shuts down trading across the country affecting hotel and local tour operator's response time, and that Wu's Shanghai office will also be operating on a skeleton staff during the period.

Adding to the delays, Vietnam is celebrating its New Year Festival, Tet, over the same time which shuts down most hotel offices and ground operators.

"We ask that agents be patient during these times and we will commit to all confirmations and requests as quick as we can once these countries reopen for business," the firm said.

Discover the Bear Essentials



Get your clients to discover Canada's amazing wildlife at Knight Inlet Lodge - considered the best place to view grizzly bears in the wild.

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Includes: Accommodation at Knight Inlet Lodge (2 nights) full board and 1 night Heron's landing on B&B basis, all activities, transfers in Campbell River to/from float plane dock, hotel and airport.

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Southside World Travel

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Window Seat



A NEW restaurant in Jakarta, Indonesia, really makes you feel at home.

Dubbed 'The Apartment', the eatery seats guests at tables in seven rooms, which are larger versions of what you'd find in a regular residence.

The waiters set the tone by dressing in pyjamas, and the most popular area is the Bathroom - which has five tables for diners as well as a large bathtub, shower and towels.

You can also eat in the Kitchen, Library, Pantry or even the Bedroom, where the tables are said to be particularly popular with couples.

"Sometimes on a Saturday night people get too cozy on the bed," said chef Andry Winata.

A ZOO in China has failed in attempts to restore the natural instincts of a rare tiger.

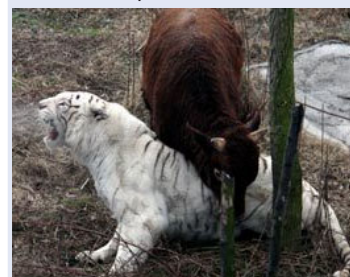
Keepers at Yancheng Zoo in Changzhou put a live bull into the cage of the big cat named Tang Bai Hu, hoping it would kill and eat the beast just like in the wild.

However when the tiger tried to attack the bull turned the tables by charging, with the encounter at one stage even seeing the bull appearing to bite the big cat (see below).

A zoo spokesman said a live bull might have been too much for the tiger, which is usually fed chopped beef or chicken.

"Our tigers' hunting skills are long forgotten. They live a very comfortable life here, with a big house, swimming pool and sports field," he said.

They haven't given up, he added, but next time would try offering Tang Bai Hu live chickens "and build up from there".



Mmmm, cat - tastes just like chicken!

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RENAULT EURODRIVE

Travel Daily AU
First with the news

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State-of-the-art
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QATAR
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ABOVE: Air Canada has been out and about celebrating this year's Valentine's Day by promoting the carrier's free flights to selected ski resorts from Vancouver.

The Air Canada staff have been delivering gifts to agents on office calls and running competitions to win a double pass to see the just released movie *Valentine's Day* (*Travel Daily* Wed).

Pictured here *from left* are the 'rosy' staff from Flight Centre Carseldine: Emily, Jesse, Leanne (from Air Canada) and Kristie.

AF gets 2nd A380

AIR France has taken delivery of its second Airbus A380 this week which will be used to operate the first ever commercial superjumbo services to South Africa.

From next Wed the French flag carrier will launch a daily Paris Charles de Gaulle-Johannesburg service with the double decker jet.

This latest AF 538-seat A380 will also see Air France boosts its ops to New York with the A380 to a daily service, up from 6 weekly.

Barcelona for Liberty of the Seas

ROYAL Caribbean has announced it will deploy its 3,634-passenger *Liberty of the Seas* to Barcelona in 2011, where it will operate in competition with NCL's *Norwegian Epic* 4,200-passenger flagship.

Barcelona will also see the 3,690-passenger *Carnival Magic* operate seven, nine and 12-night cruises in 2011.

KE to St Petersburg

KOREAN Air has announced the resumption of services between Seoul and St Petersburg.

The flights will operate three times a week from 30 Mar, using a 226-passenger A330.

KE suspended the route in Oct.

Hound pass on sale

GREYHOUND Australia has cut the cost of its Airlie Beach Mini Traveller passes by 15 percent.

Prices for the 45-day hop-on hop-off lead in at \$185, available from either Sydney, Byron Bay or Brisbane and ending in the Whitsundays.

NYC coming to OZ

THE largest ever contingent of NYC & Company delegates and co-exhibitors are on their way down under for next week's Discover America trade shows, being held in Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney.

The four-day B2B event features 11 partners, incl Affinia Hotels/DHG, Hotel Beacon NYC, Marriott International, The Broadway Collection and Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises.

In 2009, around 1,000 travel industry professionals attended the Discover America workshop.

The team will be in MEL on Mon, BNE on Tue and SYD on Thu & Fri.

World Cup EK deals

EMIRATES still has a number of tailor-made packages available for Aussies to the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa, which is now just four months from kick off.

The packages incl flights out of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth to either Johannesburg, Capetown or Durban, along with accommodation, ground transportation and match tickets.

See www.emirates.com/fifa.

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From 430 AUD per night
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Stella's stellar LH career

ABOVE: The staff at Lufthansa's local operation have congratulated employee Stella Vlahos on reaching her 25 year milestone with the German airline.

Stella is well known in the industry for her enthusiasm and passion for her job, as the NSW sales executive for Lufthansa.

And she's also the current STAR of the Year with Star Alliance.

Stella is pictured surrounded by the Sydney Lufthansa team - from left are: Dennis Dressel, Merilee Lewis, Carmen Jurczyk, Beate Rhoads, Kai Peters, Stella Vlahos, Petra Becker, Elena Seow, Blanka

Fischer, Marianne Schaule and Yuji Akuzawa.

MEANWHILE Lufthansa along with its Star Alliance partners Singapore Airlines, THAI International Airways and United Airlines, also today released details of a new MySkyStatus system which automatically updates departure, location and arrival information on Facebook and Twitter feeds while passengers are in the air.

There's also a new iPhone application 'Lufthansa Navigator' which guides users around airports and allows online checkin.



SALES COORDINATOR

Aircalin is looking to fill the role of Sales Coordinator based in the carrier's Sydney office.

This full time role, reporting to the General Manager Australia and New Zealand, has the following key accountabilities:

- Assist Sales Manager Australia in all aspects of Fares Distribution, including maintaining all Net Remit fares accurately in the Palms database.
- Provide fares and ticketing assistance to wholesalers, agents and GSA consultants.
- Quote, book, manage, monitor and ticket groups for all Australian group and incentive agents.
- Process requirements for Agent Familiarisations, Travel Agent Specials, Duty Travel and any other activities as necessary.
- Ticketing for ad hoc requirements not covered by GSA.
- Office administration and reports.
- Participation in trade shows, and account meetings.
- Airport back up, as required.
- Some external sales representation to travel agents, corporate and MICE market.

Our new team member should have:

- Minimum 2 years experience in an airline or travel related position.
- Experience with a GDS (preferably Amadeus), and Palms Database.
- Excellent verbal, written and presentation skills.
- Excellent priority and time management skills.
- Proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel.
- Be prepared to work flexible hours.
- Ability to handle a small amount of domestic and international travel.
- Fluent in English both verbally and written. French language skills are advantageous but not essential.

Applications should be sent to Ken Triffitt, General Manager Australia and New Zealand via email ken.triffitt@aircalin.com.au or fax 02-92996330. Applications close Friday 19th February, 2010.



Travel Specials

WELCOME to *Travel Specials*, *Travel Daily's* Friday feature. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of send the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au.

Victoria's HOTHAM ALPINE RESORT has released an 'Ultimate Fly, Stay & Ski' deal that takes advantage of QantasLink's winter season flights from Sydney to the ski fields (TD Wed). The package incl return flights, two nights accom in an Ultima one-bedroom unit, a two day all-mountain lift pass and equipment hire and return transfers, all for \$832pp quad share. Visit www.hotham.com.au.

SUNLOVER HOLIDAYS has released a 'Stay 7, Pay 5' package at the Reef View Hotel and a 'Stay 5, Pay 4' deal at the Beach Club on Hamilton Island in the Whitsundays. The offers include free airport transfers and there's a kids stay and eat free promo at the Reef View Hotel included. Agents booking the Hamilton Island Bonus Nights deals will also earn double Passport to Rewards points. For more info go to www.agents.sunloverholidays.com.au.

SKIMAX has come up with some fantastic ski deals to Chile and Argentina. Seven night packages in Portillo, Chile are priced from \$2,405 per adult twin share, which include transfers from Santiago Airport, a 6 day liftpass and all meals. There's also a 7-night deal at Argentina's Las Lenas staying at the Virgo Hotel & Spa, priced from \$2,954ppts, which includes a six day lift pass, halfboard and charter flights from Buenos Aires. See skimax.com.au for info.

Queenstown boiling AA \$10m staff perk

NEW Zealand's South Island adventure sports playground city, Queenstown, has reported a 15% rise in international overnight stays in Dec, compared to 2008.

The Wakatipu region as a whole recorded 218,184 room nights for the month, up an extra 24,000 room nights (or 12.1%) for the same period last year, according to the latest NZ accom statistics.

AMERICAN Airlines is rewarding its 70,000 frontline staff with a slice of a US\$10.3m bonus after it surpassed goals to provide a better customer experience in the fourth quarter of 2009.

The targets included improving on time performance, customer satisfaction at the airport, onboard the aircraft, and pax recommendations.



Travel the World Reservations Supervisor - Travel

Travel the World is an award winning Australian sales agent for a selection of the world's leading travel companies. We offer premium cruise and holiday experiences for the discerning traveller, and our products include Holland America Line, Carnival Cruise Lines, Tauck World Discovery, Chiva Som, and Windstar Cruises. Our organisational intent is to create and maintain "a benchmark of excellence".

Following an internal promotion, we are looking for a highly motivated and experienced Reservations Supervisor to join our Operations Department and Leadership Team.

The successful candidate will have strong strategic leadership skills to direct and lead our busy Retail and Wholesale Reservation operations across the full range of our products. We are looking for a passion for excellence in customer service, superior communication skills, organisational skills, attention to detail, and a mature can-do attitude.

You will possess relevant travel industry experience in a similar role, and will have managed a team. Operational knowledge of cruise products, pricing, air fares, Polar, and Amadeus will be highly regarded.

A competitive salary and conditions are on offer for the successful candidate, together with a great CBD location and a friendly team environment.

Please send your resume and cover letter to Sylvia Lestavel at sylvial@traveltheworld.com.au by cob 15 February 2010.

WIN A SPOT FOR YOU & YOUR CHILD ON THE ULTIMATE HONG KONG FAMILY FAMILIARISATION

To celebrate the Year of the Tiger, the teams at Virgin Atlantic, the Hong Kong Tourism Board and Hong Kong Disneyland have joined forces with **TD** to offer travel consultants the chance to win a spot on a truly unique Hong Kong familiarisation trip taking place between 06-10 April 2010.

Six travel agents and their child (aged 5-12 yrs) will join the magical adventure in a city that offers endless activities and amusements for children and parents.

With flights courtesy of kid-friendly airline, Virgin Atlantic Airways, and ground arrangements generously supplied by Hong Kong Disneyland and the Hong Kong Tourism Board, the winners will stay a total of 2 nights in sparkling downtown Hong Kong and 2 nights at Hong Kong Disneyland, and will experience Hong Kong's famous shopping, dining and culture, as well as the magic of Hong Kong Disneyland and much more!

How to Enter:

For a chance to win one of 6 spots for you and your child on this Hong Kong Family Familiar trip all you have to do is send in your most creative photograph featuring yourself and your child including aspects of Hong Kong, Virgin Atlantic Airways and Hong Kong Disneyland!!

Email your photos to hkgcomp@traveldaily.com.au by 5.30pm Sunday 28 February 2010.

Terms & Conditions:

Visit the **Travel Daily** website at www.traveldaily.com.au.



AF scouts Bata

FRENCH flag carrier Air France has added to its African network, supplementing its Paris Charles de Gaulle-Malabo service with a connection to Bata in Equatorial Guinea from Apr.

AF will operate the extension twice weekly using an A319ER.

10% off Trekker

EASTERN Trekker has dropped the price on a number of tours by 10% on select departures in 2010.

The discount is offered on the nine-day Classical Rhapsody Trek, the seven-day Rhapsody Trek, the seven-day Bohemian Trek and the six-day Balkan Trek.

Celine will go on

CELINE Dion will return to the Las Vegas strip next year, with a three year run at Caesars Palace.

Her previous show at the 4300 seat venue was seen by almost 3 million people over five years before it closed in Dec 2007.

EY awards top QLD sellers



ABOVE: On Tue, Etihad Airways QLD hosted a special event for its top 20 corporate and retail agents at the Loft in the Urban Hotel.

The top agent in the Corporate sector went to Corporate Travel Management Gold Coast, and the top agent for Retail went to MTA.

Pictured here, front row *from left* are: Andrew Challenor, MTA; Shelly Leven, CTM Brisbane; Lou Plagens, Costless Holidays; Brent De Filippis, CTM Gold Coast; Diane

O'Brian, HRG; Julie Keane, Flight Centre Kenmore; Lex Noller, Noller & Turner Travel Associates; and Peter Smiley, Hughes Travel.

Back row: Nic Vlahakis, CTM Gold Coast; Matt Bailey, HRG, Sarah Lane, CTM Brisbane; Mark Cooper, Etihad Airways Brisbane; Marion and Geoff Earl, Terrace Travel; Margaret Lange, MTA, Anton Cooke, Flight Centre Kenmore and Graham Tams, Noller & Turner Travel Associates.

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You'll enjoy **uncapped earnings** plus unbeatable benefits including **discount travel, health & financial services**. Best of all, as part of Flight Centre Limited you'll discover first hand why we're continually recognised as one of Australia's favourite employers.

- **Frenchs Forest:** <http://www.applynow.com.au/jobf141748>
- **North Sydney & North Ryde:** <http://www.applynow.com.au/jobf141746>
- **Parramatta & North West Sydney:** <http://www.applynow.com.au/jobf141749>

To apply, please click the link above

Ready to race for Thai kids

LAST night Accor held a fund-raising wine and cheese night at Sofitel Sydney Wentworth to support the 'Race to Survive' event which is raising money for Cure Kids Thailand.

Accor's Rebecca Freestun (left) and Yvette Peverell (right) will join

colleagues Michael Smith (centre) and Tony Gothard (not pictured) on a four-day race across Phuket which starts on 20 Mar.

The gruelling course includes swimming, kayaking, mountain biking and running, with participants camping overnight between legs of the race.

Last evening's fundraiser was a gourmand's delight, with attendees enjoying a preview of the Sofitel Wentworth's new cheese buffet of 14 local and international cheeses.

Several wineries also donated for the worthy cause, including Pooles Rock, Bimbagen, Robert



Oatley, De Bortoli, Ross Hill, Balgownie Estate and Glandore.

In fact Accor's PR head Peter Hook manned a stand on behalf of the Mercure Balgownie Estate, with some attendees quipping that "he'd make a great sales rep - if he didn't drink all the samples himself".

The Accor race team is being sponsored by RewardsCorp, Qantas Holidays, The Lido Group and the AOT Group and the industry can also lend its support online at fundraiseonline.com.au/RewardsCorpRacers.

For more info on the charity supported see www.yimkids.com.

AC cuts AB routes

AIR Canada is scaling back its flight operations between cities in the province of Alberta (AB) and some US gateways from May, with flights between Edmonton-Los Angeles and Las Vegas, and Calgary and San Diego ditched.

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WIN BOX TICKETS TO SEE ROB THOMAS IN SYDNEY



The Macau Government Tourist Office has partnered with **Travel Daily** to give subscribers the chance to see some amazing entertainers perform live at Sydney's Acer Arena this year.

First off the rank is American rock recording artist and songwriter, **Rob Thomas**, who will be performing on Wednesday 17 February.

Eight lucky readers and their friend will enjoy gourmet refreshments in Macau Government Tourist Office's exclusive suite, whilst enjoying the Matchbox 20 star's concert.

So, for your chance to rock on with Rob Thomas, simply send in your answer to the five questions featured in **Travel Daily** every day this week to robconcert@traveldaily.com.au.

CLICK HERE FOR
TERMS & CONDITIONS

Q5: On which of Macau's Islands can you find Hac Sa Beach?

Phil Hoffmann Travel is expanding!

We are looking for experienced staff to join our highly successful travel brand. Be a part of South Australia's most awarded travel and cruise agency with the following exciting opportunities available at our Glenelg and Norwood branches.

- Senior & Intermediate Travel & Cruise Consultants

The successful applicants will need to meet the following criteria:

- 2 years (min) experience as a Travel Consultant
- Sabre & Tramada technology experience preferred
- Proven record of sales
- Confident and highly motivated individual with a flexible team attitude

All positions include a negotiated salary based on experience and qualifications, individual & team based incentives, ongoing training & development, full industry benefits, the Phil Hoffmann Travel 'Well Being' Program, support of over 100 Phil Hoffmann Travel professionals plus great opportunities to diversify your career within our award winning agencies.

Please forward all applications specifying the job you are applying for by Friday 19 February 2010 to: Human Resources Manager, Phil Hoffmann Travel, 3 Gordon Street, Glenelg SA 5045 or via email on careers@pht.com.au

Make the move you've always wanted to make!



Everyday sign ups

MEMBERS of Qantas' Frequent Flyer program who have not yet signed up to its venture with Woolworth's *Everyday Rewards* program are being automatically signed up, *The Age* has reported.

QFFF has a membership of over 6m members, of which one-third have joined *Everyday Rewards*.

First Ukraine BW

BEST Western International has branched out in Eastern Europe, adding the Best Western Sevastopol Hotel to its portfolio.

The 106-room property is located in the port city of Sevastopol.

Bon Voyage launch

PRINCESS Cruises is introducing a new program which will allow the family and friends of guests about to set sail to join them "for a taste of the cruise experience."

The Bon Voyage Experience is priced at US\$39 and includes a four-course lunch, a ship tour and a souvenir photo, prior to the ship raising anchor.

The guest fee is then able to be used as credit towards a future Princess cruise.

The program will be rolled out in the US from Mar in LA and Fort Lauderdale, before being offered in NYC, San Francisco and Seattle.

Campus Travel The Smart Choice

Team Leader / Experienced Consultant Canberra

Love your job but need a new challenge? Campus Travel, one of Flight Centre Limited's successful corporate brands is currently seeking a dynamic individual experienced in travel sales to take on either an **Experienced Travel Consultant** or **Team Leader** (up to 12mths maternity cover) role at their Canberra office.

This is a great opportunity to get away from pure retail and move into the challenging world of corporate travel management. You'll enjoy **uncapped earnings**, along with a range of benefits including **free health and financial consultations**. You'll also discover first hand why we're one of Australia's favourite employers.

Apply now <http://www.applynow.com.au/job141795>

Auckland combo

VISITORS to Auckland can take advantage of a joint offer from local attractions Auckland Zoo and the Sky Tower, under which people paying full price at either venue will receive a two-for-one offer at the other attraction.

WIN A TRIP TO EUROPE

To celebrate the start of the New Year, Rail Plus is giving **Travel Daily** agent readers the opportunity to win some sensational prizes during the months of January and February. To enter this fabulous competition, subscribers will simply have to correctly identify what country the train featured below is from and come up with a creative caption to accompany this image. There will be a major prize awarded at the end of the competition period of a place on the 2010 Rail Plus European familiarisation being held from 28 Apr to 08 May 2010, visiting Northern Italy, Switzerland, France and the UK* - for the best caption overall!

A weekly prize of a Eurail Select Pass for 5 days in 3 countries will also be up for grabs for the cleverest caption received each week, as decided by the Rail Plus judging panel.

So put on those thinking caps and email your caption and contact details to railpluscomp@traveldaily.com.au.

Full terms and conditions available at www.traveldaily.com.au.



*Itinerary subject to change.

rail plus
way to go!

RBA into Shanghai

ROYAL Brunei Airlines (RBA) has beefed up its Asian network, adding a new four times weekly service to Shanghai.

The route launches on 28 Mar and comes ahead of the World 2010 Expo in Shanghai, providing greater travel options to the city for markets including Australia.

RBA is forecasting holiday, student, business and convention markets into and out of China to take off in the future.

Vegas ticket move

TRAVELOCITY has sold its Las Vegas ticket retailing operation 'Travelocity on Location' to Entertainment Benefits Group.

The 30 locations across Vegas will be renamed Tickets & Tours, and the deal will also see Entertainment Benefits provide Las Vegas activities to Travelocity.

easyJet hits 500

EUROPEAN low-cost carrier easyJet is celebrating the launch of its 500th route, with flights from Milan Malpensa to Porto.

The carrier said that over the last 15 years it's become "Europe's Number 1 transport network, now operating on 45 Europe's top 100 routes."

easyJet has established 19 bases across 28 countries and operates 182 aircraft.

Outgoing CEO Andy Harrison, who leaves the carrier on 30 Jun and has been tipped as a possible successor to Virgin Blue chief Brett Godfrey, said: "Our increasingly strong position... is a result of focusing on destinations customers find most attractive, at convenient times from the most convenient airports."

easyJet expects to carry over 50 million passengers this year.



TRAVEL DAILY EXCLUSIVE

Celebrity Interview with Alisa Camplin



This issue **Travel Daily** catches up with Australia's Winter Olympic Gold and Bronze Medalist, Alisa Camplin. The 35 year old stole the heart of the nation in 2002 when she won a Gold Medal at the Salt Lake City Olympic Games in the Freestyle Skiing event, and became the first Aussie to secure back-to-back Winter Olympic medals when she placed third in the same event at the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics.

Camplin will be part of the commentating team for Channel Nine and Foxtel for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, with coverage starting from tomorrow.

Camplin holds a senior executive role with IBM, is the Deputy Chair for the Australian Sports Commission and is also a member of the board for the Collingwood Football Club in Victoria, which she has been a fan of since the age of five.

Alisa, what is one of the most exotic destinations you have travelled to?

The Caribbean for sure, but I also found Spain very exotic.

Where in the world is your favourite holiday destination?

Anywhere that has big mountains. I just love mountainous regions...mother nature just blows me away.

Where would you like to travel to next? Definitely the Arctic, but exploring South America is also high on my list.

When packing a suitcase for travelling, do you roll or fold your clothes?

Definitely a folder. I have lived out of suitcases and ski-bags for 14 years, so I pack my suitcase in compartments and they are in the same spot each time.

What's one thing you forget to pack when travelling?

As a frequent traveller, I don't tend to forget stuff... but occasionally I forget to pack the power adaptors.

What is your favourite piece of luggage, and why?

My 'baby pillow'. I stole it off a plane about 10 years ago and I take it everywhere now. When I was competing I used to be on the move all the time, so I needed to sleep whenever I could, and this was perfect. I now have a pillow case for it and take it with me whenever I travel.

Who is one person you wish you could sit next to on a plane, and why?

A specialist in any field other than sport, like a surgeon or scientist. I love to learn about other all different professions.

What is one food you would like to see added to an airline menu?

Mexican food - tacos and burritos... so long as they come with guacamole. If there's no guacamole forget it!

Do you have an embarrassing travel story you could share with us?

Yes, but they are all to inappropriate for me to tell you about!

Win a 2010 Winter Games Mascot soft toy!

Travel Daily has gotten its hands on one of each of the 2010 Winter Games' Mascot plush toys. For your chance to win 1 of 3, be the first to correctly answer the below question correctly to 2010gamescomp@traveldaily.com.au.



Name the three mascots of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.



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MELBOURNE, PERTH (INNER) – TOP HOURLY RATE**

If you are an experienced wholesale travel consultant with native Calypso skills – we have some fantastic contract roles available for you starting immediately!! Along with earning a very generous hourly rate, you will also benefit from weekly pay and a fun, vibrant work environment. International and domestic reservations experience is essential, as is a professional phone manner. Don't miss out – call NOW!

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MELBOURNE (INNER) – PKG DEP ON EXP**

Be inspired at work when you join this boutique operation with a unique business module which caters to coordinating many high end groups. This is not your everyday office and requires the skills of a senior level travel consultant who is self motivated and enjoys working behind the scenes in a busy environment. You will have high level skills with regards to your travel knowledge. Mon – Fri Hours.

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