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EDITOR: Guy Dundas Ph: 1300 799 220





## Win a trip to Europe

TRAVEL Daily kicks off the new year with an awesome competition for readers, starting today and running throughout Jan and Feb.

Courtesy of Rail Plus, one travel agent has the chance to win a spot on the 2010 Rail Plus European famil to Italy, France, Switzerland and the UK - see pg 4 for details.



## Jetstar AirAsia form pact

QANTAS Group's fledgling low cost airline Jetstar has just announced details of its strategic alliance with AirAsia, a partnership which was flagged in TD thirteen months ago (TD 24 Dec 2008).

The non-equity agreement is focused on a range of major cost cutting opportunities and "potential savings", with the key being to get the best deal on purchasing the next generation of single body aircraft.

Qantas ceo Alan Joyce said this morning that both Jetstar and AirAsia offer the best reach in the Asia Pacific region, offering more routes and lower fares than their main rivals.

"Just as both carriers have pioneered the development of the low cost, long haul airline model, today's announcement breaks the mould of traditional airline alliances and establishes a new model for achieving reduced costs and increased efficiency," he said.

Other areas to be covered under the pact include cooperation on airport passenger and ramp handling services, shared aircraft parts and pooling inventory and joint procurement (on engineering and maintenance supplies/services).

## CCC offers 40% off

**CAPTAIN** Cook Cruises is reducing a selection of sailings by as much as 40% as part of its 40th Birthday celebrations this year.

Deals are available on the twonight Sydney Weekender Cruise, the PS Murray Princess 4, 5 and 8 night cruise/accom packages and the Fiji island discovery cruises.

The discounts are available for travel to 31 Mar 2011, and on sale until the end of next month.

### The airlines will also offer pax recovery flights on each other's services in the event of a flight

disruption under the deal.

Jetstar ceo Bruce Buchanan said the cooperative approach will not only benefit the airlines but the consumer because costs will be reduced, meaning the LCC's can sustain low fares in the future.

"A strategic arrangement with Jetstar focussed on investigation of operational synergies is a logical development for us," said AirAsia Group ceo Datuk Seri Tony Fernandes.

## Xmas comp winner

THE Travel Industry sure knows how to party judging by the whopping number of Christmas photo entries we received.

Thanks to everyone who sent in photos for TD's exclusive Fraser Suites Sydney (FSS) competition.

Congratulations to Devi Bywater of Showgroup Sydney who sent in the fantasy theme Christmas party photo below.

Devi has won a night's accom at FSS in a one bedroom deluxe suite, sparkling wine and a fruit bowl on arrival and complimentary car parking - valued at \$600



## Today's Travel Daily

TD today has four pages of news, plus full pages from:

- AA Appointments
- TMS Asia Pacific



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## **Chunnel bickering**

EUROTUNNEL has critised Eurostar for the manner in which it handled the breakdown of the Eurostar in the Channel Tunnel last month, which left hundreds of passengers on five trains stranded for hours (TD 21 Dec).

Eurotunnel said, "Despite the fact that Eurotunnel is clearly not to blame for these failures, nor responsible for Eurostar's customer service, and that our teams intervened with speed and professionalism... we have been unfairly criticised for not having reacted correctly."

The statement to Eurotunnel's shareholders says it was not to blame for the suspended Eurostar rail services which occured in the lead up to Christmas Day.

The tunnel operator went on to say, "Although they (the trains) were in constant contact with our teams, it is apparent that the on board Eurostar crews did not relay any useful information to their passengers."

## **TCF** termination

THE Travel Compensation Fund has terminated the participation of *Trutravel* (ABN: 22 130 310 137), of Sinnamon Park, QLD, as well as *Islandbound Holidays* (ABN: 35 009 449 825) of Subiaco, WA for not lodging annual financial returns.

## Webjet TTV nears 1/4 \$1B

WEBJET said yesterday its seeing tentative signs of demand recovery as it reported a half year rise in total transaction values - gross value of flight, hotel and car hire bookings - of \$248 million for the six months to 31 Dec, up 37% for the same time last year.

Managing director David Clarke said, "Webjet has totally defied the broadly reported industry downturn over the last 12 months."

Clarke said the past six months

## QF A380 delay again

QANTAS has been forced to postpone another of its Airbus A380 services between Australian and the US, just days after experiencing a fuel gauge error with the *Lawerence Hargraves* superjumbo in MEL that delayed 443 passengers (*TD* yest.).

The latest incident occured on QF12 which was scheduled to depart Los Angeles at 11pm Mon bound for Sydney.

A brake indication fault left the 398 pax stranded onboard the doubledecker for 3.5 hours on the tarmac before the decision was made to cancel the flight.

Passengers were provided with accommodation and the flight was rescheduled to depart LAX at 9:30pm yesterday, US time.

were of particular stand out when the online travel company's growth rate "vastly exceeded general industry data.

"We have clearly gained substanial market share," he said.

During the period, TTV rose for Webjet by \$66m (from \$182m for the half year to 31 Dec 08) - a figure which even exceeded the increase in the entire 12 months to Jun 2009 of \$58 million.

Webjet said its "growth rate has been achieved by our operating and marketing activities without the need for acquisitions, or the expenditure of shareholder capital."

## Talpac Vanuatu

TALPACIFIC Holidays has announced the release of its new 2010/11 brochure for Vanuatu.

The program features accom in Port Vila, Tanna and Espiritu Santo, tours, activities and info on cruises, weddings and more.

### T2 stocktake sale

TRAVEL2 has kick started 2010 with a global 'Holiday Stocktake Sale', promoting a range of deals across the wholesalers entire product range.

General manager Rohan Moss said the campaign features a wide range of free nights and meals, along with holiday savings to destinations including Asia, Europe, Pacific Islands, Hawaii, the USA and Canada/Alaska.

Moss said the latest T2 sale aims to capitalise on the improving economy and consumer confidence in 2010.

Travel agents can download destination dedicated flyers at www.travel2.com.au.



CAN you name the lesbian couple's chick?

Conservation rangers in New Zealand last month confirmed two female royal albatrosses on the Otago Peninsula are incubating an egg.

Tourism Dunedin is calling for name suggestions for the endangered sea birds chick, expected to hatch this month.

Entries can be emailed to hmollins@tourismdunedin.co.nz or made on Dunedinnz facebook page, for consideration by the Royal Albatross Centre.

**HOW** do you clean the windows of the tallest building in the world?

Using a traditional squeegee, soapy water and \$7.3mil of high-tech equipment, of course!

The iconic Burj Khalifa in Dubai (*TD* yesterday) requires a team of 36 cleaners to man 12 state-of-the-art machines that track along rails skirting its curved towers.

Cox Gomyl, the Australian cleaning company who won the contract to wash the building's 24,000 windows, describes the job as an "epic task".

"It takes three months to clean the entire building", said gm Dale Harding.

"It's a challenging environment to work in. You're out on your own, the wind is howling by, the heat is bouncing off the glass and on the lower levels there is sand as well", he added.

The company worked overtime to get the 828-metre building sparkling for Mon's opening.



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Applications close Monday 11 January 2010

We would also welcome expressions of interest for future roles in the account management and business development teams for all HRG locations within Australia.

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Wed 06 Jan 10

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## **Club Med appealing**

CLUB Med Australia says its seen a growth in the Free Independent Traveller market from all states in the six-months to 31 Oct 2009.

Marketing mgr Gwenola Hanaut said "families are recognising a Club Med holiday allows them to budget, pre-pay in Australian dollars, and more importantly, then stick to a budget on holiday because it is all included."

In 2009, Australians accounted for the highest number of arrivals at Club Med's Bali property.

## Turkish delights Airbus with order

STAR Alliance member carrier Turkish Airlines has placed an aircraft order with Airbus for up to 30 A320 family planes as part of its fleet-expansion plan.

Turkey's flag carrier says it will buy 14 definite A321-200 jets and six A319-100s, which will be delivered between 2011-2012.

Furthermore, TK has options to order another 10 A319/A321, to be procured in three years time.

By the end of 2012, TK's fleet will have expanded to 168 aircraft.

## **EK adding Madrid**

EMIRATES continues to expand its global network, overnight saying it will add Madrid as its next destination, effective 01 Aug.

EK plan to operate a daily service between Dubai-Madrid, which the carrier says is the only direct link between the cities.

The Spanish capital will boost EK's European destinations to 25, following the announcement in Dec that Emirates was also adding Amsterdam (*TD* 04 Dec) and Prague (*TD* 24 Dec).

MEANWHILE, EK has today launched a New Year fare sale for travel to Europe, Africa and the Middle East, for travel between 18 Jan-30 Nov, on sale until 08 Mar.

Fares lead in at \$1,732 to the Middle East, \$1,746 to Europe and \$1,866 to South Africa.

## NYC ranks as No. 1

'THE Big Apple' has claimed the title as the top American tourist destination for int'l travellers in 2009, luring about 8.6m visitors.

Overall arrivals to New York City surpassed 45m last year, and its expected that figure will reach the 50 million mark by 2012.



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## **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.



Samoa's COCONUTS BEACH CLUB has a special travel agent offer as it prepares to reopen. Rooms are priced at \$US156 per night and include brekkie, lunch, dinner, unlimited beer/wine, transfers and more - based on a 3 night

minumum stay. Email bookings to reservations@coconuts.ws.



The largest ski development in Japan for the last 10 years was opened recently. The VALE NISEKO offers guests a variety of room categories to select, from hotel rooms all the way up to a 4 bedroom penthouse.

## **Leading Institute**

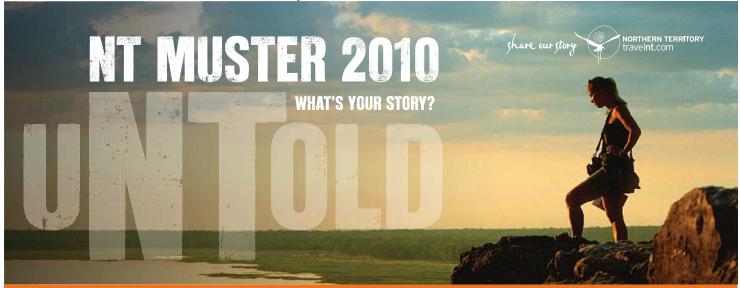
THE Leading Hotels of the World has introduced a global initiative for its 450 members properties which offers training opportunities for staff at all levels.

The Leading Learning Institute will provide 80 training sessions in 20 locations around the world for employees of registered hotels.

## **Mesa Air protection**

US REGIONAL airline operator Mesa Air Group yesterday filed for bankruptcy protection, as it struggles to downsize its fleet.

Mesa operates a number of services for Delta and US Airways, and has ties with Hawaiian low cost airline, go! Mokulele - which is not part of the court filing.



It's the 'MUST ATTEND' event of the year.
The **2010 Muster** brings together
40 suppliers representing over
60 products to share their stories of
the Northern Territory with you.

- Join in the fun and be part of the uNTold story
- Gain a valuable insight into the latest destination and product information
- Entertainment and \$15,000 worth of prizes to be won (each night), it's an event not to be missed!

Register at

## TRADE.TRAVELNT.COM

by 18 January 2010

Event - 5.30pm till 8.30pm.

# And why wouldn't they be grinning?!

EMIRATES has named the grand prize winners of its European Incentive for travel agents, which

featured exclusively in

Travel Daily late last year.

Fach winner has won?

Each winner has won 2 Business Class airfares to any of EK's 22 European destinations, after selling at least 15 Emirates tickets to Europe during the promotional period.

Pictured here are the names of lucky winners:





ABOVE: VIC/NT/SA/ Tas state group winner was Trevor Freer (left) of Flight Centre Echuca, with colleague Meaghan Cleaver and Emirates' Carl Matto.



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ABOVE: The WA winner was Kelly Neri (front left) of Escape Travel Rockingham. Kelly is pictured beside Amy Russell and with, back row *from left*, Jacki Suckling (EK) and colleagues, Michael Baldwin, Robyn Marron, Jo Love and Melissa Bain.

LEFT: Stephen Huang (right) of Honey Travel Sydney was the winner from the NSW/ACT. Stephen is pictured here with

Emirates' Lincoln Bache.

BELOW: Queensland winners, Vanessa Rees and Emily Douglas of Flight Centre Chermside Town Square, with EK's Craig Brown.



## 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.





\*Airfares are inclusive of taxes and surcharges correct at 7th December 2009. Offer ends 8th March 2010 for Economy Class for travel between 1st February and 30th November 2010. Business Class fares also on sale until 11th February 2010. Valid on the EK409, EK415, EK425, EK433 services. Prices listed are for Perth departures. Seats subject to availability. Amendments and cancellation fees apply. Prices quoted are for the low season. Blackout period applies for Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban between 4th June and 18th July 2010. For more information contact your Emirates Sales Team or the Emirates Customer Service Centre on 1300 880 599.





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This upmarket, boutique retail/corporate travel agency located in Sydney's North, is looking for a highly motivated, bright, candidate to join this friendly team for a short term temp role to cover some internal annual leave. You must have great communication skills with customers and suppliers, you will have strong attention to detail and knowledge of GALILEO and CCT is essential. Minimum 12 months experience essential.

## BASE YOURSELF IN YOUR CLIENT'S OFFICE CORPORATE TRAVEL - IMPLANT ROLE PERTH – SALARY PKG TO \$58K (DEP ON EXP)

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Well this is your chance to have it all! Essentially you will need strong client relationship skills and experience, as being based at the client's office means they will want to get to know you.
Brilliant opportunity that won't last long – call today!

## RARE JOB OPPORTUNITY CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT ADELAIDE – SAL PKG TO \$60K OTE

These vacancies do not present themselves often, so enquire early and advance your career in 2010! With a sensational mix of itineraries and the potential to earn an executive salary, you could soon be one of the highest paid corporate consultants in Adelaide. All candidates must have a min 2 years international travel consulting experience, have strong Galileo skills and be motivated by targets.

## TAKE YOUR PICK – FULL OR PART TIME ROLES RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANTS BRISBANE BAYSIDE – SAL PKG \$40K - \$45K OTE

Do you want 2010 to be the year you obtain a much needed work/life balance? Wish you could work closer to home? You will love working for this agency that put their staff first and reward your efforts. Enjoy fantastic bonuses and working in a fun team where everyday brings a new adventure. You will need to have 2 years retail travel experience, strong Galileo skills and a fun and positive attitude. Full time and Part time roles available.

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### GET GROOVY IN GROUPS GROUPS & LEISURE CONSULTANT MELBOURNE – SAL PKG TO \$50K +

Join this sensational company where you will enjoy working in a small team but with a varied role, including arranging small to large groups for special interest touring from cruising to gardening and archeological tours. Plus you will also get to know the solid repeat client base who also book their own leisure holidays. It's a great mix and if you have the skills you may also be leading a tour one day too.

## FUN & EXCITING ROLE – VARIED HOURS TRAVEL CONSULTANT – CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE MELBOURNE – SAL PKG TO \$60K OTE

Act quickly and you could be working for this outstanding company TODAY! Our client is looking for an experienced travel consultant with Galileo, CCT and ticketing skills to join their team. With rotating hours across a 6 week roster you will be required to complete 2 weeks of each shift; 8am - 430pm, 4pm - midnight, midnight - 8am. A sensational salary package is on offer PLUS great extra benefits.

### 2010 IS HERE – SO DON'T GET LEFT BEHIND! WHOLESALE RESERVATIONS CONSULTANT BRISBANE CBD – SAL PKG TO \$50K OTE

Love selling and want a change from the retail scene? Not enough hours in the day to get things done? We have an amazing opportunity with an industry leader based in Brisbane. This company offers great benefits and you'll be working within a friendly and motivated team. Don't miss this great opportunity to earn fabulous \$\$\$. You will have a "can do" attitude, be passionate about customer service. Shift work between 7am and 9pm is required on a roster basis.



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## Hot Jobs - January 2010

### **Reservations Consultant - Sydney**

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Contact Sally Matheson T: 02 9231 6444 E: sallym@tmsap.com or apply online no

### **USA & Canada Travel Specialist – Auckland**

- Passionate about the USA & Canada?
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Contact Karen McGrath T: 02 9231 6444 E: karen.mcgrath@tmsap.com or apply online

## **Corporate Consultant- Perth**

- Make the move to Corporate
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## Inbound Travel Co-Ordinator – Sydney CBD

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Well know inbound operator is looking for an experienced Inbound Consultant with a minimum of 2 years experience to join their busy team.

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### <u>International Leisure Consultants - Brisbane</u>

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### After Hours Consultant - Sydney

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- Always dreamed of working in a supportive and lucrative team environment?
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