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Thursday 8th Aug 2013

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Bangladeshi strikes

THE Dept of Foreign Affairs & Trade is warning of potential political protests in Bangladesh next week due to the Jamaat-e-Islami party being declared an illegal political party.

A 48hr nationwide general strike is planned for 13-14 Aug.

TNZ/CINZ ink events MoU

NEW Zealand will make a play for a larger slice of international business events after Tourism New Zealand (TNZ) today inked a Memorandum of Understanding with Conventions & Incentives New Zealand (CINZ).

The MoU outlines methods the groups will collaborate on the joint promotion & opportunities that lie in international business events in New Zealand over the next year, with a view to being expanded by two further years.

TNZ will plough NZ\$200,000 into CINZ's existing marketing

activities "to enable greater reach and effectiveness of the work, and ensure all potential opportunities are developed," TNZ exec Justin Watson said.

Key focuses of the partnership include leveraging New Zealand's presence at tradeshow, including MEETINGS and AIME, and luring "higher value" business visitors.

On top of the joint activity, TNZ said it aims to "significantly increase its efforts in the Australian market, promoting New Zealand as an international business events destination."

CINZ chief executive Alan Trotter said much greater success can be achieved through the pact.

"CINZ's existing program of work will be greatly enhanced by this agreement," Trotter added.

As part of the deal, the '100% Pure New Zealand - Beyond Convention' promo will be used across all marketing activities.

APT cruise winner!

CONGRATULATIONS to Jenny Christensen from Travelscene Smithfield who APT has named as the winner of last month's comp which featured exclusively in **TD**.

Jenny has won an APT 15-day Magnificent Europe River Cruise including flights for two.

Her winning entry to the final question, "Why you would recommend APT?" was: *Number one selling point over any of the other river cruise operators is customer satisfaction. There is no need to go any further than that.*

Nine pages of news

Travel Daily has nine pages of news today, another page of pics from the **Trafalgar Acclaim** famil plus full pages from:

- AA Appointments jobs
- Travel Trade Recruitment

CX Fares2share sale

CATHAY Pacific Airways is offering Economy class return fares to Hong Kong priced under \$900 in a new Fares2share sale, for travel between 01 Sep-13 Dec 2013, if booked by 30 Sep.

Premium Economy class fares are also on sale, from \$1,785.

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Your James Bond MEGA YACHT



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Delta IFE gate-to-gate

PAX flying with Delta Air Lines can now enjoy audio-visual-on-demand in-flight entertainment (IFE) from the moment they take their seat until they arrive at their destination's gate, using the Panasonic AVOD IFE.

Counsellors Crown conf

TRAVEL Counsellors will swarm to Melbourne for the Australian arm's 2014 annual conference, as the independent travel company reports record levels of interest from agents planning to attend.

To be held the weekend of 28 Feb at Crown Melbourne, Travel Counsellors is promising a "jammed pack" conference, featuring motivational speakers and specialists from the world of business, says gm Tracy Parkinson.

The conference will build on the success of this year's event in which 75% of the group's consultants participated, and "positive feedback" is still flooding in, added Parkinson.

"Travel Counsellors gained a great deal and continue to reap

the rewards," she said.

Melbourne is a natural choice for the home-based network, with the largest quota of its current 112 members operating out of Victoria.

MEANWHILE, Travel Counsellors says it has seen a "very large" uptake from agents to attend the firm's series of state conferences which are being held next month in Melbourne, Sydney & Brisbane.

The events provide potential new agents an opportunity to hear from Australian and UK Head Office support staff about how to grow their business.

2nd SYD delays snuff

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure & Transport Anthony Albanese used yesterday's CAPA aviation summit in Sydney to again reiterate the urgency required for a second airport in the NSW capital.

"Without a second Sydney airport we will be saying no to jobs, no to economic growth and no to securing Sydney's future as a global city," Albanese said.

"With four out of every 10 flights passing each day through Sydney, this is no longer an issue just for the city.

"A delay at Sydney spreads like influenza around the nation," the Minister stated.

He emphasised that Australia - not just Sydney - needs a second Sydney airport sooner than later.

MAS boost Sabah

MALAYSIA Airlines has reacted to consumer and trade requests, adding a second weekly service between Perth and Kota Kinabalu, Sabah effective 27 Oct.

According to MH regional vp Lee Poh Kait, the carrier has had numerous requests from the public and industry partners for an extra weekly service to make Sabah more accessible for the West Australian market.

Lee added the flight would provide additional capacity for passengers wishing to visit Sabah during Visit Malaysia Year 2014.

The service will be operated by a new two-class Boeing 737-800.

Luxperience sells out

ORGANISERS for the second annual luxury tourism and travel expo in Sydney, Luxperience, have confirmed the event has sold out.

A surge in interest from "quality buyers" abroad wanting to attend plus new direct air links from South America to Australia has lured new buyers and sellers.

Space sold has risen 50% on last year's show, and such is demand, Luxperience has added additional premium space for exhibitors.

Over 160 exhibitors have now registered to attend, with about 26,000 buyer-seller meetings scheduled to take place.

"We're at capacity," Luxperience director of sales & partner alliances Lindy Andrews said.

"Our emphasis is now on maximising the business opportunities of the B2B interactions on site," she added.

Luxperience is being held at the Sydney Overseas Passenger Terminal from 01-04 Sep.

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Starwood launches in Samoa

AUTHORITIES in Samoa are hailing a new agreement signed by Starwood Hotels and Resorts and the owners of the iconic Aggie Grey's properties as the "dawning of a new era for the Samoa tourism industry".

Under the Memorandum of Understanding, both the Aggie Grey's Beach Resort and Aggie Grey's Hotel will be rebranded as Sheraton properties.

"The potential entry of Starwood into the Samoan tourism market is seen as a sign of confidence by a strong and renowned global brand in the future tourism and economic prospects for Samoa," according to an official statement.

Samoa Prime Minister, the Honourable Tuilaepa Lupeolai Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, who is also Minister for Tourism, said the partnership "provides a clear demonstration of foreign investor confidence to invest in Samoa".

The two Aggie Grey's properties will have all aspects of their operations, facilities and service reviewed and modified to comply with Sheraton standards.

It's expected that they will formally rebrand as Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey's Hotel and Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey's Resort and Spa late in 2014.

Key benefits of the deal cited include Starwood's world class sales organisation, regional marketing teams and its strong guest loyalty program.

"A consequential flow-on of benefits to others in the hospitality industry will be a general lifting of the overall standards of the Samoan hospitality services sector," the statement added.

Express Tkt promo

EXPRESS Ticketing and China Southern Airlines have launched a new campaign, offering a pool of \$35,000 of Express Rewards for agents booking international tickets issued in Australia, between now and 01 Sep.

The most improved and top performing sellers will also have a chance a winning VIP double passes to see Eason Chan - one of Hong Kong's most prominent male singers - live in concert.

NBO up in smoke

NAIROBI Jomo Kenyatta Airport in Kenya was closed yesterday after a massive fire tore through and destroyed parts of the facility's arrivals hall.

After several hours of closure, Kenya Airways' ceo Titus Naikuni confirmed the "partial opening" of the NBO to a limited schedule of int'l and domestic services.

South African Airways is advising that Australian passengers could face delays and re-scheduling issues due to all flights to Nairobi being cancelled.

"We're conscious that a number of passengers travelling through to East Africa will be affected," said SAA country head for Australasia, Tim Clyde-Smith.

He said the carrier was working through the issues with travel trade partners to advise on the delays and re-schedule travel when and where possible.

"While all efforts to resume operations are being made by the Kenyan authorities, it is still early for an indication as to when operations will resume," he said.

SAA has issued a change fee waiver for affected passengers.

Kenya's president Uhuru Kenyatta allayed concerns the fire may have been an act of terrorism, saying "there is no reason to speculate at this point."

Kenyatta said contingency measures have been adopted "to stabilise the situation and to return the airport to normal operations," as soon as possible.

MEANWHILE, a number of flights which were enroute to NBO yesterday were forced to divert to other destinations, including Moi International Airport Mombasa and Kilimanjaro, with passengers transferred to Nairobi by coach.



Window Seat

THERE'S nothing like experiencing Las Vegas with a good friend - and it's now even possible with the four legged kind under a new 'dog friendly' package launched by the funky new Vdara Hotel & Spa.

The program is dubbed Vdog, and costs an extra \$50 per night (plus a non-refundable \$75 cleaning fee) to bring up to two dogs with a combined weight of 70 pounds (about 31kg).

The dogs, along with their owner, stay in a specially selected deluxe suite, and on check-in pooches receive an amenity basket with "eco-friendly waste bags and an all-natural baked dog treat".

Extra services available including in-room crates and pet-sitting services - and naturally there's doggie in-room dining offered too, including a daily "Fetch of the Day" special.

LET'S hope this trend never emerges in Australia.

US aviation authorities have reported a disturbing increase in the number of guns seized when travellers pass through airport checkpoints.

In the six months to Jun, the Transportation Security Administration has intercepted 894 guns at airports, up 30% in the same period in 2012.

"We've become such an armed society that people actually aren't thinking about the fact that they're carrying weapons with them," said one concerned commentator.

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INSIGHT VACATIONS
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Today's issue of TD is coming to you from Turkey, courtesy of Trafalgar and Etihad Airways.

TRAFALGAR'S Turkey holidays - the seven day 'Highlights of Turkey' and the 14-day 'Best of Turkey' now feature 'Be My Guest' experiences, and our group has this week visited a tiny village outside Bergama, with a population of just 180, where we had a true taste of local life.

Upon arrival the group was greeted by women in their traditional Turkish dress, who took freshly baked bread from a communal oven and broke the loaves, distributing pieces to the travel agents to welcome them.

The tour then broke up into groups of five or six, each of which was then hosted for lunch by one of the local families.

It's truly a unique experience, and one that the top agents on the trip will long remember, interacting with the locals in their homes - and something that independent travellers would have no possibility of organising for themselves.

For pictures from today, see page 8 of *Travel Daily*.

Free wi-fi at Accor UK

GUESTS staying at nearly 200 Accor hotels in Britain & Ireland will have access to free wi-fi after the hotel juggernaut decided to scrap charges - an about-face to a decision made 12 months ago.

The initiative applies to Accor's budget and mid-range hotel brands - Ibis (59 properties), Mercure (76) and Novotel (31).

Accor UK & Ireland md Thomas Dubaere said complimentary wi-fi had become the "norm" at many coffee houses and bars.

"We recognise guests expect to have free wi-fi wherever they are in the hotel, and for it to be a quick, high-quality connection," Dubaere said.

Western Wine Trail

NEW World Travel has unveiled a new 12-day self-drive itinerary from San Francisco to Seattle called the 'Western Wine Trail.'

The itinerary winds its way through Northern California and the Oregon Wine country, with guided tours in Sonoma, Hellgate Canyon, Willamette Valle and Woodinville.

It's priced at US\$1,403ppts land only (excluding car rental costs) and can be booked with New World Travel's Sydney-based reps Tourism Portfolio - more info at www.tourismportfolio.com.au.

EY 777-300s to MEL

ETIHAD Airways will introduce triple class Boeing 777-300ER aircraft on the Abu Dhabi-Melbourne route from 01 Dec, replacing Airbus A340-600s.

Aussie sales blow Globus away



ABOVE: Globus executives from around the world gathered with company shareholders recently in Gstaad, Switzerland, to develop strategies for future growth.

During the event, Australian markets were confirmed as the strongest in the world, posting record sales in the past year and the highest levels of growth.

The local market also now represents the biggest market worldwide for the Cosmos brand.

Participants stayed as guests of the Alpina Hotel in Gstaad, and enjoyed an evening hosted by Swiss Tourism where they were entertained by traditional Swiss alpine musicians.

Pictured among the group representing Australasia are Stewart Williams, managing director (2nd from left), Christian Schweitzer, marketing manager (9th from left) and John Tyson, IT manager (10th from left).



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Offer is valid when purchasing two or more business class seats together in the same booking. Offers subject to availability. Conditions apply. Visit qantas.com for full details. Qantas Airways Limited ABN 16 009 661 901.

On the go's Tough Mudders



ABOVE: On the go tours' Tough Mudder team got a heavy workout recently with a dedicated training session with the *Biggest Loser's* 'Commando' Steve.

The session - which took place in the Gold Coast hinterlands - will prepare the team for their 20km obstacle course on the Sunshine Coast on 17 Aug, raising funding for the Wounded Warrior Project that supports thousands of warriors returning from the battlefield.

On the go says it also donates to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on every ANZAC package booked and regularly donates prizes to Legacy, which

supports the families of deceased servicemen and women.

Pictured with the Commando from left are On the go's Tough Mudders: Suzanne Keogh, Manda Harrison and Jade Stevens from Harvey World Travel Chermshire; Tracey Olsen, Qld business development manager, On the go tours and Jodie Weeks.

MEANWHILE, On the go tours has announced the launch of its ANZAC and Battlefield's brochure.

The latest program features a special ANZAC Day Centenary tour in 2015, along with trips to Borneo, Burma, Vietnam, Russia, Egypt, South Africa and the Western Front.

Stuckey gets stuck in

QUEENSLAND Tourism and Commonwealth Games Minister Jann Stuckey has issued the Gold Coast City Council with an ultimatum to cough up \$100m in funding for the 2018 Games to avoid the state government's withdrawal of funds for other major Gold Coast projects.

According to papers obtained by the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, Stuckey is believed to have threatened to pull funding for the \$1 billion Surfers Paradise 'Jewel' revival project, Indy race weekend, Gold Coast Aquatic Centre, as well as the Broadwater Marine Project - better known as the Gold Coast Cruise Terminal.

Stuckey responded by saying the claims were false and taken out of context.

MEANWHILE, a forum to discuss the future of the Gold Coast's cruise industry, slated for 22 Aug, has been shelved.

Queensland Tourism Industry Council informed *Travel Daily* the event has now been postponed to later in the year.

EY Dreamliner portal

ETIHAD Airways has launched a website that showcases its Boeing 787 *Dreamliner* aircraft which will be introduced to its fleet from next year - see bit.ly/EY787site.

Thursday 8th Aug 2013

Book ChinaTours.com direct with operator

TRAVEL consultants are being targeted to book directly with tour operator ChinaTours.com on its 'Join In Tours', spruiking its guaranteed departures and small group sizes (maximum of 22).

The firm, which is supported in Australia by Discover the World Marketing, offer 12 itineraries, all of which are escorted by specialist English speaking guides.

Phone 1800 306 669 or see www.chinatours.com for details.

Sheraton Rip Curl deal

A STAY, Surf, Spa package has been released by Sheraton Bali Kuta Resort in partnership with the Rip Curl surf school in Bali.

Available from US\$250++ per night based on a three-night minimum, the package pairs surf lessons at the famed Kuta Beach with therapeutic spa treatments at the resort's Shine Spa.

The offer can be purchased throughout 2013.

See www.sheratonbali.com.

Be a VIP at the Eason Chan Concert



PLUS \$35000
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*Conditions Apply

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DETAILS**

APT Serengeti camp

APT has announced the debut of its own luxury mobile tented camp in Tanzania's Serengeti National Park for 2014.

The new product complements a number of other additions to APT's Africa program, including a 23-day Great Game Parks tour that visits South Africa, Victoria Falls, Botswana (for a two-night Chobe River Cruise), Tanzania & Kenya, priced from \$17,995ppts.

An 18-day Rovos Rail Journey Cape Town to Dar es Salaam, which leads in at \$14,995ppts is also new for 2014, along with two new trip extensions - a five-day Okavango Delta with Orient Express and a two-day Giraffe Manor & Elephant Orphanage add-on, priced from \$8,755ppts and \$895ppts respectively.

Further, the tour operator has also doubled its number of departures on the *Zambezi Queen* which sails the Chobe River.

APT's gm marketing Debra Fox said the beefed up Africa product was a result of "phenomenal" sales achieved last year.

Syd Festival headliner

DESTINATION NSW and Sydney Festival have announced operatic masterpiece Dido & Aeneas as the headline act in 2014, at the The Star's Lyric Theatre.

The production will feature 60 dancers, singers and musicians from Sasha Waltz & Guests and the Berlin Academy of Ancient Music, between 16-21 Jan.

DNSW will promote a range of travel packages incorporating the Sydney Festival internationally.

This year's Festival attracted 500,000 people over 23 days, said DNSW ceo Sandra Chipchase.

The full program of events will be announced in Oct.

LAN in-wireless trials

LAN Airlines fired up a new wireless onboard entertainment system for passengers on a flight between Santiago, Chile and Mendoza, Argentina.

Dubbed in-wireless, the demo provided pax with a chance to test the new system's capabilities on mobile devices, such as tablets, smartphones and laptops.

The carrier plans to test the Thales TopSeries AVA system over six months on the Airbus A320 on flights within South America, with a view to roll it out fleet-wide in future years.

Stoner to open ABEE

NSW Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner will officially open the Australian Business Events Expo (ABEE) at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre on 14 Aug.

The opening event of the show will be a leadership session featuring Business Events Sydney ceo Lyn Lewis-Smith, Tourism Australia managing director Andrew McEvoy & Sydney Airport ceo Kerrie Mather.

CLIA Extravaganza

LIMITED places are available for Australian agents to attend the 2013 Europe River Cruise Extravaganza, to take place from 17-18 Nov in Cologne, Germany.

The event, hosted by CLIA UK, will offer an unique insight into the European river cruise industry and will include one night aboard a river cruise vessel and chances to inspect many others.

For more details, see today's edition of *Cruise Weekly* or email Amanda on info@crucising.org.au.

New Quest investors

A **SYNDICATE** of investors known as Crowe Horwath Property have purchased a stake in the 104-key Quest Albury, in NSW.

The investment into the serviced apartment operation in regional NSW was evidence of a growing trend in investors moving away from traditional commercial & retail sectors, Quest chairman Paul Constantinou said.

Wolgan business deal

EMIRATES Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa has launched a special offer for conference bookings valid to the end of 2013, with midweek rates of \$1,200p.n per suite incl conference space and catering.

Sun Is. phone dramas

AGENTS are being advised to email requests to Sun Island Tours today due to phone line issues being experienced by the firm on its 1300 reservations number - email info@sunislandtours.com.au.



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Business Development Executive

Are you looking for a short-term opportunity to take you into 2014? Territory Discoveries, the wholesale division of Tourism NT is recruiting for a Business Development Executive, Sydney based, on contract until December 31, 2013

Key Responsibilities:

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- Provide training, attend trade and consumer shows and contribute to the overall implementation of the Territory Discoveries' Business Plan

If you are an energetic team player with outstanding sales skills - **APPLY NOW**.

A flexible and attractive remuneration package, including company car and incentive scheme for the successful applicant.

For a copy of the Job Description and Selection Criteria visit

ONLINE: www.territorydiscoveries.com/careers or
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ENQUIRIES: Call Alison Conroy on (02) 8281 9620 or 0407 105 072

To Apply: Please forward a current CV and Selection Criteria to recruitment.tourismnt@nt.gov.au with position number listed on the job description, no later than **COB 9 Aug 2013**.



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New set of PAL wings

PHILIPPINE Airlines has taken delivery of its first Airbus A321 equipped with 12 Business & 187 Economy Class seats, which it will deploy primarily on Asian routes.

Helen takes her trivia nationwide



HELEN Wong's Tours successful trivia nights have been running in Sydney for two years, and the touring matriarch decided to take the concept on the road, recently holding events in Canberra, Melbourne and Perth.

Sponsoring the events was the Macau Government Tourist Office, who along with Helen Wong's Tours, ensured there was plenty of entertainment provided.

The contest in the capital was fierce among the 50 attendees, with the Saigon table taking home the prize that evening.

Nearly 100 agents turned up to duel it out in Melbourne & Perth, with the Siem Reap and Hangzhou

tables claiming supremacy.

"The response to these nights was overwhelming - in all three cities," Helen Wong's Tours marketing manager Kevin Du said.

Pictured above is the winning table from the Canberra event, who were representing Travelscene, local Flight Centre outlets and Jamison Travel.

MEANWHILE, four UNESCO World Heritage listed venues in Macau will host events during the upcoming 27th Macau Int'l Music Festival, on from 02 Oct - 03 Nov.

The month-long festival will be one of three major events held in the city from Sep-Nov, incl the Macau Grand Prix Jubilee Festival.



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Your application will be treated in strict confidence, so if you're adventurous, contact maree@tramada.com prior to COB 23rd August 2013.

Industry Appointments

WELCOME to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thu feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry, send us an email at appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

Joanne Tralaggan has been named as the new Marketing & Communications Manager for **AFTA**, tasked with developing the brand for the new travel industry-led accreditation scheme currently underway.

Munich-born **Christine Klein**, working for **Aviareps**, has been bestowed with the **South Australian Tourism Commission** account, working to promote the state to the German, Swiss and Austrian markets.

Former CEO of Sabre Pacific **Martin Cowley** has joined **The Lido Group** as Advisor to the Board of Directors.

Alison Diaper has joined the team at travel insurance firm **SureSave** as its new Marketing & Communications Manager. Her new role will see a focus on developing new strategic marketing initiatives for the company.

InterContinental Sanctuary Cove Resort has hired **David Stevens-Castro** as new Sommelier & Maitre'd at the resort's Fireplace restaurant.

Flight Centre New Zealand has recruited **Sue Matson** as Retail Leader. Matson commenced in her new role at the beginning of this month. Elsewhere within the group, **Danny Bodger** has joined the organisation as Peopleworks and Learning Centre Leader as maternity leave cover.

Due to open this coming ski season in the Swiss Alps, **Alain Bachmann** has been appointed as the inaugural General Manager of the new GHM property, **The Chedi Andermatt**.

Following a global search, **Allen Smith** will take control of **Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts** as the company's new Chief Executive Officer. Smith, who replaces Kathleen Taylor, will commence his new role from 23 Sep & comes from his current role as CEO of Prudential Real Estate Investors.

Pacific International Cairns has welcomed **Dorothea Grey** as its new Executive Housekeeper. Grey brings 25 years experience leading teams working in some of the biggest hotels in Tropical North Queensland.

Tony Pedroni has started in his new role as the General Manager of the **Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort**.

Theme Parks via JTB

TRAVELLERS heading to Japan can now purchase theme park tickets through JTB, with the list of available attractions including Universal Studios Japan, Tokyo Disneyland and Osaka Aquarium.

New tent camp opens

WILDERNESS Safaris has opened **Pelo**, a new tented safari camp in the Moremi Game Reserve in the Okavango Delta.

The new camp features five tents with ensembles & dining area.

SALES CONSULTANT

Ultra-Luxury Cruise Lines and Travel Products

Wiltrans International, general sales agent for ultra-luxury international cruise lines and travel products, is seeking an enthusiastic, customer-focused person for a new sales consultant position in our reservations team, focusing on electronic communication.

We are seeking someone with:

- International travel experience
- An appreciation of luxury travel products is essential
- Exceptional time management skills, who is highly organised and is able to multi-task easily in a busy environment
- Excellent communication skills both written and verbal

A dynamic attitude to securing sales for our cruise lines and Sojourn holiday products is integral to the role and satisfying in the promotion of prestigious travel products.

If you enjoy a friendly team environment located in modern, central Sydney CBD offices then kindly submit your CV by 23 August to our Operations Manager in confidence at - kylie.farrell@wiltrans.com.au

Agents getting a true taste of Turkey



PARTICIPANTS in Trafalgar's annual Acclaim trip for top agents met some of the locals in a small village outside the city of Bergama this week.

As well as greeting them in the town square where the townfolk meet to drink coffee, shoot the breeze and play board games (right), the consultants were welcomed into about eight homes for a traditional lunch including home-made wine, local produce and even fresh grapes picked from the vine - something that they will long remember.

These pics were taken during the village visit - lots more on our website and at facebook.com/traveldaily.



ABOVE: Many of the group bought hand-embroidered scarves from the villagers - and these boys and girls just couldn't resist flaunting it.

RIGHT: Some of the welcoming committee - each of whom took a small group into their own home.

BELOW: Plenty of soup (and more) for this group, pictured in the living room of one of the homes.

As well as soup the menu included a delicious traditional eggplant dish and an amazing honey-drenched dessert.



LEFT: In the kitchen with one of our generous hosts, whose home-made wine packed quite a punch!

RIGHT: Getting the freshly baked loaves out of the oven. Our hosts then broke the bread into chunks and handed them to the group as a welcome gesture.



BELOW: The main income for the village comes from pine-nut farming and there isn't even a school here - but you can still get a bottle of ubiquitous Coca-Cola!



RIGHT: There's nothing quite like fresh fruit to cleanse the palate after a meal - and these grapes were so fresh that they were picked from a vine just outside the back door.



Rocky trains for CLIA

AGENTS successfully completing the recently launched Rocky Mountaineer TRACKS online training course (**TD** 11 Jan), can earn five CLIA Cruise Industry Accreditation points.

CLIA is an Associate Member of Rocky Mountaineer & for details, see agent.rockymountaineer.com.

Half-year IHG profits

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group has reported a 20% jump in operating profits for the first half of 2013 to US\$338m.

The group announced a 3.7% climb in RevPAR for the group overall, with single-digit increases recorded in the Australasia region.

SkyTeam Meet change

PREFERRED travel agents can now be nominated by event organisers to handle ticketing of air travel through the SkyTeam Global Meetings online product as part of new enhancements.

Further improvements made include a Global Meetings Support desk, delegate tracking system to notify when reward flights are available & new links to promote the service on event websites.

New Aus consulates

AUSTRALIA has opened new Consulates in the Central American nations of Guatemala and Nicaragua, both headed by an Honorary Consul, DFAT said.

HA reports strong Jul

HAWAIIAN Airlines carried a total of 936,297 pax network-wide in Jul, a 5.9% year-on-year jump, with more than 5.8m carried in the year-to-date, up 7.1% y-o-y.

AITTC presents Indian festivals



MEMBERS of the travel industry last night attended a colourful presentation on the Festivals of India at The Grace Hotel in Sydney presented by The Australian India Travel and Tourism Council (AITTC).

With a population of over one billion, India is a hub of research and innovation and a land of many attractions, from the Taj Mahal to the forts and palaces of Rajasthan, the backwaters of Kerala and the snow peaked region of Kashmir.

"If you look into the top 50 festivals of the world, you will find there are around 7 or 8 from India, a considerably large number from a single nation," AITTC chairman Sandip Hor said.

Over 1000 festivals take place in India every year.

To understand India's many festivals, India Tourism regional director Madhu Dubey broke them down into seven categories of national, religious, harvest-related, social, tourism and local.

Some of the popular tourism festivals are Suraj Kund, the Kite Festival, Boat Race, Pushkar Camel Festival and the Mango Festival, which is held in Delhi and features over 500 types of mangoes that India offers, along

with Taj Mahostav, Hemis and Hornbill which celebrates the rich traditions of North-east India.

Baulkham Hills MP David Elliot, also in attendance said that young Australians now have the opportunity to use India as a stopover onto Europe thanks to new direct flights with Air India, adding he hopes to see the same from Qantas in the near future.

Hor also gave a quick update on the AITTC's progress since launching formally in Mar (**TD** 21 Mar), saying membership numbers have increased.

He added that the first draft of their 3 year strategic plan is complete and they are now commencing consultation with stakeholders on its effectiveness, then to be sent to members for comments & feedback.

Pictured above from left is Phillip Boniface, AITTC committee member; Ian Cameron, co-chairman; Madhu Dubey, India Tourism Australasia; Philip Pratley, secretary; Sandip Hor, chairman; Nicole Lenoir-Jourdan, Five Star PR; David Elliot MP, Member for Baulkham Hills; Arun Kumar Goel, Consul General of India, Sydney; Shanker Dhar, vice-chairman; Arnold D'Souza, treasurer & Ashok Jagadale, technical manager.

WIN A HOLIDAY TO PERU



Throughout August *Travel Daily* is giving readers the chance to win a holiday for two people to Peru, courtesy of Aerolineas Argentinas and Peregrine Adventures.

The prize includes two return economy airfares on Aerolineas Argentinas between Sydney and Lima via Buenos Aires and Peregrine Amazon & Inca Heartland tour for two people.

Each day *Travel Daily* will ask a Peru-related question - just read the issue and email us your answer. At the end of the month the subscriber with the most correct entries and the most creative response to the final question will win this amazing holiday to Peru.

Email your answers to: perucomp@traveldaily.com.au.

Q.6: Name Aerolineas Argentinas airport hub in Argentina?

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Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication. Produced each weekday since 1994, the newsletter is first with the latest industry news and is available by paid subscription to people within the travel industry. Sign up for a free 14 day trial subscription at www.traveldaily.com.au.

Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia
Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia
P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Advertising and Marketing: Christie-Lee Lachance, Lisa Martin and Magda Herdzik
Email: advertising@traveldaily.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper
Email: accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

Publisher/Managing Editor: Bruce Piper
Editor: Guy Dundas

Assistant Editor: Matt Lennon
Contributors: Chantel Housler, Jenny Piper and Barry Matheson
Email: info@traveldaily.com.au



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Join a leading company where you will enjoy being part of this number crunching team. You will have excellent skills in financial accounting, an eye for detail and over 2 years experience in a financial managerial position. Preparing financial statements, month-end reconciliation, managerial reports you will be adept at ensuring company compliance is adhered to and profits maximized.

USE YOUR POWERFUL INFLUENCING SKILLS

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The thrill of the chase, the excitement of the win, these are the things that excite a true Sales person. If you love the B2B sales process and have a proven track record of developing pipelines and winning new business, bring your talents to this rapidly growing corporate travel agency. You will be handsomely rewarded with a fantastic salary package including lucrative incentives. Represent a truly professional organization.

LOVE RETAINING ACCOUNTS?

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If you believe your career profile would seriously benefit from having a powerful corporate Brand behind you, consider this role. You are an experienced corporate Account Manager capable of handling a portfolio of corporate accounts. Develop strategic business plans, deliver to agreed objectives & targets, and be accountable for the ultimate retention & growth of the business.

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REGIONAL HEAD OF PRODUCT x2

SYD & BNE - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$100K+

Looking for a challenging new destination to market? This industry leader requires the skills of an adaptable Head of Product. You will be well organised and have the ability to managing a team sourcing for new and unique products to your competitors while being able to develop brochures that stand out from the rest. With your talents you will have a creative flare and an eye for detail.

CALLING ALL INDUSTRY SALES MANAGERS!

INDUSTRY SALES & ACCOUNT MANAGER

SYDNEY – SALARY UP TO \$80K

Stay in travel but change your product. This newly created role is available now for an experienced Industry Sales Executive who wants to learn new skills including dealing with the corporate market. Training will be provided. Not many positions offer this variety of account management and sales, plus training, plus a top salary package & car allowance. Join a great team and enjoy the rewards.

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CORPORATE ACCOUNT MANAGER – APAC

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As APAC Corporate Account Manager you will be responsible for the global program with the objective of growing revenues, increasing revenues, increasing margins and retaining the business. To do this, you will have a thorough knowledge of corporate travel as well as the professional communication & negotiation skills to deal with people at all levels up to executives.

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CALLING ALL EVENT DIRECTORS

EVENT DIRECTOR

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If your experience lies within conference & incentive program management and you have managed event teams, this is a rare opportunity to join an industry leader. You'll be well versed in the creation and delivery of unique, motivational and exciting events for corporate clients, including incentive groups, conferences and launches. This is the role everyone wants.

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Multi-skilled Corporate Travel Consultant
Brisbane - \$Competitive - Ref 261SJ1

Experienced Corporate Travel Consultants are needed for an expanding travel management company based in Brisbane CBD. This much loved company have a multi-skilled Corporate Travel Consultant vacancy. With a solid training scheme, realistic career progression on offer and monthly paid incentives this is a role that should not be missed. Call me directly today for a confidential discussion on your next career move and let me help find you your dream role.

For more information, please call Sarah on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Corporate Travel Consultant (Temp Role)
Sydney CBD - \$DOE - Ref 530BP13

We are searching for an experienced Corporate Travel Consultant who is looking for a temporary role with an immediate start. You will be working business hours Monday to Friday in this lovely office located in Sydney CBD. If you are an experienced savvy corporate consultant who needs work ASAP, you are the perfect candidate for us! Experience with GDS systems Tramad or Amadeus is ideal. Apply now and we can get you in and working as early as tomorrow!

For more information, please call Briarna on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Travel Consultant

Melbourne - \$40-45K + Commission - Ref 345DB1

Calling all Travel Consultants! Looking for a change? Want to earn excellent commission? Want to be part of a great travel team? This fast growing travel organisation are looking for experienced travel consultants for their numerous positions in and around the CBD. A great travel company to join, to further your career and make some great commission as well as the amazing travel perks! If you have GDS experience and hungry for money, apply today!

For more information, please call Deborah on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Senior Travel Consultant

Adelaide - \$DOE+ Commission - Ref 505NC4

If you know your high end travel product, love going the extra mile and are completely focused on client satisfaction, this could be your next move within the travel industry. This is a Monday to Friday role, with a fantastic and stable team who are the top of their league! If you have what it takes to be the complete package - I need to hear from you! You will be offering bespoke trips for around the world to repeat clientele and be passionate about the service you offer!

For more information, please call Natalie on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Travel Consultant

Gold Coast - \$Competitive + OTE - Ref 205J1

Are you a travel industry professional looking for a fresh challenge? I have a dream Travel Consultant position based in beautiful Townsville. Uncapped earning potential and recognition & rewards for your hard work are offered with this fantastic travel role. You will ideally have international and domestic travel industry experience, be well travelled and have the passion to find the right holiday for your clients. Call me today for a confidential chat!

For more information, please call Sarah on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Sports Travel Consultant

Sydney - Great Wage + Incentives - Ref 693LB1

Passion for Sports and Travel? Look no further. Excellent role for an experienced Travel Consultant (1+ years) who lives and breathes sport! Join a dynamic fast paced company in great new offices, with a team of like-minded individuals selling global sports packages over the phone and email, no face-to-face. Working on a wholesale and retail travel mix. Be rewarded with a great role, competitive salary and bonuses for the sports lover. A really rare opportunity!

For more information, please call Lynsey on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Luxury Travel Consultant

Far East of Melbourne - \$Attractive - Ref 529PC4

5 stars for this busy and successful independent retail agency looking for a Travel Consultant with minimum 2 years experience, selling international & domestic high end destinations. You'll have ability to meet deadlines, be organised and want to create a suitable itinerary for your luxury leisure clients. Be part of an amazing team of travel specialists who deliver excellent customer service, paramount to create the repeat business this office attracts. Gal & CC

For more information, please call Patrizia on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)

Senior Travel Consultant

Perth - \$Excellent + Commission - Ref 3079NC1

A fantastic opportunity for an experienced and knowledgeable Senior Travel Consultant to join an award winning agency with a leading name in travel in Perth! A great salary package is available to the winning candidate plus uncapped commission. If you want to work within a leading agency, be offered some amazing fam trips and also work with a fantastic team, this is the role for you! There is space to grow within the team; this role will not be around for long!

For more information, please call Natalie on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#)



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