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Travel Daily

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Travel continues to boom

BOTH outbound and inbound travel to Australia continue to perform strongly, with ABS figures released today showing short term arrivals for Aug 2014 up a healthy 8.1% year-on-year.

Departures have not grown as fast, but are still 4.4% higher than the same time 12 months ago.

The fastest growing inbound markets over the last year have been Malaysia, up 18.3%, followed by China which grew

17.7%, with India moving into the top ten with a 17.2% growth.

The only top ten inbound market to decline over the last year was South Korea, down 2.6%.

In terms of departures, Indonesia has been a standout performer, with Aussie numbers up 17.5% over the last year, putting it into the number one position ahead of NZ which dropped 0.5%.

Italy also grew strongly, up 9.1%, while visitation to Singapore lifted 6.4% and the UK was up 4.8%.

Thailand dropped 13.1%, while Fiji also declined 2.3% vs Aug 13.

EY delays 787 launch

THE first commercial service of Etihad Airways' 787 Dreamliner flight has been pushed back four weeks from 01 Dec to 27 Dec, according to agent GDS displays.

Launch routes for EY's 787-9 include flights from Abu Dhabi to Dusseldorf and Doha.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has ten pages of news & photos, plus full pages from: **(click)**

- inPlace Recruitment jobs
- South African Tourism
- Cruiseabout jobs

Nordic Travel sold

SYDNEY-BASED Scandinavian and polar specialist Nordic Travel has been sold by its founders Susan and Bill Havercroft.

The new owner is a firm named KBO Enterprises, with shareholders Susan Enright and Ivan Judd.

The Havercrofts will continue to service their existing longstanding clientele of corporate and leisure travellers under the banner of Seway International Pty Ltd, the former owner of Nordic Travel.

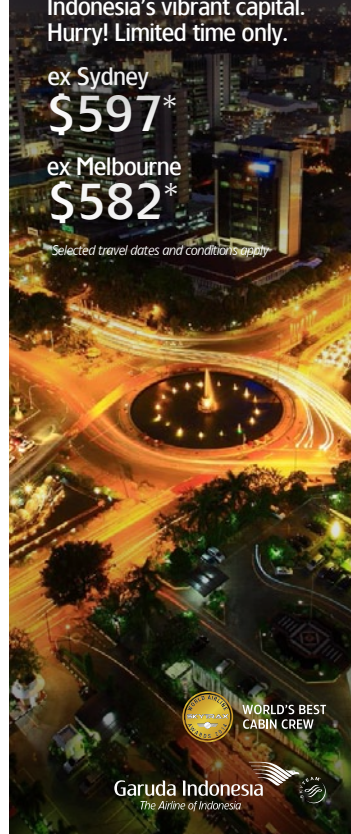
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No Jetstar post office plans

THE demise of the Travel Compensation Fund and travel agent licensing has not changed Jetstar's distribution strategy in Australia at this stage, with the carrier confirming it is not currently looking at revisiting a previous proposal to sell tickets through Australian post offices.

Speaking at an event in Sydney on Fri, Jetstar ceo Jayne Hrdlicka highlighted the different distribution models used by the airline in its various markets, including more than 12,000 sales kiosks installed in convenience stores across Japan.

Although the airline constantly examines how it can share ideas across its various businesses, it is understood that a similar direct to consumer retail model is not being considered in Australia at this stage.

The controversial 2005 proposal - strongly backed by Jetstar founding ceo and now Qantas chief Alan Joyce - generated an immediate reaction from the industry (**TD 07 Nov 05**), with Australia Post at the time requesting that it be exempted

from the now defunct licensing regime and TCF membership.

Former AFTA ceo Mike Hatton warned that the plan could lead to tickets being sold in department stores or even petrol stations.

When asked about the proposal on Fri, Hrdlicka said Jetstar's motto is 'never say never.'

"So if that makes sense for us in Australia, we'll do it in Australia."

The Japanese convenience store initiative aims to help consumers - many of whom are flying for the first time - transact with cash in a trusted environment and "was a really important part of activating a new market segment," she said.

"We've got a very well established brand, a very well established distribution system in Australia, and we don't have to go to quite those lengths."

"But that doesn't mean we're not considering all other opportunities to find ways to do things differently," Hrdlicka added.

A Jetstar spokesman later told **Travel Daily** that plans for post office or convenience store distribution in Australia are "not currently on the radar".

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DoubleTree into Melbourne

HILTON Worldwide has today revealed it will introduce the DoubleTree by Hilton brand to the Victorian market from Dec.

The new signing will see the 180-room Citigate Melbourne rebadged as DoubleTree by Hilton - Flinders Street, becoming the fifth DoubleTree property in the country after the recently opened Cairns hotel (**TD** Thu).

Owners M&L Hospitality are currently in the midst of

significant renovations to the hotel's lobby, restaurant, bar, meeting rooms and bedrooms.

When the refurb is complete, the property will be managed by Hilton Worldwide.

Global head of DoubleTree by Hilton John Greenleaf said Australia was one of the brand's "most important" growth markets.

"Hilton Worldwide has a proud forty-year history in Melbourne and we are extremely pleased to be furthering our footprint in Melbourne whilst expanding the presence of the DoubleTree by Hilton brand in Australia," Ashely Spencer, vice president operations Australasia said.

The property is already featured on the DoubleTree by Hilton website priced from \$205/night.

CLIA to award OTAs, home-based agents

NEW award categories have been announced by Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia for its 2014 Cruise Industry Awards.

The 'Online Agency of the Year' and 'Home Based/Mobile Agency of the Year' awards are a means of recognising the evolving landscape of the industry, CLIA Australasia gm Brett Jardine said.

"While the popular Gold, Silver and Bronze Agency of the Year awards would be retained for shopfront agencies, the organisation had decided it was time to acknowledge the growing number of online agencies and home-based/mobile agencies with specific awards," he added.

Separate awards will be given to Australian & New Zealand agents.

Aussie NZ visits dip

LATEST visitor numbers from Statistics New Zealand show a fall of 5.2% in month-end holiday arrivals from Australian travellers, with entrants dropping to just under 50,000 in Aug.

Despite the drop, year-end holiday visits across the ditch up to Aug are up 4.7% to 478,000.

Extra QF HKG flight

QANTAS has added an ad hoc service between Hong Kong and Sydney departing on 12 Oct, complementing its daily service between the two cities.

According to the QF website, Economy class on the daily direct QF127 service has "no seats".

Flight QF88 will be operated by a reconfigured Boeing 747-400 aircraft, depart at 1835 and arrive into Sydney at 0645 the next day.

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Sabre NZ recruits

THREE new call centre staff starting today at Sabre Pacific's New Zealand office are expected to increase the service levels for Kiwi agents, the firm announced.

More QFFF Platinum One perks

QANTAS Frequent Flyer has unveiled a suite of new benefits for its elite Platinum One flying tier as part of the evolution of

the program, including waivers for any fare differential that may be payable at the airport to move to an earlier QF domestic flight when travelling on a flexible fare.

Effective today, other benefits include Platinum membership for a spouse or de facto for a Platinum One members' domestic partner, providing access to QF International First Lounges and Domestic Business Lounges.

Members are also able to have booking fee waivers for new bookings made over the phone with Qantas, double points earn with Qantas Restaurants and complimentary Qantas Golf Club Premium membership (expected to launch in coming months).

A bonus 75,000 Qantas Points will also now be made available to Platinum One members when they accumulate 5,000 Status Credits in a membership year.

Qantas Loyalty ceo Lesley Grant said the enhancements were based on customer feedback - see qantas.com/platinumone for info.

Nexus US selling fast

NEXUS Holidays is reporting an "excellent" uptake in its 2015 tours for its 10-day East Coast US/Canada tour, with seats selling fast on seven guaranteed dates.

The firm's 31 Mar and 04 May departures are already full with over 160 passengers, says national bdm Richard McKisack.

Including return airfares to New York with United, the itinerary leads in at \$2,299ppt and visits New York, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Niagara Falls, Toronto, Thousand Islands and Albany, staying in budget accom such as Holiday Inn, Radisson and Clarion hotels.

Extensions to Las Vegas, Los Angeles, San Francisco & Hawaii are available priced from \$250pp. See nexusolidays.com.au.

Trinity Four Seasons

BESPOKE hotelier Four Seasons has confirmed plans to develop a new property in London.

Four Seasons Hotel London at Ten Trinity Square will be located in one of London's most iconic landmarks, the former Port of London Authority building which was designed in 1922.

Offering views of The Tower of London, once restored the hotel will feature 98 guestrooms and suites and has been earmarked to open to guests in 2016.

EK A380s to Milan

EMIRATES will introduce A380s on the Dubai-Milan Malpensa route on one of its three daily services, starting 01 Dec.

The upgauge from Boeing 777-300s on EK92/91 will result in a capacity increase of nearly 38% on the route.

Currently, EK's earlybird fares from Australia to Milan are priced from \$1,544.

Datai Langkawi reps

COMPLETE Travel Marketing has been recruited as the sales and marketing representatives in Australia and New Zealand for The Datai Langkawi in Malaysia.

The luxury resort is located on the northwest tip of Langkawi Is.

QR/S7 codeshare

QATAR Airways and fellow oneworld member, Russian carrier S7 Airlines, have kicked off a new reciprocal codeshare agreement.

Effective immediately, the QR code appears on 12 S7 routes out of Moscow Domodedovo, while the S7 code is on QR flights from Doha to Moscow & Phnom Penh.



Window Seat

JETSTAR ceo Jayne Hrdlicka says that technological innovations have been key to the carrier's ongoing success, particularly highlighting the "Virtual Assistant" on the JQ website during a speech on Friday.

Dubbed 'Ask Jess,' the system pops up during the booking process and answers basic customer questions, allowing the resolution of many simple queries without users having to ring the call centre.

This in turn frees up human staff to handle more complex issues - and such has been the popularity of Ask Jess that she's also received a number of marriage proposals.

"However she's too busy working 24/7 to get married," Hrdlicka said.



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Blessed be Scoot's 787 fuselage!



ABOVE: Singapore low-cost carrier Scoot held a traditional Shinto blessing ceremony for its new 787 Dreamliner fuselage at the Kawasaki Heavy Industries (KHI) plant in Nagoya last week.

The blessing saw a Japanese priest give thanks for the smooth construction of the 787 forward fuselage section which is manufactured at the KHI plant.

Attending the special ceremony were staff from Scoot, KHI, Rolls-Royce and Boeing (**pictured**).

King Suite Romance

RYDGES Sydney Central has released a 'Suite Romance' deal that incl accom in a King Suite, buffet brekkie, sparkling wine on arrival, wi-fi and more for \$279.

Vanuatu pox outbreak

TRAVELLERS bound for Vanuatu are being urged by the Department of Foreign Affairs to ensure they have their vaccinations up to date before departure following reported cases of measles, rubella and varicella (chicken pox) around the country.

"We continue to advise Australians to exercise normal safety precautions in Vanuatu," the Smarttraveller website says.

Tryp industry rate

BRISBANE'S new Tryp by Wyndham hotel is offering a \$99 per room rate for the industry.

Available through Oct (excluding black-out dates), the special trade offer is based on a Hotel Queen Room and includes an "exclusive behind the scenes tour" of the boutique property.

Guests can upgrade their room for an additional \$30 - access the offer using the codeword of 'trypfriends' when booking direct.

MU 777s to JFK

CHINA Eastern Airlines will replace its existing Airbus A340-600 service between Shanghai and New York JFK with one of its new Boeing 777-300ER aircraft.

Bookings are now open for daily departures from 15 Nov.

28-day active Africa

BOUTIQUE travel company Travel Directors are spruiking a 28-day itinerary through Africa which includes the gorillas of Rwanda, the 'Baptism of Christ' Timkat Festival in Ethiopia and a picnic at the source of the Nile in Uganda.

Leaving Australia on 04 Jan, the African Dawn itinerary commences from Lake Victoria, Kampala, Queen Elizabeth National Park, Gondar, Axum and concludes in Lalibela, Ethiopia.

Classed as an 'active' tour, the trip includes flights with Emirates and is priced at \$18,880ppts.

See www.traveldirectors.com.au.

SYD T1 int'l food hall

UPGRADES to the food court at Sydney Airport's T1 international terminal have commenced.

New additions will include Toby's Estate, Pretzel World and Top Juice, all of which will open before Christmas this year.

MEANWHILE, Sydney Airport has added a new dedicated area on its website where visitors can access the latest information on major projects around the facility.

Browsers can obtain the latest travel advice for travelling to the airport and obtain special online parking deals while construction is underway, Sydney Airport said.

VA on SAA domestic?

PLANS to expand the codeshare alliance between Virgin Australia and South African Airways to include domestic services from Johannesburg are on the cards.

Questioned by **Travel Daily** as to when details of a future tie-up on codeshare routes beyond JNB was likely, a VA spokesperson said: "We are always looking at new opportunities however we have no announcements to make at this time."

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Travel Counsellors global CLIA deal

AUSTRALIAN members of the Travel Counsellors group will be able to access Cruise Lines International Association training and events at no cost, under a new global agreement also covering Travel Counsellors operations in the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, South Africa, Belgium and Canada.

CLIA gm Brett Jardine welcomed the pact, which continues a strong focus on cruise by Travel Counsellors.

Last month's Cruise Week saw Travel Counsellors release its first ever cruise brochure as well as other cruise-focused marketing and training tools - with the result being a 50% year-on-year increase in cruise bookings.

Lots more cruise news in today's **Cruise Weekly** - [CLICK HERE](#).

Mokulele flight boost

HAWAII'S Mokulele Airlines has confirmed it will launch four new interisland services from 20 Oct.

The newest routes will operate from Kalaeloa (Oahu) to Molokai, Kalaeloa to Kapalua (Maui), Kapalua to Molokai and Kapalua to Hana (Maui).

Introductory fares on the routes start at US\$44 per sector.

Capt's Choice Anzac

LIMITED spaces remain on the Captain's Choice Anzac Centenary Silversea Gallipoli cruise charter departing in Apr next year.

The 17-day itineraries on *Silver Wind* and *Silver Cloud* operate from Athens and cruise to Turkey for the Dawn Service.

Guests who have secured a spot in the ballot to attend the Dawn Service at Anzac Cove will be able to participate in the service on shore while other guests will be able to view the service on large screens aboard their ship.

Accompanying the sailings will be Captain's Choice founder and director Phil Asker (*Silver Wind*) and managing director Dan Kotzmann (*Silver Cloud*).

Cruise and land prices start at \$15,295ppts.

For full details, [CLICK HERE](#).

Hong Kong update

DESTINATION Asia says that its tours in Hong Kong are continuing to operate on normal schedules, despite the ongoing protests and road closures in the city (**TD**, Fri).

The MTR rail system is running to normal schedules, although some entrances at Mong Kok, Admiralty and Causeway Bay stations are temporarily closed.

Airport shuttles are on track with delays due to road closures.

Tuesday 7th Oct 2014



G ADVENTURES recently hosted this group of lucky STA Travel agents on a famil to Peru.

Over eight days the participants hiked the Lares Trek, visited the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu, dined at the newly-established Planeterra-funded community Parwa restaurant in the Sacred Valley and toured a traditional women's weaving cooperative.

Pictured overlooking Machu Picchu from left are Dominic Sasse, STA Travel Broadway; Adam Clancy, G Adventures; Christopher Garrick, STA Travel Chermshire; Fernando Achata, G Adventures ceo (chief experience officer); Jacqueline Constable, STA

Travel ANU (Australian National University), Tracey Lockie, STA Travel head office; Luke McKibben, STA Travel Macquarie Uni; Chaseleigh Osland, STA Travel Carindale and Tamara Epshtein, STA Travel Monash Clayton.

Dynamic to Guyana

US LOW-COST carrier Dynamic Airways has been given a green light to launch services to South America from New York in Nov.

Dynamic says it intends to begin flights to Georgetown, Guyana by late next month and is in the final preparations to launch routes between Orlando and Brazil, Canada and other US cities.

No one does summer like Sydney. Sale now on.

Sale ends 23:59 (AEDT) 13 October 2014,
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Choice CEO rolls up his sleeves

IN RECOGNITION of National Customer Service Week, Choice Hotels Australasia boss Trent Fraser has taken the firm's 'Head office to front office' campaign to task.

Now in its second year, the promo focuses on enhancing customer experience, with the entire corporate team of 60+ at Choice Hotels Australasia spending a day in a hotel operator's shoes, designed to give executives a greater understanding and appreciation of the day-to-day activities and challenges facing a hotel in today's world.

Chief exec Trent Fraser (pictured at Quality Hotel Powerhouse in Tamworth, NSW) said the concept was embraced by all staff members across the business in 2013.

"Whether it's working the front desk, lending a hand to housekeeping or taking orders from the bar, office based staff have been keen to get involved & get their hands dirty," he said.

The campaign kicked off yesterday and runs until Fri.



JetGo Roma launch

AIR charterer JetGo Australia is preparing to launch new services between Sydney and Roma in outback Queensland this week.

The carrier has acquired a fleet of three Embraer ERJ-140LR jets from Republic Airlines in the US.

According to the JetGo Australia Facebook page, the airline will be conducting a promo tour of Roma and Gladstone on 10 Oct.

WestJet to Glasgow

CANADIAN carrier WestJet is ramping up its transatlantic route network, announcing new seasonal services between Halifax & Glasgow, commencing 29 May.

The service will operate on a daily basis until 23 Oct, using Boeing NextGen 737-700 aircraft.

WestJet exec vp sales, marketing and guest experience Bob Cummings said WS's fares would be as much as 50% cheaper than existing prices on the route.

In Jun, WestJet launched daily services to Dublin from Toronto, via Halifax (TD 27 Nov).

Ascend in Caribbean

CHOICE Hotels International has expanded its Ascend Hotel Collection into the Caribbean, signing ACOYA Hotel & Suites Villas on the island of Curacao.

The brand new property boosts the Ascend brand to 128 hotels.

2nd Orlando Element

STARWOOD Hotels & Resorts has revealed plans to open a third Element branded hotel in Florida.

Orlando North will feature 151 rooms and will be located within one mile of Universal Studios Orlando, joining sister property Element Orlando North in the US theme park hotspot by 2016.

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Win a travel adventure book

Every day this week, **transit lounge** is giving **Travel Daily** readers the chance to win a copy of the new book **Chasing El Dorado**.

In *Chasing El Dorado*, writer Aaron Smith shares his hilarious chronicle of love, danger and enlightenment, set in the one of most vibrant places on earth, South America.



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Little Red into history

BARELY 18 months after taking to the skies (**TD** 04 Mar 2013), Virgin Atlantic will wind up its domestic offshoot Little Red due to the carrier being unprofitable.

The final Little Red service to Manchester will depart in Mar next year, with Edinburgh and Aberdeen to close from Sep 2015.

VS chief executive Craig Kreeger cited the lack of runway slot pairs made available by regulators as central to Little Red's demise.

Regional NSW guide

NEWSPAPERS across Australia and New Zealand will include a new glossy magazine promoting visitation to regional NSW in the spring & summer months as part of a new Destination NSW promo.

The magazine will offer details on family friendly activities along the coast and inland, major events to visit and local markets.

KQ boost ATC refunds

FULLY automated ticket refund systems in the Amadeus Ticket Changer (ATC) Refund have now been extended by Kenya Airways across its entire global network, taking effect yesterday.

The Amadeus ATC solution says it guarantees automatic refund calculation results, using fare data input by airlines in loaded tariffs.

All types of tickets, fares and all types of customers are covered under the comprehensive system.

See through the Eiffel

A NEW see-through glass floor platform has opened at the Eiffel Tower in Paris as part of a major \$43 million upgrade also featuring new solar panels and a museum.

The new platform is located 57 metres above the ground.

Other upgrades carried out on the tower include the installation of wind turbines and solar panels to help generate its electricity.

Week group savings

TRIPADVISOR has released details of a new cost comparison study looking at price differences for groups & families staying in a hotel rather than a holiday rental in various Australian locations.

Comparing average prices of a week in a two-bedroom rental as opposed to a three-star hotel, the study found the Sunshine Coast offered the greatest savings, with a 41% price difference recorded.

Brisbane was next with a 40% price saving in favour of a rental.

Melbourne offered the poorest savings, with only a 2% difference in price, only slightly worse than Port Stephens at 9%.

Overseas, the Indian city of Goa offered the largest savings, with rentals working out 58% cheaper.

Helloworld glam in Tinseltown



LOS Angeles style glitz and glamour dominated at the closing gala dinner for Helloworld's annual Owners/Managers conference over the weekend.

Over two days, attendees heard from a plethora of guest speakers and attended a range of plenary sessions designed to motivate and empower for future success.

These included Woolworths transformational guru Julie Coates, motivational speaker Terry Hawkins and a powerful presentation from Chris Gardner about his real-life story portrayed in *The Pursuit of Happiness*.

Helloworld ceo Elizabeth Gaines

detailed her recipe for solidifying the brand in the business and leisure travel landscape as well as unveiling a number of initiatives to benefit members' businesses.

One of these included a major training program which is set to soon roll out across the network.

Pictured above at the gala event from left is David Padman, Helloworld; Neil Ager, Qantas; Julie Primmer, Helloworld; Rob Harrison, Qantas; Elizabeth Gaines, Helloworld and Steve Limbrick from Qantas.

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JetBlue El Al pact

AMERICAN carrier JetBlue Airlines and El Al Israel Airways have applied to the US Department of Transportation for permission to codeshare, with El Al planning to place its LY code on some JetBlue services into JFK and Newark airports in New York.

The move is an expansion of an existing interline agreement between the carriers which has been in place since 2010.

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Brochures of the Week

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.

RUSSIAN CRUISES



Russian Travel Centre - Russian Cruises 2015
River cruising on Russia's Volga River has been combined with a minimum three night stay in four-star city centre hotels in both Moscow & St Petersburg. The city stays are a highlight of the new season from Russian Travel Centre and can be enjoyed on the Great Value Small Group Hotel & Cruise Tours, with five-star upgrades also available. The guide also features the brand new *Volga Dream II*, which will set sail on the Volga River next year and is the first Russian newbuild for many decades.



Le Boat - 2015 European Boating Holidays
Canal boating in Europe next summer is a unique way to see the many quaint towns and landscapes, with many different options portrayed in the new brochure. Two new bases are now open in Aquitaine, France and Vinkeveen, Holland, allowing for a wider range of pickup and dropoff ports. Further, the guide details a new sailing route in Poland, the newly launched app for smartphones and a new dynamic pricing model.



Topdeck - Europe 2015
The largest range of itineraries ever is now on the table from Topdeck, with 11 new tours taking the range to now over 106. Over 166 pages, the range includes adventures such as sailing, visiting festivals, deeper journeys into regional Europe and even an opportunity to be in Gallipoli for the 100th ANZAC anniversary. New trips for 2015 include an 18-day Europe Unplugged to suit camping lovers. Also new is the 15-day Mountains and Beaches and the 5-day Road to Troy, with many dates guaranteed.

Euro Disney bailout

WALT Disney Company is set to spend over US\$1.25 billion on a major financial restructure at Euro Disney to clear debt and buy the park from its current owners.

A capital raising from existing shareholders will be conducted, with the company buying out all existing shareholders unwilling to participate in the plan.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, it is the fourth bailout for the park in the last two decades.

BKK expansion plan

A THIRD runway will be built at Thailand's main Suvarnabhumi Airport as part of a 62 billion baht (AUD\$2.17 billion) expansion plan to increase capacity at BKK.

Currently able to cater to 45m pax per year, Suvarnabhumi will grow to serve up to 80 million in the next five years, the plan says.

Further, three new regional airports will be constructed in the country, while others will be upgraded to cater to more pax.

QF near-miss report

INEFFICIENT manual checking of transponder codes was found to be the reason behind a loss of separation experienced by two Qantas group jets in the Northern Territory on 02 Oct, 2012.

According to an ATSB aviation safety investigation, a Qantas B737 flying from Darwin to Melbourne was advised to halt its ascent at 9,000ft to allow a B717 operated by QantasLink, flying from Alice Springs to Darwin, to pass directly over at a 900ft gap.

The ATSB found that an already assigned transponder code had been applied to the 717, resulting in the call sign being incorrectly displayed to aircraft in the region.

Tuesday 7th Oct 2014

Waldorf NYC sold

BEIJING based Anbang Insurance Group has signed a deal to purchase the iconic Waldorf Astoria in New York City for US\$1.95 billion (AU\$2.24b).

The deal will see a major renovation carried out on the property, while Hilton Worldwide will continue to manage the property for another 100 years.

Funds raised will allow Hilton to buy more property in the US.



AFTA UPDATE

The latest updates from AFTA's Chief Executive, Jayson Westbury

A VERY big congratulations goes out to all involved in holding the 2014 Helloworld conference in LA over this past weekend with a number of amazing presentations and extremely impactful speakers.

It was wonderful to see the new Helloworld brand centre stage and great to catch up with so many travel agents who are now on the Helloworld journey.

LA is always a city that shines and with a heatwave included, it proved itself to be a fantastic location for a travel conference.

One speaker who has had a lasting impact upon me was Chris Gardner. He is a motivational speaker who took the delegates on an emotional roller-coaster as he delivered his message based upon his own real life experiences. Chris is an American entrepreneur, investor, stockbroker, author, and philanthropist who, during the early 1980s, struggled with homelessness while raising his toddler son.

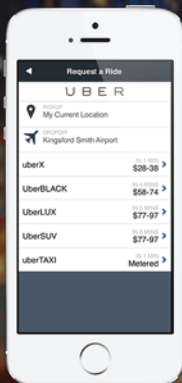
Most would know the movie *The Pursuit of Happyness*, which was released in May 2006. The movie was based on his story. What most don't know is that in the movie, his son was played at around age 5. But in truth his son was actually only 14 months.

As Chris delivered his story and talked about happiness in life and the need to take on responsibility for what one does in one's life - his message just rippled through me and I am sure everyone present.

He is now the CEO of Happyness (with a Y). You can check him out on twitter @CEOofHappYness. His struggles with life and his lessons of success, his life's journey with some of the most amazing twists and turns, his ability to come from the bottom of the tree of life, to now be an influencer of life is inspirational.

As a very regular conference delegate, Chris for me is by far the one man that has changed my life. I have already taken steps to change.





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Tuesday 7th Oct 2014

Worldhotels in Africa

AZALAI Hotels Group in Africa has teamed with Worldhotels adding six properties in the sub-saharan markets of Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali & Guinea-Bissau to the group's global portfolio of almost 500 properties.

Further hotels are earmarked to join Worldhotels in Nouakchott, Abidjan and Dakar in 2015 & 2016.

The agreement represents the first step in Worldhotels' strategic intention to expand into Africa.

Azalai's stable of hotels now available via Worldhotels include Azalai Hotel Independance, Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso; Azalai Hotel De La Plage, Cotonou in Benin; Azalai Grand Hotel, Azalai Hotel Salam & Azalai Hotel Dunia in Bamako, Mali and Azalai Hotel 24 de Setembro, Bissau in Guinea-Bissau

Boeing Q3 deliveries

AIRCRAFT manufacturer Boeing delivered 186 jets to customers during the 3rd Quarter of 2014.

Boeing's wide-body fleet deliveries included thirty-one 787 Dreamliners, twenty-seven 777s and six 747 jumbos, while there were 120 narrow-body 737 Next Generation aircraft handed over.

HAH airport sell off

HEATHROW Airport Holdings (HAH) is reportedly looking to offload its stake in Aberdeen, Glasgow & Southampton airports in a deal valued at GBPE1 billion (AU\$1.8 billion).

According to *Sky News*, the deal between three investors - Spanish infrastructure firm Ferrovial, Singapore's GIC and Australia's Macquarie - was expected within coming days.

HAH listed the airports for sale earlier this year.

CX boosting Jakarta

CATHAY Pacific Airlines is increasing capacity between Hong Kong and Jakarta, adding five additional weekly services effective 02 Jan 2015.

The increase means CX will operate a total of 26 flights per week between the cities.

US brands get bluer

AMERICAN shared ride van service SuperShuttle has formed a "joint marketing adventure" with digital music, percussion and light show, the Blue Man Group.

Running through until next summer, the two companies will promote each other's services in a variety of US cities via web, email, social media & magazines as well as in-van & in-venue ads.

SuperShuttle recently launched service in Las Vegas and Boston, two permanent homes to the Blue Man Group performances.

Aussies flee cold in droves

WINTER once again proved particularly popular for Aussies keen to embrace warmer temps overseas, with overseas passenger numbers in Jul 2014 up 5.8% year-on-year, statistics show.

The official figures from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport & Regional Economics reported just shy of three million headed overseas in Jul, up from 2.7 million twelve months ago.

In turn, capacity increased 4.6%, leading to a slight jump in average loads to 79.6%.

A strong increase in patronage on Jetstar International services

helped Qantas grow its group-wide share of the overall market for the first time in many months.

Jetstar saw a 1.5% increase in pax numbers, helping the Qantas Group (also including Jetstar Asia) to a 0.5% growth in market share to just over a quarter at 25.1%.

JQ also posted the strongest pax growth among all of the Top Ten carriers, placing it in fourth.

Virgin Australia's share of the market fell 0.1% to 7.9%.

Low-cost carriers continued to perform well, with its slice of the Australian market up 2.9% to account for 17.1% during Jul.



Throughout the month of October, **TD** is giving readers the chance to win a luxurious French prize pack, courtesy of Avalon Waterways.

The prize includes his and hers Louis Vuitton weekend bags, three nights in a Junior Suite at the Sofitel Sydney, a bottle of Dom Perignon Campagne, gift voucher for L'Occitane products, and a dinner voucher to Felix fine dining French restaurant, valued at over \$5,500.

Every week this month **TD** will ask a different question about Avalon. The subscriber with the best answer to all of the questions will win this fabulous prize pack.

Email your answer for this week by COB 10th Oct to: avalonwaterways@traveldaily.com.au

In 25 words or less tell us: What makes Avalon's Suite Ships in France for 2015 stand out from the rest?

Hint: see pages 12, 13, 14, 15, 24 & 25 of the 2015 Avalon Waterways River Cruises brochure



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Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

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Geelong & Surrounds:

<http://applynow.net.au/jobs/F167362>

Castlecrag, McMahon's Point & Turrumurra:

<http://applynow.net.au/jobs/F164265>

Experienced Travel Sales Consultants & Leadership roles are also available across Australia:

<http://applynow.net.au/jobs/F166795>