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# Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 16th December 2015



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## Club Med registration

CLUB Med is inviting agents to pre-register their clients for upcoming earlybird deals covering holidays from Nov 2016-Apr 2017, with a special website live at [bookearly-clubmed.com](http://bookearly-clubmed.com). For details see the last page.

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## FC targets youth, students

FLIGHT Centre's proposed acquisition of Boston-based Student Universe (**TD** breaking news) is part of a strategy to catapult the company's presence in the youth and student markets.

Key to the deal is Student Universe's technology platforms which currently include "the world's first flight-booking apps with student and youth airfares," according to Flight Centre managing director Graham Turner.

Turner said the acquisition is a "unique opportunity to secure a profitable travel technology company with proven e-commerce solutions and a highly experienced and talented leadership team that has built a strong brand presence".

He said the youth and student sector is estimated to be worth more than US\$180 billion annually, with Flight Centre seeing solid future growth potential in both existing markets and globally.

If the US\$28 million deal is approved by the owners of Student Universe, Flight Centre plans to expand the company's

offering by giving it access to FLT's broader range of youth orientated land and air products and "vast global hotel inventory".

There would also be potential cost savings in the USA where Flight Centre already operates 324 shops and businesses, as well as plans to fast track Student Universe's growth in the UK.

**MEANWHILE**, Turner also confirmed an increased focus on enhancing Flight Centre's online capabilities as part of its blended travel offering.

He said the company is currently working with the major low cost carriers in Australia to make more of their fares and ancillary products available on the flightcentre.com.au website from early in 2016.

"We are also looking to develop or acquire other online businesses to ensure we continue to meet the needs of travellers who prefer to book via the web," Turner said.

## Air NZ Houston debut

**AIR** New Zealand has touched down in Texas overnight, operating its inaugural non-stop flight from Auckland to Houston.

Passengers, including NZ economic development Minister Steven Joyce and US Ambassador to New Zealand Mark Gilbert, were welcomed to IAH with a tarmac performance by a kapa haka group of Air NZ staff.

## Macau Daily today

**TODAY'S** issue of **TD** has a full page from Macau Tourism showcasing the destination's burgeoning range of accommodation options from four star through to "super deluxe" - for details see **page 11**.

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## Today's issue of TD

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

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- Club Med

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## UA adds SFO-Nashville

**UNITED** Airlines has opened reservations for a new non-stop route between San Francisco and Nashville.

GDS screens indicate the new daily A319 service will commence operations on 05 May 2016.

## Canada Corroboree 2016



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## Explorer hit by norovirus

**ROYAL** Caribbean's *Explorer of the Seas* has had an unfortunate debut for its inaugural Australian season, this morning arriving back into Sydney after a 14-day trans-Tasman voyage with almost 200 passengers infected with a gastrointestinal illness.

According to a statement issued by RCI this morning, a total of 182 cases were experienced among the more than 4,700 passengers and crew on board.

"Those affected by the short-lived illness have responded well to over-the-counter medication administered onboard the ship," the company said.

The incident was reported to the South East Sydney Local Health District, and while ambulances were on standby when the ship docked today no passengers were taken to hospital

for treatment.

Royal Caribbean said it has "high health standards for all our guests and crew," with the ship to undergo an enhanced cleaning and sanitation today to prevent any illness affecting future cruises.

"All new guests embarking will receive a letter at boarding that asks them to advise if they have experienced any gastrointestinal symptoms within the last three days," the cruise line advised.

Before arriving in Sydney today the previous call by *Explorer* was in Dunedin, NZ on Sat with no illness reported at that time.

## SeaLink sand contract

**SEALINK** Travel Group yesterday announced a new five year contract with Sibelco Australia under which it will carry mineral sands from Stradbroke Island.

SeaLink, which also operates extensive tourism operations in South Australia as well as on Sydney Harbour via its Captain Cook Cruises offshoot, said the new Queensland deal further strengthens its Stradbroke Island operation, complementing its existing passenger and motor vehicle transport services.

CEO Jeff Ellison said the company would invest in a new tug and barge to service the contract, which would also create a number of new jobs.

## New Starwood ceo

**STARWOOD** Hotels & Resorts Worldwide has promoted exec vice president & chief financial officer Thomas B. Mangas to the role of ceo, effective 31 Dec.

Mangas takes over the reins at Starwood following the departure of Adam Aron who is taking on the top job at AMC Entertainment Holdings Inc.

Current senior vp and corporate controller and accounting officer Alan M. Schnaid will takeover over as Starwood's new cfo.

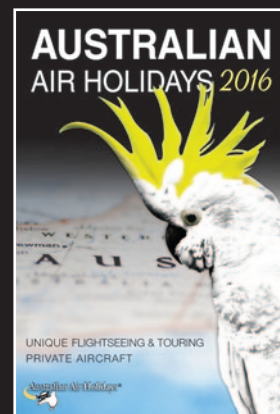
## Air Serbia EY boost

**AIR** Serbia and Etihad Airways have expanded their codeshare deal to include EY services to Bangkok and Phuket.

The broader pact also sees the Air Serbia code added to EY flights from Abu Dhabi to Nairobi.

## AUSTRALIAN Air Holidays 2016

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## Domestic spending up 6%

**TOURISM** Research Australia's latest National Visitor Survey has revealed domestic overnight visitor spending rose to a record \$56.9 billion in the year to 30 Sep.

The figures, released this morning, also showed an 8% increase in domestic day-trip spending to \$19.1 billion.

Tourism minister Richard Colbeck said the stats "affirm the strength and depth of the Australian tourism offering, not just in our cities but in regional areas too."

"The government is committed to ensuring tourists go into our regions and these figures are especially good news for regional Australia, where 67% of domestic overnight stays and 61% of domestic day trips occurred," Colbeck said.

He said the lower dollar was helping make Australia an attractive choice for both domestic and international

visitors, with overnight domestic holiday trips seeing a 5% lift in spending to \$27.8 billion.

TTF Australia hailed the figures, saying they show that "tourism continues to be one of the great success stories of the Australian economy."

However, Tourism Accommodation Australia (TAA) sounded a cautionary note, with the results showing some regional areas had lagged behind their city counterparts.

In particular, Victorian regional visitor nights declined 2.3% during the survey period, versus a 9.5% growth for Melbourne, while in NSW regional visitor nights crept up 2.4% in contrast to metropolitan visitor night growth of 6.9%.

TAA ceo Carole Giuseppi said "the sustained fall in the Australian dollar has clearly had an impact on travel patterns".

## Tiger on Booking.com

**HOTEL** deals from Booking.com are now accessible on Tigerair Australia's website following a partnership between the OTA and low-cost carrier.

Tigerair Australia commercial director Adam Rowe said the partnership takes the hassle out of booking travel.

"What will resonate well with our customers is a best price guarantee for all accommodation bookings, no reservation fees and a free cancellation policy on most bookings."

Hotel deals from Booking.com are available via the "book" and "find flights" tabs on TT's website - [www.tigerair.com.au](http://www.tigerair.com.au).

## Sudina Chch revealed

**THE** wraps have come off the Sudima Christchurch Airport Hotel following a two-year \$25m redevelopment project.

Work included the addition of 88 new executive rooms.



## Window Seat

**PROBABLY** giving one star on TripAdvisor would be easier.

A disgruntled hotel guest who was furious about a "bad experience" during a stay at the Comfort Inn in Alva, Oklahoma, has expressed his disappointment by smashing his vehicle through the lobby.

62-year-old John Parsley was angry because he was forced to pay for his accommodation in cash after his debit card was declined - but later told hotel staff he believed the payment had been authorised and demanded a refund.

After they declined to give him his money back the customer walked out the front door, returning minutes later in the vehicle which narrowly missed two front desk employees.

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## DriveAway gets into Xmas spirit



**ABOVE:** DriveAway Holidays is spreading the Christmas cheer, putting together a hamper to help support a long-standing consultant fighting breast cancer.

**Pictured** are Flight Centre area leader Tony, with DriveAway Hols Qld business development manager Claire Turner and Flight Centre product manager Marty who delivered the hamper.

## South Africa protests

**THE** Dept of Foreign Affairs and Trade issued a travel update on South Africa yesterday, advising travellers of nationwide protests planned for today in response to "domestic political developments."

Smarttraveller.gov.au warns Aussies to avoid demonstrations and large crowds.

**MORE FLIGHTS,  
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## WA Sightseeing Pass

**A NEW** online venture called Sightseeing Pass is being billed by developers as a "game changer" for Western Australian tourism, offering bundled entertainment, activities and tours.

Developed by WA couple Lisa & Chad D'Souza who have 40 years tourism industry experience, the product streamlines the booking process for customers wanting a one-stop-shop for sightseeing across the state.

"Once visitors have booked their trip to WA, there was no central place for them to book winery tours, sunset camel rides, whale watching tours and the like," says director Lisa D'Souza.

Sightseeing Pass has launched in WA first, with options in Perth, Broome and Margaret River, but the company plans to evolve the business further across Australia and beyond.

For more info on the pass, see [sightseeingpassaustralia.com](http://sightseeingpassaustralia.com).

## New Canada bilateral

**THE** Australia and Canada Govt has today announced a new bilateral air services agreement, claimed to provide much greater access for airlines from both countries.

Under the new arrangements there is immediate access to an additional 3,000 weekly seats between Canada and the major Australian gateways of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth.

The phased expansion will see this increase to a total of 9,000 seats by Dec 2016, "offering significant new potential for growth in the Canadian market," said infrastructure minister Warren Truss.

There's also now unrestricted access between Canada and all other points in Australia, while the previous cap on codeshare traffic rights has also been lifted.

Cargo has also been liberalised with the new pact providing for unlimited freighter movements.



# Holidays



## 'Experienced Reservation Sales Consultants wanted'

As one of Australia's leading wholesale travel businesses. Qantas Holidays are currently seeking consultants to join our reservations team in Mascot, Perth and Melbourne.

Qantas Holidays is also complemented by our other leading wholesale brands, Viva! Holidays, ReadyRooms for Agents, The Cruise Team and Rail Tickets.

The role will involve reservations sales to our valued travel partners. Key to this role is extensive calypso knowledge. You will be skilled in building solid relationships, creating and designing holiday experiences. You will need to have a proven reservations sales track record with an uncompromising commitment to service excellence. Your ability to understand, identify and provide total travel solutions is imperative to your success in this role.

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Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



Wednesday 16th December 2015

## G Adv/Nat Geo guide

**G ADVENTURES** has launched its new program in partnership with National Geographic (**TD** 30 Sep) with the product comprising 70 itineraries around the globe.

The "accessibly priced, experiential tours" developed for the *National Geographic Journeys* with *G Adventures* program range from seven to 21 days and offer "fun, hands-on exploration and meaningful encounters".

Trips begin as early as 05 Jan, with most departures limited to 16 guests or fewer - for more info, see [gadventures.com/journeys](http://gadventures.com/journeys).

## SLH network growth

**SMALL** Luxury Hotels of the World has added three properties to its global network in Prague, Paris and Perth.

The expanded portfolio includes The Boho Hotel in Prague which opens this month, the recently opened COMO The Treasury in Perth and Grand Hotel du Palais Royal in Paris, located between the Royal Garden and the Louvre.

## Trafalgar Asia uptick

**TOUR** operator Trafalgar has revealed a 50% increase in sales year-to-date for its 2016 Asia program, with the first of its departures due to kick off 16 Jan.

"We're extremely pleased to see the growth Asia has shown over the past 12 months," commented Trafalgar managing director, Matthew Cameron-Smith.

"We've worked very closely with our product managers in each destination to ensure all experiences provide our guests with an enriching and unforgettable travel experience."

Earmarked for 2016 is Trafalgar's first departure into Myanmar.

The new tour was launched as part of the company's commitment to expand its product offering in Asia.

## Paradise Taveuni reps

**PRECISE** Travel Marketing has been appointed as Australian sales reps for the 16-key Paradise Tavenui in Fiji, located on the southern end of Taveuni island.

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## Radisson Blu readies for reveal



**RADISSON** Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney toasted the past year with key trade partners yesterday, hosting an early Christmas lunch gathering to say 'thank you' for continued support for the hotel.

The 5-star property commenced a \$12 million redesign earlier this year, which has included new event spaces (**TD** 25 Sep).

In late Oct, the second phase of the refurbishment of Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney transitioned to rooms, which will see all 336 rooms & 28 suites given a facelift, taking the total tally up to 364.

GM Peter Tudehope confirmed yesterday the initial batch of re-configured rooms would be added to room inventory this week.

Tudehope told **Travel Daily** 60 rooms spread across two floors will debut Fri, made up of a mix of categories including Premier, Deluxe and Suites.

Tudehope said he was "so

excited" for the impending debut.

"I go up there every week with hard hat, boots and vests on, but I really enjoy it because these rooms are spectacular."

"It's a great change. It's been amazing to see how this hotel has stood up since we opened the doors in Jul 2000.

"The reality is that these rooms have not been refurbished since we opened the doors".

Work on the remaining floors begins in early Jan, moving in blocks of two levels at a time, with completion slated for Jun.

**Pictured** at yesterday's festive event are some of the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney exec team including Marianne Lunoe, associate director of sales - corporate; Terry Oomens, director of sales; Jessica Lau, Australia bdm; Katie Hawkshaw, marketing & communications manager and Peter Tudehope, general mgr.

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## Virgin comes to Melbourne CBD



**THE** Virgin Australia Victoria and Tasmania industry sales team showcased their domestic full service product offerings to several corporate and leisure clients in Melbourne CBD.

**Pictured** are Virgin Australia Industry account managers Melissa Train and Mary Damic with the team from Show Group Melbourne.

## Oceania US visits up

**VISITOR** growth to the United States from the Oceania market - of which Australia is the driving force - showed a 19% year-to-date jump, according to new US Department of Commerce stats.

When compared to May 2014, int'l visitors this year were up 8%, with the USA seeing 6.8 million international visitors - just over half a million more than recorded the previous year.

Int'l visitors during the first five months of 2015 (29.8m) were up 4%, with the top market being northern neighbour, Canada.

## Euro rail assurance

**MELBOURNE-BASED** rail specialist International Rail has moved to assure agents its prices on Europe train journeys are set and not subject to price rises at the end of the month.

The call follows a memo by Qantas Holidays to agents this week in which it said all unpaid bookings are required to be finalised by 21 Dec to avoid a reservation purge (**TD** Mon).

International Rail ceo Johnathan Hume told **TD** the issue of reservations being cancelled at the end of the calendar year does not occur his reservation system.

"Due to International Rail's direct relationship with the railways, we have the benefit of assisting agents on behalf of their clients to keep reservations past this date despite not being either fully paid for or ticketed," Hume told **Travel Daily**.

He said IR's practice provides peace of mind for agents going into the New Year.



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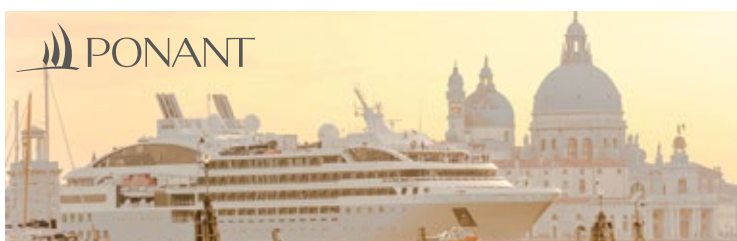
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**Albury/Wodonga Region: Mon 21 Dec**  
**Forster/Tuncurry/Taree Region: Tue 29 Dec**  
**Sunshine Coast Region: Thu 7 Jan**  
**Toowoomba Region: Wed 13 Jan**



## 2017 European Yacht Cruises - Open Now

## Frasers UK expansion

**FRASERS** Hospitality has acquired a portfolio of four properties in the UK worth around \$75.1 million.

The hotels were bought from Swire Properties Hotels Holdings through the group's subsidiary, Malmaison & Hotel du Vin Property Holdings Ltd.

The properties are located in Bristol, Exeter, Cheltenham and Brighton and will be rebranded to Malmaison & Hotel du Vin.

CEO of Frasers Hospitality Chloe Peng Sum said the acquisition was in line with the group's expansion in UK, Europe & Asia.

## Tourism Tas pr choice

**SYDNEY** advertising agency JimJam has been reappointed as Tourism Tasmania's creative agency for the next three years after a highly-competitive tender process started 6 months ago.

## Greek Wedding fiasco

**AN ELABORATE** accommodation scam under the guise of a Greek wedding saw a Perth Real Estate agency lose more than \$50,000.

The agency which deals with holiday rentals received a call last month from a man claiming to be from England, requesting a week's accommodation for a wedding party of eight people.

After paying a large deposit for the accommodation using several stolen American credit cards, the scammers requested the agency forward funds to a fictitious Greek interpreter who couldn't accept credit card payments.

Acting commissioner for Consumer Protection David Hillyard said other real estate agents and accommodation providers should be aware of this 'overpayment' scam.

"The best advice we can give to businesses is to do a bit of simple research first," he said.



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- Deliver product education and training sessions to agency and corporate partners. Attend consumer events and Trade Shows.

### Qualifications and Experience:

- Proven experience in sales with a recognised airline or travel organisation.
- Management experience at junior level with ability to act on their own initiative.
- Previous CRM experience (eg/ Salesforce & PRISM) is desirable.
- Good presentation and inter-personal skills.
- Must possess a valid local driver's license.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office.
- Sound knowledge of the key travel segments in Victoria.

For further details and online application process, please visit our website [emiratesgroupcareers.com](http://emiratesgroupcareers.com), quoting job reference number - 150002PI. Applications close on 23 December, 2015.



## SH Aus on sale promo

**SUNLOVER** Holidays (SH) has announced it will launch a sale on hundreds of Australian itineraries, from 01 Jan to 12 Feb.

From Queensland beach escapes to outback adventures in Broome and Tasmanian food and wine experiences, to Sydney & Melbourne Getaways, the special will also feature a double upgrade on Avis car rentals.

Visit [agents.sunloverholidays.com.au](http://agents.sunloverholidays.com.au) from 01 Jan for more.

## V Air Japan launch

**TAIWAN** based airline V Air is dipping its toe into the Japanese market, introducing its first Taipei to Nagoya service this week.

V Air will offer four flights a week departing every Mon, Tue, Fri and Sat, with a daily service to be added from Mar 2016.

## AIME's new program

**EDUCATION** sessions for Hosted Buyers have been added to the agenda for the 2016 Asia Pacific Incentives & Meetings Expo, in partnership with the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA).

Held between 23-24 Feb 2016, AIME have now opened up applications for Hosted Buyers to attend the event from Australia and around the world.

## HomeAway acquired

**ONLINE** travel firm Expedia has announced the completion of the acquisition of HomeAway Inc, and all its brands (**TD** 06 Nov).

CEO Dara Khosrowshahi said Expedia has "a ton of hard work ahead" as it looks to tap deeper into the 'alternative accommodation space'.

"This acquisition is the perfect next step on the HomeAway journey and it sets us on a terrific path forward for travellers and our homeowners and property managers alike," HomeAway ceo Brian Sharples said.

## A Hungary Parliament of agents



**TWELVE** Aussie Agents were welcomed on board Evergreen Tour's 'Star Ship' *Emerald Sun* last month on an eight-day Delights of the Danube river cruise.

Starting in Nuremberg, travelling through to Budapest, the famils had agents experiencing a home-hosted afternoon tea with a Slovakian family in Bratislava, a tour of Austria's Melk Abbey, shopping at the Christmas Markets, as well as a stop at the Schonbrunn Palace in Vienna and a visit to Cesky Krumlov.

The troupe are **pictured** above at Evergreen's prime docking position in front of the Budapest Parliament.

## Explore! Dec promo

**ADVENTURE** travel specialists Explore! Worldwide is offering solo travellers a discounted rate on select trips throughout Iceland, Romania, Cyprus, Turkey, Morocco, Japan and Burma.

Prices start from \$1,300, with discounts applicable to bookings made this month.

## Wanderlust line-up

**SKI** resort Thredbo will play host to popular yoga and mindfulness festival, Wanderlust.

Running between 18-21 Feb, the festival will feature classes by renown yoga and meditation instructors, artists, chefs, inspirational speakers and special musical performances "in celebration of mindful living".

**CLICK HERE** for the full line-up.

## Pattaya opening offer

**LUXURY** hotelier Movenpick has announced an opening special at its newest location, the Siam Hotel Pattaya in Thailand.

Guests can enjoy a deluxe seaview room and beach vistas for only THB4,999 (AU\$193.23) per room per night.



Daydream Island Resort & Spa is one of Australia's premier island resorts located in the beautiful Whitsunday Islands.

An exciting opportunity exists for an experienced full time **Leisure Sales Manager** to join the team based in the **Brisbane office** and drive the strong Domestic Leisure segment with a focus to grow the International Leisure business for the resort.

### Key responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Develop and implement a sales plan with strategies to achieve budgets and sales targets.
- Actively source and develop new opportunities within the International and Domestic Markets.
- Maintain and build on existing relationships with key accounts.
- Represent the resort at trade shows, key industry events, famils and during sales calls.

### The Ideal candidate will have:

- A minimum 3 years' experience in a similar role within a 4 - 5 star resort or hotel or related tourism industry.
- Experience in key markets such as UK/Europe, USA and China an advantage.
- An established network of key contacts and strong industry relationships in the Domestic and International Leisure market.
- A track record for increasing sales and building business in designated markets and the ability to hit the ground running.

If you are an experienced and results driven Sales Manager and would like to be considered for this role, please send your confidential resume and a cover letter to [recruitment@daydreamisland.com](mailto:recruitment@daydreamisland.com)

## Distinction adds two

**DISTINCTION** Hotels Group has acquired two new hotels located in Whangarei and Hamilton.

Currently trading under the Kingsgate brand, the Distinction Whangarei Hotel & Conference Centre will open 25 Jan, while Distinction Hamilton Hotel & Conference Centre will commence trading 11 Feb.

The latest acquisition will bring Distinction's portfolio up to 13 hotels in 10 locations throughout New Zealand.

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[www.tempoholidays.com](http://www.tempoholidays.com) | 72 Market Street, South Melbourne, VIC 3205

## Home2 enters Alaska

**HILTON** Worldwide has opened the 135-key Home2 Suites by Hilton Anchorage/Midtown in Alaska, signifying the launch of the brand in the US state.

## Magellan agents out and about



**THE** Magellan girls let their hair down at the Travel League Christmas Party last week.

**Pictured** are: Marnie Turner & Catherine Stone, Rheom Travel; Alison Lee, Complete Travel; Simone Kaye, Worldwide Travel and Fiona Caffery, Travel Sense.

## QF Lord Howe waiver

**QANTAS** has cancelled selected direct flights operating on Sat between 20 Feb-12 Mar from Sydney and Port Macquarie to Lord Howe Island and vice versa due to operational requirements.

The airline said passengers will be placed on alternate direct services or rerouted through alternative ports.

Those holding a valid ticket issued on/before 14 Dec can, without fee, rebook their travel, change their destination, receive a credit for use within 12 months from the ticket's date of issue or request a refund.

See [www.qantas.com/agents](http://www.qantas.com/agents).

## Aussies to spend big

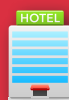
**AUSTRALIANS** are planning the largest travel budget for 2016 of around \$15,000, while the global average sits at just over \$7,000, according to TripAdvisor's TripBarometer study.

The study reveals special offers are a determining factor on the choice of destination for half of all travellers and 49% of Australian travellers will spend more on travel next year because they are planning a longer trip.

No air-conditioning is a dealbreaker, with 63% of global travellers saying they would look elsewhere if a hotel doesn't have aircon, followed by Wi-Fi at 46%.

Hotel prices are on the rise, with nearly half of hoteliers raising their room rates, mostly to compensate for increased overhead costs (65%).

The study is based on more than 44,000 survey responses from travellers & the hotel sector worldwide.

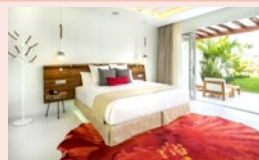


## Accommodation Updates

**WELCOME** to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wed feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description with an image to [accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au).



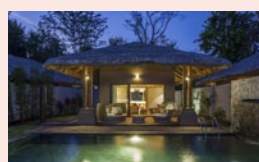
**Layana Resort & Spa** in Krabi, Thailand has introduced "Grand Garden Pavilion Rooms" and a new wellness zones. The 60m<sup>2</sup> new additions have an outdoor living room and a terrace with its own separate pantry and generously a stocked minibar. The new wellness zone consists of a half Olympic pool, overlooked by a yoga platform, gym facilities with separate lockers and a Healthy Juice Bar.



A new adults-only Zen Oasis area has been unveiled at the **Club Med Punta Cana Resort**. The Zen Oasis has a dedicated concierge, pool with in-water lounge chairs, an Olympic sized lap pool and the Hibiscus Bar & Lounge. New Zen Oasis Rooms feature bathrooms with rainfall showers and large soaking tubs, private terraces or gardens with plush daybeds and 49" Smart TVs.



**Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort** has expanded and reopened its spa with an additional six treatment rooms and male, female and couples' hammam facilities. Two new 34m<sup>2</sup> couples' massage rooms have been added, with built in sauna, showers and an oxygen-rich micro-bubble bath whirlpool. Guests also have access to an expanded choice of over 30 treatments.



Palm Villa Elite accommodation has been launched at **Beyond Resort Khaolak** in Thailand. The 24 new luxury villas offer spacious indoor and outdoor living, manicured gardens with an outdoor shower, comfortable lounges and a 3m x 8m pool or Jacuzzi. All villas include a large bathroom with a separate shower and double basins, walk-in wardrobe and a flat screen Smart TV.

## Tamworth horse-fest

**TAMWORTH** will host the 20th American Quarter Horse Association International Youth World Cup next year from 23 Jun-03 July.

The event will take place at the Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre, the largest indoor equine centre in the Southern Hemisphere.

The World Cup is expected to deliver more than \$1 million in overnight visitor expenditure.

## andBeyond Santiago

**ANDBEYOND** has expanded its offering with the addition of Santiago, Chile as a tour destination.

Chile and Argentina are the first two locations for the company's recent move into South America.

Food and wine offerings in andBeyond Santiago itineraries include exploring the city's gourmet food zone, Chile's Wine Country and visits to local producers in nearby villages.

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*Celebrate Christmas with Air Canada and win!*

Air Canada is gearing up for an exhilarating 2016 with the launch of its first non-stop Dreamliner flights from Brisbane and the unveiling of an industry-leading on-board product – including its first premium economy cabin – on its daily Sydney-Vancouver route.

To celebrate Air Canada and Travel Daily are offering two round trip Air Canada economy class tickets, from either SYD or BNE. All you need to do is create a fun Christmas photo featuring Air Canada and *Travel Daily*, then send it to [aircanada@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:aircanada@traveldaily.com.au) before 31 Dec!

## FJ executive shuffle

**FIJI Airways Group** has replaced both its chairman and director at its Annual General Meeting.

Incumbent chairman Nalin Patel and director Stefan Pichler have been swapped out for Rajesh Punja, director of the Punja Group of Companies and Shaheen Ali, permanent secretary for Industry, Trade and Tourism, respectively.

Patel has been a director of Fiji Airways since 1993 and chairman since 2006.

Three existing board members will continue for another term: retired executive Aslam Khan; solicitor general Sharvada Sharma and managing director and ceo Andre Viljoen.

## DoubleTree Bogotá

**HILTON Worldwide** has debuted its DoubleTree by Hilton brand in Colombia with the opening of DoubleTree Hilton Bogotá – Parque 93.

Located in the financial district Chico, the hotel has 132 full serviced rooms.

## Princess luxury bed

**PRINCESS Cruises** will roll out 44,000 new 'Princess Luxury' beds designed in partnership with US sleep expert Dr Michael Breus across its fleet by the end of 2018.

## New A&K trip series

**ABERCROMBIE & Kent** has introduced three 'Wings over the World' journeys, with privately chartered flights and no more than 16 guests - more info [HERE](#).

**Travel Daily**  
First with the news  
Wednesday 16th Dec 2015

## Canada comp in full swing



*Happy Holidays!*

**OUR** savvy readers have been hard at work sending through entries to **TD's** monthly comp - with the prize of two round trip Air Canada Economy class tickets. Felicity Howell, from Tourism NT's entry is **pictured** above, while Anna Dello from Venture Holidays put together the crafty picture on the **right**.

There's still time to enter, see the competition details on the **left** hand side of this page.



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**INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE CONSULTANT  
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Are you a reservations consultant looking to step into Corporate or are you a senior retail consultant looking to upgrade your career? Take a leap coming into the New Year & work on premium accounts! Work in brand new offices, looking after your own portfolio of accounts, providing top level customer service to your prestige clients. Be rewarded with an excellent salary package, fantastic team environment & regain your work/life balance! Solid airfares, min 2 years high end retail or corporate & GDS experience. Apply today!

### MOVE AWAY FROM FACE TO FACE

**WHOLESALE RESERVATIONS CONSULTANTS  
SYDNEY – SALARY \$60K OTE + UNCAPPED EARNINGS!**

Are you looking to break into wholesale? This leading wholesale travel company is one of the best in the industry and leaders in wholesale travel. You will be working in an experienced, knowledgeable and fun team servicing Travel Agents in selling exciting travel packages where no two days are the same. You will earn a top salary, working for a company that is committed to providing ongoing training & support. Min 2 years travel industry experience, GDS skills and great product knowledge preferred. Apply now!

### MIX LEISURE WITH PLEASURE

**RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT  
EASTERN SUBURBS (SYD) – SAL PKG UP TO \$50K OTE**

Are you an experienced retail consultant who loves face-to-face consulting but is looking for a salary you deserve? Then we have the role for you! This boutique agency is looking for a passionate consultant to join their knowledgeable team. With a loyal client base, you can enjoy utilising your personal travel experience to advise and guide, securing worldwide packages. Also on offer is a top base salary, bonuses, an office closer to home & true work/life balance. If you have min 2 years exp, solid GDS & passion for travel, apply now!

### DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE NEW YEAR

**TRAVEL & EVENTS COORDINATOR  
MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$65K+ (DOE)**

We have an exciting opportunity to step up into the MICE industry. This well known events company is looking a strong travel or groups consultant to join their successful team. You will be booking pre and post accommodation, as well as tours and add-ons for clients booked on events & conferencing. This role will see you earning a sensational salary & working Monday to Friday hours only. If you have at least 4 years consulting experience & experience using either Galileo, Amadeus or Sabre then we want to hear from you!

### WELCOME BACK YOUR WEEKENDS

**CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT  
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Our client, a top TMC, is seeking experienced corporate consultants to join their expanding team & help set the pace for more successful years! These roles will see you working on a variety of academic accounts, servicing both international and domestic enquiries. Your skills & experience will be rewarded with a great salary package along with fabulous benefits including Mon - Fri hours, development & career progression opportunities. If you are an experienced multi-skilled travel consultant then contact us today!

### JOIN THE A TEAM

**TRAVEL RECRUITMENT – ACCOUNT MANAGER  
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Love being in the travel industry, but sick of booking travel? Want to assist your peers with their career progression? Enjoy being rewarded for reaching sales targets? Can't wait to work Monday to Friday only? If you answered YES to all of the above, call us! As part of our expansion in Melbourne, we are looking to employ two talented travel consultants to join our permanent & temporary divisions. Full training will be provided. Minimum 2 years travel consulting experience essential.

### TRY SOMETHING NEW

**WHOLESALE TRAVEL CONSULTANT  
BRISBANE – UNCAPPED COMMISSION – OTE \$50K-55K**

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# MACAU DAILY

## Somewhere to Stay ...

Whether it's a four-star quality or super deluxe, Macau has the hotel to suit all budgets and taste. Palatial, luxurious, multi-purpose, contemporary, innovative, iconic, heritage listed boutique and beyond compare...



Banyan Tree Macau

These are just a handful of words used to describe Macau's ever-expanding landscape of hotels that cater to the Asian centres demands of today's guests.

Not all is new, large and ritzy, as Macau has its share of boutique style budget accommodation of heritage significance, some establishments taking guests back to the colourful bygone days through their charming colonial features.

Whilst on the Cotai Strip, you will find giant precincts like the City of Dreams, home of Crown, Grand

Hyatt and Hard Rock Macau, the Venetian Hotel and Resort, Four Seasons Macao, Galaxy Mega Resort which includes leading Asian hotel brands Okura and Banyan Tree and home to the world's largest wave pool. If a bit of pampering is your holiday style, Macau is home to many local and internationally recognised day spas, at all major resorts.

Yet these ingredients make for a good mix and ensure a stay is a warm friendly experience.

You are truly spoilt for choices in Macau.

When you're in Macau, keep an eye out for the newly opened JW Marriott, Ritz Carlton, Ascott Macau, Studio City and St Regis.

**Coming soon to Macau are:** Crown Plaza Macau, Roosevelt Hotel, Parisian, MGM Cotai, The Wynn Palace, Palazzo Versace and a property specially designed by Karl Lagerfeld.

### Suggested Hotels ...

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No. of rooms: 1449  
Email: [info@galaxy-macao.com](mailto:info@galaxy-macao.com)  
Website: [www.galaxy-macao.com](http://www.galaxy-macao.com)

#### SOFITEL MACAU AT PONTE 16

Tel: (853) 8861 0016  
No. of rooms: 408  
Email: [h6480-f08@sofitel.com](mailto:h6480-f08@sofitel.com)  
Website: [www.ponte16.com.mo](http://www.ponte16.com.mo)

#### SHERATON MACAO, COTAI CENTRAL

No. of rooms: 3894  
Email: [sheraton-macao@sheraton.com](mailto:sheraton-macao@sheraton.com)  
Website: [www.sands-cotai-central.com](http://www.sands-cotai-central.com)

#### HOLIDAY INN MACAO, COTAI CENTRAL

Tel: (853) 2828 2228  
No. of rooms: 1224  
Website: [www.sands-cotai-central.com](http://www.sands-cotai-central.com)

#### GRAND EMPEROR HOTEL

Tel: (853) 2888 9988  
No. of rooms: 307  
Email: [enquiry@grandemperor.com](mailto:enquiry@grandemperor.com)  
Website: [www.grandemperor.com](http://www.grandemperor.com)

#### WALDO HOTEL

Tel: (853) 2888 6688  
No. of rooms: 161  
Email: [fo@waldohotel.com](mailto:fo@waldohotel.com)  
Website: [www.waldohotel.com](http://www.waldohotel.com)

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