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Travel Daily

First with the news

Friday 13th March 2015

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Real industry social networking

TRAVEL Daily and jito will host a travel and hospitality industry networking night on 31 Mar at the Sydney Sofitel Wentworth.

The event follows the success of the recent Platinum Networking Nights, with this one open to everyone across the industry.

Two Hawaiian Airlines tickets to Honolulu will also be given away on the night - see the **last page** or traveldaily.com.au/rsvp.

AirAsia repairing damage

AIRASIA ceo Tony Fernandes still sees significant potential in Australia, despite its operations here losing almost \$130m in 2014.

Speaking in Sydney yesterday, he cited a range of factors for a slump in sales including negative publicity from the Dec Indonesia AirAsia crash and the last minute postponement of its Melbourne-Bali route (**TD** 24 Dec).

He said the MH17 and MH370 tragedies had also had a "major impact" on the performance of AirAsia X, but sales were now rebounding, with ambitious plans for double daily services to Perth and Melbourne as well as possible trans-Tasman flights.

Fernandes confirmed AirAsia X was also keen to restart London services (**TD** 02 Dec) which would be popular with Aussie travellers.

Australia is a "phenomenally key market" for the carrier, he said.

"We want to grow the market".

MEANWHILE, Indonesia AirAsia X is kick starting its newly CASA-approved Melbourne-Denpasar (Bali) route, today announcing a launch fare of just \$78 one way.

The direct service commences operation on 18 Mar, initially as twice weekly and moving to five per week from 01 Apr.

Cheapest seats are available for travel to 30 Jun before rising to a lead in of \$129 valid between 01 Jul and 26 Mar, on sale to 22 Mar.

QF Amex 3% bonus

QANTAS and American Express are this month running a promotion under which Amex Qantas Corporate Card customers can receive a bonus 3% rebate on the total amount spent on flights between 01 Mar and 30 Apr.

The extra payment is in addition to the 2-5% rebate customers already receive as part of the Amex QF Corporate Card.

Cardmembers must register online for the promo and spend \$2,000 or more on eligible Qantas flights for business purposes during the promotional period.

Today's issue of TD

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

- AA Appointments jobs
- Networking Night

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NF flights canx today

AIR Vanuatu has cancelled all services to/from Port Vila today as a precautionary measure due to tropical Cyclone Pam.

The carrier confirmed the move yesterday as Airports Vanuatu closed all airports at 9pm local time last night until further notice.

NF country manager Australia Malcom Pryor apologised to guests impacted by the move, advising affected customers will be re-booked or offered a full refund of airfare.

Attend a private
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Sydney

Thursday 19th March



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UNFORGETTABLE CANADA & ALASKA 2015

APT

CLICK HERE TO DISCOVER MORE

Whewell sells stake

TRAVEL Associates Australia board member Bernard Whewell has sold his shareholding in the firm to directors Russel Brown & Lance Bracken, the company said.

Whewell joined the board in 2013 when it acquired Broome & The Kimberley Holidays (BTKH).

The company said it was looking forward to continuing the development of the BTKH division and expanding its product range under new gm Nerreda Hillier.

ATEC/NTA rally for EMDG

AUSTRALIA has been referred to as a “minnow” in the battle to lure international travellers by two of the nation’s peak advocacy groups, warning “Australia cannot afford a ‘do nothing approach’ to innovation in export tourism”.

In a joint submission to the Australian Government relating to a review of the Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) scheme, ATEC md Peter Shelley &

NTA ceo Juliana Payne said there is “considerable concern” that Australia is falling significantly behind world growth in inbound visitation, that Australia’s growth forecasts for international arrivals is “heavily reliant on China”.

The parties said the US, UK and Singapore are all aggressively competing with Australia for the tourist dollar, “as a result for greater competition, Australia has been losing market share”.

Shelley and Payne emphasised that “maintenance” of the EMDG scheme is critical to shoring up the nation’s potential to grow in the ever-increasing competitive global market, highlighting that SMEs need access to tools to “infiltrate, establish and sustain their presence in both established and emerging export markets”.

ATEC/NTA called for a removal of the current EMDG cap, special consideration be given to SMEs/ RTOs & to “maintain the quantum of grant monies available in forward estimates, and restore it to its previous equivalent level of \$200 million in 2009/2010, which amounts to \$228 million in 2015”.

Helloworld adds new “agent specials” tab

HELLOWORLD has launched a new section on its OTA consumer website which provides info on exclusive in-store deals, and then directs consumers to their “nearest brand-carrying agent” to book the specials.

CEO Elizabeth Gaines said the move was a “strategic milestone in the ongoing implementation of our omni-channel strategy”.

Helloworld.com.au ceo Jeremy Reitman said the initiative would provide consumers with a “richer, more informed travel research experience,” allowing them to browse a broader selection of all-inclusive packages such as tours and small group cruises.

After entering their postcode, the closest agent is highlighted.

Beyond appointment

THE fast-growing Beyond Travel has appointed Martine Nunes as a second NSW sales manager.

She joins the company with more than 20 years of experience including sales roles with Silversea, MSC Cruises and Creative Holidays.

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02 9231 2825

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www.aaappointments.com.au

Intrepid revives Expeditions

ADVENTURE company Intrepid Travel has resurrected its range of Expedition trips to remote and "obscure" destinations, dreamt up by more than 1,000 staff.

Employees of the firm came up with over 50 submissions, with destinations required to be "logistically possible", not include a "danger zone" & be somewhere "genuinely new and unusual".

Returning to Intrepid's roots, the new itineraries are true "adventure travel" expeditions, similar to those offered when the firm launched 26 years ago.

MD James Thornton admitted some of the dream itineraries "had us busily checking our maps and DFAT warnings - and all of them inspired us to want to pack our bags and do it".

The firm openly admits the revamped Expedition range is "not for everyone" and says it has a warning on its website stating travellers should "expect some

things to go wrong".

The Intrepid website forewarns: "While a lot of research and planning goes into putting together an Expedition itinerary, they are pioneering & innovative by nature. If smooth, ripple-free travel is what you're after, perhaps wait until they (possibly) become established trips."

Group sizes range from four to a maximum of 12 passengers (in most cases) and stay in hotels, guesthouses, cabins, camping or on a bus, depending on the trip.

There are four trips in the initial offering of Expeditions including a 15-day tour through Kosovo, Albania and Macedonia, 15-day exploration of the Mayan World, 10-day journey through Georgia and eight-day PNG trip.

Departures commence in Jul and Intrepid says it will continue to add to its Expedition collection throughout the year.

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

OS fleet renewal

AUSTRIAN Airlines is accelerating a renewal program for its medium-haul fleet, with its existing Fokker aircraft to be replaced by Embraer 195 jets which are currently part of the Lufthansa CityLine operation.

The first Embraer 195 with OS livery is now expected to be flying before the end of 2015, with the full fleet change comprising 17 aircraft likely to be completed by the end of 2017.

OS ceo Jaan Albrecht said the decision by the Lufthansa Group to reallocate the Embraers represents "a vote of confidence in Austrian Airlines".

The Embraer aircraft currently have an average age of four years - compared to the 21 Fokker 70 and Fokker 100 planes in the Austrian Airlines fleet which are about 21 years old on average.

Lufthansa CityLine will in turn receive Bombardier CRJ900 jets from Eurowings.



Window Seat

NOW this is something truly worth celebrating.

LEGOLAND in Malaysia has been catapulted into the record books this week after a special Chinese New Year promotion.

Officials from the renowned Malaysia Book of Records were on hand to record the gripping moment (**below**) when staff from the theme park unveiled (wait for it) The Most Number of Mandarin Orange Replicas Made of LEGO Bricks.

2015 of the LEGO Mandarin Oranges made up the giant display which is a symbol of abundance and good fortune.



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The Business Class you've been waiting for is arriving 31 March 2015*. With a stylish cabin, luxurious leather seats and a mouth-watering Luke Mangan designed menu, you'll feel at home from the moment you step on board. **Available for bookings now.**

*Sydney to Auckland commenced 28 February 2015



 **australia**

Fine dodgy operators: AAA

INDUSTRY advocacy group Accommodation Association of Australia has called for a standard, national definition on tourist accommodation to crack down on illegal operators using residential properties as visitor lodgings.

The organisation has lodged a submission to the Productivity Commission seeking a crackdown on illegal lodgings, saying it should be subject to "a much stronger compliance regime" as safety is being compromised.

AAA ceo Richard Munro said he supported less regulation in the tourism industry, however a balance between guest safety and

the cost of administration was the appropriate amount.

"The duty of care to guests who stay in accommodation establishments is paramount."

Regulatory elements requiring greater levels of enforcement included building fire safety, disability access, insurance and payment of taxes, Munro added.

The AAA called for fines of "not less than \$1 million per property" to be levied on non-compliant companies generating business through residential tourist accom.

CLICK HERE to read the AAA submission in its entirety.

SIN Grand Prix deals

SINGAPORE Airlines Holidays is celebrating the start of the F1 Grand Prix season by launching short-stay packages in line with its own race, taking place in Sep.

Package including return airfare, accom & race ticket is priced from \$1,885pp ex PER - book by 30 Jun.

Norfolk visitors up

NORFOLK Island Tourism has reported visitor numbers to the short-haul destination are up 17% during the first two month of this year compared to Jan & Feb 2013.

Tourism officials say forward bookings for 2015 are strong and Norfolk is likely to achieve its best result in five years for arrivals.

GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL

JOURNEY BEYOND

Domestic Business Development Manager

Great Southern Rail strives to deliver a trip of a lifetime beyond people's expectations, promising exceptional customer service and awe-inspiring adventure on The Ghan and Indian Pacific.

An exciting opportunity exists for an experienced and driven business development professional to join the Great Southern Rail (GSR) team at the Adelaide Parklands Terminal. This position operates across both wholesale and retail markets and is primarily accountable for building new and further enhancing existing business partnerships.

GSR is seeking a candidate with exceptional interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence, outstanding business acumen and incomparable motivation and drive to achieve objectives. The position offers the chance for the successful candidate to demonstrate their talent in managing complex and large partnerships and to display strong and decisive leadership abilities.

The successful candidate will be results oriented, a strong commitment to quality and a well developed attention to detail. For more information click on this advertisement.

Applications close COB Tuesday 17th March 2015.



Friday 13th Mar 2015

Sydney lights up for Royal Rendezvous

Travel Daily
First with the news



Photo credit: James Morgan

New client for Gate 7

PROMPERU has signed Sydney destination marketing firm Gate 7 as its representation agency to lead its local marketing activities and promotion of the destination.

Peru is the first South American account for Gate 7, with Australia the country's second largest source market in Asia & Oceania.

Travel trade activity is being led by Sarah Thornton, with publicity to be overseen by Rebecca Hyde.

ATEC going to races

MEMBERS of the Australian Tourism Export Council will gather at Randwick Racecourse later this year for the organisation's annual Meeting Place networking event.

Planning for the event is well underway according to ATEC, with ideas on themes, content and speakers now being accepted.

ABOVE: Celebrating 175 years of operation, Cunard last night lit up the Sydney sky in a blaze of colour and pageantry to send off two Queens in true regal style.

Queen Mary 2 and *Queen Victoria* met in Sydney Harbour for the first time this week for a Royal Rendezvous, both now treading different paths on their way back to Southampton.

The next time the ships will meet will be as part of a nautical ballet conducted by all three Queens on the Mersey River as the line kicks off six weeks of events and galas in its spiritual home in Liverpool.

QM2 is now en route to New Zealand for its second navigation and will make one more stop in Sydney prior to heading home, while QV will stop in Auckland before traversing the Pacific Ocean to the United States.

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*Ex Perth. Terms & Conditions apply.



HTA: Mahalo nui loa Sunrise



ABOVE: Live coverage from Hawaii beamed to TV audiences around the country this week via Seven Network's *Sunrise* breakfast TV show, which wrapped up earlier today in Honolulu.

The *Sunrise* outside broadcast showcased Oahu, Maui and Hawaii Island, and for host David 'Kochie' Koch, a private plane trip to the 'Garden Island' of Kauai included a helicopter flight over the Jurassic Park Falls along the Napali Coastline, with lunch at The St Regis Princeville Resort.

Highlights included swimming with sharks, visits to Paia town and Piihola Ranch in Upcountry Maui, a helicopter tour over a snow capped Mauna Kea on the Big Island & a visit to the Waikale Premium Outlets on Oahu.

Hawaii Tourism Oceania country

manager Ashlee Galea praised the support of the *Sunrise* team and travel providers "in putting this amazing week together".

"We'd like to say a big mahalo nui loa (thank you very much) to Hilton Hawaiian Village, Jetstar and Flight Centre," Galea said.

Galea and HTA's Janaya Birse (centre) are pictured on the fringe of the Duke Kahanamoku Lagoon at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, flanked by *Sunrise*'s (from left) Natalie Barr, Edwina Batholomew, Sam Armytage, Michael Pell, David Koch and Mark Beretta.

OS flying VIA/MIA

AUSTRIAN Airlines is set to launch new flights between its Vienna base and Miami starting 16 Oct using Boeing 777-200ERs.

SA nosh in Asia park

VISITORS to Ocean Park theme park in Hong Kong have the opportunity to sample a selection of dishes featuring South Australian ingredients as part of new promo running until May.

Seen by South Australia Tourism Commission as a coup, the food & wine promotion is being held to celebrate the opening of the \$5m Adventures in Australia Exhibit, complete with SA koalas.

"It is fantastic visitors to Ocean Park will be given a true taste of South Australia, they can see the koalas and they can indulge in some of our best food and wine," said SA Minister Leon Bignell.

Ocean Park is a popular tourism and conservation themed amusement park that attracts almost 8 million visitors annually.

Bignell - the South Australian Minister for Agriculture, Food & Fisheries and formerly Tourism - is in Hong Kong and Shandong, China this week on a trade mission to promote potential F&B and tourism experiences.

Friday 13th Mar 2015

Scenic festive brox

FESTIVE cruises & land tours through Europe and a Christmas itinerary in the Canadian Rockies feature in Scenic Tours newly released Christmas Wonderland 2015 brochure.

The range includes a 16-day Christmas & New Year River Cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest, setting out on 15 Dec & celebrating Christmas Day in the Austrian city of Linz - **CLICK HERE** to view.

Goldie bowled over

GOLD Coast has been selected as the host for the 2020 World Bowls Championship, to be held at Broadbeach Bowls Club.

The event will generate an expected \$5.7m in visitor spend and over 30,000 visitor nights.

Sales Executive NSW/VIC/QLD - Full Time - Sydney



Are you passionate about the travel industry and looking for that next step forward?

Are you someone who loves driving new market opportunities?

We are seeking an energetic Sales Executive for a full time position located at our Sydney Office. The successful candidate will be a fun loving, business savvy, confident sales person to work with a portfolio of established agents.

The company is Tourism Holdings Australia Pty Ltd (**thl**), and the brands include Britz Campervans, maui Motorhomes, Mighty Campervans, United Campervans, KEA Campervans, Britz USA, RoadBear RV USA, Kiwi Experience, Waitomo Glowworm Caves, and The Legendary Black Water Rafting.

The role will involve generating new clients while managing existing clients in NSW, VIC & QLD. Your territory will include key retail agents with the challenge of continuing these long term client relationships while seeking new opportunities to drive sales.

The role will suit someone with strong sales and presentation skills preferably with experience in the youth travel industry. You must have the desire and energy to make this job your own. A fresh, dynamic approach to the role is required, along with travel industry experience.

You will report to the Key Account Manager Australia based in Sydney, with regular intrastate and interstate travel required.

If you're ready to get out of the office and onto the road and think you have what it takes, please submit your application via the following link:

<http://careers.thlonline.com/jobdetails?jobmc=20055THL>

Applications close Friday 13th March 2015.

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Friday 13th Mar 2015

SYD welcomes nod

SYDNEY Airport chief Kerrie Mather welcomed approval yesterday by the Federal Govt for its Ground Access Solutions and Hotel Major Development Plan (**TD** yesterday), saying the project "will improve passenger access, choice and convenience".

Mather said the construction of a new on-airport hotel for the T2/T3 precinct will further elevate Sydney Airport's position as the country's "gateway airport" and provide tourism benefits.

The planned development is set to create 2,880 direct & indirect jobs in the construction period and 181 direct & indirect ongoing full-time equivalent positions once operational.

New LCC for Asiana

SERVICES on a second low-cost carrier owned by Asiana Airlines will launch later this year, with the new carrier dubbed Seoul Air.

The airline will operate short-haul international services to second-tier Japanese cities such as Hokkaido and Fukuoka.

Seoul Air will likely fly out of Incheon Airport on routes not profitable for Asiana, meaning it will not clash with Air Busan, the other LCC part owned by Asiana which is based at Gimhae Airport.

Spurs deals on sale

QANTAS Holidays has released travel packages for fans heading to Sydney to see English Premier League side Tottenham Hotspur take on Sydney FC in an int'l friendly match on 30 May.

Packages start from \$435pp twin share for return QF airfare to Sydney departing from BNE, one night at Travelodge Sydney and Category C match tickets.

Deals are also valid for a range of other Sydney hotels, with extra nights able to be added along with higher grade match tickets.

Travel agents can earn Trip points under the promotion, which is on sale until 15 Apr, valid for travel departing 30 May only.

CLICK HERE for a promo flyer.

Hyatt enters Zanzibar

HYATT Hotels Corporation has marked its entry into Zanzibar this week following the opening of the Park Hyatt Zanzibar.

Located on the beachfront in Stone Town, the 67-key luxury resort features oceanfront rooms offering views of Dhow Harbour and the Indian Ocean.

Park Hyatt Zanzibar extends the Park Hyatt brand to 36 properties worldwide.

AA/TN to up c'share

AMERICAN Airlines has sought blanket codeshare approval to enable Air Tahiti Nui to place its 'TN' designator code on flights between Los Angeles and "new US points" and other routes.

Ladies taking charge at hotels



THE latest crop of 16 female graduates from Accor's Strategic Leaders Development Program have earned their stripes and moved into general manager roles in a range of hotels nationwide.

Tying in with International Women's Day last weekend, the latest graduates link with a commitment by Accor to balance the gender ratios working in senior hotel management roles.

The hotel giant has set itself a target of increasing the number of women in senior roles from 27% to 50% in three years time.

In the program, graduates completed a specifically designed six-month program to prepare for their next senior industry role.

Units of study included project planning, guest experience, animating food and beverage and managing owner's expectations.

Other core elements focused on developing new skills in leadership, strategic planning and business improvement.

Five have already moved into GM roles, with another five

successfully achieving senior roles at their respective properties.

Pictured above are five of the latest graduates, all of whom have now taken on more senior roles at their Accor property.

From left is Ibis Sydney Airport operations manager Pamela McCabe; Novotel Melbourne Glen Waverly operations manager Chrissy Hatswell; Ibis Styles Mt Isa general manager Laura Ousby; Cathy Jacobson and Hotel Lindrum MGallery general manager Michelle Bradshaw.

Aloft in the Big Easy

STARWOOD Hotels & Resorts has debuted its boutique Aloft brand in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Aloft New Orleans Downtown features 188 loft-style rooms and sits within a renovated historic city building on Baronne Street.

Amenities include an outdoor pool, gym and meeting rooms.

The property is located a short walk from the famed Bourbon St and Mercedes-Benz Superdome.



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New Zealand is the ultimate destination and Tourism New Zealand's role is to make sure that the world knows it.

This is a fantastic opportunity for someone wanting to take their career to the next level because you want to work with one of the most recognised Tourism brands in the world. The role of Trade Development Consultant is responsible for educating and engaging with the travel industry through the execution of trade and consumer events and product development.

To be successful in this role you will be degree qualified with experience in operating in a trade marketing and/or business development field. You must have outstanding verbal and written communication skills. This person will have a natural flare for managing and fostering relationships and proven experience in managing projects. Candidate must be available for regular domestic travel.

To view a full position description head to

<http://www.tourismnewzealand.com>.

Applications close 24 March 2015.

Queries and questions: please email tnzhr@tnz.govt.nz

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Voyager have an exciting opportunity for a 12 month maternity leave replacement contract for our Groups and Events Manager. The ideal candidate will be an experienced corporate event professional at management level, with a proven record in driving and leading their team to success.

Applications must include a Cover Letter and can be sent to recruitment@voyagertravel.com.au

Friday 13th Mar 2015

Technology Update

Today's Technology Update is brought to you by Sabre Pacific.

Protect your clients' money with the new Sabre Virtual Payments App.



We've just launched new Virtual Payment capabilities that eliminates manual chargeback reconciliation,

and the credit risk for our customers.

Last month we delivered a new Red App, powered by Conferma, which enables corporate customers to pay for accommodation with their own virtual credit card. No need for them to have a corporate credit card, and no need for you to front their costs. Simply book their accommodation in Sabre, and Virtual Payment handles all the payment and reconciliation details. Automatically.

Yep. Automatically!

It creates and sends the hotel vouchers as soon as you book. Then once the trip is fulfilled, it processes the settlement. So you don't have to do any manual reconciliation, and you don't have to risk late payments and credit card fraud. How's that for a hotel chargeback solution.

All you need is an account with one of our virtual credit card partners (AirPlus, eNett or WEX) and the Red App. Then sit back and see how this solution boosts your productivity and eliminates your risk of fraud.

This is a game-changer for many TMCs already around the world, so get in touch with us to see how it can be a game changer for you.

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Baird's need for speed

RE-IGNITING the eternal battle for supremacy between Sydney and Melbourne, incumbent NSW Premier Mike Baird has laid down a goal of snatching the Formula 1 Grand Prix from the Vic capital as a bold new re-election strategy.

The ploy aims to see the world's most popular motorsport category race across the Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of a street circuit facility styled on Monaco.

It will form a centrepiece of Baird's major events targets, which has seen the city's budget for luring big events recently topped up by \$123 million.

According to *News Corp*, Baird will set up an expert team to design a bid strategy for the race if re-elected on 28 Mar.

The \$180 million bid would see Sydney 2000 Olympic Games architect Rod McGeoch and former News boss John Hartigan in the driver's seat to report on the economic benefits such a plan would deliver for Sydney.

Melbourne is contracted to run the Australian Grand Prix until 2020, with a decision on its future expected in 2018.

Pass for long winters

OBSESSED skiers and winter season enthusiasts booking a long winter holiday in the US can now book a pass allowing five days ski access at 22 different resorts.

The new M.A.X. Pass allows for a total of 110 days skiing - five days at each resort - over the 2015-16 season, and is priced at USD\$699 with no blackout dates.

Eligible resorts are located in the US Northeast, Midwest, West, Rocky Mountains and Canada - see www.theMAXpass.com.

GDS airport services

TRAVEL agents are now able to pre-sell express airport transfer services including airport to city rail links under a new tech plugin unveiled by Travelport for its Travel Commerce Platform.

Heathrow Express has become the first operator to sign up to offer its express services for all agents connected on Travelport.

All service classes are available for agents to book, along with electronic ticketing, with the system also automatically integrating required PNR data.

Prices on offer will be the same as those available to pax directly.



Travel Specials

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

All-inclusive resort firm **Club Med** is welcoming families for a mid-year break by cutting the price for kids under 12 down to \$0. Kids can stay free at a range of properties across Asia, including Thailand, Malaysia, China and Indonesia. The offer is valid for bookings made by 31 Mar, for stays from 01 May - 31 Oct. Phone 1800 258 263 or see www.clubmed.com.au.

Couples can save up to \$5,310 on escorted luxury touring in Argentina with **Abercrombie & Kent**. The savings apply to the firm's 11-day Argentine Reflections tour, which visits many of the country's most spectacular highlights. Book by 31 Aug for travel 05 Oct - 15 Dec. **CLICK HERE** for info.

Book a double occupancy voyage on **Viking Ocean Cruises'** voyage from Catalonia to Constantinople and save up to \$500. The 22-day voyage runs from Barcelona to Istanbul also includes 17 guided shore excursions and is priced from \$10,349pp twin share. Phone 1300 062 326 to book.

Bench International has cut \$150 per person off the price of its nine-day tour of Egypt, priced from \$3,450pp if booked and paid before 30 Apr. The itinerary includes a five-day Nile River cruise. Phone 1300 237 422 to book.

SA Facebook refresh

AGENTS in Australia and New Zealand can now connect with South African Tourism through the organisation's new Facebook page, launched this week.

The dedicated trade portal will offer new information on coming famill departures, destination news, events and competitions.

Agents can also get in touch with African experts and share photos from their own travels.

Ascott in Iskandar

SERVICED apartment operator The Ascott Limited has signed a new contract to manage its third property in the Iskandar region of Malaysia, with the 214-unit Citadines Medini Nusajaya slated to welcome guests in 2019.

Wait times cut in UAE

EMIRATI technology services firm Emaratech is set to launch a data bank system to facilitate a number of new technology enhancements at UAE airports.

Among the forthcoming rollouts will be a system known as "Eyen", a faster smart-gate which will aim to instantly verify an arrival based on data gathered from passports.

It is expected to be in place at all UAE airports by 2020.

Other enhancements will see the launch of a smart trolley able to go through x-ray machines without having to remove bags.

Trolleys will offer a touch-screen to guide passengers to their flight.

The systems were unveiled at the Future of Borders Summit currently underway in Dubai.

RESERVATIONS/TICKETING AGENT WORLD AVIATION SYSTEMS SYDNEY

World Aviation Systems, the leading specialist airline General Sales Agent is seeking for an experienced Reservations/Ticketing agent.

Essential skills and Qualifications:

- Minimum of 2 years Fares and Ticketing experience
- Excellent written and verbal communication
- Excellent CRS and keyboard skills
- SABRE/AMADEUS Reservation & Ticketing knowledge is essential
- Previous experience in Group handling.
- Results-driven achiever with strong organizational skills and self-motivation
- Customer-focused individual with unsurpassed interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Ability to work under pressure

If you are interested in applying for this role, please send your resume to Dilli.ching@worldaviation.com.au by close of business Friday, 20 March 2015.

Only successful applicants will be contacted.



Agents ski the top of the world



TAKING in the freshest of fresh air and the panoramic views at the top of Whistler Blackcomb, this group of agents enjoyed five days of ski action during a recent educational in Canada.

Hosting the group was ski wholesaler Sno'n'Ski, Whistler Blackcomb, Whistler Tourism and selected partners in the region.

Spending their days on the mountains, the group immersed themselves in the magic of Whistler in winter time, capped off with evenings in the village.

The group from Flight Centre

and Escape Travel were treated to first access on untouched runs and the morning's pristine snow.

Highlights included riding on the famed Peak to Peak Gondola, personalised ski lessons and tours of the mountain with top-shelf dining and relaxing opportunities in the spa at the end of the day.

Pictured above high over the rest of the world below from left is Marta Sejnohova, Leo Humbel, Shawn O'Halloran, Caitlin Cosgrave and Matt Scarpato from Sno'n'Ski, Jonathan House and Marty Hector.

SPTE 2015 delegation boost

THE second annual South Pacific Tourism Exchange has confirmed it will expand participation by about 40% for delegates & sellers.

Taking place at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on 19 and 20 Jun, SPTE 2015 is aiming for 80 international buyers to meet with 80 tourism sellers from 16 member states - Cook Islands, American Samoa, Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

South Pacific Tourism Office ceo Ilisoni Vuidreketi said feedback from the private sector was already up on the inaugural show hosted in Auckland last year.

Among the sellers are National tourism offices, ITOs, regional airlines, hotel operators, tour & excursion operators.

"Australia is the main tourism source market for the Pacific region and many of our Pacific Island countries are targeting the SPTE to help promote destinations and its products & services," Vuidreketi added.

Seller registration closes on 26 Mar - www.spto.org/members.

MEANWHILE, the South Pacific Tourism Organisation has reported more than 1.67 million tourists visited the South Pacific in 2013, a drop of 17,250 from the corresponding year prior.

Official figures from the SPTO 2013 tourism *Fact & Figures* booklet confirm over 582,000 Australians visited the region.

Fiji was the most popular destination in 2013 for overall visitors with 657,706 arrivals, followed by Papua New Guinea (182,188 visitors) and French Polynesia (164,393).

Three icons in one trip

BROOME & The Kimberley Holidays has gathered the region's "must do" experiences in one seven-day itinerary travelling from Kununurra to Broome.

The package is priced from \$3,190pp ex PER & includes three nights at El Questo Wilderness Park, three at Cable Beach Resort, selected touring and return air, for departures 01 Apr - 24 Sep - phone 1300 357 057 for details.

Celebrate good times

NEWLY launched boutique special occasion travel firm The Celebration Travel Company has bolstered its range, adding product in Hawaii, Fiji and India for groups travelling to celebrate.

An exclusive package on the Eastern & Oriental Express train has also been developed, with special offers on all product now on sale, available to 31 Mar.

Travel Daily
First with the news

Friday 13th Mar 2015

Flower show territory

NORTHERN Territory has signed a two-year tourism sponsorship deal to exhibit at the Melbourne Int'l Flower and Garden Show to showcase its wares to attendees.

The deal is aimed at promoting domestic tourism to a key market segment in over-55 travellers.

Tourism NT will bring its own Bronzed Brolga garden to the show, which attracts 110,000 visitors from Australia and NZ.

MEANWHILE, Tourism NT has also partnered with networking community Business Chicks, which will see the organisation act as a event partner at eight of the group's events nationwide.

Jump into Ireland
ireland.com

INSIGHT VACATIONS
The Art of Touring in Style

WIN a trip to Ireland

This month *Travel Daily* is giving the travel industry a chance to win a trip to Ireland, courtesy of **Tourism Ireland** and **Insight Vacations**.

The prize includes:

- Return economy flights from Australia to Ireland for two people (including taxes)
- Pre and post-tour accommodation in Dublin, courtesy of Tourism Ireland
- Insight Vacations 7-day "Focus on Ireland" guided holiday for two (twin share)

To win this amazing prize you'll need to do two things:

1. Send us a photo that celebrates Ireland's national day by greening yourselves, your business, whatever you want, for St Patrick's day before COB 16th March and,
2. From 17th March answer the daily question correctly and have the most creative answer to the final question

Send your 'going green' photo by COB 16th March to:
irelandcomp@traveldaily.com.au

Having some trouble thinking how you can go green? Check out these guys for some inspiration:



Terms & conditions

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 at www.traveldaily.com.au.

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If you possess a minimum of 5 years leisure consulting experience, have exceptional customer service skills & like the sound of working on high end leisure bookings then we have the perfect roles for you. These boutique agencies require experienced consultants to join their teams servicing many repeat and referral clients with their worldwide holidays. With no time wasters, these agencies attract clients who are ready to book their 5 star arrangements! So what are you waiting for? Contact AA and make the move today!

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS, MON TO FRI ROLE
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BRISBANE CBD - TOP SALARY PACKAGE \$60K - \$70K OTE

Are you an experienced corporate travel consultant looking for a new and exciting opportunity? This leading travel company currently has a position for a highly motivated Corporate Travel Consultant to join their successful team. Enjoy an excellent salary pkg along with a supportive team environment and manager, Mon to Fri hours, uncapped commission, industry discounts and benefits and the opportunity to progress to other areas of the business. Min 2 years' experience in corporate travel is a must. Apply now!

CORPORATE PERKS FOR TRAVEL EXPERTS
INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC CORPORATE CONSULTANTS
SYDNEY - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$60K

This leading global TMC is looking for domestic and multi-skilled corporate consultants due to growth in their existing accounts. Take ownership of your portfolio of varied accounts, arranging all their travel requests. Known for their customer service focus & work/life balance ethic, you will also be rewarded with an excellent salary package, global career progression & ongoing development. If you have strong current corporate or retail travel experience and strong GDS skills, apply now!

WELCOME ABOARD YOUR NEW CAREER
CRUISE RESERVATION SPECIALIST
SYDNEY - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$55K

This dynamic global wholesaler is looking for a talented, Cruise consultant to join their well-established team. Book amazing cruises to exciting worldwide destinations from Cuba to Alaska and everything in between. This company offers amazing perks including access to global travel discounts and ongoing career progression, as well as excellent training and support. Minimum 12 Months travel consulting experience including group travel is essential. Don't delay - apply today!

LOOKING FOR A NEW ADVENTURE
LEISURE TRAVEL CONSULTANT
ADELAIDE - SALARY PKG UP TO \$55K (DOE) + BONUSES

Travel experts in Adelaide! We are now accepting expressions of interest for these spectacular upcoming roles. This travel company will see you moving away from face to face sales and into a role where you will service a variety of clientele via phone and email. With a fantastic team atmosphere and a high base salary you can finally move away from the time wasters and into retail bliss! If you have at least 2 years international consulting experience then we want to hear from you. Apply today and never look back!

CRUISE GURU'S, DIP YOUR TOE IN THE WATER
RETAIL CRUISE CONSULTANTS
BRISBANE - EXCELLENT SALARY PKG \$45K - \$50K OTE

Do you love selling cruises? Our clients currently have vacancies in several of their dedicated cruise offices located throughout Brisbane. Booking worldwide cruise destinations along with all pre and post arrangements will be your main focus in this role along with providing excellent customer service and being part of a close knit team. Previous industry experience is a must along with strong cruise knowledge. Enjoy a top salary package and a chance to sell something you are passionate about. Call us now to find out more!

Win a trip for two to Honolulu



Prize sponsored by Hawaiian Airlines and winner to be drawn at the event



Industry Networking Night

This event is a traditional mix of complimentary food, drinks and networking

Following on from the success of the Executive Networking Night, Travel Daily Group and jito have partnered with some key industry players to bring you a new Industry Networking Night.

This event is open to anyone in the Travel & Hotel Industry at all levels. RSVP early - attendance will be confirmed based on availability. Limited to 100 guests.

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