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Tuesday 30th August 2016

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VA Econ Space+ launch

VIRGIN Australia passengers in the main cabin of domestic and international flights can fly in added comfort from today following the introduction of the new Economy Space+ product.

Announced earlier this year, Economy Space+ takes the place of VA's existing 'Extra Legroom' offering across the entire Virgin Australia network (**TD** 16 May).

On Virgin Australia's long-haul services to Los Angeles and Abu Dhabi, guests will be provided at least 25% more legroom than the main Economy cabin, preferred overhead lockers, dedicated check-in and priority boarding (where offered), as well as guaranteed first meal choice and noise cancelling headset.

It's also offered on VA's Airbus A330-200s, Boeing 737-800s, Embraer E190s & ATR-72 aircraft.

Economy Space+ prices lead in at \$10 one way for domestic and short-haul int'l flights and \$50 on long-haul international services, varying based on route, fare type and time of purchase.

Chief commercial officer Judith Crompton said Virgin Australia was committed to providing customers with "more choice and comfort" when flying.

Economy Space+ can be bought when booking online or through a travel agent, Virgin added.

Zika Singapore worry

PREGNANT women are being warned by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to defer non-essential travel to Singapore due to ongoing transmission of the Zika virus in the country.

According to an update from Smartraveller yesterday afternoon, Aussie women travelling to Singapore should avoid pregnancy for at least eight weeks following their return.

To date, 56 people in Singapore have had confirmed cases of the Zika virus, with the majority having already fully recovered.

Today's issue of TD

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

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Tuesday 30th August 2016

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travel directors 1300 856 661 **MORE INFO**

Sea Princess drug bust

THE Australian Border Force and Australian Federal Police seized 95kgs of cocaine and arrested three Canadian passengers on *Sea Princess* as the ship berthed in Sydney on Sun.

With a street value of \$31m, the drug bust was the largest of its kind on board a cruise ship.

Sea Princess docked in Sydney as part of a 66-day round the world cruise which began in Britain early last month, sailing to Canada, the United States, South America and New Zealand.

The drugs were found stashed in suitcases of the pax by detector dogs, with the AFP saying further arrests have not been ruled out.

Etihad global sale

ETIHAD Airways has launched a massive sale on Business and Economy class seats, offering up to 50% off airfares to 45 cities in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas.

Travel is valid through until Jun, with options including Economy class fares to Venice priced from \$1,140 (ex MEL) or \$1,239 to Frankfurt (ex SYD), for bookings made by 04 Sep - etihad.com.

Serko, HLO hotel content

HELLOWORLD and listed New Zealand technology firm Serko have struck a new agreement that will enable users of Serko Online to soon be able to search and book hotel inventory through the Australian travel company.

As an aggregator of urban and regional hotel inventory, Helloworld is able to provide instant access to more than

12,000 properties globally.

Last month, Serko inked a deal with helloworld for business to provide support services to users of its online travel management service serko.travel.

Serko ceo Darrin Grafton today said he was thrilled to be able to provide all customers of the online booking tool with hotel inventory through Helloworld.

"We expect their sharp pricing and on-account service to be of interest to Serko's growing customer base," Grafton added.

HLO ceo and managing director Andrew Burnes said, "By bringing Helloworld and Serko further together we hope to create real, long-term sustainable value for both companies".

Globus Africa/Asia

GLOBUS has revealed next year's itineraries for Africa and Asia along with earlybird specials.

Highlights include Kenya: A Timeless Safari, a 10-day journey through Nairobi, Samburu National Reserve, Ol Pejeta Conservancy and chimp sanctuary and Nyahururu Falls from \$4,859ppts, and the 10-day Discover Japan tour exploring Tokyo, Mt Fuji, Matsumoto and Takayama, priced from \$5,139.

The 2017 Africa and Asia programs are on sale now with an earlybird saving of 10% (included in the above costs) plus a free air credit of \$200 per couple is offered if booked by 13 Sep.

Philippine DMC reps

MELBOURNE-BASED sales & marketing representatives Jones & Co Collection have added inbound tour operator Intas Destinations to its portfolio.

Intas Destinations is an award-winning Philippine DMC with 30+ years of experience, expertise and knowledge.

Vale James Patrick

THE Australian travel industry is today mourning the death of James Patrick, the co-owner of Wiltrans International alongside his wife Diane.

A funeral service will be held next Mon 05 Sep in Sydney from 11.30pm at St Mark's Anglican Church, 57A Darling Point Rd, Darling Point.

Wiltrans currently represents Paul Gauguin Cruises in Australia and NZ, and has previously also locally looked after a range of upmarket cruise lines including Crystal, Regent Seven Seas, Oceania and Silversea Cruises.

UA poach AA exec

UNITED Continental Holdings has named Scott Kirby to the newly created role of president for United Airlines.

Reporting to United ceo Oscar Munoz, Kirby will be responsible for the carrier's ops, marketing, sales, alliances, network planning and revenue management.

Kirby was most recently the president at rival US carrier, American Airlines which he has held since the merger of AA and US Airways three years ago.

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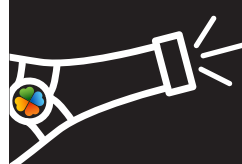
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Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 30th August 2016

TRAVELMARVEL
Travel More

2 FOR 1
AIRFARES*

PORTUGAL & SPAIN CRUISING 2017
ON THE MS DOURO QUEEN

Moran Barangaroo venue tick

NSW Planning & Environment has given the nod for a landmark \$12.4 million new pub & restaurant to be built at Barangaroo South, owned by celebrity chef Matt Moran and business associates Peter Sullivan and Bruce & Anna Solomon.



"This design makes the building a distinctive entrance to Barangaroo without dominating other buildings or detracting from the predominant building line along the Darling Harbour foreshore," the NSW Government said in its determination handed down late last week.

The three-level venue (pictured) will feature a casual bar and restaurant, a sophisticated premium eatery and a rooftop garden bar, with indoor and outdoor seating.

According to the Environmental

Assessment Report, the project is in the public interest and will promote the mixed-use nature of Barangaroo South "by introducing night time dining and entertainment facilities".

Currently un-named, the venue will have a capacity of 800 people including 370 patrons internally and 430 externally, operational between 7am until midnight, seven days per week.

Previously, Moran said the establishment will offer a "truly Australian experience at this world-class waterfront venue".

Utah sales mission

A DELEGATION from the Utah Office of Tourism will be calling in to see key travel trade and media in Australia this week to discuss all the US state has to offer.

Hosted events are being held in Melbourne tomorrow and in Sydney on Fri (02 Sep).

A consumer event 'Climbing Your Way to Utah' will also take place on 02 and 03 Sep between 11am and 5pm at Druitt Landing in the Darling Harbour Precinct.

LATAM pax traffic up

SYSTEM passenger traffic rose 2.5% in Jul to 65,877 for LATAM Airlines, when compared to the same period last year.

Capacity also saw a slight jump by 0.2%, with the company's load factor for the month climbing 2.0 points to 85.9%.

International passenger traffic accounted for approximately 55% of the month's total passenger movements.

Window Seat

PERHAPS matching team bags wasn't such a good idea.

Team Great Britain hauled home 67 medals from the Rio Olympics last week, all in 900 identical red bags.

It took athletes quite some time to locate their individual luggage, with gold medal rower Matt Langridge sharing a picture (below) of the mess on Twitter last week, saying "finding my bag could prove more challenging than the racing".



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Tuesday 30th August 2016

Money

WELCOME to *Money*, TD's Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

\$1AUD = US0.755

THE Australian dollar has sprung back from Fri's heavy selling as markets traded cautiously ahead of this week's crucial US non-farm payrolls number.

Across markets, the AUD was mostly higher. The AUD/USD, however, was broadly flat. Otherwise, the AUD was higher versus the euro, up 0.2%, and the British pound, up 0.4%.

The Aussie dollar climbed to two-week highs versus the Japanese yen as increasing optimism from the US Fed saw the USD/JPY jump higher. The AUD/JPY was helped along by this move.

Wholesale rates this morning.

US	\$0.755
UK	£0.576
NZ	\$1.036
Euro	€0.675
Japan	¥76.94
Thailand	฿ 25.99
China	¥ 4.661
South Africa	R 10.825
Canada	\$ 0.979
Crude oil	US\$47.64

Singapore arrivals up

INTERNATIONAL visitor arrivals to Singapore for Q1 were up 14% year-on-year to 4.1 million travellers, according to data published by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB).

Tourism expenditure during Q1 2016 spiked 2% year-on-year to SG\$5.4 billion with shopping, accommodation, food and beverage spending all up.

Hotel room revenue was estimated at SG\$0.8 billion for Q1 this year, jumping 4.6% on the same period in 2015.

While the average occupancy rate increased, the revenue per available room dipped by 2.3% over the same period due to a weakened average room rate.

Port Vila rejuvenation

MAJOR upgrades are taking place along the Port Vila waterfront as part of the Vanuatu Tourism Infrastructure Project (VTIP) funded by the New Zealand and Vanuatu Governments.

The VTIP involves rehabilitation and development of two public waterfront spaces: the Seafront Precinct from the central market to Chantilly's on the Bay and the Portside Precinct at the main wharf Eastern Entrance.

General manager of the Vanuatu Tourism Office Linda Kalpoi explained to *Travel Daily* the project would help open up the waterfront area to visitors, cruise ship passengers and locals.

Works include landscaping, improved sea access, parklands, playgrounds and new tourism infrastructure.

Development of Lapetasi Wharf will see a new footpath and pedestrian crossing and a fresh tourism area and wharf precinct for Mama's markets and access to tour operators.

More in *Cruise Weekly* today.

Olympic visitation

BRAZIL clocked over half a million international visitors during the Olympic Games, according to research from the country's Ministry of Tourism.

Visitation between 01 Jul and 15 Aug was up a whopping 157,000 people when compared to the same period last year.

The visa waiver for visitors from the United States, Canada, Japan and Australia was of benefit for 74.7% of the int'l visitors who came to Brazil for the Games.

Choice appointment

FRANK Scerri has been named as Choice Hotels Asia-Pac's new national development manager.

The newly created role will see Scerri utilise his past experience in property development and project marketing to spearhead Choice Hotels' drive to add new properties to its portfolio.

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Join us at Sofitel Sydney Wentworth
Thursday 8th September | 10:30am—3.30pm

Tropical Tok Tok gala dinner



TOK Tok 2016 culminated in an island-themed gala dinner held at Iririki Island Resort & Spa off Port Vila last Fri evening.

Resort managing director Anthony Pereira hailed this year's industry trade show as "the biggest in 13 years".

He gave thanks to all the buyers in attendance and the hard work they put into Vanuatu tourism.

"Buyers you are our rock and we need you even more now and we ask you not to forget us," he said.

"We are very grateful for everything you have done and continue to do for us."

A giant cake with the words 'Vanuatu, happiest people on earth Tok Tok 2016' iced across the top was then shared by key delegates including Vanuatu Tourism Office's general manager Linda Kalpoi and Vanuatu's Deputy Prime Minister and Tourism Minister Joe Natuman.

Traditional performances, a huge buffet dinner and fireworks were all part of the celebrations.

Pictured above in their island getup are Malcolm Pryor, Destination Asia Pacific Marketing; Nina Henderson, HOOT Holidays; Simon Clancy, Pinpoint Travel Group; Farid Hacene, Island Escapes and Sarah Beeken also of Island Escapes.

Rocky Peaks & Perks

ROCKY Mountaineer is offering up to \$800 in credit per couple in added value for eligible 2017 Canadian Rockies bookings made between now and 04 Nov.

Credit can be utilised on extra hotel nights, activities, meals and sightseeing.

Bookings including GoldLeaf or SilverLeaf service of eight days or more will receive a \$400pp bonus or \$250pp for shorter packages of five to seven days duration.

**SAVE UP TO
50%***

**LAST MINUTE
SALE**

Variety Cruises

United trivia nights in Melb, Syd



UNITED Airlines' annual trivia nights got off to a buzzing start earlier this month in Melbourne

followed up by a Sydney event.

Some 130 agents participated, testing their knowledge of US destinations with great prizes being given away including return tickets to LA.

Pictured above enjoying the Melbourne evening are Craig Gibbons, Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board; Julie Reid, United; Jaclyn Schurmann, Corporate Traveller; Steven McArthur, Buzzgroup; Amy Morrison, Corporate Traveller and Ian Dart of United.

Spirit of Tas promo

SPIRIT of Tasmania has a special package deal starting at \$299 each way on select sailings from 17 Oct and 15 Dec.

The promotion includes two passenger fares, twin bed cabin and a standard car.

The offer ends 10 Sep unless sold out prior; book at spiritoftasmania.com.au.

QF blanket donation

QANTAS has kicked off an initiative for its furry friends, giving blankets, doonas and mattress covers from its domestic and international flights to RSPCA shelters around Australia.

The donation program with the RSPCA started last month with over 10,000 used blankets already given to animals in need of some extra warmth.

Check out all the adventure Arabia has to offer in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read



AFTA update

From AFTA's chief executive, Jayson Westbury



AS WE shift gear into spring and the third quarter for 2016 it would appear to me that not only are we changing seasons, but the travel industry may just have a new spring in its step. Many of the public companies that work within the travel industry across the travel value chain have reported positive results. In particular Qantas, which reported its best result in 95 years. An amazing effort by all involved and a recognition that together, the travel industry can do the unexpected.

If you think back just a few years ago how rough things were, and now to this latest result, it is a great story for the company and the entire travel industry. So as I say, I hope that the new spring in our step carries forward over the next few months as booking season opens for the lead up to Christmas and the New Year.

On a different note, over the weekend I had the pleasure of attending the American College Football match hosted by Destination NSW at ANZ Stadium, Olympic Park. As someone who is not a big sports follower, I had no idea what to expect when I turned up to watch the University of California, Berkeley (Cal Bears) play the University of Hawaii (Rainbow Warriors).

This game was the opening round of the 2016 NCAA College Football Championships, so it really mattered to both the teams and you could feel the adrenaline in the air. As only America can, they turned on a spectacular event with all the opening and mid-game entertainment that you would expect with two marching bands, hundreds of dancers, mascots, canons and of course the American National Anthem for which you could have heard a pin drop from the 60,000 plus spectators.

Not only did all this go on, but two American tourists who had travelled down to watch the game, set up a marriage proposal to top off the entire spectacle, on the ground in front of the entire crowd.

A huge congratulations goes out to all involved at Destination NSW for managing to bring this match to Sydney. Not only were there hundreds of American tourist attending, the TV rights and images that were beamed back to loyal fans watching from the USA were priceless. A wonderful and exciting event and I am now hooked on American Football.

Four Seasons Hoi An

FOUR Seasons Hotels and Resorts has announced the luxury Vietnamese property The Nam Hai Hoi An will be managed by the group, effective 20 Dec.

The resort, which features 40 private residence villas, 60 newly-renovated villas, three dining venues and a cooking school, will mark the entry of Four Seasons into Vietnam.

QR A350 MAD service

QATAR Airways has updated its planned Airbus A350-900XWB operation to Spain, with the aircraft set to operate the Doha to Madrid route on one of two daily flights from 16 Mar.

KGI photography tour

KANGAROO Island Odysseys has partnered with professional photographer Andy Rasheed to offer a three-day, all inclusive photographic tour of the island.

Tours are limited to seven places & depart 17 Sep and 22 Oct; prices start from \$1,959pp twin share.

Phone (08) 8553 0386 for more.

StayWell 7-day sale

STAYWELL Hospitality group has a seven-day sale on until 06 Sep across its properties for stays between 01 Sep and 30 Sep.

Deals include up to 64% off in Asia, 20% off in Europe and 25% off in Australia.

CLICK HERE for more.



Round 25 Winner

Congratulations

MARK MOONEY

from *Campus Travel*

Mark is the top point scorer for Round 25 of Travel Daily's NRL footy tipping competition. He's won an Aussie craft beer pack from Collette.



Major prize for the 2016 footy tipping competition is return economy class airfares flying with **EMIRATES** to any one of the 39 cities they fly direct to in Europe including Rome

NSW permit LITS/16/0137; JACT permit TP 16/00359

Mantra Group gm of the year



CHRIS McIntosh was recently recognised as Mantra Group's General Manager of The Year at a star-studded gala ceremony held

at Mantra View Hotel in Surfers Paradise on the Gold Coast.

McIntosh received the accolade after consistently excelling in his role as gm of Mantra on Murray for the past 12-months.

He also implemented a number of strategies to improve service levels and team engagement.

McIntosh is **pictured above** celebrating the win on stage.

Adventure travel rise

NINETY-FIVE percent of travel agents within the Virtuoso network say they have seen active adventure and specialty travel sales rise within the past 12-months, according to the latest trend report.

The top emerging adventure destinations observed in the survey included: Iceland, Galapagos/Ecuador, Costa Rica & Chile, New Zealand, Peru, Cuba, Antarctica, Arctic/North Pole, South Africa and Australia.

In terms of adventure related activities; Hiking, Biking and Kayaking were the top three choices by specialty travellers.

These were followed by small-ship expedition cruising, food & wine, wildlife viewing, walking, photography and scuba diving.

The survey was conducted between Feb and Apr and received input from 125 advisors and partners.

New B6 Aruba routes

JETBLUE Airways will launch flights between Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and Aruba's Queen Beatrix International Airport from 04 Jan.

The daily flights will be operated on an Airbus A320 aircraft, with seats to go on sale from today.

Fares start from US\$99 one way.

APT small ship brox

APT has unveiled two new brochures showcasing its small ship product for 2018.

New on the expedition cruising program for 2018 is the 10-day Iceland: Land of Fire and Ice trip, which commences in Reykjavik and explores the country.

Within APT's Luxury Mega-Yachts 2018 brochure, a choice of six fully inclusive programs are on offer which tours Western Europe, Antarctica & Kimberley.

An array of early bird deals are available on a range of itineraries, call APT on 1300 196 420 for more information.

Silver Airways Cuba

SILVER Airways will debut its planned Cuba Service as of 30 Aug, two days earlier than previously scheduled.

The US-carrier will operate services from Fort Lauderdale to eight Cuban ports including Camaguey, Cienfuegos, Holguin, Santiago de Cuba, Cayo Coco, Varadero, Cayo Largo and Manzanillo.

NEXT Journey roll out

NEXT Hotel in Brisbane has introduced a new chauffeured Tesla service.

Named NEXT Journey, guests will be able to utilise the car for airport transfers and private use on day trips to the Gold Coast or Sunshine Coast.

To book a Tesla NEXT Journey during a stay or to enquire about transfers, phone (07) 3222 3222.

Uluru drone footage

DRAMATIC footage of the landscapes of Uluru has been captured by Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia.

The video showcases a never-before-seen perspective of Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.

"While there is no replacement to enjoying firsthand the majestic beauty of Uluru, this footage gives a breathtaking insight into the majestic nature of the landscape," said Voyages ceo Andrew Williams.

The footage can be viewed by **CLICKING HERE**.

Tuesday 30th Aug 2016

Jetstar Asia E-IOSA

JETSTAR Asia has successfully completed the International Air Transport Association's enhanced operational safety audit.

To achieve registration, Jetstar Asia had to have in place "a cohesive and integrated corporate safety and quality management system to constantly monitor, review and address safety issues".

TropOut Festival

NEW Caledonia will play host to the 2017 TropOut Festival, a week-long travel event aimed at the gay community.

Seven-night packages start from approximately AU\$985.

TropOut New Caledonia will be held from 06-13 May 2017.

CLICK HERE for more info.

WIN A LUXURY HOLIDAY WITH CLUB MED



This month *Travel Daily* and *Club Med* are giving readers the chance to win a trip to Indonesia. The luxury prize includes:

- An all-inclusive 7 night stay in Club Med Bintan Island Resort Indonesia.

To win this great prize, answer every daily question correctly and have the most creative answer to the final question. Send your answers to clubmedcomp@traveldaily.com.au

22. Name two other Asian countries where you can find a Club Med resort.

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TERMS & CONDITIONS

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Competitive salary on offer

Variety is the key to working for this progressive consolidator. If you are a ticketing expert; good with GDS skills and enjoy a fast paced role, then this is for you! Enjoy your weekends off with Monday to Friday hours. This busy, friendly working environment has the added bonus of offering training opportunities to improve your skills and growth within the travel industry.

- Monday to Friday
- Variety plus

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Use your problem solving abilities in this unique role. Assist travel agents & wholesalers with queries, offer alternate solutions when 1st choices are unavailable & offer traveller assistance when 'in country'. Strong Aust product knowledge.

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Join this leading APAC's software company and utilise your knowledge of hotels & venues throughout Aust. & Asia to negotiate rates for accommodation & venue space for upcoming events & ongoing long term agreements.

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Account Manager – Online Hotels

Sydney, \$75k + Super, Ref: 2456PE1

5 weeks annual leave per year, high employee satisfaction & a breakout room with all the mod cons; This role is not to be missed; you will need to have strong analytical skills to assist with growing business, think outside the box when it comes to attracting new & feel comfortable in making your own appointments with clients & building strong relationships! A good understanding of hoteliers & the online sector is a must & a love for getting out on the open road & visiting hotel partners.

For more information please call Paul on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

South Pacific Island Specialist

Melbourne, Fantastic Package on Offer, Ref: 2457KH1

If the South Pacific is your passion and you have travelled the region, then focus on what you love to do! An excellent opportunity has just arisen at a boutique travel company based in Melbourne that specializes in the South Pacific and Thailand. Based in a lovely office, you will join a dynamic team of like minded professionals, creating bespoke holidays and luxury travel. You will be well rewarded with a fantastic salary, plus incentives on top, and access to amazing travel opportunities.

For more information please call Kelly on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Experienced Account Manager

Adelaide CBD, Circa \$85k, Ref: SO4821

This is a fantastic role to fully utilise your exceptional customer service skills to implement effective retention strategies for clients by creating excellent rapport and service. You will be building on these relationships and preparing customer reviews, as well as setting strategic business goals. You will be working with a large highly successful organisation and you will benefit from exception training and leverage off their excellent reputation. Plus an uncapped earning structure.

For more information please call Sarah on (08) 6365 4313 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Reservation Specialist – South Pacific

Brisbane, OTE \$60k First Year, Ref: 2363SZ1

If the Sth Pacific is your passion and you have travelled the region, why not specialise in what you love to do! This is a great opportunity for an experienced Travel Consultant to join the expanding team in this leading wholesale operator. You will be creating bespoke holidays by providing exceptional customer service to both travel agents & direct consumers. You can enjoy long term career progression, recognition for your efforts and family trips to destinations off the beaten track.

For more information please call Serena on (07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Travel Consultant

Blue Mountains / West Sydney, \$40-50k + Bonus, Ref: 2436HC1

My client located in the Blue Mountains is looking for a travel consultant to join a dynamic team selling worldwide travel itineraries. The successful candidate must have at least 3 years of experience in a customer facing role selling travel itineraries. If you are confident in selling worldwide destinations and have good customer service skills, this is the ideal role for you! In return you will be rewarded with an attractive package + superannuation with loads of travel opportunities.

For more information please call Hannah on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Wholesale Travel Consultant

Melbourne, Competitive Salary Package, Ref: 0930KF1

Are you looking for a new challenge in the travel industry? Do you want to move to wholesale travel? I have the opportunity for you to join a global, market leading company within their wholesale team and make some excellent money! If you are great at sales and can provide excellent service then this could be the move for you! Booking international travel packages; flights, accommodation and land based products, offering a fantastic service to all customers. Take your career in a new direction!

For more information please call Kate on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Director of Sales & Marketing

Adelaide, Circa \$80k, Ref: SO9999

Working within a large Hotel Group, you will need to have experience of working within a sales/marketing capacity within a hotel. You will be used to making high level strategic decisions and continuously improving and reviewing ways of exceeding revenue targets and improving the brand of the hotel. You will be experienced at maximising income through conference and large events and you will have innovative and inspirational ideas for marketing the hotel to its highest potential.

For more information please call Sarah on (08) 6365 4313 or click [APPLY](#) now.



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