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Friday 8th July 2016

Swiss SuperStars

QANTAS Holidays, Viva! Holidays and Rail Tickets are partnering with Switzerland Tourism, Swiss Travel System and Rail Europe to create greater brand awareness and knowledge of various Swiss Travel Passes to the trade.

The parties launched the Swiss Travel Pass SuperStar Program which will award top performers with a chance to win an all expenses paid trip to Switzerland, while also getting certified.

There's a batch of other prizes up for grabs, including Nespresso coffee machines, Victorinox bags & Bucherer watches - more HERE.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has five pages of news, a **cover wrap** and **photo page** for **Air New Zealand**, plus full pages from:

- Albatross Tours
- Travel Trade Recruitment
- Greece & Med Travel
- The Travel Industry Expo

Pacific Explorer revealed

P&O Cruises will debut its first ever waterpark at sea and dual waterslides, when the mega-liner *Pacific Explorer* joins the line's local fleet inside 12 months.

Details of *Dawn Princess'* multimillion dollar refurbishment next year which will see her rebadged and sailing as *Pacific Explorer* on 22 Jun from Sydney were made public for the first time yesterday.

To be fitted out in May and Jun, Pacific Explorer will also emerge with an extensive choice of dining options including a new dining concept, The Black Circus - a supper club venue serving food "with a side of cabaret-style entertainment".

P&O's Salt grill by Luke Mangan, and Waterfront restaurant will be replicated, along with two other venues which launched on *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden* last year - Angelo's (Italian cuisine) and Dragon Lady (Asian cuisine).

The popular 'The Pantry' will be incorporated aboard *Explorer*, expanded to include Nics & Toni's (Mediterranean) and there'll also be the poolside Lobster & Burger bar & a new gourmet pizza venue.

The 77-tonne ship's waterpark will feature dumping buckets and oversized water toys, while the onboard P&O Edge Adventure Park with flying fox and will have a barefoot bowls green.

P&O Cruises pres Sture Myrmell said the overhaul would reflect "modern Australia, combining elegance with relaxed comfort".

View the P&O 2016 brox HERE.

Skycouch half-price

AIR New Zealand is discounting its innovative Economy class 'Skycouch' product on routes to the USA and South America, when booked by 20 Jul - see the cover wrap for more details.

Philpot exits BUSA

BRAND USA is in the process of finalising a replacement for its local director, Oliver Philpot, who has announced his departure from the tourism organisation after two years in the role.

Philpot, who exits early next month as Brand USA's director for Australia & New Zealand, is taking a position at Brisbane Airport Corporation as aviation trade marketing manager.

"For now, it's business as usual with Brand USA and the team here in Sydney, with a huge volume of projects still on the go," Philpot told *TD* yesterday.

New DNSW roles

DESTINATION NSW is seeking applicants for the positions of chair & board members for each of the six new networks revealed earlier this week as part of NSW's focus on regional areas (*TD* Wed). Applications will close on 31 Jul

- for more details, **CLICK HERE**.





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JU/HG sign codeshare

AIR Serbia has inked an arrangement with NIKI, which will see 'JU' flight code placed on 11 services operated by HG.

The new deal enables Air Serbia pax to fly with JU from Belgrade to Vienna before connecting to a HG operated flight to Reykjavík in Iceland; Valletta in Malta; Rome, Catania and Florence in Italy; Faro in Portugal; Madrid, Barcelona, Málaga and Palma de Mallorca in Spain and Zürich, Switzerland.

TIE Melbourne debut

THE Travel Industry Exhibition will kick off in Melbourne on Mon, with attendance free for industry guests.

Starting at 9am, the exhibition will be held at Melbourne's Peninsula at Docklands.



Keeler exits Tourism Aus

TOURISM Australia has this morning confirmed deputy chief executive officer of two years, Frances-Anne Keeler, will depart the organisation next month, with the role not be replaced.

Keeler tendered her resignation after eight years with the firm, a tenure which saw her lead Tourism Australia's int'l team through a "significant change to both the tourism industry, int'l markets and the organisation," md John O'Sullivan said.

"She will leave a strong int'l team based in twelve offices throughout the world, who are all seeing increased arrivals and spend as a result of their hard work," O'Sullivan added.

He said Keeler had been a key driver behind partnerships with industry and Federal, State and Territory governments.

"She will be missed for her knowledge & understanding of the business, her strategic guidance and advice and her passion for

Windstar president

WINDSTAR Cruises has announced the appointment of John Delaney as the line's new president, taking office 19 Jul.

Delaney was most recently svp of global marketing and sales for Seabourn Cruise Line, a position he has held since 2011.

His previous experience also includes long tenures with The Walt Disney Company and Holland America Line.

CEO of Xanterra Parks & Resorts (which owns Windstar Cruises), Andrew N Todd lauded Delaney's appointment.

"Windstar just welcomed back the renovated *Star Pride*, and since taking ownership of Windstar in 2011, we have invested more than \$40 million into our three sailing yachts and three motorised all-suite yachts, so this is an ideal time for John to join the company and contribute to its success," Todd commented.

our industry & Australia."

Keeler will leave TA at the end of Aug in order to focus on developing a career as a non-executive director, but will continue in a consulting capacity.

With the deputy ceo role axed, Tourism Australia will appoint an executive general manager of International, to be filled in the interim by Katherine Droga, gm on international operations and distribution development.

The structure adjustment will see the TA's Trade Events team report to Penny Lion, gm of Business Events Australia, who is joining the organisation's exec leadership team as executive general manager of events.

Lion's responsibilities cover Business Events, Major Events and Trade Events.

"Both Penny and Katherine are already significant contributors to our events and international businesses," O'Sullivan said.

GK suspends Manila

JETSTAR Japan has tentatively shelved services to the Philippines effective immediately.

Agent GDS displays indicate the Qantas Group offshoot will recommence services to Manila from 01 Sep, with twice weekly frequencies ex Nagoya and four weekly ex Tokyo Narita.

GK's Osaka Kansai-Manila route, which launched in Apr, has been withdrawn until further notice.

Snow Conditions

WELCOME to *TD*'s regular snow conditions update, providing info on the latest minimum snow depths and lifts in operation across key Australia and New Zealand ski-fields.

Here's the latest snow reports:

- Perisher 77.7cm / 41 lifts
- Thredbo 77.7 cm / 13 lifts
- Charlotte Pass 77.7 cm / 6 lifts
- Mt Hotham 50cm / 8 lifts
- Mt Buller 83cm / 16 lifts
- Coronet Peak CLOSEDThe Remarkables 6ocm / 6 lifts
- Mt Hutt 30cm / 3 lifts
- Cardrona 45cm / 5 lifts

Fiji and Japan p'ship

FIJI and Japan have updated their aviation service agreements for the first time since 1993 in a bid to increase passenger and cargo opportunities, expand entitlements and improve safety and security.

Both countries can now operate three passenger or cargo flights per week between Fiji and Japan, with an expansion to four flights per week starting late 2019.

EuroUSA local gsa

4C TOURISM Marketing has been appointed as the Australian GSA for EuroUSA Travel & Destination Management.

The firm's prime focus will be on promoting groups into the North American region.







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US-Havana flight allocations

THE US Dept of Transportation yesterday announced its tentative allocation of 20 available US-Havana frequencies, awarded to eight major US carriers.

A dozen American airliners sought to operate scheduled pax services to Havana, collectively applying for 60 flights per day.

Airlines permitted to begin selling seats on commercial services to the Cuban capital are Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Frontier Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines, Spirit Airlines and United.

The tentative allocations from 10 US gateways to Havana were awarded as:

- AS daily, ex Los Angeles;
- AA four times daily, ex Miami; daily, ex Charlotte;
- DL daily, ex New York JFK; daily, ex Atlanta; daily, ex Miami;
- 6A daily, ex Miami;
- B6 two times daily, ex Fort Lauderdale (one on Sat); daily, ex

New York JFK; daily, ex Orlando;

- WN two times daily, ex Fort Lauderdale; daily, ex Tampa;
- NK two times daily, ex Fort Lauderdale;
- UA daily, ex Newark and once weekly (Sat), ex Houston.

The US government said its top priority in allocating frequencies was to "maximise opportunities for the substantial communities that are most likely to benefit" - namely airports with a close proximity to major Cuban-American communities.

"Restoring regular air service holds tremendous potential to reunite Cuban American families and foster education and opportunities for American businesses of all sizes," DOT said.

Objections to the US regulator's draft decision are due by 22 Jul. Last month, DOT approved

six US airlines to serve nine destinations in Cuba, other than Havana (*TD* 11 Jun).

MasterChef to Cali

CALIFORNIA will take centre stage during next week's coverage of Network Ten's *MasterChef Australia*, beginning 7:30pm Sun.

Partnering with Visit California & Qantas, *MasterChef's* remaining top seven contestants will eat their way through San Francisco, Napa Valley, Santa Monica, Beverley Hills and San Diego.

The broadcast will not only capture California's array of fresh produce but the US state's stunning landscapes and cities.
View a preview **HERE**.

New East Africa tour

&BEYOND is taking advantage of Kenya Airways' new thrice weekly flights linking Nairobi and Cape Town, via Livingstone, introducing a nine-night tour that showcases each location.

The Masai Mara, Victoria Falls and Cape Town Safari will launch in Aug priced from US\$9,547pp. For more details, **CLICK HERE**.



Window Seat

PEOPLE have been known to sneak away from a hotel with an extra freebie or two in their luggage. Luxury body care products perhaps? But how about a dog?

At The Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa in California they're trying to make leaving your holiday with a new pooch the norm.

The hotel has partnered with Animal Samaritans and uses their lobby as a temporary home for animals until the right guest falls for them.

If you leave with a furry friend in tow, the resort will not forget about you.

You and your adopted canine will be invited back for special 'Yappy Hour' events with cocktails, nibbles for the both of you and a photo booth.





Friday 8th Jul 2016

Winter Magic with Air New Zealand

Air New Zealand welcomed in the 2016 New Zealand ski season this week with a Winter Magic themed celebration. Guests enjoyed winter-inspired cocktails and canapes, mulled wine and traditional kiwi beef pies. With trans-Tasman alliance partner Virgin Australia, Air New Zealand

> will operate over 120,000 seats between Australia and Queenstown over the July to September winter period - giving Australians even more reasons to visit the New Zealand slopes this year.

Aside from frequent services across the ditch, Air New Zealand is very proud to have launched their night flights into Queenstown. Adding to an already extensive regional network, the new Queenstown schedule offers even more choice and flexibility for travellers.

To see more from the evening, visit **HERE**.



RACHAEL Nicholson, Air New Zealand; Rob Hamer-Jones, Virgin Australia; Alexandra O'Connor, Insight Vacations and Shirley Field, Kelly Clive, Richard George & Peta Clarke from Virgin Australia.



DEREK Morris, Express Travel Group; Gail Whanau, Air New Zealand; David Lorimer, HRG Australia; Jasmin Murphy, Air New Zealand; Blair Catton, Air New Zealand and Belinda Murphy, Helloworld.



ROD Henderson, ANZCRO and Tim Swan, Air New Zealand.

MICHAEL Zorbas, Air New Zealand; Tony Saunders, Tourism New Zealand; Derek Morris, Express Travel Group and Nicole Scott, Air New Zealand



SARAH Finocchiaro, Tristan Mendes and Lucy Wells from Air New Zealand.



MICHAEL Lowe, Kate Tzikas and Bianca Dimitriadis from Air New Zealand with Belinda Murphy, Helloworld and Andrea Massaro, Air New Zealand.



SHIRLEY Field, Virgin Australia and Blair Catton, Air New Zealand.



CHRIS Neill and Chris De La Torre both of Flight Centre.



DEREK Morris, Express Travel Group; Blair Catton, Air New Zealand and Belinda Murphy, Helloworld.



DAVID Addison, Sane Event Group and Helen Bambry, Tourism New Zealand.



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.

Qantas has slashed fares to Santiago, with an Economy return ticket from Sydney beginning from \$1,049. The travel period is between 17 Jan to 14 Jun 2017, with the deal available from now until 12 Jul - CLICK **HERE** for more information.

In celebration of its 23rd birthday, The Rembrandt Hotel in Bangkok is offering vouchers for use at the Sanctuary Wellness & Spa for stays booked from now until 30 Sep. Visit www.rembrandtbkk.com.

Book a whale watching tour with Majestic Whale Encounters before 31 Aug and save up to \$700 ppts. The guided tour includes nine nights' accom and return flights from Perth to Exmouth. Call 0405 594 253.

Beyond Travel is offering Stay Pay hotel deals in Prague. The specials are available at several centrally located three and four star hotels, featuring a free nights accom when three, four or six nights are booked. Call 1300 363 554 for the full list of what is available.

Hilton Saigon to debut

HILTON Worldwide has penned a management deal with Saigon Cuu Long Corporation to oversee the all-new Hilton Saigon, slated to open in Q4 of 2019.

The 350-key property will offer views of the city and flexible meeting spaces, a ball room, casino, spa, gym and outdoor swimming pool.

IATA May pax results

GLOBAL passenger traffic results for May climbed 4.6% when compared to the corresponding month last year, new IATA figures show.

Capacity rose 5.5%, which bumped the load factor down 0.7 percentage points to 78.7%.

Asia Pacific airlines' traffic increased 5.1% in May compared to the same period last year with capacity increasing 6.4%.

"After a very strong start to the year, demand growth is slipping back toward more historic levels," commented IATA director general and ceo Tony Tyler.

Tyler attributes the dipping figures to continuing terrorist activity and the "fragile state of the global economy".

"The shocks of Istanbul and the economic fallout of the Brexit vote make it difficult to see an early uptick," he said.

AccorHotel GM appt

ACCORHOTELS has expanded its leadership team, this week announcing a number of key appointments made in Australia and New Zealand.

Stephen Gould has been appointed to the position of general manager, Sofitel Wellington; whilst Jonathan Dean has also been named gm of Novotel Christchuch Cathedral Square and ibis Christchurch.

In Queensland, Mark Wilkinson will take the helm as gm at Sofitel Noosa Resort; with Ayay Vaid, Michael Daviss and Phil Richards appointed to the same position but at Novotel Sydney Brighton Beach, Pullman Brisbane King George Square and Pullman Banker Bay Resort, respectively.

Swissôtel Saudi Arabia

THE all-new Swissôtel Al Magam, Makkah is set to debut in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, following the signing of a management agreement with Sarah Towers for Real Estate Investment Company.

Featuring 1,624 rooms and suites, the property will offer a range of restaurants and dining options including the Al Khayraat which is capable of seating upwards of 3,000 guests.

Swissôtel Al Magam opens Sep.

Millenial travel habits

MILLENNIALS (16.4%) were noticeably more likely than non-Millennials (12.6%) to have taken their last holiday overseas, according to a new study released by Roy Morgan Research.

Looking at travel habits between Apr 2015 and Mar 2016 Roy Morgan found 69% of Millennials took a holiday in the last 12 months, almost on par with the 70.7% of Aussies aged over 35.

Victoria and Tasmania were the only states more likely to have been visited by Millennials than non-Millennials

Millennials were 10% more likely than older travellers to be active on holidays and were 16% more inclined to prefer "bright lights and big cities" during their travels.

Looking forward to the next year both Millennials and non-Millennials (58.8% and 57.5% respectively) had similar intentions of planning an Aussie getaway, the report shows.



Friday 8th Jul 2016

NT Barkly Tourism

THE Northern Territory Government has allocated \$95,000 this financial year for visitor information services at the Battery Hill precinct.

The area is being prepared to house memorabilia related to World War I Victoria Cross winner Albert Borella

The NT's Minister for Tourism, Adam Giles said he was committed to increasing tourism throughout Tennant Creek and Barkly region.

Giles also announced two new grants from the Government's \$10 million Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund for the NT's Jajjikari Cafe and the Arlpwe Artists Aboriginal Corporation.



This month, Scenic and Travel Daily are giving readers the chance to win a luxurious France river cruise valued at over \$15,000. The prize includes:

- 11 day Gems of the Seine River Cruise for 2 people
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To win, answer every daily question correctly and have the most creative answer to the final question. Send your answers to scenic@traveldaily.com.au



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

Inbound Travel Operations Manager

Melbourne, \$65-75k Salary, Ref: 2365KF1

Leading Inbound Travel Company in Melbourne are currently seeking an Inbound Operations Manager. The main purpose of this role is to ensure that all operations for your clients are completed in a timely manner from start to finish. You will develop and maintain excellent working relationships with all suppliers and service providers. You will oversee logistical movements and be the go to person for your team to resolve issues on the ground. An outstanding opportunity for the right person!

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

Travel Consultants with a Portfolio

Adelaide, Excellent Packages Available, Ref: SO121205

Consultants can balance a great work life by utilising the flexibility of being able to work in both the office and from home when necessary. If you have built a base portfolio of clients and are looking to grow this, then my clients can support this across various locations in Adelaide and be able to provide a supportive environment for growth. You can work completely autonomously or interactively with other consultants, to create your own success enabling flourishing future.

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

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Brisbane, Salary Negotiable, Ref: 2328SZ1

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

Retail Travel Consultant

Sydney CBD, Up to \$48k + Bonus, Ref: 2261HC12

My client located in the CBD is looking for a confident travel consultant to join a dynamic team selling worldwide travel itineraries. The successful candidate must have at least 2 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.

Travel Product Coordinator

Melbourne, Fantastic Package on Offer, Ref: 2371KH1

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

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Perth, Excellent Hourly Rate, Ref:1234SO12

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