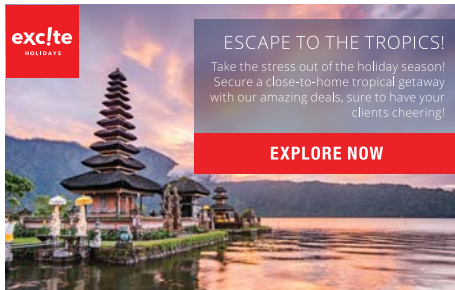


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Wednesday 14th September 2016



Alitalia to add Cuba

ITALIAN flag carrier Alitalia is planning a new direct route between Rome and Havana, Cuba.

GDS displays indicate the twice weekly flights will be served from 29 Nov 16 using 777-200ERs.

Jetstar launches flex fares

EXCLUSIVE

JETSTAR has confirmed a push into the corporate market, announcing the launch of a new fare product "to make the travel experience easier for the growing number of budget conscious business travellers".

The move was hinted at last month by ceo Jayne Hrdlicka at the CAPA Centre for Aviation conference (**TD** 04 Aug), where she admitted the carrier had "not always catered to the flexibility requirements" of road warriors.

The new Jetstar "FlexiBiz" bundle allows travellers to change the time of their flight on the same day of travel, take extra carry-on baggage and select an upfront seat at no extra cost.

Cancelled bookings under the bundle will also be eligible for a credit voucher which can be used toward a new booking within six months of issue.

There are no fees for name changes apart from applicable fare differences, and the FlexiBiz bundle can be added to any Jetstar Starter Fare for an "introductory price" of \$29.

However it is only accessible to

companies which sign up for the Jetstar "Business Hub" online at jetstar.com/business where they can book and manage their travel.

The carrier touts the benefits of its offering, citing its extensive network covering "many top business destinations with frequent flights at business times".

On the business hub it's possible to hold a seat for 48 hours before payment, and the portal enables managers to set up logins for multiple team members.

It provides a monthly report with all business expenses listed, and bookings can be managed "on the fly" via the Jetstar app.

A video describing the new option is online now at traveldaily.com.au/videos.



Kogan HKTb pact

THE Hong Kong Tourism Board has partnered with online operator Kogan Travel to promote luxury packages to Hong Kong.

The partnership is said to allow the HKTb to reach Kogan's 3.2 million strong database with 625,000 Facebook and 30,000 Twitter followers, offering "exclusively curated packages at up to 70% off regular prices".

The partnership with the tourism board was "the first of many to come", Kogan said, with the operator having booked more than 20,000 pax via Kogan Travel since it launched a year ago.

Bentours bonus

BENTOURS and Hurtigruten have extended their no single supplement offer on a range of Antarctica combination voyages for bookings made until the end of Sep - 1800 221 712.

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AA boosts JQ c'share

AMERICAN Airlines and Jetstar have expanded their codeshare cooperation this month, with the AA code now appearing on several new Australian and New Zealand Jetstar routes.

The additions include flights from Auckland to Napier, Nelson and Palmerston North in NZ, as well as from Sydney to Albury and Coffs Harbour.

New Amex GBT chief

AMERICAN Express Global Business Travel today announced the appointment of Philippe Chérèque to the newly created role of Amex GBT president.

The promotion will see him continue to oversee the company's Commercial and Product Technology divisions, which he has lead for the last two years, and at the same time assume responsibility for supplier relations, marketing and consulting.

CEO Doug Anderson said the move was part of a "larger strategic imperative to restructure our commercial group into regional teams to better serve our customers".

BARA Western Sydney push

THE Board of Airline Representatives has warned that the success of the proposed Western Sydney Airport will be heavily dependent on efficient aviation infrastructure services.

In a major position statement on the airport issued late last week by BARA executive director Barry Abrams, the organisation confirmed that international airlines recognise there is significant demand for air services in Western Sydney.

"BARA's position statement identifies the critical role a commercially-focused airport operator will play as a partner in ensuring airlines achieve operational excellence across safety, on-time performance,

baggage and freight management as well as overall passenger experience," Abrams said.

He cited some commentary indicating the airport operator will need some sort of financial assistance, urging that if this is the case, funding should come from the federal government's consolidated revenue rather than from a levy on airlines.

He said BARA's members also want to see more competitively priced jet fuel, 24 hour flight operations and new air navigation technologies at the airport.

See bara.org.au.

American Queen adds

THE American Queen Steamboat Company this morning announced the addition of the 166-passenger *American Duchess* to its fleet.

The all-suite newbuild will be the company's third vessel, and is the "first purpose-built boutique paddlewheeler offering the river cruiser an intimate experience through America's heartland".

More details in tomorrow's issue of **Cruise Weekly**.

Indaba date change

SOUTH African Tourism has advised that Indaba 2017 will now take place 16-18 May, with the date change due to another major event booked at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban for the same week as originally planned for Indaba.

The move means Indaba will also be held from Tue-Thu rather than its traditional weekend timing at the start of May.

The World Economic Forum is scheduled to take place 02-05 May in Durban, which would have impacted the setup for the original dates of Indaba.

Along with the date change South African Tourism acting ceo Sthembiso Dlamini has also flagged a number of planned changes to the show, including enhanced hosted buyer programs and a revised event calendar "to allow more time for exhibitors and buyers to do business and optimise networking opportunities".

Dlamini said the changes are a response to "many comments and suggestions from the trade on almost every aspect of Indaba".

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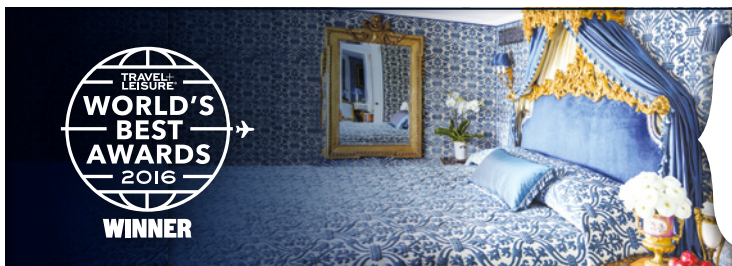


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VA applies for regional immunity

VIRGIN Australia has lodged a formal application with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, seeking authorisation for a "Charter Alliance" between Virgin Australia Regional Airlines Pty Ltd, Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd and Alliance Aviation Services Limited.

The proposed deal would provide for the joint tender and supply of services to corporate customers, principally for fly-in fly-out employees.

"Under the Charter Alliance the applicants will deliver an integrated offer of charter and regular passenger transport services," the application notes, with a range of value-added products and services including a comprehensive frequent flyer program, through-checking of baggage, airport lounge access and status credits plus associated benefits such as priority check-in.

The carriers say allowing the alliance would facilitate them to achieve operational efficiencies and flexibility in airline operations for corporate clients such as joint airport operations and ground handling as well as cooperative wet leasing arrangements.

For Alliance Airlines the deal will enable it to provide an integrated RPT and charter offering, while the overall deal "will enable the

applicants to compete more strongly with Qantas through matching its national, integrated charter and RPT offering and value-added benefits".

The ACCC has now launched a consultation process, inviting submissions by 30 Sep on the likely public benefits and effect on competition.

A draft decision on the alliance is anticipated in Nov or Dec 2016.

Globus Europe 2017

GLOBUS has launched its 2017 Europe program, which features new tours in Iceland and Norway alongside traditional favourites.

The operator is offering earlybird savings of 10% off the land portion of tours booked by 29 Nov 16, or 5% off bookings finalised by 25 Apr 2017, with further discounts available for booking a second tour and for repeat travellers.

The seven-day Best of Norway leads in at \$2,510 per person twin share including the discount, and can be combined with a six-night Hurtigruten cruise for a total of \$5,232 per person.

There's also the six-day Gems of Iceland, an eight-day German Vista tour and a nine-day From Ireland's Ancient East to the Wild Atlantic Way tour - 1300 230 234.

Hertz mobility fleet

HERTZ today announced the introduction of specially modified wheelchair access vehicles to its Australian fleet.

Ten new vehicles will be available in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and the Gold Coast, provided in partnership with Automobility.

The special vehicles have five doors, wheelchair access through the rear and five passenger seats, and exceed Australian standards for accessibility as well as fully complying with wheelchair restraint regulations.

"We hope that this move will give people who live with specific mobility needs more opportunities to travel freely and continue to highlight Australia as a wheelchair friendly destination," said Hertz Australia country manager Damien Shaw.

TT capacity boost

TIGERAIR will expand flights on four popular domestic routes during the upcoming peak summer travel period, with 76 additional services on Melbourne-Gold Coast, 54 extras between Hobart and Melbourne, 16 flights from Cairns to Melbourne and six between Perth and Sydney.

The extra flights will take place during Dec and Jan, with TT commercial director Adam Rowe saying the additions overall comprise more than 25,000 extra seats for holiday travellers.



Window Seat

THE proliferation of US states legalising cannabis has led to a number of new tourism offerings, including America's first Marijuana Meditation Retreat which will take place next month.

The weekend getaway in Oregon's wine country will be held on a 25 acre property about 90 minutes from Portland and is being backed by local entrepreneur Renee Spears, who said: "a small group of meditators and seekers will gather to explore the nexus between cannabis and spirituality".

AND for those who prefer to doze off without chemical assistance, InterContinental Hotels has launched a Holiday Inn Express promotion in Canada which aims to help guests get a better night's sleep.

The 'Snoopalooza' campaign extends both breakfast and check-out time until noon every weekend during autumn, and there are also tips on how to get a good night's rest in a special "sleep book" in the room titled *Bring your Zzz Game*.

Suggestions include avoiding using screens before bed, high quality pillows, exercising and keeping the clock face out of view during the night.



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Best jumps ship

AUSTRALIAN celebrity chef Mark Best will part ways with Holland America, after rival cruise line Dream Cruises announced he would debut his first restaurant at sea aboard the newbuild *Genting Dream* (*Cruise Weekly* yesterday).

Holland America Line this morning confirmed the split, saying that "following a successful three year relationship, Holland America Line and chef Mark Best, Holland America Line Culinary Council member, will part ways from 01 Jan 2017.

"Mark has been an integral member of the Holland America Line culinary team, and Holland America is grateful for his contributions to the Culinary Council since his 2014 appointment," the company said.

Best's new 'Bistro' on *Genting Dream* will feature cuisine based around "small producer-sourced Australian beef, lamb, river fish and the freshest seafood".

InsideJapan in Aus

UK-BASED Japanese specialist InsideJapan Tours has established its new Australian office (*TD* 12 Nov 2015) with the Brisbane-based operation formally opening earlier this week.

The office is headed up by branch manager Tim Oakes, with UK sales manager Harry Sargent saying "we recognised the continued growth and importance of the travel trade in Australia and the fact that Japan is a boom destination right now.

"We hope that with the Brisbane branch we can offer more Australians the chance to discover the Japan that we know so well," Sargent says.

InsideJapan, which launched about 16 years ago in Britain, offers a range of small group tours, self-guided adventures and exclusive private journeys.

Other brands in the UK portfolio incl InsideVietnam & InsideBurma - see InsideJapanTours.com.

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Record for domestic travel

THE twelve months to 30 Jun saw record results for domestic travel within Australia, according to Tourism Research Australia's

latest National Visitor Survey which was released today.

Overnight spending jumped 6% to \$59 billion, while overnight trips numbered 88.9 million, up 7% and bed nights rose 5% to 328 million.

The overall increase in domestic spend for the year was 7%, up \$4.8 billion to a record \$78.5 billion meaning domestic travel comprised two thirds of all tourism expenditure in Australia.

Inbound visitor spending also surged, up 14% to \$38.1 billion over the twelve month period, while combined tourism spend (international, domestic, overnight and day trip) reached a record \$116.7 billion.

TRA said holiday travel was one of the main drivers of the growth, with "unprecedented numbers of domestic travellers pursuing outdoor nature-based and cultural activities" - tra.gov.au.

NZ group splits from Flight Centre

NEW Zealand independent travel agency cooperative World Travellers has confirmed the cessation of a supply agreement with Flight Centre.

In place for the last six years, (*TD* 18 Mar 2010) the partnership saw Flight Centre supply a full range of product to the group which it then retailed through its network of more than 30 outlets across New Zealand.

Flight Centre NZ md David Coombes said the split is amicable, while there's industry speculation World Travellers will shortly announce a new arrangement with Helloworld.

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Book until 31st October 2016. Fares quoted above are for departures from Perth. Economy Class fares are for departures from 29th March to 31st May 2017 or 31st July to 24th September 2017, Business Class from 29th March to 30th September 2017. Other sale fares are available on other travel dates. Fares may vary due to currency fluctuations. Seasonal surcharges, weekend surcharges, and black out dates may apply. Change penalty and cancellation penalty may apply. For all other terms and conditions please review at time of booking.

Qantas to FlyPink in Oct



IN SUPPORT of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Qantas Group employees will proudly wear pink throughout Oct.

Dubbed FlyPink, Qantas staff will have pink epaulettes, pink wings, pink ribbons and pink caps made available to them and will be encouraged to make a donation.

Fundraising activities will also take place, with the company aiming to raise \$100,000 for breast cancer research.

FlyPink branded snack boxes and cupcakes will be served on Qantas and QantasLink flights, as well as pink biscuits and cocktails in the domestic Business Lounges. Show support at flypink.net.

Discover the women leading the way in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read

travelBulletin

Boeing China demand

CHINA is set to become the world's first trillion dollar aviation market, according to a forecast from Boeing.

The aircraft manufacturer has projected a demand for 6,810 new planes in the China over the next 20 year in its annual China Current Market Outlook, estimating the worth of these aircraft at \$1.025 trillion.

Randy Tinseth, vp marketing, Boeing Commercial Airplanes said "because travel and transportation are key services, we expect to see pax traffic grow 6.4% annually in China over the next 20 years".

Sealink non-exec dir

SEALINK Travel Group has appointed Fiona Hele as non-executive director.

Taking up the role yesterday, Hele will replace Bill Spurr, who has indicated his intention to retire on 25 Oct.

New Barging brand

ENTIRE Travel Connection is branching out and launching a brand dedicated to the niche of barging in Europe.

"The concept of barging is something we've been doing in France for a long time, but we've broadened it through the Barge Travel Connection brand to sell them in all the other countries through Europe," Entire Travel Connection md Brad McDonnell told *Travel Daily*.

Offering barging in France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Luxembourg, Italy, Scotland, England and Ireland, the brand provides all-inclusive cruising on vessels with around six staff for twelve passengers.

"It's a really great ratio so the level of service is high," McDonnell added.

Information on a range of special offers, along with the first Barge Travel Connection agent incentive can be accessed at www.bargetravel.com.au.

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All agents that complete and pass the OTT training by 30 Sept 2016 will be placed into the running. Prize valid for travel until 03 Oct 2017, is subject to availability and does not include taxes. Winner selected 03 Oct 2016 and will be notified by email.

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US clients returning to travel agents

A NEW survey released in the USA has reported an increase in the proportion of American passengers using travel agents.

The 'Portrait of American Travelers' study conducted by consultancy group MMGY Global found 19% of travellers used a traditional travel agent at least once in the last year - up from 16% during 2015.

The company said the result was a six year high, and much of the trend was apparent in the millennial sector.

Interestingly, travel agency customers were found to spend twice as much on average on travel compared to those who didn't book via agents.

The figures were based on a survey of almost 3,000 US adults who had taken at least one overnight trip in the last year.

Reservations + Viator

TRIPADVISOR-OWNED Viator has announced a new partnership with hotel booking platform reservations.com which will see the OTA offer tours and activities to complement its current range of hotel, car rental and travel insurance deals.

WA forum invite

TOURISM Western Australia and Experience Perth are inviting local tourism operators to a free half day forum in Mandurah.

The event will provide updates and advice on practical ways participants can benefit from programs and services available from Tourism WA, Experience Perth and Tourism Council WA.

It will take place at The Sebel Mandurah from 9am-1.30pm on Wed 19 Oct - for details see tourism.wa.gov.au.

UAE social media alert

BRITAIN'S Foreign and Commonwealth Office has issued an updated travel advice on the United Arab Emirates, warning visitors about the potential perils of social media posts.

The update makes travellers aware it's an offence to publicly criticise companies or individuals.

"Posting material (including videos and photographs) online that are critical of companies or individuals, or related to incidents in the UAE, or appearing to abuse/ridicule the country or its authorities may be considered a crime punishable under UAE law," the advisory adds, noting there had been cases of individuals having been "detained, prosecuted and/or convicted for posting this type of material".

The FCO also warns about photography of government buildings and military installations adding hobbies such as plane spotting "may be misunderstood".

TAT on show at PATA



THE Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) was out in force at the PATA Travel Mart 2016 last week promoting ASEAN travel.

Thailand will host the ASEAN Tourism Forum in Chiang Mai in January 2018.

"In the next few years, we will build on our geographical advantage to enhance accessibility, trade and travel in both the ASEAN and Greater Mekong Subregion," Titiporn Manenante, director of International Public Relations, TAT said at the event.

The TAT team is pictured.

Eclipse Peru evening

ECLIPSE Travel will host an event for Sydney travel agents on Wed 05 Oct at the Imperial Hotel in Paddington.

Taking place in partnership with PromPeru, the evening will give an insight into the operator's Peru itineraries and there will be an opportunity to meet with a representative from the new luxury hotel Explora Valle Sagrado.

For info on attending, email enquiries@eclipsetravel.com.au.

Eurowings Spain base

LUFTHANSA'S low cost Eurowings offshoot has announced the debut of a new base in Spain, with two Airbus A320s to be based at Palma de Mallorca from May next year.

The carrier said it's the next step towards pan-European expansion.

BA Irish codeshare

BRITISH Airways has extended its codeshare network with Aer Lingus, with the BA code now appearing on 23 Aer Lingus European routes ex Dublin and three routes out of Cork.

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PTM targets seniors market



THE decision to focus on the seniors market has proved a success for TravelManagers' personal travel manager Pamela Baas who represents Wallsend in New South Wales.

The idea was initially sparked after seeing an article from a local member of parliament holding a seniors expo in her area.

Baas has totally embraced the seniors market, taking many opportunities to grow local awareness of her specialisation.

She has attended many showcases including the recent Toronto Seniors Week Expo. TravelManagers' executive

general manager Michael Gazal said he "applauds the way Pamela has focused on a growing need within her community".

Pictured above from left is Pamela Baas with the sales development manager from Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours, Millie Browne at Toronto Seniors Week Expo at the Toronto Workers Club.

DOT highlights delays

AIRLINES in America reported 11 tarmac delays of more than three hours on domestic flights and 10 tarmac delays of more than four hours on international flights in Jul, reveals the US Department of Transportation's Air Travel Consumer Report.

Throughout Jul the department received 1,963 complaints about airline service from consumers, down 9.4% from Jul 2015 but up 31.6% from the 1,492 received in Jun 2016.

The report includes data on on-time performance, cancellations, chronically delayed flights, and the causes of flight delays.

CLICK HERE to read the full report online.

Vale John Brace

WELL-KNOWN Australian and New Zealand tourism figure, John Brace died earlier this week.

Brace entered the industry in the 1950s as publications manager for the Australian National Travel Association before joining the Australian Tourist Commission (ATC) in 1967.

He was the ATC manager New Zealand for most of the 1970s, operating from the office in Auckland, achieving significant growth from that market before returning to Melbourne.

People are welcome to attend his remembrance service at Glen Waverley Anglican Church, on Fri 16 Sep starting at 2.30pm.

Anzac Centre No. 1

WESTERN Australia's Premier and Tourism Minister Colin Barnett has welcomed news that Albany's National Anzac Centre has been awarded a TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice award for Museums in Australia.

The \$10.65 million centre has seen more than 136,000 visitors since opening in 2014.

The attraction had more favourable reviews than other top museums in the country.

Yarra ranges tourism

THE Yarra Ranges Tourism Board has launched a three-year strategic plan to boost tourism and visitor spend in the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges.

The push is underpinned by six key priority areas including: industry engagement, product development, visitor servicing, sustainable organisation, digital capabilities and marketing.

Tourism contributes \$1.1 billion to the region's economy.

Discover India win

DISCOVER the World is now looking after the sales and marketing for Aeromexico in India under a partnership between the two companies.

Aeromexico's offline markets manager Europe and Asia Sergi Salvador Vens said it was the right time to join forces since the company is in the process of joining BSP in India.

Qld shows off in Jap

TOURISM operators from across Queensland are planning to attract more Japanese visitors to the state by taking part in Queensland on Tour Japan 2016.

The group of 20 will meet 300 key trade partners in Osaka, Nagoya and Tokyo this week.

They will gain insights into the rising Japanese market via workshops, seminars, marketplace appointments and networking functions.

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MontAzure Resort donation



THE team from Phuket's MontAzure resort visited Kamala School on the island's West Coast recently to donate toys and much needed school supplies to underprivileged pupils.

Executive director of MontAzure, Setthaphol Boottho said management and investors at the Thai resort complex are committed to supporting the wider community in Kamala.

"Our initiatives focus on giving back to the island and preserving the natural environment that surrounds the development,"

Boottho commented.

The entire MontAzure team joined in for a special event at the school where they met children and teachers to personally present them with gifts.

Boottho led the delegation and was joined by Jonathan Umali from Arch Capital Management Co, one of the project investors.

Pictured above is the group of staff from MontAzure meeting with the smiling teachers and students at Kamala School where they donated key school supplies and toys.

Hersha hotel sale

HERSHA Hospitality Trust has entered into a definitive agreement to sell a five-hotel suburban portfolio made up of 757 rooms for US\$185 million.

The aim behind the sale is to improve the company's RevPAR as their trailing 12-month RevPAR was 34.1% below the average of the remaining portfolio.

Being suburban properties, the trade will see the company focus more on urban gateways and destination markets.

Tauck's new itinerary

TAUCK has released a new seven-day Bugaboos Adventure in Canada itinerary.

Starting from \$7,490 per person twin share, the trip includes two-nights at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, three-nights at the Bugaboo Lodge, exploration by helicopter as part of guided mountain hikes, an overnight stay at Banff Springs Lodge, sightseeing in Banff National Park and 15 meals.

Departure dates are set for 25 Jul, 31 Jul and 13 Aug; phone 1300 732 300 to book.

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Europcar long-term

EUROPCAR has launched Europcar Long Term, a new fixed rate product for monthly care hire with rates starting at £360 per month and a monthly mileage allowance of 4,055km.

All long-term customers get free membership to Europcar's Privilege Loyalty Scheme.

For more, **CLICK HERE**.

Jewel goes green

A NEW gas scrubber system has been introduced on board *Norwegian Jewel* to reduce emissions, enhancing the line's commitment to green technology.

Five scrubbers were installed, one per engine, covering the whole propulsion system.

Together they are capable of reducing the emission of sulfur to air up to 99% while cutting particulate emission by 85%.

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Academy Travel is Australia's largest small group, culturally themed tour operator located in Sydney CBD. We operate approx 50 tours per year primarily to Europe and USA.

Our clients are educated, well travelled, high net worth over 55's who are looking for exceptional service and experience. One of our core strengths is our high rate of repeat customer.

Our office hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm (and yes you can walk out at 5pm!!) however we can be flexible for the right person.

We offer a package up to \$ 80,000 per annum – no commission, no ote, just a decent salary.

For more information please forward your resume to Stuart Barrie at: stuart@academytravel.com.au



ACADEMY TRAVEL

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**AFRICAN
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SAFARIS**

MARKETING MANAGER

A rare opportunity exists to join **African Wildlife Safaris & Natural Focus Safaris**, a leading luxury travel company based in South Melbourne, as Marketing Manager to manage and coordinate strategic and tactical marketing activity for our travel destinations and to oversee a small marketing team.

Job Description

Develop, create and implement fully budgeted strategic marketing and advertising campaigns with tour operators, hoteliers, airlines and government tourism bodies.

- Create, manage and analyse all aspects of our online marketing
- Manage and coordinate brochure & newsletter content production
- Contracting and negotiations with key tour operators and hoteliers
- Develop, implement and promote groups and incentives
- Coordinate, attend and present at client and travel agent events
- Attend special travel industry shows such as Latin America Travel Mart, WTM

Marketing Manager Skills

- A degree in Marketing is not essential, but the successful candidate should have a minimum of 3-5 years proven marketing experience
- Extensive travel experience in some of our key destinations, being Africa, South America, Canada & Alaska at the luxury end of the market is essential
- The position will ideally suit someone wanting to take the next step in their career
- Excellent writing, communication and negotiation skills
- Knowledge of PPT, Excel, Word, social network platforms, Google Analytics

The ideal candidate will be personable, well-presented, have initiative and be able to work to deadlines. They must be an Australian resident. Salary will be commensurate with experience, skills and knowledge. Benefits include travel opportunities and inclusion in the company's profit related bonus scheme.

To apply in WRITING please forward a covering letter outlining why you should be considered for this position, detailing your industry and travel experience together with your CV to Campbell Sinclair at careercoach@bigpond.com. Full details of the position can be found at: <http://goo.gl/CcS9fz>

Nth Korea warning

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea conducted an underground nuclear test on 09 Sep, further aggravating the tense situation on the Peninsula. Smarttraveller continues to advise Aussies to reconsider their need to travel to North Korea.

Sheraton Quebec

STARWOOD Hotels & Resorts Worldwide is expanding its Sheraton brand in Quebec with the signing of the Sheraton Saint-Hyacinthe Hotel. The 205-room 16 floor property is slated to open by the end of next year.

Myanmar hotel open

THE brand new, 430-key Meliá Yangon Hotel in Myanmar has opened its doors to guests. Overlooking the Inya Lake, the hotel offers spacious rooms, three high-end restaurants and a Hollywood-inspired bar which is set to be launched at the end of the year. As well as a convention area there's an outdoor pool, fitness centre and spa.

Reef Feast expanded

ENTERTAINMENT options have been ramped up at the Reef Feast to be held in Palm Cove on 06-09 Oct with six stages of live music added to the event. The lineup of performers includes award-winning artist Leanne Tennant, and The Rockabilly Blues X-Press Band, In The Element and The Choons. See more at reeffest.com.au.



This month in Travel Daily, Rail Europe GSAs are giving you the chance to win in conjunction with **Swiss Travel System**.

The prize is a trip for two including:

- 2 x Eurail Global Passes
- 2 x Eurostar Standard Tickets
- Hop on hop off bus tickets in two cities of your choice
- 4 nights accommodation in the city of the winner's choice

To win, answer each daily question correctly and have the most creative answer to the final question. Send your entries to rail@traveldaily.com.au

Q10. True or false: A Swiss Travel Pass allows you to travel on public transport in up to 75 Swiss cities?



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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.



Café at **Grand Hyatt Hong Kong** has re-opened with a new look by Melbourne firm BAR Studio. Catering for both a la carte and buffet dining, the new café is a modern interpretation of a classic hawkers' market. At the centre of the cafe is a large-scale pavilion, housing Asian, Western and patisserie kitchens. This links the two areas of the restaurant and turns what was previously a corridor into an active space.



One of Sydney's oldest hotels, the four-star **Cremorne Point Manor** has undergone a \$1 million full-property renovation. All 29 bedrooms, bathrooms and communal guests areas were refreshed as part of the three-month revamp. Artist Winston Walford used his signature right thumbprint image to form glass mosaic tiles in the main guest dining room.



DoubleTree by Hilton Arlington DFW South has opened following an extensive US\$10 million renovation. Located in the Dallas suburb of Arlington, the 237-room, five-storey property features pool side cabanas, a fitness centre and meeting space. The new artwork and architectural style pays homage to Texas landscape and history. The lobby features a floor-to-ceiling metal wall of TVs and decorative lighting. Prior to the major revamp, the property operated as the Admiral Hotel.



The renovation of the **SpringHill Suites by Marriott Hampton Coliseum** in Southeast Virginia has been completed. The 124-room hotel now features a fully revamped lobby, guest suites complete with new, modern fixtures, furniture, flooring and decor. Further improvements include refreshed lounge furniture in the indoor pool area and fresh exterior landscaping.

Chinese travel desire

CHINA registered by far the highest growth in outbound travel last year compared to other markets worldwide, according to analysis conducted by ITB Berlin and IPK International.

In 2015, the Chinese went on 45.2m overseas trips with overnights, not including trips to Macao and Hong Kong, an increase of 23% on 2014.

Taking a holiday was the reason behind over 80% of these foreign trips with almost two-thirds of the Chinese travellers preferring to stay in four or five star hotels.

Pandaw specials

BOOK by 30 Sep and save up to 25% off selected Pandaw cruises and departure dates.

Indochina offers include seven-nights from Saigon to Siem Reap starting at US\$1,755 per person including all meals, excursions, drinks and tour guides.

Prices for the 14-night Loas to China trip through Thailand, Burma and Jinghong kick off at US\$5,670 per person while the 10-night from Northern Thailand to Vientiane begins at US\$3,150.

To book or for more details, email information@pandaw.com.



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BE THE FACE OF THE COMPANY!

TRAVEL INSIDE SALES/SUPPORT CONSULTANT

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$55K + BENEFITS

This award winning wholesaler is looking for a talented individual to join their amazing team! You will be the face of the Company & reap all the rewards that they offer! Your role will involve assisting and supporting the sales team in marketing campaigns, new sales initiatives, handling management reports, organising Travel Expos, organising educationals, meeting & greeting visitors, general ad hoc admin duties + so much more. Min 2 yrs industry experience & a positive attitude required. Avoid FOMO, apply now!!

CORPORATES LOOKING FOR PROGRESSION

SENIOR CORPORATE CONSULTANT

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGES STARTING FROM \$60K

Are you an experienced corporate consultant looking for that next step in your career? Fantastic opportunity to work with a boutique TMC with a real family feel. Work on high end luxury accounts while working with a team of true industry professionals. Most importantly you will work for an organisation that will nurture your career ambitions.

Excellent staff development and career progression opportunities. Salary package starting from \$60K. Sabre/Amadeus preferred, Tramada essential. Apply now!!!

MIX GEEK WITH CHIC!

TRAVEL HELPDESK/TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$70K

We are looking for a systems savvy geek who wants to work for a renowned TMC specialising in the entertainment sector. Assist colleagues or clients with specialist support to their booking systems/online tools. From initial log to final resolution, you will be the go-to person. If you have sound Tramada, GDS & online booking tools experience plus excellent customer service you will attain a top base salary + bonuses, ongoing progression, VIP office & opportunity to mix GEEK with CHIC. This is a RARE OPPORTUNITY!

WORK CLOSER TO HOME! **RETAIL MANAGER**

RETAIL TRAVEL MANAGER

MELBOURNE (BAYSIDE) – SALARY PKG TO \$85K (OTE)

We have a rare and exciting opportunity for an experienced manager to join this fantastic and well established leisure office in the Bayside area. With an amazing base salary and generous incentives, you will have the potential to earn the big bucks. You will be working Monday to Friday hours, so you can reclaim your weekends and give yourself a great work life balance. Utilising your proven management skills, you will lead this team in their continued success. Min. of 2 yrs retail travel management experience and GDS skills req.

BOOST YOUR CAREER, STEP INTO WHOLESALE

WHOLESALE CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE (INNER) – SALARY PKG UP TO \$70K (OTE)

As part of Australia's leading travel company, this organisation is forever seeing growth and is currently seeking a travel professional with a passion for making holiday dreams come true. This in-house wholesale travel company services some of the industries most experienced and recognised retail travel agents in the market. Working behind the scenes via phone and email, you will be able to put the face to face consulting behind you. Min. 18 months international travel consulting experience required.

*****WARRAGUL LOCATION*****

RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT

VICTORIA (WARRAGUL) – SALARY PKG TO \$65K

Are you tired of the commute to the city every day, stuck in traffic and exhausted from waking up early to get to work! We have a fantastic opportunity for those who live in the south eastern suburbs to head against the traffic to a lovely and welcoming leisure agency in Warragul. With a fantastic reputation, warm supportive team and a relaxed environment you will never look back! This opportunity does not come by every day, so jump on board today! Minimum of 2 years travel consulting and GDS experience required.

ALL ABOARD

CRUISE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

GOLD COAST – \$55K - \$60K OTE

Here's your chance to be part of this fun and dedicated cruise team on the Gold Coast. This leading travel company is looking for a cruise guru to come and join them. Working in a fast paced call centre environment you'll receive all enquiries via phone and email and sell all the best cruise products out there along with pre and post arrangements. A strong base salary + generous commission scheme is in place along with other top industry benefits. This role is starting ASAP so get in quick and apply today!

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

GOLD COAST – \$60K - \$80K OTE

Are you sick of working every weekend but love being in the travel industry? Want to earn a great salary & enjoy work/life balance? Come join this leading travel company where you can get away from face to face consulting & book great itineraries to a variety of destinations worldwide. An above industry salary along with a top incentive program, travel discounts & educationals is on offer. If you have 2 years travel consulting experience, GDS & top customer service and sales skills, we want to hear from you!

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for you around
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