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HLO exec departs

GREGORY Lording, appointed as group general manager of Helloworld Wholesale just over 12 months ago (**TD** 16 Jun 2016) has left the company.

Helloworld confirmed the change yesterday, saying unfortunately Lording's departure was unexpected as he resigned due to personal reasons.

The role has not been filled at this stage, with interim plans in place until a suitable replacement can be found, the company said.

Scenic 2018 deals

SCENIC'S special earlybird offers on 2018 Canada and Alaska trips expire at the end of the month, with bonuses including early payment discounts and a range of flight offers.

The programs feature fabulous land content alongside Holland America Line and Princess Cruises as well as Rocky Mountaineer rail journeys - see the **cover page**.

Garden Island endorsed

THE Garden Island Naval base has been confirmed as the preferred solution to Sydney's cruise infrastructure crisis in a landmark report prepared for the NSW Government.

Submitted by a reference group headed by former NSW Opposition Leader Peter Collins, the report recommends cruise ships be able to permanently share Garden Island with the Navy, a spokesperson for Maritime Minister Melinda Pavey has confirmed to **TD**.

The report was commissioned to inform the government's Cruise Development Plan, which is due to be delivered before the end of the year and will detail a strategy to ease congestion in Sydney.

Use of Port Botany has not yet been ruled out and the government is still investigating it as a possibility.

Last week cruise execs emphasised the need for both

short-term and long-term solutions, with CLIA Australasia md Joel Katz highlighting that Sydney was "at crisis point".

Pavey told *The Daily Telegraph* "we've got solutions to enhance capacity of the Navy and accommodate the cruise industry at Garden Island...We can help them build more infrastructure at Garden Island which is a win-win for both parties".

The Daily Telegraph said it understood Garden Island was recommended as the preferred option "because it delivers tourists the experience of Sydney Harbour they are seeking".

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has ten pages of news and photos, a front cover page for **Scenic** plus full pages from:

- American Queen
- Travel Trade Recruitment

Skydive the Beach chopper deal

LISTED adventure tourism operator Skydive the Beach Group today announced the \$20 million acquisition of Great Barrier Reef Helicopters.

The Cairns-based business is the largest helicopter operator in Far North Queensland, with a fleet of 22 aircraft.

It's the fourth non-skydiving acquisition by Skydive the Beach in the last year, with other purchases including Raging Thunder Adventures, Reef Magic Cruises and Byron Bay Ballooning.

Mighty Mississippi

AMERICAN Queen Steamboat Company is promoting a 15-night river cruise between Minneapolis and New Orleans.

Departing 02 Sep 2018, the package includes meals, beverages, shore excursions and more - see **page 11** for details.

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QF, EK revamp Tasman routes

QANTAS and Emirates today provided an update on their partnership (**TD** breaking news) including confirmation that EK will suspend its daily A380 flights from Melbourne and Brisbane to Auckland from Mar 2018.

EK had already confirmed it would stop flying between Sydney and Auckland (**TD** 31 Mar), with the move seeing it focus instead on its direct DXB-AKL route.

The changes will also see Qantas boost MEL-AKL and BNE-AKL frequencies and upgauge some aircraft to wide-body A330s.

Emirates said the changes would enable it to reschedule its Australian flights to create a better spread of departure times

throughout the day.

The EK code will be placed on the new Qantas trans-Tasman services, and the changes are included in the airlines' applications for reauthorisation of their alliance through to 2023.

Qantas ceo Alan Joyce said the evolution of the joint network would allow the carriers to serve passengers "even better" for the next five years.

World Expeditions cycling acquisition

WORLD Expeditions today announced it had acquired a majority shareholding in New Zealand self-guided cycle tour operator Trail Journeys.

The company has a fleet of more than 400 bikes and offers passengers' luggage transfers, accommodation and storage services on the Otago Rail Trail, the Roxburgh Gorge Trail and the Clutha Gold Trail.

World Expeditions has also become a shareholder in Trail Journeys Nelson, positioning itself to become the leading operator on the Tasman Great Taste trail.

WA to host awards

THE Australian Tourism Industry Council has confirmed that the first corporate event to take place at Perth's new stadium will be the 2018 Qantas Australian Tourism Awards in Feb.

It's the first time WA will have hosted the event since 2011, with about 800 people from across the country expected to attend.

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Air NZ lifts Houston

AIR New Zealand will boost its Houston operations next year, introducing a mix of six and seven weekly services between 25 Mar and 27 Oct.

The move lifts departures from their current level of five per week and adds 16,000 extra seats over the winter period.

Air NZ chief revenue officer Cam Wallace said the airline had steadily grown its Houston operations since it commenced services there in 2015.

"A strategic gateway into America's south, Houston is unlocking huge demand for travel to New Zealand from across the South, Mid-west and Mid-Atlantic region, with annual visitor arrivals up 21% from Texas and 25% from New York," Wallace said.

Carter leaves Amadeus

AMADEUS IT Pacific managing director Tony Carter has left the company, with Amadeus confirming his departure today.

Carter had been with the company since 1993 in a range of roles, including heading up the Australian and NZ business for over four years (**TD** 13 Feb 2013).

He left Amadeus at the end of Sep, telling staff "the time is right for me to enter the next phase of my life".

It's understood that a search for a replacement is currently under way, and in the meantime Singapore-based Amadeus president of the Asia-Pacific

region, Albert Pozo, is overseeing the business in Australia, NZ and the Pacific Islands.

Carter told industry partners it had been a pleasure to be part of the local travel industry, adding "we have a strong, experienced and dedicated team here in the Pacific who will continue to support your business".

Strike hits 100,000

YESTERDAY'S strike by French air traffic controllers grounded hundreds of flights and affected an estimated 100,000 passengers.

Disruption is expected to continue into today, with flow-on impact on other European countries as carriers cancel services and divert flights outside French airspace.

Memphis AU/NZ

THE Memphis Convention & Visitors Bureau is not among US destinations represented by Gate 7 (**TD** yesterday).

The bureau is represented in Aust & NZ by dir Chris Ingram - chrisingram@memphistravel.com.

Window Seat

IT'S banned on flights across Asia and has been known to clear a room in seconds, but now scientists say they've discovered the secret to its stomach-turning odour.

The terror-inducing durian fruit - loved by devotees and detested by innocent bystanders - is believed to derive its overpowering smell from a single odour gene, the **BBC** reports.

The discovery could open the way for genetic manipulation that would allow an odourless version of the fruit.

"Our analysis revealed that volatile sulphur production is turbocharged in durians," said geneticist Patrick Tan, who coled a study in *Nature Genetics*.



Wolgan heli plan

EMIRATES One&Only Wolgan Valley in the NSW Blue Mountains has applied for approval to build a new helicopter landing pad and increase limits on the number of services operating to the resort.

Plans lodged with the NSW Dept of Planning show One&Only would like to shift its main pad away from local residences and retain the existing pad for emergency services only.

It has asked to lift helicopter limits from four per week to 18, with up to 36 at peak times such as Christmas and Easter.

Fiji mounts PR push

TOURISM Fiji has appointed Sarah-Louise Robinson as public relations manager for Australia, a newly created role.

She joins from Dubai Tourism and will work in consultation with Verve PR to further develop media relationships in Australia.

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SITA releases NDC tech platform

AIRLINE data company ATPCO and technology provider SITA have announced a new platform to support the adoption of IATA's New Distribution Capability (NDC) for airfares and ancillary sales.

The companies say their NDC Exchange will allow quick adoption of NDC, lower the cost of compliance and support complex interlining.

The system has been piloted with carriers including Air Canada and British Airways.

UA traffic slips

UNITED Airlines traffic dipped 1.6% in Sep over the same month last year amid weather disruption around the US and Caribbean.

The carrier's capacity increased 1.7% and its load factor decreased 2.7 points from Sep 2016, according to UA monthly results issued yesterday.

UK to set records

THE UK is on track to break tourism records this year as its diminished pound fuels demand from international travellers.

Almost 40 million overseas visitors are expected to have arrived in the UK by the end of this year, British Tourist Authority chairman Steve Ridgway told the *BBC* yesterday, an increase of 6% on last year.

Spending is expected to have risen 14% to £25.7 billion (A\$42 billion) by year's end.

Despite the boost, Ridgway said tourism was "fiercely competitive" and the UK could not rely on a weaker currency.

Le Meridien Suzhou

LE MERIDIEN has opened its latest China property in the ancient city of Suzhou, a gateway to historic canal districts.

The Le Meridien Suzhou has 285 rooms including 20 suites, with lake and city views.

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Globus champions tee off



THE Globus family of brands hosted industry friends at its annual golf day recently at Pymble Golf Club in Sydney.

This year's event attracted 114 keen golfers including media personality Deborah Hutton, Fox Sports commentator Greg Clark and cricketer Ian Healy.

Twenty-nine teams took part

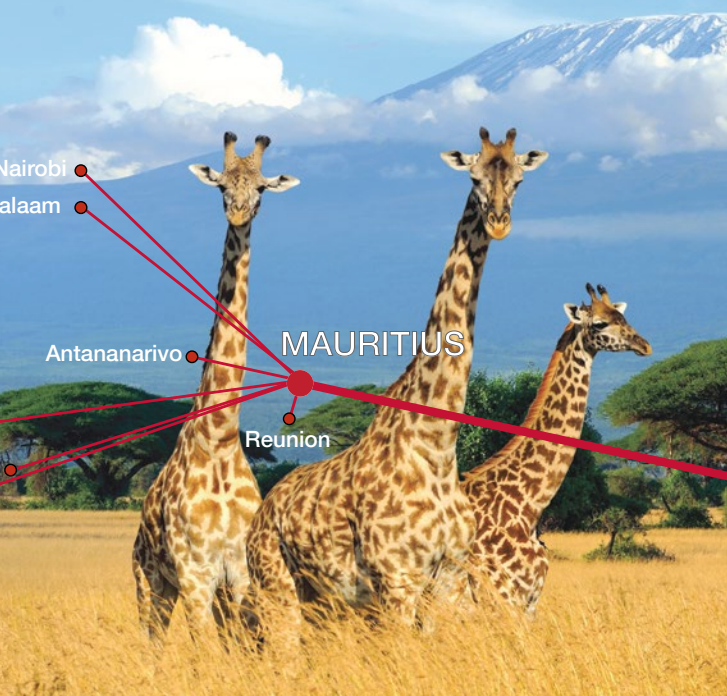
in the Elimination Ambrose competition, won for the fifth time by Matthew Hickey from Helloworld Katoomba.

Pictured is Claudia Opperman from Globus with winning team members Vladimir Dzupinka; Matthew Hickey and John Ford, with Globus managing director Australasia Stewart Williams.

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Silversea 'Couture'

SILVERSEA Cruises has released its new 2018 Couture Collection, an exclusive luxury series of ocean and land adventures in the world's most remote areas.

The inaugural release is set to include a range of tailored pre-and post-cruise experiences including a private helicopter service in Mongolia, vintage rail journeys in India and Gulfstream jets in and out of Antarctica.

Prices average \$34,000 per guest for each five- to eleven-day adventure, with an 11-day trip to the South Pole costing \$78,000 per person.

Qatar FF fast track

QATAR Airways' Privilege Club is offering up to 20,000 bonus Qmiles to Privilege Club members flying from Australia and NZ until 30 Sep 2018, if booked by 05 Nov.

Privilege Club members who earn 200 Qpoints by 28 Feb will be fast tracked to gold status.

HKTB/flybuys prize

HONG Kong Tourist Board (HKTB) has partnered with flybuys and Velocity Frequent Flyer to offer 10 fun-filled, family holidays.

The prize includes return flights with VA, accommodation, entry into select attractions and more.

To enter, members link flybuys and Velocity FF accounts to receive 1,000 entries in the draw by 31 Oct.

Serko signs GTA

NEW Zealand-based Serko and Gullivers Travel Associates (GTA) have signed a strategic partnership to enhance hotel content for corporates.

The partnership gives Serko customers access to thousands of GTA's unique hotel suppliers and the ability to book their own negotiated rates, as well as GTA's exclusive discounted rates.

Serko ceo Darrin Grafton said the partnership was key to its global expansion plans.

Wendy Wu 2018 launch



WENDY Wu Tours last night formally launched its 2018 programs at a fabulous Asian-inspired party at Sydney's Four Seasons Hotel.

The event included the announcement of the Wu Dynasty Famil - a "bucket-list" exploration of China for 30 consultants next Jun taking in attractions such as the Great Wall, Terracotta Warriors and giant pandas, along with some top secret "priceless" experiences for selected agents along the way.

Ten top sellers will be guaranteed a place and there will also be another 20 Wendy Wu sellers chosen at random to win.

Attendees were also briefed on a new Wendy Wu offer of free upgrades to Premium Economy flights on 2018 Japan tours, as well as the recently launched Bambu Club agent incentive program allowing consultants to earn points that can be redeemed for spending at hundreds of retailers across the country - see wendywutours.com.au/agents.

Giveaways at last night's party included a Yangtze river cruise, won by Bryony Mayes of Flight Centre Bronte, who's pictured with Wendy Wu Tours' Andrew Mulholland and Vara Glover.

More pics from the night at [facebook.com/traveldaily](https://www.facebook.com/traveldaily).



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Yanchep fund boost

TOURISM prospects in WA's Yanchep National Park have received a boost with the Federal Government announcing a major funding package to upgrade its campground area.

The cash injection of \$261,500 arrives via a partnership between the Federal and State Governments as part of the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure (TDDI) program.

Funding will help build showers, road access, parking areas, paths, signage and a BBQ shelter.

Botanic 30th birth

THE Blue Mountains Botanic Garden in New South Wales will mark its 30th birthday with a series of community events over the next two months.

Running from Oct-Dec, the celebration will feature a diverse mix of attractions, from a native bird talk with aficionado Carol Proberts, a hands-on science workshop for kids and an exhibition of floral artistry paying homage to local birds and flora.

The park is open all year round.

Aurora early bird

AURORA Expeditions has announced it will be rolling out its 2019 early bird offer across all of its destinations until 31 Oct.

The offer includes 10-20% reductions on 2018/19 trips to Antarctica & South Georgia, European Arctic & Scotland tours and Kimberley Coast expeditions.

For further information on the range of offers - **CLICK HERE**.

Dubai virtual border

DUBAI has set its sights on developing "virtual borders" at its airports, according to a report from *Arabian Business*.

The country that developed the 'e-gate' system will now examine ways to protect and administer border controls without the need for human intervention.

MEANWHILE Dubai's transport authority plans to launch a single app soon that will offer access to all major forms of transport including trams, buses, waterbuses and taxis.

The app will also integrate with other transit parties like in e-Hail, Uber and Careem.

Star Alliance flying high



LAST night travel agents and airlines gathered in Sydney for a special Star Alliance celebration, commemorating 20 years since the organisation was formed.

Star Alliance country steering committee chair Tim Clyde-Smith from South African Airways thanked the industry for its longstanding support, which has seen the Alliance grow from its initial five members to its current complement of 28.

Major achievements over the last two decades have included "transforming the airport experience," he said, providing improved interlining and loyalty benefits for pax.

And the revolution continues, with Star Alliance firmly focused on harnessing digital technology to give travellers more control of their journey, based on IT Hub infrastructure - a global backbone that member airlines can plug into to improve connectivity.

The system enables travellers to claim missing miles via their own favoured carrier's website, and is also improving the visibility of baggage as it is transferred between Star Alliance carriers.

The pioneering capabilities of

the system can be harnessed and enhanced by individual carriers to deliver incremental improvements to their operations, Clyde-Smith said.

He also foreshadowed significant changes to the Star Alliance's Round the World airfare product range to make it more attractive, with details to be unveiled in the new year.

The event included a giveaway of two 1:100 Star Alliance branded Boeing 787s, with Susan Atike from Air Tickets chosen as one of the lucky winners.

She's **pictured above** with Star Alliance regions director market development, Richard Carret, who flew in from Frankfurt for the event, and Tim Clyde-Smith.

Lots more pics from the night at facebook.com/traveldaily.

SQ JetBlue boost

SINGAPORE Airlines is expanding its codeshare pact with JetBlue, covering 11 additional routes ex New York JFK including flights to Cancun, Denver, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Portland OR, Reno, Sacramento, Salt Lake City, San Diego, Savannah and Seattle.

The change is effective 12 Oct.

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Helloworld opens new store



HELLOWORLD Travel has opened its latest store in Victoria and Australia with the launch of its Essendon Fields store.

A launch event was held last week at the outer Melbourne store featuring staff, suppliers and industry partners.

The Essendon Fields store is located at Runway Plaza.

Helloworld Travel has over 2,000 independent franchised travel agents across Australia.

Pictured at the opening in Essendon Fields is: Sahil Nijhawan, office manager; Vas Nikolovski, owner; Michelle Hallan, consultant; Natalie Carmody, consultant; and Jack Blackwell, consultant.

MU adds new routes

CHINA Eastern will operate new routes from Fuzhou starting later this month.

MU will fly FOC-BKK four times a week from 29 Oct and FOC-SIN thrice weekly starting 31 Oct.

Wilson SYD park

WILSON Parking is offering savings of 50% at its Sydney Airport Space Shuttle Airport parking location.

Discounted rates quoting TAKEOFF when booking starts at \$10 a day for stays up to two days & \$7.50 for stays over three days.

The promo applies to entries prior to 30 Nov.

Tas cruise boom

TASMANIA is gearing up for the biggest cruise season in the state's history, with 130 cruise ships scheduled this summer.

Passenger days are expected to grow by 44% to 341,101 pax days.

This season cruise ships will visit Hobart, Burnie, Port Arthur, Wineglass Bay, Beauty Point and King Island.

To meet the rising number of cruise passengers, the Tasmanian Government is upgrading a number of facilities including the Burnie Port to allow almost all cruise ships sailing in Australian waters to visit.

Proposal package

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises Fiji has launched a new romantic proposal package on board its *Fiji One* catamaran.

The offering includes a 90 minute cruise to Tivua, a "message in a bottle" proposal and a tropical buffet launch served with champagne.

Prices start at \$378 per couple.

IHG LA opening

LOS Angeles Downtown hotel has opened, stretching from the 31st to the 70th floor of the tallest building west of Chicago, the Wilshire Grand Center.

The 889-room hotel features Los Angeles' first sky lobby and is located in the city's historic financial and arts district.

BA tests One Order

BRITISH Airways and Amadeus are joining forces to test IATA's One Order standard.

One Order will allow revenue accounting information to be structured in real-time.

This standard replaces the multiple booking, ticketing, delivery, and accounting methods with one single order management process.

The standard pilot project will result in the gradual disappearance of multiple legacy records that will be replaced by just one travel document.

MAS Country brand

QUEENSLAND-BASED motel group MAS Country has unveiled a brand refresh designed to more effectively engage with travellers.

The move is supported by SiteMinder, who will provide pricing intelligence and distribution solutions.

QR Europe changes

QATAR Airways has changed its European winter schedule according to GDS displays.

QR's Doha to Brussels service from 29 Oct will operate with an Airbus A350-900 instead of a Boeing 787-8 *Dreamliner*.

The airline will add a new daily service to Helsinki, using an Airbus A320, effective 14 Dec.

New daily services to St Petersburg, Prague and Warsaw are also planned.

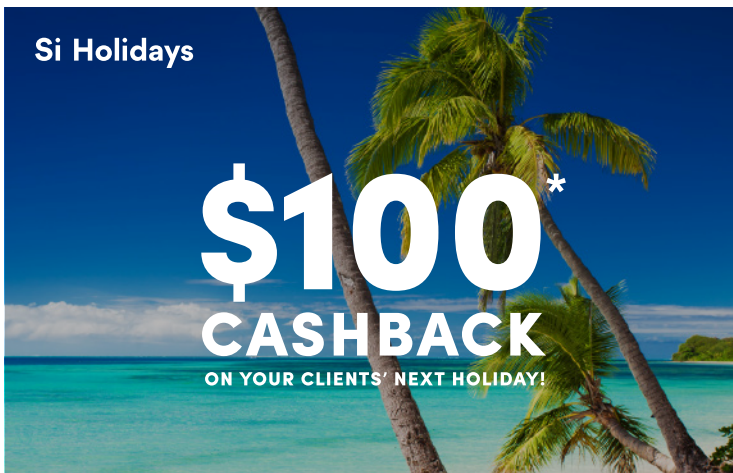



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Fairfield marks 30th

FAIRFIELD by Marriott has marked its 30th anniversary year by unveiling a new brand design and launching a national tieup with Habitat for Humanity to help homeowners build or improve the place they call home.

The new design will launch in Nov and includes decor with reminders of the brand's origins at the Fairfield Farm, including a history wall in every property introduced showcasing the brand's roots.

NYE on Syd island

TICKETS are on sale for glamping, camping & BYO camping site packages on Cockatoo Island on New Year's Eve.

The options are for two-night stays and there will be activities running from 30 Dec to 01 Jan including guided tours of the island, games and a live DJ.

CLICK HERE for tickets.

New WRBTA chief

CLAIRE Savage has been named ceo of Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association (MRBTA), effective 27 Nov.

Savage will take over from interim ceo Steve Harrison who had assumed caretaking responsibilities since 01 Jul.

She has over 25 years' experience in tourism development in the UK & Australia, including consulting to senior levels of the WA Tourism Sector as founder and md of Savagely Creative.

AA's new sleep kit

AMERICAN Airlines is introducing products by sleep company Casper on long-haul int'l and transcontinental First, Business and Premium Economy class from Dec.

Products include a mattress pad, duvet, pillow, day blanket, lumbar pillow, pajamas and slippers.

Agents go bush at Bamurru



SIX agents were whisked away to the Top End recently by Broome, Kimberley and Beyond for an action-packed faml.

The group arrived at Bamurru Plains in an eight-seater aircraft from Darwin and got their blood pumping with airboating through the wetlands and quad biking.

Agents stayed at the Bamurru Plains Wilderness Lodge, just west of Kakadu National Park on the coastal floodplains of the Mary River delta, which offers crocodile spotting, bird watching and a bush tucker experience.

Pictured are Carmen Reinstein,

Carmen Meander Travel; Kim Douglas, Broome, Kimberley and Beyond; Ben Lawrence, Albury Travel; Julie Taylor, VA; Leah Cox, Italk Travel Rutherford; Michelle Miller, RAC Carousel; Saibra Twigg, Australind Travel & Glenn Box, Mudgee Travel & Cruise.

IHG inks new Dubai

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group (IHG) has inked a management deal with Kingston Holdings International Limited to develop a new Holiday Inn & Suites in Dubai Business Bay.

The 350-room hotel will be part of a mixed-use development located which is expected to open in 2021.

It will have two restaurants, a ballroom and one floor of dedicated meeting rooms.

QR deals extended

QATAR Airways has "extended" its earlybird offers for Europe 2018, with deals now on sale until 01 Nov 2017.

The fares, leading in at \$1030 return from Australia to Istanbul, were announced yesterday, but initially valid for just one day.

Fires sweep Napa

WILDFIRES have swept through Northern California's wine country, with at least 15 people dead and about 20,000 people evacuated, *The New York Times* has reported.

State officials estimated 17 separate fires had burned about 46,500 hectares over eight counties, including Napa and Sonoma, since the first fire started on Sun.

About 2,000 structures, including wineries, homes and resorts have been destroyed.

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MTG readies for Q'town



MY TRAVEL Group (MTG) is gearing up to celebrate with its top performing agents in Queenstown next week as part of its annual Winners Circle event.

Australia's largest independent travel agent network has been busy hosting functions around Australia, selecting 20 MTG agents in the process to be

rewarded with a two-day trip to NZ's Dart River Wilderness, Walter Peak, Botswana Butchery and Gantleys Restaurant.

Pictured celebrating are top performers Rachael Hunter, Air Tickets; Damian Merola, Merola's Travel Service; Trudi Brown, Dapto Travel and Trudy Rice, Time Fly's Travel.



Fares & Tariffs Controller Australia

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- Analyse interline Special Prorate Agreements
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Candidates should have the following attributes:

- Detailed knowledge of fares, pricing and tariffs
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- Aptitude for problem solving and decision making

Please submit applications to hr@thaairways.com.au by 20 Oct 2017

Airbnb joins PATA

MAJOR online accommodation service provider Airbnb has become a member of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA).

The not-for-profit membership association acts as a catalyst for the responsible development of travel and tourism within the Asia Pacific region and believes Airbnb will be a welcome voice in that emerging conversation.

"With more than four million Airbnb listings worldwide it is impossible to ignore the impact that the sharing economy is having upon the travel & tourism industry," said PATA chief executive Dr Mario Hardy.

PATA & Airbnb will collaborate on improved sharing economy policy moving forward.

Dual Hilton at LAX

HILTON will be taking advantage of the bustling LAX airport with a new dual-branded hotel called Homewood Suites by Hilton Los Angeles International Airport and H Hotel Los Angeles, Curio Collection by Hilton.

The newly opened 290-room property is the first hotel in Los Angeles for both brands and will be located less than 1.5km from the airport.

The dual-brand concept aims to enhance amenities above what a standard hotel can offer and will also incorporate 167m² of flexible meeting space.

8L possible Thai base

LUCKY Air China has flagged plans to setup a base in Thailand, a move that would mark its first foray outside of China.

The airline believes that its domestic market share has grown to the point where it can now look at pursuing international expansion opportunities.

Lucky Air's two main hubs are Kunming Changshui & Chengdu.

BA Inverness flights

BRITISH Airways will increase the number of flights on its London Heathrow - Inverness route from 25 Mar.

The airline has revealed it will be adding an evening/nighttime service using a combination of Airbus A319/320s.

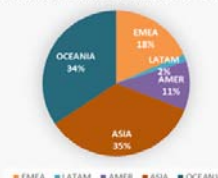
Overall service frequency will increase from seven to 10 weekly.



Hot Destinations

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Expedia TAAP Destinations SEP 2017



Expedia TAAP reported steady trading through September with 952 different destinations booked through Expedia TAAP agents. The top ten destinations booked were Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Singapore, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, London, Perth, Cairns and Adelaide. Auckland, Bali, Los Angeles and New York were just outside the top 10.

Paris is showing good growth along with London. Adelaide and Auckland showing good growth on the domestic front.

Little movement on the regional split this month. Markets were steady Month over Month with EMEA showing the biggest change from 22% to 18% market share. OCEANIA up 2% to 34%, USA steady at 11% while Asia was up 1% to 35% of the destination mix.

Package Rate performance continues to grow as more TAAP agents find great rates to combine with the fabulous airfares in the market. We expect Europe to go off with Early Bird airfares hitting the market soon.

Some of the out of the way destinations last month included Primorye Russia, Oaxaca Mexico, Tallinn Estonia, Matanzas Cuba and Noida India.

Your great service and our great rates, keep your customers coming back.



ACI airport report

AIRPORT Council International (ACI) has released its World Airport Traffic Report, which reveals the world's mega airports saw a 5.5% y-o-y growth in 2016.

Last year there were 46 airports with over 40 million passengers compared to 18 airports in 2006.

Sydney Airport was one of the nine airports to graduate into the 40 million club, experiencing a 5.2% passenger increase.

BCN, MEX, EWR, TPE and SZX also joined the category.

Dubai remained the largest airport for int'l pax with 83.1m passing through its terminals, while Atlanta was the biggest overall in the world with 104 million pax, followed by PEK with 94 million pax.

Marriott ups Africa

MARRIOTT International has announced plans to increase operations in Africa and has signed seven new hotels across the continent.

Revealed at the African Hotel Investment Forum (AHIF), the new hotels will open in the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Ghana & Ethiopia.

Marriott pres & md Middle East and Africa Alex Kyriadikidis said the expansion gave the company a chance to support many emerging regions as African economies began to boom.

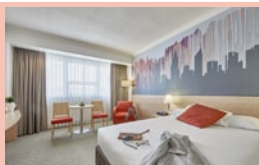
Marriott is aiming to have 200 hotels with 37,000 rooms open or in the pipeline in Africa by 2022.

Currently, Marriott operates 140 hotels with close to 24,000 rooms across 12 brands in Africa.



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.



the Perth city skyline at sunset.

Mercure Perth has debuted a new vibrant, colourful design, following a \$1 million refurbishment. All 239 rooms and suites have been given a new look along with the hotel's playground, swimming pool, sun deck and hot tub. The redesign draws inspiration from



will debut. The property will be relaunched in Apr 2018.

Next year will be a landmark time for **Sanctuary Retreats** after it completes a renovation of its **Sanctuary Sussi & Chuma** property in Zambia. The redesign will maximise the setting of the lodge. A new Explorer lounge and riverside outdoor bar



ANA InterContinental in Tokyo will debut its new Club InterContinental rooms on 01 Nov. Each refurbished room will showcase the traditions, cultural heritage and national identity of Japan. All Club rooms will have new bedding and furniture.



the local beaches. Business travellers can take advantage of new in-room desks with ergonomic chairs.

Following a US\$2.5m renovation, the **Courtyard Miami Beach South Beach** features a new look, with all rooms and suites receiving upgraded bedding, flooring, furnishings and artwork. The property's colour scheme has drawn inspiration from

Win a trip to SABAH

This month Royal Brunei Airlines, Sabah Tourism and Sutura Harbour Resort are giving travel agents the chance to win a trip to Sabah.

Prize includes:

- Economy return airfares for two on Royal Brunei Airlines
- Three nights accommodation at Sutura Harbour Magellan
- A North Borneo Sunset Cruise for 2

To win, send through a photo showing us why Royal Brunei Airlines and Sabah are your ideal escape?

Send your entries to rba@traveldaily.com.au

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Travel Daily

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Travel Daily is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Produced each weekday since 1994, *Travel Daily* is Australia's leading travel industry publication.

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Travel Recruitment Consultant

Sydney, OTE \$82k, Ref: 54365J1

Join one of Australia's leading travel recruitment companies by utilising your travel industry experience & sales skills while enjoy earning a fantastic salary package with an OTE of \$82k. No two days are the same in this diverse role. You will need to be a people person, confident communicator & self-motivated. CBD offices with Mon-Fri working hours & a fantastic team environment. Take the next step in your career in a role with the autonomy to run your own desk & reap the financial rewards.

For more information please call Sarah on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Junior Office Manager

Sydney, Up to \$50k + Super, Ref: 3106PE1

This is a fantastic opportunity for a frontline travel consultant looking for a new challenge away from face to face selling. My client is looking for a Junior Manager to oversee the running of their busy retail/corporate office. Your duties will encompass everything from following up on meetings, website updates and social media, creation of EDM's, looking after fare alerts and keeping up to date with industry promotions. No one day will be the same in this unique travel role.

For more information please call Paul on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Junior Travel Consultant

Gold Coast, OTE \$75-80k, Ref: 2104SZ3

If you have at least 5 months experience in the travel industry and have a work / life personality with a can do attitude, then read on! You will work in a close and supportive team of consultants within an office environment where you will be working with likeminded consultants to achieve the same desired results, which is making lots of money whilst enjoying work / life balance! Full training plus a buddy system where you will be supported with extensive product training.

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

Senior Sales Manager

Melbourne, \$75k + Super + Car + Bonus, Ref: 3089MC1

Our client is looking for an experienced Senior Sales Manager to represent their luxury brand and increase sales for Victoria. As a Senior Sales Manager you will be responsible for mentoring staff as well as growing and developing business within your designated region. The successful candidate will demonstrate confident communication skills, be highly motivated with an ability to work autonomously and have fantastic sales track record.

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

Operations and Customer Experience Executive

N. Beaches, Sydney, Up to \$55k inc Super, Ref: 3040RM1

Are you currently working as a Travel Consultant? Are you looking for a Monday – Friday? Would you like to work closer to home? This boutique tour company is looking for an all-rounder who is willing to get involved in all facets of the business from Reservations to Operations optimising bookings and tour handling and other administrative procedures. You will play an integral part in the preparation, delivery and evaluation of the Company's tours whilst delivering exceptional standards of customer service.

For more information please call Ruth on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Wholesale Product Specialist

Sydney, Up to \$60k + Super, Ref: 3107PE1

It's that "Contracting" time of year and I am looking for talented travel industry product specialists that are looking for an exciting new challenge. This new role incorporates working on land and cruise product within Australia's top travel companies. Your daily duties will include rate loading, rate negotiation, brochure production and putting together fantastic specials during busy periods, Product roles are rare & highly sought after, jump on this change today before it's gone!

For more information please call Paul on
(02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Luxury Travel Designer

Gold Coast, OTE up to \$75k, Ref: 3081SZ1

Our clients are looking for a consultant that wants to be a part of the team to build a dream holiday package for the customers. This role does have sales KPI's to achieve however, the main focus will be to provide exceptional service to customers that will be booking predominately high end & luxury packages. You will be working Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Proficiency in a GDS is required and at least 2 plus years' experience in retail with a want to move away from the pushy sales mentality.

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

Groups & Events Coordinator

Melbourne, \$55-\$60k + Super, Ref: 3070HC1

Our client is looking for a group travel professional with corporate, incentives & groups experience to join a fantastic TMC in Melbourne. The successful candidate will ideally have a good telephone manner with excellent people and customer service skills. You will be experienced in the travel industry and have exposure to group reservations & corporate experience. You should have a passion to succeed and be keen to continue your career as this company encourages career development.

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



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