Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 27th November 2018



Travel Daily

on location in Brisbane, QLD

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of Air New Zealand & Tourism New Zealand who are celebrating the launch of two new routes from Brisbane.

AIR New Zealand and Tourism New Zealand are hosting 80 travel professionals in Brisbane tonight to help them celebrate the launch of brand new BNE-WLE and BNE-ZQN services, taking off 18 Dec.

Along with team members from Wellington Tourism and Weta Studios (the design studio behind special effects in the Lord of the Rings), Tourism NZ will update the audience on the new routes and some of the best destinations, experiences and activities that the new locations have to offer.

CWT offers app bookings

CARLSON Wagonlit Travel today announced the rollout of smartphone-based flight bookings in Australia.

The launch follows a pilot in 2017 and then a commercial launch earlier this year, with Australia one of 20 key markets where the facility is now being formally deployed.

CWT Chief Technology Officer, Digital, Ameir Kirshenboim, said a typical domestic booking could take as little as 60 seconds, with early analysis indicating a 30% shift to online bookings among clients with air booking capability, providing a significant fee saving.

The myCWT app supports GDS and low-cost carrier content,

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news and photos, plus a full page from:

TMS Talent/inPlace

as well as private fares and preferred carriers, and also boasts a set of innovative features including a "best time to book" indicator which generates savings by encouraging early booking.

A 24-hour search window also gives travellers a complete list of options including cheaper flights outside the specified times.

Kirshenboim said the new air booking capability complemented other existing features of the app including check-in functionality for most major airlines, along with flight delay notifications, gate changes, cancellations and security travel alerts.

The app also offers mobile hotel bookings for 850,000 properties worldwide, traveller profile integration with loyalty programs and advanced sharing functionality.

CWT's flight booking capability is also rolling out in the US, the UK, Canada, Hong Kong & Europe.

Travel women get together online

A NEWLY formed "Travel Industry Women" Facebook group has garnered almost 4,000 members in its first week.

It's the brainchild of Maxine Wiggs from Resource Hub, who told **TD** she was surprised to find such a group didn't already exist.

"So I created one myself, and invited 15 of my Facebook friends to join it. What happened next blew my mind," she said.

Initially hoping to get up to 100 women to join up, she went to bed "and when I woke up the next day it had gone beserk.

"We now have a buzzing community of brilliant women, CEOs, front-line consultants, freelancers, mums on maternity leave and everything in between.

"I've been concerned for a while that some of the camaraderie of the industry had seeped away in recent years," she said, adding: "I may have just found it again".



Earn. Travel. Live. More.

Change your work life

1800 019 599







WELCOME BACK TO **OUR B777'S.**



NOW FLYING TWICE DAILY TO SHANGHAI FROM SYDNEY & MELBOURNE

OA.CEAIR.COM





Hainan HAK-MEL

HAINAN Airlines has announced plans to introduce a new service to Australia with the addition of a new route between China's Haikou and Melbourne, from 16 Dec.

Operating with Airbus A330 aircraft, the route will offer two additional services per week to passengers travelling between the two cities.

Air Canada loyalty

AIR Canada has announced it plans to acquire the Aeroplan loyalty program from Aimia, which is set to relaunch in 2020.

In addition to the signing of the share purchase agreement, the carrier also inked various commercial agreements with TD, CIBC and Visa regarding network agreements for future participation in the program.

Air Canada CEO Calin Rovinescu, said the program aimed to be the "best in the industry".

Qantas expands Hobart

AN ADDITIONAL 34,000 visitors will have the chance to visit Tasmania from next Apr when Qantas expands its capacity between Sydney and Hobart.

Effective 01 Apr, the carrier will add three additional weekly services on the route, creating new options for customers travelling between Tasmania and the mainland.

The change comes following a recent joint business meeting between the airline and China Eastern, which QF said reconfirmed the carriers' ongoing commitment "to driving visitors to and from Tasmania using the Qantas Domestic network".

The services have been timed to reduce wait times for travellers from Asia & the US who are connecting from int'l services, while also offering better connections between Tasmania and the rest of the country.

The new schedule adds to



Qantas' existing 97 flights per week to the region from Sydney and Melbourne including Hobart, Devonport and Launceston, and complements the company's plans to invest in its Hobart lounge with a complete redesign and extra space and seating.

A special one-way fare is available on flights booked at least 60 days in advance of travel, starting from \$169.

The additional services will be operated by Boeing 717 110-seat dual class aircraft.

See qantas.com.

Pictured: Hobart at dusk.

Webjet equity raise

WEBJET today confirmed the successful completion of the retail component of its \$153 million entitlement offer to fund its acquisition of Destinations of the World (*TD* 05 Nov).

Existing Webjet shareholders were offered shares on a one-for-nine basis, with just under half taking up the offer to raise \$29m, while other new shares not taken up were allocated to sub-underwriters of the offer, including Webjet MD John Guscic.

WRD Nihi Sumba

WORLD Resorts of Distinction has expanded its portfolio with the addition of Indonesian luxury wilderness resort Nihi Sumba.

Located 400km east of Bali on one of the country's least explored islands, the resort has been voted the best property in the world by Travel & Leisure readers for the last two years more details at nihi.com.









Looking for exclusive departures of Ganges River Cruises & Luxury Trains of India? *Talk to real experts*.

1300 184 628



info@totalholidayoptions.com.au www.totalholidayoptions.com.au

Celeb Edge launch

CELEBRITY Cruises has launched what it claims is "the most luxurious ship ever built", the billion-dollar *Celebrity Edge* which has made its debut in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, ahead of a maiden guest voyage on 09 Dec.

The cruise lines' Vice President and Managing Director for Australia & New Zealand, Susan Bonner, said *Celebrity Edge* had already proven popular among Australian travellers.

"With thousands already booked for her Europe and Caribbean sailings, Australia is now the third highest source market for this ship," she said.

"So many people have never considered cruising as a holiday option – this ship is absolutely going to change their minds."

Among the ship's features is the Magic Carpet, an open-air venue cantilevered off the side of the ship, which is able to move between decks.

CLICK HERE to see photos.

Tasmania plan hits storm

A POLITICAL storm has erupted around plans to develop high-end tourism facilities in Tasmania's World Heritage-listed Walls of Jerusalem National Park, with reports that the project was approved by the Federal Government against the advice of expert advisory bodies.

The plan has met with opposition in Tasmania where conservationists have raised concerns over private tourism operations within the state's World Heritage areas, and have criticised the proposal's use of helicopters to transfer guests to remote locations.

The plan has been put forward by guided fishing operator RiverFly 1864, a 2016 Qantas Australian Tourism Award winner.

The company's proposal involves a niche operation on Halls Island in Lake Malbena, put forward in response to the Tasmanian Government's recent

calls for new tourism concepts in the state's National Parks.

It would involve a helipad and walking track, fixed accommodation for six guests at a time and a central kitchen and communal building.

The operators would host a maximum of 30 visits a year, targeting upmarket guests for guided kayaking, bushwalking and fly-fishing visits.

The Sydney Morning Herald today reports the plan was "waved through" by the Federal Government despite objections by advisory bodies including the Australian Heritage Council, National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council and Tasmanian Aboriginal Heritage Council.

It says the advisory bodies' concerns were revealed under Freedom of Information provisions by the Wilderness Society, which is launching legal action against the Federal Govt.



Window Seat

UNTIL now, the most confronting aspect of a silent disco has been the awkward spectacle created for onlookers, but authorities in Edinburgh have found cause for even greater concern - they say silent discos make too much noise.

The Scottish capital could become the first city in the United Kingdom to ban silent discos after complaints that tourist groups and hen parties are causing disruption and public nuisance with their headphone-powered street rayes.

"Silent discos are not silent," city councillor Jo Mowatt told Scotland's *Herald*.

"There is a lot of whooping and screaming, especially when you have 40 women on a hen party," she said.





Learning in the Philippines



THE Philippine Department of Tourism last month hosted 32 Aussie travel managers, plus a rep from Philippine Airlines, on its inaugural "reverse roadshow" in Cebu and Manila.

The new project invited prequalified, independent travel managers to the Philippines to provide information on tourist destinations and tours, and to

build relationships directly with travel suppliers.

The group consisted of managers from MTA Travel, itravel and Travelmanagers, along with boutique travel organisations, PAL-Rasko, Iconic Journeys, Concept Travel, The Travel Collection and 5 Oceans Travel.

The group is **pictured** on a Loboc river cruise.



Choose Well.

Airbnb names CFO

DAVE Stephenson will take up the role of Chief Financial Officer at Airbnb in Jan.

Stephenson joins from a 17-year career at Amazon, where he held positions including Vice President and CFO of its Worldwide Consumer Organization and the Vice President for Amazon's International Consumer business.

Hilton successful yr

HILTON says its All Suites brands are experiencing "one of their most successful years".

The brands - Embassy Suites by Hilton, Homewood Suites by Hilton, and Home2 Suites by Hilton - have witnessed rapid growth, having already surpassed their growth goals for 2018 and are on track to end the year with a pipeline of over 580 pending properties.

Milestones achieved this year included opening the 1,000th All Suites hotel.

Rottnest additions

EIGHT new tourism and recreation offerings have been launched on Rottnest Island ahead of what is predicted to be the island's biggest summer yet.

The additions include a crayfish and cook tour aboard Rottnest Cruises; sunset, eco and whale watching tours, undersea helmet walks, scuba dives and snorkel tours with Ningaoo Reef Dreaming and subsea scooter hire from SeaBob.

A new eco-tent resort at Pinky Beach is also slated to open in Mar next year.

EK industry fare

EMIRATES has released industry fares to Europe and Dubai, on sale until 14 Dec.

Economy return flights from Perth to select cities in Europe lead in at \$840, while BNE/MEL/ SYD fares start at \$920.

PER to DBX fares start at \$700, while Biz class is from \$3,200.

BLACK FRIDAY SALE

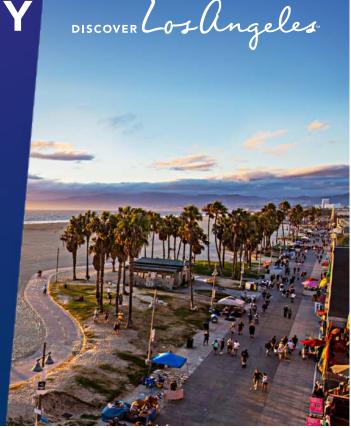
Flights to \$1,065*

Return Getaway fare departing Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne









Travel Daily

Tuesday 27th November 2018

Allianz partnership

ALLIANZ Partners UK has partnered with Affinity Insurance Solutions in a bid to create a new distribution channel that is more obtainable for smaller travel husinesses

Under the new partnership, Allianz Partners UK will provide the underwriting and claims handling services to Affinity Insurance Services trade customers.

"Affinity Insurance Services is a great addition to our travel portfolio...[the agreement] allows us to reach clients in the industry that may have been unable to offer an insurance solution," said Allianz Partners UK Travel Insurance Underwriting Manager Barry Smith.

Scenic China Japan

SCENIC Luxury Cruises and Tours has announced the launch of its Oriental Wonders of China and Japan 2019/2020 brochure, featuring a new 27-day Silk Road and Tibet tour.

The Chinese adventure takes travellers from Beijing to Chengdu, with prices starting from \$16,590 per person.

Japanese packages listed in the new brochure include the 17-day Essential Japan tour, exploring Tokyo and Osaka and starting from \$18,990 per person.

Earlybird discounts of \$200 are in place for bookings taken by 31

Call 138 128 for more info.

Ponant steel cut

PONANT has started building its polar exploration vessel Le Commandant Charcot, with the official steel cutting ceremony taking place this month at the Vard shipyard in Romania.

The new flagship will be powered by liquefied natural gas and when operational will undertake "intense polar explorations" and sail to the geographic North Pole.

"Exploring little-known lands and sharing and transmitting our passion for the sea and for nature have always been our driving forces," said Ponant CEO Jean Emmanuel Sauvee.

Le Commandant Charcot is scheduled for delivery in 2021.

Dupont refurbished

THE Dupont Circle hotel in Washington DC is set to be relaunched in Mar 2019 after it undergoes a multi-million dollar refurbishment.

When the property reopens it will boast a new bar, restaurant, lobby, and a revamped rooftop floor which will feature a large Penthouse suite with views of the Washington Monument.

Rooms and terrace suites will also be refreshed, with the design led by Bernie Gallagher, Chairman of The Doyle Collection.

"The Dupont Circle is one of Washington's best located hotels and our vision is for the hotel to become the social hub of this... neighbourhood," Gallagher said.

Brisbane bowls over Indians



BRISBANE Airport recently played host to the world's first cricket match inside an airport terminal to coincide with the start of the Indian cricket team's tour of Australia (TD 16 Nov).

The unusual match featured former Aussie cricket greats Brett Lee and Michael Kasprowicz (pictured centre) and was streamed live on Brett Lee's Facebook page.

Brisbane Airport Corporation CEO Gert-Jan de Graaff said the sporting event provided a unique opportunity to strengthen tourism between the two nations.

"India and Australia share a love of family, travel and cricket, so we thought we'd take the opportunity to celebrate these shared values with a bit of fun, whilst also showcasing Brisbane as an aspirational travel destination offering a wide range of experiences for Indian visitors," de Graaff said.

"India is one of the world's fastest growing outbound travel markets with more than 300,000 Indians visiting Australia last year," he added.

Brett Lee, who is a sporting icon and Bollywood star in India, said the match was a way to showcase Brisbane to Indian tourists.

"There's a huge opportunity to showcase all of the new tourism developments happening in Brisbane," Lee said.

CONTACT CENTRE TEAM LEADER SYDNEY OFFICE

COMPETITIVE SALARY & BENEFITS

We're looking for an energetic, goal-orientated Contact Centre Team Leader to join us in our new Surry Hills office.

The ideal candidate will have five years' experience as a Team Leader in a call centre. superior customer service and communication skills and an analytical mindset.

Travel industry experience would be a bonus, but isn't necessary.

This position comes with a competitive salary package and fantastic industry perks

Viking is set to be the world's largest small ship cruise company by 2019, so now is the perfect time to join our dynamic, rapidly expanding team

To apply, please send a cover letter and your resume to jobsau@vikingcruises.com Applications close Friday, December 7. Only successful candidates will be contacted.



ARRIVING NEXT SUMMER

NEW TRAIN. NEW JOURNEYS. NEW ADVENTURES.

FIND OUT MORE



Agents pay Cardiff a visit



QATAR Airways and Visit Wales recently hosted a group of 14 top West Australian travel agents on a famil to Cardiff to showcase QR's products and Wales as a destination.

Pictured at Cardiff Castle, back from left: Brian Conway, Bonaventure Travel; Greg Mant, Tertiary Travel; Gaynor Vant Sant, Travel Focus; Graeme Middleton. Travel Directors; Silvia Greaves, Fremantle Travel Services; Nick Missikos, Our World Travel; Paul Harris, See Wales Tours.

In the front row are: Ilona Lorincz, Helloworld Travel Booragoon; Vicky Johnston, Helloworld Travel Midland; Pan Pan, Qatar Airways; Michele Fraser, Bicton Travel; Tanya Lepidi, Helloworld Travel Dunsborough;

Sue Todorovski, itravel Morley; Elizabeth Garrigan, Helloworld Travel South Perth; Kacey Dunn, Capricorn Travel; Linda Bottrell, South Perth Travel.

Solomons incentive

TOURISM Solomons is again offering agents the chance to win either \$100 or one of two \$50 pre-paid Visa cards until 07 Dec, with winners revealed on 12 Dec.

To enter agents need to complete any one of the training modules featured in the Tourism Solomons "Hapi Isles Specialist Program" site located HERE.

The program is designed to provide sales staff with product knowledge via online modules to learn about the Solomon Islands and the destination.



AFTA UPDATE

from Jayson Westbury



THE Victorian State Election has got everyone talking with a big win to the sitting **Labor Premier**

Dan Andrews MP, something that I think was expected but not so convincingly as has been the case. Premier Andrews will command the house of representatives in the Victorian Parliament for the next four years and will do it with a big majority.

While at the time of putting this Travel Daily column together the full vote had not been completed and there remained several seats in question, for the first time in a while in politics they don't matter so much, as he has already won 52 seats and needs only 45 to hold government.

No doubt some of the remaining seats will fall his way & so his position will strengthen.

Now, the upper house of the Victorian Parliament is another story and as time flows on more will become apparent as to who has what.

Clearly nobody is going to have a majority there, although as history has shown, perhaps control by one party over both

houses is not something our forefathers ever wanted. So that's that then for the Victorian State election, it will be interesting to see what happens going forward and the types of policies that get implemented.

For the travel and tourism industry, the Andrews Govt has been solid and a supporter so we can only hope that continues over the next four years.

As to what this all means for Canberra and the Federal Election sometime in 2019, perhaps a Christmas Holiday will help and allow everyone to regroup and forge their plans for the future.

I suspect, unofficially, the Feds are now in election mode and we are all bound to see a load of ideas and promises coming out thick and fast as the race for Canberra begins.

Or not – we will have to see. It all does make for interesting times politically and still perhaps before Canberra comes the NSW election which is set for 04 Mar.

Next year is bound to be a big year for politics and like all of the readers of *Travel Daily*, I can't wait to see what happens next.

Buckle in, methinks there are interesting times ahead.

Adv travel trends

DOWNTIME, over-tourism, travelling sustainably and having informative experiences will be the major influences on adventure travel in 2019, according to adventure travel specialist, World Expeditions.

The company's CEO, Sue Badyari said, "It's a case of travelling less and seeing more, rather than travelling more and seeing less, that is inspiring many people to undertake slow travel".

She also said that in 2019 the company would be releasing a "carbon-neutral project across all itineraries".

For more info, CLICK HERE.

Hilton Mexico open

HILTON Guadalajara Midtown. the Hilton Hotels & Resorts brand's second hotel in Guadalajara and eighth property in Mexico, has officially opened.

The 225-room hotel features a swimming pool, fitness centre, restaurant, two bars and event space incl 10 meeting rooms.

Iran DFAT update

THE Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is advising travellers to reconsider travel to Iran due to the risk of arbitrary detention or arrest.

To see safety and security information on Iran, CLICK HERE.

EarthCheck app

BRISBANE based sustainability company EarthCheck has developed a Risk and Crisis toolkit for the travel and tourism industry to help businesses, operators and destinations address risk management throughout an emergency event.

"The CrisisReady technology puts a risk and crisis management plan at your fingertips," said EarthCheck Founder and CEO Stewart Moore.

Moore explained "the app sends information directly to a Content Management System which controls the alerts and provides a more streamlined response process".

See more about the app HERE.



Agents discover LA



MONEY

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

AU\$1 = U\$\$0.721

TRAVELLERS should keep one eye on the market today after the AUD bounced all over the place in the last 24 hours, opening higher yesterday before dropping overnight. The "Hero to Zero" decline has analysts baffled, with many placing hope on a possible deal between Donald Trump and Xi Jinping to be made later in the week at the G20 Summit to regain confidence.

Wholesale rates this morning.

| US | \$0.721 |
|--------------|-----------|
| UK | £0.563 |
| NZ | \$1.065 |
| Euro | €0.637 |
| Japan | ¥81.98 |
| Thailand | ß23.84 |
| China | ¥5.008 |
| South Africa | 10.035 |
| Canada | \$0.956 |
| Crude oil | US\$50.42 |
| | |

LAST week Discover Los Angeles together with Delta Air Lines, Virgin Australia, West Hollywood Travel & Tourism Board and Universal Studios Hollywood treated travel agents to their annual luxury Thanksgiving feasts.

Events took place in Sydney on the Mon and Brisbane on Wed, with the Sydney function featuring a Thanksgiving menu designed by Virgin Australia's on-board celebrity chef, Luke Mangan.

Both events updated the trade on Los Angeles' "unique style of laid-back luxury," said Discover LA Regional Dir ANZ Craig Gibbons.

"From the moment visitors arrive, they can enjoy a premium experience at LAX and continue that luxe theme through to dining, accommodation, experiences and shopping," Gibbons said.

Pictured are: Craig Gibbons, Discover LA; Ashlea Set, Concierge Traveller (prize winner); Tahnee Perkins, West Hollywood Tourism & Universal Studios Hollywood; Nicole Bennett, Delta and Rob Hamer Jones, Virgin Australia.



Enter for your chance to win a 12 day safari to **Botswana – including flights!**

Fly on South African Airways, Best Airline to Africa and travel with Australia's Best Speciality Wholesaler, Bench Africa, on the Highlights of Botswana Mobile Safari.

To win, all you need to do is have the most creative photo showing your 'Africa' face – the over the top, super excited or emotional expressions that many people make on seeing the incredible experiences that Africa offers. It can be from a trip you took to Africa or even from here (using your imagination)!





Send your entries to bench@traveldaily.com.au

Crowne PI donates

CROWNE Plaza Melbourne has highlighted its commitment to Fareshare and the Feed Melbourne Appeal by providing 40,000 meals to the charities.

The hotel is also inviting guests to donate 50c as part of their hotel booking, with an additional donation possible at one of the hotel's restaurant outlets and upon checkout.

Sunrise for BIG4

BIG4 Holiday parks has partnered with Let's Go Motorhomes and the Caravan Industry Association on a promotion airing on Channel 7's Sunrise program all this week.

The episodes will be broadcast live at BIG4 Saltwater @ Yamba.

Epic Pass expands

VAIL Resorts has announced holders of its Epic Pass will have unrestricted access to seven consecutive days of skiing at Les 3 Vallees in France, as well as Skirama Dolomiti Adamello Brenta in Italy.

The changes are applicable from the 2018/19 northern winter see epicpass.com.

MSC Italy terminal

MSC Cruises has announced it has acquired "significant interest" in Trieste Adriatic Marine Initiatives, a holding company of the Italian cruise terminal, Trieste Terminal Passeggeri in Trieste.

MSC is scheduled to begin homeporting operations from the port in 2020.

2018 AFTA TRAVEL PAGES, NOW WITH A COMPREHENSIVE SUPPLIER DIRECTORY.

VIEW HERE



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 EDITORIAL

info@traveldaily.com.au

Editor in Chief and Publisher - Bruce Piper Managing Editor - Jon Murrie Editor - Jasmine O'Donoghue Contributors - Adam Bishop, Sarah Fairburn, Anastasia Prikhodko, Jenny Piper, Christian Schweitzer

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING Sean Harrigan and Lisa Martin advertising@traveldaily.com.au

BUSINESS MANAGER Jenny Piper accounts@traveldaily.com.au Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Travel Daily operates by paid subscription to people within the travel industry - sign up at www.traveldailv.com.au.



Travel Daily is a publication of TDaily Pty Ltd ABN 34 108 508 765. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of Travel Daily no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.



Events & Travel Manager - Sydney \$55K to \$65K + super

A great move for a corporate or leisure consultant. Be responsible for managing both domestic & international event programs. A varied role arranging flights, accom, conferences, tours & the creative elements of the events. Call Ed or Click HERE

Travel Consultant - Sydney Sutherland Shire up to \$50K + super + bonus

Location location! Great opportunity for an experienced consultant in the Sutherland Shire looking for work / life balance. Our client is a well-established, boutique travel agency, specialising in high-end and luxury travel. Call Chloe or Click HERE

Cruise Reservations Consultant - Sydney \$50K + super

Sell cruise ships of all sizes to impressive destinations from the Caribbean & Antarctica to the South Pacific, the Mediterranean & more- including pre/ post accommodation & flights. Lots of exciting cruise famil opportunities! Call Susan or Click HERE

Reservations Coordinator - Sydney Eastern Suburbs \$50K to 65K + super

Exciting opportunity to work for an online leisure travel business, booking trips to amazing destinations in the South Pacific & beyond. You will book cruises, hotels, flights, transfers, events & activities using Amadeus. Call Giulia or Click HERE

Revenue Manager - Melbourne \$70 to \$80K + super

This national hotel group is experiencing substantial growth so now is a great time to get involved. Set the strategic direction for their revenue management as the company evolves. Multi property revenue mgt exp. required. Call Adrian or Click HERE

www.tmstalent.com

Click HERE to register as a Job Seeker

