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## One&Only Atlantis

**ONE&ONLY** Atlantis The Palm, Dubai, is now offering Imperial Club guests complimentary airport transfers, a dedicated concierge team, private beach access, and daily access to its new Imperial Club Lounge.

The new amenity offers breakfast, afternoon tea, and pre-dinner cocktails.

For more info on the resort's free services, see **page nine**.

## Be an LA expert

**THE** Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board is encouraging agents to become an "LA Insider" which provides access to new incentives, competitions, products, and training opportunities.

Agents can complete a 30-minute program online to gain access to travel discounts, fam opportunities, and a free welcome pack of goodies.

See **page seven** for more info.

## Labor's tourism pledge

**THE** Labor Party has flagged plans to create a new Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Cities and Tourism if elected this Sat.

The party's new tourism policy document highlights infrastructure as a key pillar of its growth strategy, with the proposed merged tourism and transport department to fund improvements across airports, ports, roads and public transport - particularly in regional Australia.

Labor spending would see \$1 billion invested with a Northern Australia Tourism Infrastructure Fund to boost indigenous

tourism, eco-tourism and event-based facilities including stadiums and convention centres.

Notably, Kakadu National Park would receive \$220m for key upgrades including year-round road access, environmental projects, a new visitor centre, and improved mobile connectivity.

Another major winner under the plan would be Tasmania, with \$120 million of funding promised for tourism projects in the state.

These would include \$30m to improve Cradle Mountain's infrastructure, \$8.8m to complete the North West Coastal Pathway, and \$50m for MONA to build a new convention centre, theatre, library and auditorium.

Further funding would see \$25 million to rejuvenate Great Keppel Island off the Qld coast with better power and water access, as well as upgrades to roads, facilities, and viewpoints along the Shipwreck Coast in Vic.

## Exp forecast down

**EXPERIENCE** Co has issued a revised FY19 guidance which has lowered the company's expected revenue for the period by 4% on the back of "softer trading conditions".

The Queensland-based adventure tourism company said a number of market trends were adversely affecting its financial performance, including the reduction in international airline services to the region by carriers like China Southern, capacity reductions from domestic airlines, and lower numbers of overall visitors to the Great Barrier Reef.

"These factors have impacted our earnings in the region," the company said.

"In particular, higher yielding activities on the Great Barrier Reef operated by our Big Cat, Reef Magic and Great Barrier Reef Helicopter brands."

Earlier this month, Cyclone Ann also impacted its operations.

### Today's issue of TD

*Travel Daily* today has six pages of news, including a photo page for **Travellers Choice** plus full pages from:

- Los Angeles Tourism
- AA Appointments jobs
- One&Only Atlantis The Palm

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## Rail Europe offer

**RAIL** Europe is offering agents a chance to win a free First class Eurail Pass or receive 75% off fares when they take part in a quiz on Eurail.

Only one attempt is permitted per agent and agents who fail to obtain a 100% score on the quiz can apply for 75% off their Eurail Passes using the code "AD75".

The passes are valid for travel up to 11 months in advance, and must be redeemed by 20 Dec.

**CLICK HERE** to access the quiz.

## Jet Airways CEO

**INDIAN** airline Jet Airways' CEO Vinay Dube has resigned, a day after CFO Amit Agarwal left the troubled company (**TD** 18 Apr).

Dube and Agarwal resigned with immediate effect.

## Google travel platform push

**GOOGLE** has rolled out a range of changes to its online travel offering, simplifying the navigation between Google Flights, Hotels and Trips on desktops as well as mobile.

According to an update this week from Google's VP Product Management, Travel, Richard Holden, the new dedicated portal at [google.com/travel](https://google.com/travel) will collate travel information from a variety of sources in one place.

As a trip is planned, research and reservations will be automatically organised in the Google Trips app, which now links to the desktop travel portal.

Users can edit their trip's timeline, with a further enhancement in the coming weeks to allow travellers to manually add new reservations.

The portal at [google.com/travel](https://google.com/travel)

also features the weather for any upcoming or potential trips.

"It often takes days or weeks to plan a trip...when you need to pick up planning again, we'll keep track of your trip research across Google," Holden said.

Recent searches, saved places and flights being tracked are added automatically to trips when signed into a Google Account, while the portal will also feature other content such as travel articles, suggested day plans, popular restaurants around your hotel and events happening during your travel dates.

In the coming months trip information, including reservations for hotels and restaurants, will also become accessible via Google Maps.

"Our goal is to simplify trip planning by helping you quickly find the most useful information and pick up where you left off on any device," Holden concluded.

## Sustainability video

A **HIGHLIGHTS** video of the **Travel Daily** 2019 Sustainability Summit that took place late Apr and saw the travel and tourism industry come together to share best practices in sustainability can be watched **HERE**.

## Mitchell promotion

**BRETT** Mitchell has been promoted to the role of Managing Director - APAC at Intrepid Group.

Mitchell said that due to the growth of the business, this is a brand new position that has been developed along with several other new positions to support the growth.

Mitchell was formerly the Regional Director for Australia, NZ and Asia.



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to register and for more info

## voco Sydney CBD

**IHG** has signed its fifth voco property in Australia, with voco Sydney Central set to open by 2020 in Sydney's CBD.

The property will feature 301 guest rooms, an all-day restaurant and bar, and a guest gym.

The property was originally slated as a Holiday Inn in 2017, but the company made the switch after it identified "more of a need for quality accommodation options for business and leisure travellers" in Sydney's CBD.

## VA Cook Is decision

**THE** International Air Services Commission has allocated Virgin Australia International Airlines (VAIA) 360 seats per week of capacity in each direction on the Cook Islands route.

The determination permits the capacity to be used by either VAIA or its wholly-owned subsidiary, Tiger International Number1 and is valid for five years from 09 Apr 2020.



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## Jabiru's redevelopment

**JABIRU**, located in the Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory is slated for a major tourism redevelopment when the current uranium mining activities are brought to a close and the mining company restores the land.

Speaking with **Travel Daily** this week in Darwin, Tourism NT GM for Industry Development Scott Lovett revealed plans to make Jabiru a new centre for sustainable ecotourism.

"The Federal Government has committed to a whole range of projects within Jabiru and Kakadu National Park and the Territory Government last week through its budget announced \$120 million dollars towards redevelopment," Lovett said.

A staged development will commence by the end of the year and it is anticipated to take up to five years to complete with the

local indigenous population key stakeholders in the plan.

"The indigenous population from Kakadu, through their corporation, are driving the development & setting the agenda."

"It's a great way to be."

"Our role is to get in behind them to provide technical assistance, but for all intents and purposes, it's their plan."

"That's where they see the future of Jabiru," said Lovett.

The project will also need investment from the private sector with the aim to provide facilities and experiences to attract "the high value traveller market", with Lovett citing similar projects carried out in Uluru as a success measure.

"We've seen what Longitude 131 has done for Uluru for example, so a similar style development is envisioned for Kakadu," he said.

Discover why Galway is one of the best spots in Ireland in the May issue of **travelBulletin**.

**CLICK to read**  
**travelBulletin**



## Marriott on watch

**MARRIOTT** International is not concerned about a softening it is witnessing in the Australian market, VP Global Sales, Asia Pacific (excl Greater China) Ramesh Daryanani told **TD**.

"We've had a bolstered first quarter overall, we are seeing some softness in the Australian market but our hotels continue to outperform our competitors," Daryanani said.

Marriott International is amidst extensive growth plans in the Pacific region, with the company on track to grow its 31 properties in the region to 50 by the end of 2020 (**TD** yesterday.)

Daryanani said the softening in the market was "something that we're watching".

"We just hope that it doesn't continue with the trend that we're currently seeing and that's why we're monitoring it closely so we can stay ahead of it," he told **Travel Daily**.



## Window Seat

**STONEHENGE** has birthed many sources of mystery over the years, but it seems we can finally close the book on at least one unsolved case this week.

Robert Phillips, 90, has stepped forward to confess to stealing a large chunk of the ancient stone monument in 1958, swiped when he was working for a local diamond cutting firm.

He pulled off the audacious theft by boring three holes in the stone so support rods could be placed inside to transport it.

The stone slab was returned about a year ago but has only just been disclosed publicly, and ironically, historic monuments charity English Heritage said the slab was in better condition than any existing pieces.

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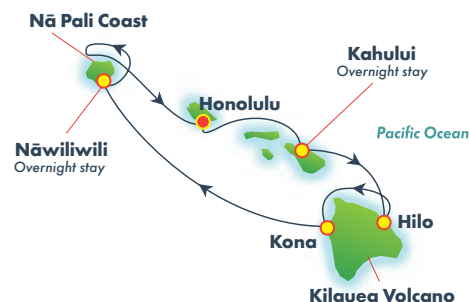
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Thursday 16th May 2019

## T@60 at Start-up World Cup



### WIN FLIGHTS TO THE COOK ISLANDS



This week Cook Islands Tourism and Air New Zealand are giving agents the chance to win return economy flights from Sydney to Rarotonga direct. There are 15 return tickets to be won!

A journey to the Cook Islands is the perfect island escape for rest and relaxation, romance, family fun, and adventure. From turquoise blue lagoons to craggy volcanic peaks, it's picturesque. Air New Zealand operates a return direct service weekly, departing Sydney on a Friday evening and returning from Rarotonga on a Thursday afternoon.

To win have the most creative answer to the question below. Send your answer to [cookislands@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:cookislands@traveldaily.com.au)

What activity would you choose to do in the Cook Islands & why?

AIR NEW ZEALAND

COOK ISLANDS

Terms and conditions

**NEW** travel marketplace, Travel at 60 will represent Australia at the Start-up World Cup Finals in San Francisco this week.

The business will compete with 40 rival start-ups from around the globe for a \$1m investment from Pegasus Tech Ventures.

Parent company Starts at 60 launched Travel at 60 last year as an OTA complemented by a travel packaging team & full service travel consultancy (**TD** 13 Sep).

Starts at 60 CEO Rebecca Wilson and Travel at 60 Commercial Director Wendy Harch won the right to represent Australia at last month's qualification comp.

**Pictured** are: Tony Wheeler, ImagineX Ventures; Rebecca Wilson, Starts at 60 CEO and Wendy Harch, Travel at 60.

### TripAdvisor safety

**TRIPADVISOR** is adding a new safety review filter to help alert travellers to reviews that include critical safety information.

The new feature comes in response to a study that found 67% of travellers reported a destination's safety and security was a prime concern.

TripAdvisor will highlight reviews posted in the last year concerning sexual assaults and sexual misconduct by employees of a business, with reviews about other safety categories to be added on a rolling basis.

## APPOINTMENTS



**WELCOME** to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thursday feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry email [appointments@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:appointments@traveldaily.com.au).

**Viking Cruises** has appointed **Anna Bathgate** as PR and Communications Manager Australia and New Zealand. She joins Viking after four and a half years as PR Manager with Royal Caribbean International.

The **Radisson Hotel Group** has made three key executive appointments in the Asia Pacific, announcing **Bram Borrenbergs** as Vice President, Human Resources; **Greg Farrell**, Vice President, Design & Technical Services; and **Yeo Hui Leng**, General Counsel.

**Philip Hancock** has joined **Best Western Hotels & Resorts** as National Sales Manager. Hancock has held a number of senior management roles within the travel industry, including Strategic Account Manager at Travel Port, Director of Account Management at Egencia and Head of Partnerships, Australia at Hotelbeds.

**South Sea Cruises** has named **Alyssa Field** as General Manager - Global Sales. She has been with the company since joining as Business Development NZ in 2017, before taking on responsibility for the Australian and North American markets. The cruise line has also announced the appointment of **Loretta St Julian-Ooms** as **General Manager - Fiji & Asia Sales**. St Julian-Ooms also joined the business in 2017 and will be based in Denarau.

### ToSP returns again

**AGENTS** will be able to boost their knowledge of what the South Pacific offers, with the return of Treasures of the South Pacific (ToSP) training events.

Representatives from the tourism offices of Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Norfolk Island, Tahiti, the Solomon Islands, New Caledonia and the Cook Islands will be taking the series to Adelaide 04 Jun and Melbourne 05 Jun, to highlight what is on offer from Australia's neighbours.

Find out more **HERE**.

### Club Med families

**CLUB** Med has launched a new family program aimed at allowing families to reconnect on holiday, as part of the brand's family offering.

Find out more **HERE**.

### Contiki bottles

**YOUTH** tour operator Contiki has launched a new travel-sized eco-friendly filtered water bottle that can be folded up for easy transport when not in use.

The bottle is said to remove 99.7% of bacteria to create "cleaner, safer drinking water anywhere in the world", removing the need for travellers to buy single-use plastics - more **HERE**.

### Fly Corp milestone

**FLY** Corporate is celebrating six months of its services from Wollongong to Melbourne and Brisbane.

The flights have saved pax an average of five hours per trip, by cutting their need to travel to Sydney to fly interstate.

It has also delivered a 94.8% on-time performance rate.

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## Travellers Choice's winning ways

**IT'S** no wonder Travellers Choice members covet the group's annual Choice Awards, given the spoils that await the program's 30 high-flying winners.

Last month the 2018 recipients found themselves cruising the orient on an Azamara Club Cruise, floating down the Rhine with APT and traversing Australia with experiential tour operator Journey Beyond.

Winners of the Gold, Silver and Bronze awards - presented to member shareholders delivering the highest levels of support for the group's preferred suppliers - don't just enjoy unforgettable trips with fellow agency owners, they also receive service grants worth up to \$1,500 per agency.



**SILVER** Award winners in the grounds of Namedy Castle, Germany.

The grants can be used towards the network's member services, including its eDM solutions, Wetu Itinerary Builder and local marketing activities.

For more information on Travellers Choice, please visit [www.travelagentschoice.com.au](http://www.travelagentschoice.com.au).



**BRONZE** Award winners on WA's Rottnest Island. Back row: Jill Carmody, Leongatha Travel and Cruise; Nancy Sinopoli, Travel House Group; Kathy Granger, Burnie Travelcentre; Kate Harvey, Naracoorte Travel N Cruise; Peter Flynn, Maranoa Travel Centre; Heather Galley, Travel & Cruise Bundaberg; Pam Nielsen, Journey Beyond; Deb Falvey, Journey Beyond; Greg Tucker, Panorama Cruise & Travel; and Carol Shaw, Tour de Force. Front: Robyn Mitchell, Travellers Choice.



**SILVER** Award winners explore the Rhine on an APT river cruise. Back row: Brian Slater, Maria Slater Travel; Sue Sullivan, Easy Travel and Cruise; Sue Holmes, Carine Travel Bug; Phil Dalley, Travel Makers; Jim Cooper, Queanbeyan City Travel & Cruise; Jill Faircloth, Endeavour Travel & Cruise; Janelle Anderson, Moss Vale Cruise & Travel. Front row: Brian Bennett, Travel and Cruise Professionals; Michelle Shea, City Beach Travel & Cruise; Susan Haberle, APT Travel Group; Dave Bantoft, All About Travel; and Nicola Strudwick, Travellers Choice.



**THE** main drag: Bronze winners meet Broken Hill royalty at The Palace Hotel, made famous by *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.



**ROLL** with it: Gold Choice winners learn to make sushi.



**BRONZE** Award winners ride on Scenic World's legendary funicular in the Blue Mountains.



**PROST!**



**ANOTHER** enchanted oriental evening for Gold Award winners on Azamara Quest.



## Swiss Tourism goes hiking



**SWITZERLAND** Tourism's incoming local head, Livio Goetz, will be tasked to roll out the latest instalment of its "Nature wants you back" campaign.

At a launch event in Sydney last night, which featured 10 suppliers from Switzerland, hiking was revealed as the core theme for the initiative this summer.

The tourism board's latest statistics identified almost half of the visitors to Switzerland do at least one hike during their stay, with 85% of these hikes being individually organised.

"Switzerland is a true hiking paradise," said Switzerland Tourism's outgoing Director for Australia and NZ, Mark Wettstein.

The Alpine country features 65,000km of hiking trails that are maintained by 1,500 volunteers each year, making it easier for travellers to navigate on their own.

There's also three recently launched multi-day hiking treks coupled with stays in mountain huts or hotels: The Via Alpina (Vaduz-Montreux), Jura Crest Trail (Dielsdorf-Nyon) and Alpine Passes (Chur-St. Gingolph).

"Almost 65% of overnights from Australia are generated during the

summer months, and that's why we believe hiking in the Swiss Alps should be on every Australian's bucket list when visiting Switzerland," said Wettstein.

Statistics also revealed that the 50+ demographic market loved hiking in Switzerland, although there is an increasing trend in younger people wanting to explore the country deeper and engage in a hike.

To support the new campaign, Switzerland Tourism Board has produced a dedicated hiking magazine filled with detailed information about the various trails, traveller stories, hotels and hiking tips.

Last night's event also saw Switzerland Tourism's Head of Asia Pacific, Simon Bosshart, acknowledge Wettstein for his five-year tenure in Australia and NZ, and commended him on the role he's played to increase growth by 30% from the market.

Wettstein's successor Livio Goetz will officially take over the Director role commencing 01 Jul.

The Switzerland Tourism team **pictured** are Livio Goetz, Birgit Weingartner, Mark Wettstein and Simon Bosshart.



## WIN A TRIP TO THAILAND

This month Centara and *Travel Daily* are teaming up to offer readers the chance to win a seven-night stay for two in a Deluxe Room at Thailand's Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Hua Hin with daily breakfast.

Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Hua Hin is one of Thailand's most famous hotels – originally built as the King's guesthouse in the 1920's it has been lovingly restored and extended over the years to a luxurious five-star resort. It is a short walk to the famous markets of Hua Hin with fabulous seafood, shopping and entertainment.

To be in the running, correctly answer each of the weekly questions across the month and have the most creative answer to the final question. Send your responses to [centara@traveldaily.com.au](mailto:centara@traveldaily.com.au)

Q2. Centara Grand Beach Resort Villas Hua Hin was featured in which 1984 Oscar nominated movie?

**CENTARA GRAND**  
BEACH RESORT & VILLAS  
HUA HIN

Terms and conditions

## APAC hotels up

**A TOTAL** of 1,892 hotel projects accounting for 423,343 rooms were under construction in the Asia Pacific as of Apr, up 23.3% year-over-year, STR's pipeline data showed.

The upper midscale projects showed the largest increase (41.9%) in activity year-over-year, followed by upper upscale projects with a 17.6% increase.

## P&O drinks sale

**P&O Cruises** is running a sale until 11 Jun offering travellers the Premium Drinks Package on cruises of seven nights or more.

The package includes soda, juice, mocktails, water, beer, cider, wine, spirits and cocktails. For more info **CLICK HERE**.

## El Questro getaway

**EL QUESTRO** Resort is running a mid-season sale this week across its Homestead, Station and Emma Gorge lodgings, which applies to travel from 01 Jun.

The deals offer bonus nights and savings, including complimentary breakfasts and kids staying free.

For more info and bookings, visit [www.elquestro.com.au](http://www.elquestro.com.au).

## Heycars Amadeus

**CHINESE** startup Heycars has integrated with Amadeus Transfers and part of the Amadeus Transfers Platform to provide chauffeured vehicles that can be booked in advance.

Heycars' collaboration with Amadeus means its content has exposure to Amadeus' global travel agency network.

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# Los Angeles

## L.A. INSIDER

### Firehouse Hotel - Arts District



The nine-room boutique property, Firehouse Hotel, will open in Downtown's south Arts District this month. At the intersection of 7th and Santa Fe, the hotel is located within a 1928 structure known as The Engine Co. No 17

Building, which functioned as a fire station until 1980. The 800-square-metre, two-story hotel will offer visitors both retail and a restaurant space led by chef Ashley Abodeely.

[firehousela.com](http://firehousela.com)

### "Dogs! A Science Tail" - Downtown

'Dogs! A Science Tail' is the latest immersive exhibition at the California Science Center. This family friendly draw looks at the special bond between humans and dogs through live demonstrations, role-play activities, VR technology and more. This adorable display dedicated to four-legged friends and wet noses is perfect for all ages of animal lovers.

[californiasciencecenter.org](http://californiasciencecenter.org)



### LA Plaza Cocina - Downtown

LA Plaza Cocina will be the first museum and teaching kitchen dedicated to Mexican food when it opens in Downtown L.A.'s Olvera Street at LA Plaza Village in late 2019. The multi-disciplinary venue will aim to celebrate and educate visitors on Mexico's culinary heritage, from its indigenous roots to its contemporary interpretations through an array of exhibitions, cooking classes, lectures, workshops, and culinary festivals.

[lapca.org](http://lapca.org)



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### LAX Update

Now in its third year, LAX Presents brings 38 performances in eclectic styles such as vintage West Coast rock, jazz piano and classical ensembles. The 2019 season will more than double the number of performances from 2018 and will feature 14 diverse acts, compared to nine in 2018. The series will run until December 10, 2019.

[flylax.com](http://flylax.com)

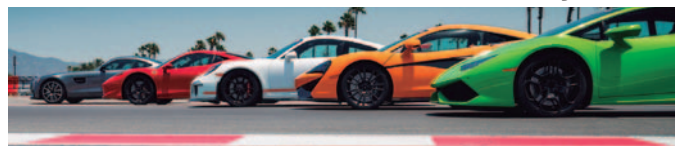
### American Airlines

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[americanairlines.com](http://americanairlines.com)

### Discover L.A. Exclusives - Citywide



Discover L.A. Exclusives is a new Los Angeles Tourism program created to bring a uniquely curated collection of only-in-L.A. experiences to visitors from 16 businesses across the city. These range from LA Cycle Tours, offering 20% off their all-you-can-eat Dim Sum and Taco Bike Tour, to Exotics Racing, which is offering adrenaline junkies 50% off two laps drifting ride and Cartwheel Art Tours offering 10% off a fully-customised private tour. These offers are available now through June 30, with a new set beginning July 1.

[discoverlosangeles.com/exclusives](http://discoverlosangeles.com/exclusives)

### LA Phil 100-Year Centennial Season

In the midst of the 2018/2019 season, LA Phil's Centennial Birthday Celebration will take place on its 100th birthday, October 24, 2019, where three LA Phil Music Directors from past and present will share the stage. The celebration will double as the Opening Night Concert & Gala for the upcoming 2019-2020 season which takes LA Phil into a new century.

[laphil.com](http://laphil.com)

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**SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGER  
SYDNEY –SALARY \$120K PLUS PLUS**

Having just won a significant account our client are in need of a Senior Account Manager to take the lead of this large Account. We are looking for someone extremely polished who has worked on large market accounts and is confident presenting to board rooms, liaising and negotiating at the CEO level. Ideally someone from a corporate background who has had experience within the banking or insurance industry would be an advantage.

**STRONG FOCUS ON DOMESTIC PRODUCT**

**TRADE SALES MANAGER  
SYDNEY –SALARY PACKAGE \$113K PLUS BONUS**

If you have a proven track record and have established key relationships within the key distribution networks, our client wants YOU! Established global operator in the Australian market with this newly created role to strengthen their distribution and partnerships primarily in Australia but also some overseas markets. Some travel will be required. We are looking for a commercially focused individual who is able to present and influence at the executive level.

**LEAD PROJECTS NATIONALLY**

**PROJECT MANAGER  
SYDNEY OR MELBOURNE -12 MNTH CONTRACT \$90K PLUS**  
Currently in between roles and looking for a Project to see you through. This TMC have a contract role in their project management team, you will assist in the planning, implementation and introduction of new and existing client projects across Australia. This is a client facing role so strong presentation is a must along with excellent Excel skills. Formal project management qualifications would be an advantage with previous experience in Project Management.

**LEADING SALES ROLE**

**DIRECTOR OF SALES  
BRISBANE - UP TO \$130K PKG**

This gorgeous 5 star property located in Brisbane's premium CBD area is looking for an exceptional Director of Sales. Reporting to the GM you will devise sales strategies across all market segments including corporate and MICE. You will also enjoy managing a team of BDMs and sales coordinators. Previous hotel industry sales experience will see you thrive in this role. Top salary, perks and career progression on offer.

**\*NEW\* MOVE INTO HOTEL SALES**

**HOTEL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER - MICE  
BRISBANE– UP TO \$80K PKG**

Love the thrill of the chase? An expert in the MICE sector? Then this new sales role is for you. We are currently looking for a sales orientated and driven BDM to join this leading property in Brisbane. Working closely with the sales team you will be responsible for generating leads, increasing sales, entertaining top clients and facilitating hotel inspections. A strong salary package along with long term career progression on offer. Call to find out more.

**STRONG FARMER REQUIRED**

**NATIONAL ACCOUNT MANAGER  
BRISBANE - TOP PACKAGE ON OFFER**

We are currently looking for a senior BDM to take on a newly created Key Account Manager position in Brisbane. Representing a highly respected brand you'll be responsible for managing a large national account including building strategic relationships and developing sales and marketing plans to grow the business. In addition to a strong salary package and achievable incentive scheme you'll be provided with a car and all the tools of the trade you need.

**AUSTRALIA'S ONLY DEDICATED EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT TEAM**

[executive@aaappointments.com.au](mailto:executive@aaappointments.com.au)

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Add a little luxury

ATLANTIS  
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