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Travel Daily AU

First with the news

Fri 31 Dec 10 Page 1

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India travel advice

THE Indian government has issued a nationwide security alert warning of possible terrorist activity in major Indian cities over the New Year period.

DFAT's travel advisory for India overall is 'High degree of caution'.

JQ/LAN air bilateral

JETSTAR and Latin America's LAN Airlines have signed a new bilateral interline deal, offering increased connectivity for LAN pax to services in Australia and New Zealand, and on international services to the Oceania region and Japan, Thailand or Indonesia.

The agreement covers JQ's domestic services from Sydney and Melbourne to points such as Perth, Brisbane, Adelaide, Gold Coast, Townsville and Hervey Bay.

In New Zealand, it covers routes between Auckland or Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown.

The new arrangement opens up "attractive spots in Asia, like Bali in Indonesia, Phuket and Bangkok in Thailand, Honolulu in Hawaii, Osaka in Japan and Singapore," LAN said in a statement.

Jetstar services on routes to Bali (ex BNE), Ho Chi Minh City (ex DRW), Jakarta (ex PER) are others to be covered.

LAN ceo Armando Valdivieso said the tie-up would add "more value to the tourist experience."

In Nov, Jetstar enabled a new e-ticketing deal with LAN of flights with LAN Argentina, LAN Chile, LAN Ecuador and LAN Peru, as flagged by *TD* (*TD* 02 Nov).

IATA: air growth steadies

INTERNATIONAL air traffic growth rates are returning to pre-recession levels, according to stats released by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Airline traffic figures for Nov reflect an 8.2% year-on-year passenger increase, however the month's result was 0.8% less than the growth achieved in Oct 2010.

IATA has suggested that the slower growth does not point to a negative trend, as passenger and freight traffic is still expanding at annualised rates of 5-6%, which it says is in line with the industry's historical growth trend.

Director general and ceo Giovanni Bisignani said the industry is "shifting gears in the recovery cycle".

"We see a strong end to 2010 that boosted the year's profit forecast to \$15.1 billion. Slowing traffic growth is in line with our projections for a reduced profit of \$9.1 billion in 2011," he said.

Asia-Pacific's international passenger demand slipped 1.5% from Oct to Nov to a growth rate of 5.8% (2.4% lower than the industry average), but traffic levels were still 2% below pre-GFC levels, IATA said. Capacity expanded 5.9% and

load factors were 75.6%, on par with the industry average.

MEANWHILE, Bisignani also highlighted the need to learn and apply lessons learnt from the pre Christmas UK snowstorm and post Christmas USA blizzard, to be better prepared for "future exceptional situations."

The IATA boss said the recent events, along with the Icelandic volcano eruption earlier in the year, showed the importance of air transport "crystal clear".

"Modern life and the global economy depend on aviation."

He also said the travel chaos was an opportune time to evaluate government imposed industry handicaps, such as excessive taxation, out-dated ownership restrictions, over-regulation, under-investment in infrastructure and poor regulation of monopoly suppliers.

LHW 11/12 directory

THE Leading Hotels of the World has launched its first completely redesigned Hotel Directory in over 15 years, featuring over 430 properties in 2011/12 - order a copy at www.lhw.com/directory.

Who, what, where & when of 2010

TRAVEL *Daily's* comprehensive year in review special supplement will be hitting reader's inboxes shortly after today's issue is received, looking at what made the news in the past year.

So, before you log off your computer for the year, why not take a few minutes to sit back, and enjoy the trade's best 'flash-back' of what happened in the travel industry in 2010.

April 2010

BREAKING NEWS

- 61 Apr: Virgin Blue orders up to 305 Boeing aircraft
- 12 Apr: Jetstar offers Canada fares
- 16 Apr: Qantas ceases flights to Lufthansa
- 21 Apr: Airlines recommence Europe services
- 28 Apr: Air New Zealand & Virgin Blue to Taranaki talks
- 29 Apr: World's Most Luxurious by ACCR re-advertising

ALSO THIS MONTH...

- California Tourism launch new website
- British Airways 125th anniversary
- Beachcomber 25th anniversary
- Air Austral 25th anniversary
- Emirates Autumn Carnival at Randwick Racecourse
- Sweetened 100th anniversary

TRAVEL DAILY ON-LOCATION

- 6-12 Apr: Hong Kong - 100th Anniversary Family Fun!
- 20-23 Apr: Hobart - ATCC Symposium

TRAVEL DAILY TV

- 14-16 Apr: Wendy Wu 1st Day Angkor to the Bay Tour
- 19 Apr: Tourism California Surf & Snowland
- 22 Apr: Volcano aftermath interview with Alan Joyce
- 28 Apr: Asia Pacific Luxury Mega Land

CELEBRITY INTERVIEW

Philomena
The Amazing Race host

WEEKLY COMPETITIONS

- 7-day Holiday Hawaii for two people
- Courtesy of Hawaiian Airlines, Mileage Plus & Delta
- Complete Travel System valued at over \$50,000
- Courtesy of the Big Travel System

AFI TIPPING WINNERS

- R2: Lisa Clarke, Flight Centre St Peters
- R3: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R4: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R5: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R6: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R7: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!

NRL TIPPING WINNERS

- R8: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R9: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R10: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R11: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R12: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R13: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R14: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R15: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R16: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!
- R17: Janyne Jordan, Family Fun!

MONTHLY COMPETITION

CONGRATULATIONS

Dan Workman - Sales Pacific
Winner of 'The Ultimate Sydney' holiday in a digital book competition at Travel Sydney

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Pat Collins from Travel Photo Double Bay and Tim Harwood of Emirates at the Sydney Cup

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Liz's Christmas Job Search Tip

Research is key! Read up on the company you are applying to.

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QF US A380s back?

QANTAS may have some of its Airbus A380 services between Australia and Los Angeles back in the air by 17 Jan, according to travel agent GDS displays.

The Australian flag-carrier axed A380 services to the US last month after one of the four Rolls Royce Trent 900 engines exploded on the Nancy-Bird Walton aircraft on a flight from Singapore to Sydney.

DJ ups CC fee 30%

VIRGIN Blue has jacked up the price of its \$3.50pp per segment credit card payment surcharge on domestic flights by 30% to \$4.50, effective 21 Dec.

The credit card fee for DJ's int'l flights has also risen, up \$1 to \$7.

TA steps up social media

TOURISM Australia (TA) aims to ramp up its social media services as part of a global media marketing contract the organisation has put out for tender late this month.

Within the 71-page Global Media Services Draft Contract, TA says the elected Agency will be required to provide a range of ways to develop, track, monitor & optimise social media campaigns.

The Agency needs to be based in Australian and have 'Delivery Locations' in the UK, USA, China, Singapore, Japan, India, Malaysia, Hong Kong, South Korea, New Zealand and Germany, and other target markets.

"The Agency must integrate the social media campaigns of Tourism Australia with other media campaigns to ensure that key campaign messages are aligned in all media channels," TA's draft contract says.

Strategies need to cover brand activity and co-operative tactical advertising communication.

Other requirements include recommendations on how to use existing campaign content and message in social media channels "to ensure that Tourism Australia is receiving the best possible value for money for its activities."

Regular consolidated reports are required for global, regional and local campaigns.

"The actual nature of the Social Media Services required will be adjusted each year based on Tourism Australia's annual operating plan for the upcoming fiscal year," it says.

Tourism Australia has over one million Facebook followers and has a presence on Twitter.

Other services Tourism Australia is seeking tenders for a three year period, also starting 01 Jul 2011, are for media planning and buying, and search marketing and optimisation services.

Conditions of the tender include exclusivity, where an Agency is not permitted to provide media services to government tourism offices for New Zealand, the UK, Canada or South Africa markets.

Two options to extend the term of the contract, each for a further year, are also offered.

Closing time for tenders ends on 28 Jan, with evaluations planned between Mar-Apr 2011.

Window Seat

LIKE England's Barmy Army needs to rub in our Ashes loss any more.

On Sun 02 Jan, Jimmy Savile, Billy the Trumpet and other Barmy Army members will make the climb to the summit of the Sydney Harbour Bridge to celebrate the beginning of the Ashes Test Match in Sydney.

Thankfully it's a very early morning climb, so we presume most Sydney-siders will still be fast asleep after New Year's Day celebrations across the city.

AND speaking of summits, the AC Milan football squad rose to a new challenge high above Dubai city yesterday.

The team played football on a specially created pitch at the top of 828-metre high Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building.

"As the new Fly Emirates shirt sponsors of AC Milan, we always knew Emirates could help take the team to a higher level and we certainly demonstrated this today," said Mohammed Mattar, EK divisional senior vp airport services.

NOW here's a hot accommodation offer hard to say no to.

Curry Village, operated by DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite in California, is offering rates for unheated tent cabins as low as the previous night's temperature measured in Celsius.

So, if the weather reaches a temperature of 32°F (0°C) or lower, then guests will enjoy a complimentary stay.

The 'Celsius Special' is available for stays on selected days throughout Jan.

Farewell to Christmas 2010!

Today is the last day that we feature a selection of the travel industry's 2010 Christmas party photos for entry into our fantastic competition that's been running throughout December.

Thanks to our good friends at Fraser Suites Sydney, we're giving away an overnight's stay in a luxury Penthouse Apartment, sparkling wine & a fruit bowl upon arrival and complimentary car parking, for the best party photo entry received.



LEFT: Show me the money!

Erin Grant from BCD Travel in Sydney spins a \$20,000 win on the wheel at the national BCD Travel Christmas party held on a cruise along Darling Harbour, followed by some

Vegas style gambling in the Harbour Room at the Intercontinental.

RIGHT: Now this is one big family!

The team at Greece & Mediterranean Travel celebrated Christmas

with a feast last weekend at Aesops Greek Restaurant.

We've been inundated with entries for the competition, so the judges will spend the next few days going through these snaps and announce the lucky winner of this fantastic prize in TD next week!

Thanks to everyone who entered, and we look forward to seeing more of your festive photos next Christmas.



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Sundowners over the Mara



ABOVE: The lucky JTG agents taking part in The Africa Safari Co's 10th famil in 2010 (*TD* Wed & Thu) had some spare time to wind down during a game drive while in Kenya's Maasai Mara NP.

As the last rays of sunshine set over the plains below, the agents enjoyed Sundowners from their mountain perch, and watched a traditional dance being performed by the local tribes people.

Pictured *from left* are: Wayne Hamilton, Africa Safari Co; Helen Goodings and Cheryl Moore, Jetset Marion; Paula Scott, Travelworld Parkdale; Tanya Moubey, Travelworld Naracoorte; & Lisa Cadd, JTG South Australia.

And, Kenya is not all about wildlife as the group discovered when they went back in time with a visit to the Nairobi train museum, where they learnt much about the country's colonial past.

Inset - pictured from left, are: Lisa, Paula, Helen, Tanya, Cheryl and Wayne.

In 2010, The Africa Safari Co has led famils to South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Zambia, Namibia, Malawi, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Mauritius.

"We are grateful for the support of airline partners for without them this would not be possible," TASC's marketing manager, Wayne Hamilton said.

"South African Airways, Kenya Airways and Air Mauritius should all be congratulated for being proactive and understanding the importance of educationals," he added.

Will 2011 see The Africa Safari Co attempt to host 11 famils?

Rome tax details

ROME'S Tourist Department has outlined further details about the new overnight accommodation tax (*TD* 05 Nov) which will be adopted from 01 Jan 2011.

All visitors, whether booked or paid via a travel agent or tour operator, will be charged the levy as follows, per person/per night: camp sites - 1 Euro to a maximum of five days; farm inns, B&Bs, rented rooms, holiday homes, holiday apartments or 1-, 2-, 3-star hotels - 2 Euros to a maximum of 10 days; of 4-, 5-star hotels - 3 Euros to a maximum of 10 days.

The Rome City Council says the fee will be used to financially assist it in organising urban services in the city.



Disneyland flooded

ENTRY tickets to Disneyland in Anaheim were suspended from sale on Tue for the second day in a row, after massive crowds at both Disney California theme parks led to long queues and slow traffic.

Up to 100,000 people visited the parks on each day, which resulted in a temporary halt to ticket sales at Disneyland at 10am on Tue, and by 1pm at California Adventure.

Guests with pre-paid entry tickets were still able to enter either amusement park.

Qantas US & QLD flight waivers

THE recent inclement weather in the North East of America and parts of Canada, and its impact on airports, has prompted Qantas to issue a flight waiver policy.

The waiver permits pax with a valid QF 081 ticket to/from points east of (and including) Chicago up until today only, to alter their booking without charge.

Passengers can re-route travel, return to their origin, rebook on alternative flights (with Qantas or American Airlines codeshare services), or retain the value of the ticket for future travel within 12 months of the original ticketed date of departure.

New travel dates must be prior

to 31 Jan 2011.

Earlier this week, QF was forced to reschedule some of its services to New York's JFK airport because of blizzard conditions (*TD* Wed).

MEANWHILE, mother nature has also played its part in a QF waiver policy issued following flooding in parts of Queensland.

Qantas passengers on services to and from Brisbane and Mount Isa or Brisbane and Townsville are being offered the option to make changes at no fee, for travel up to and including 05 Jan.

Refunds are offered for tickets travelling between 29 Dec-05 Jan.

See the Qantas Industry Site for full terms and conditions.

WIN A FIJI HOLIDAY FOR TWO



Treasure Island Fiji and Air Pacific are giving *Travel Daily* readers the chance to win the perfect Christmas present.

One lucky reader will this month unwrap an envelope with two return 'Pacific Voyager' (economy) tickets flying *Air Pacific* from either BNE, SYD or MEL to Fiji and a voucher for five nights of relaxation at the beautiful *Treasure Island Resort*.

To be in the running, simply help to compose a Fijian version of the "Twelve Days of Christmas".

Every two days we will be asking you to complete (and email in) one of the 12 lines from the song.

Give us your best creative entry and make sure they encompass the treasures that Fiji has to offer.

Email your full entries by COB 31 December 2010 to fijicomp@traveldaily.com.au.

[Click here](#) for competition terms and conditions.

"On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love gave to me _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____ and _____ in a palm tree."

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