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First with the news

Friday 31st August 2012

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ON **02 9231 6444**
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JESSICA TSOLAKIS
RECRUITMENT ASSOCIATE

ISSN 1834-3058

Etihaad drops Damascus

ETIHAD has announced the immediate suspension of flights between Abu Dhabi and Damascus due to the deteriorating security situation in Syria.

Affected passengers will be notified and offered a full refund for unused tickets.

Rex warns of storm clouds

REGIONAL Express says it hopes to survive a "triple whammy" slapped onto regional aviation by the government, even as it reported a record \$35.1m pretax profit today (**TD** breaking news).

Chairman Lim Kim Hai said the combined carbon tax, additional security charges and the removal of the Enroute Rebate Scheme would cost Rex up to \$5 million this financial year, with profits expected to drop by 15-25%.

This year's strong result was driven by improved passenger

revenue, more demand for charter services and cost-reduction programs.

However, the company warned that all economic indicators point to a sharp slowdown in China, while economic ructions will continue to affect the US and EU.

Lim said there are "no prizes for guessing what will happen to Australia," but said Regional Express was well placed to survive.

He warned that the additional cost imposts will mean Rex is "compelled to further rationalise its network," with the cuts to be revealed towards the end of 2012.

AA back online

THE website of travel recruitment firm AA Appointments is once again online, after requiring an upgrade due to high volumes of traffic from clients and candidates.

AA md Adriana d'Angelis thanked the industry for its patience - see www.aaappointments.com.

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Last day for Mauritius

DON'T forget to get your entries in for our amazing Aug Mauritius comp which wraps up today.

We've received thousands of industry entries this month, with a Mauritius holiday for two up for grabs courtesy of Beachcomber Resorts and Air Mauritius.

See the final question on **p7**.

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NSW venue focus

THE NSW government has today advertised for an Executive Director for a new statutory authority to manage several major venues across the state.

The role will include setting up the Venues NSW brand and the creation "leading venues for national, international and local events" and achieving the state's tourism targets by using the infrastructure to attract domestic and international visitors.

More details in today's issue of **Business Events News** - subscribe at businessnews.com.au.

Happy Friday issue!

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

- AA Appointments jobs

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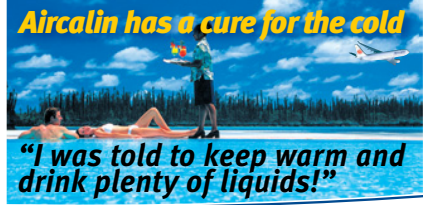
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Travel Daily

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Friday 31st August 2012



Aircalin
New Zealand

CLICK HERE

New Hertz Rent2Buy

HERTZ Australia is offering prospective purchasers of its rental vehicles the opportunity to take a three day test drive.

The Rent2Buy system is claimed to be the first of its kind in Australia, and if the car is ultimately purchased the three day rental is provided at no cost.

The cars sold include a 90-day 5000km warranty and full service history, with test drives offered at locations in NSW, Vic and Qld.

Since launching in the US, thousands of cars have been sold using the Hertz Rent2Buy system, with Australian vehicles now online at www.HertzRent2Buy.com.au.

Travel Today \$10k fine

THE US Department of Transportation has fined a travel agency in Virginia \$10,000 for not including the full price of taxes and fees in advertised prices.

Travel Today Inc. promoted fares from Washington DC to India that separately identified an airline-imposed fuel surcharge simply as "extra" while a fare matrix on the agency's website did not include all applicable taxes.

Cigarette chaos expected

LENGTHY arrivals queues are expected at all major Australian airports from tomorrow when the cuts to tobacco duty free allowances take effect (**TD** 27 Jul).

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) says that due to a lack of international publicity, most passengers will be "completely unaware of the changes" until they arrive.

Campaigns promoting the change don't even kick off in China until Nov, and AAA ceo Caroline Wilkie said it was unlikely that overseas duty free retailers will advise travellers of the changes "as they will lose sales".

Wilkie said the AAA had asked the govt to delay the change until 01 Mar 2013, but this has been ignored, and airports are worried about the pressure the changes will put on staff and infrastructure.

"This is the perfect storm waiting to happen and in the long term it is Australia's tourism industry that will face the damage," she said.

Emirates A380s to SIN

EMIRATES is set to launch A380 superjumbo flights on the Dubai-Singapore route, with flights operating 08-12 Sep and then on a permanent basis from 01 Dec.

The move will see the planned resumption of EK A380 services on the Dubai-Johannesburg route EK761/762 cancelled.

A report in today's *Australian* suggests that a codeshare deal between EK and Qantas could be finalised as early as next week.

TG reveals A380 layout

THAI Airways has announced the cabin layout for its six Airbus A380 superjumbo aircraft, with the first of the mega-jets to be delivered to the carrier in late Sep.

A total of 507 passenger seats will be on board, broken down into 12 in Royal First Class, 60 in Royal Silk Business Class, with the seats in both classes to lie-flat, and 435 in Economy.

Exodus deal for AW

ADVENTURE World has today announced a new "exclusive GSA partnership" with UK-based adventure specialist Exodus.

Exodus is part of the PEAK Adventure group, which is jointly owned by TUI Travel and Intrepid.

Under the deal, Adventure World will profile Exodus product in its brochures and website, with Exodus joining other AW partners such as Acacia Africa, Dragoman, Trek America, Fez Travel and G Adventures.

Exodus offers over 500 itineraries in 90 countries such as walking, trekking, cycling, wildlife and winter activities.

Sunshine Coast forum

SUNSHINE Coast Destination Limited will host a Tourism Industry Operators Forum in partnership with Sunshine Coast Council on 10 Sep.

The day will feature leading tourism speakers and workshops, aiming to encourage the industry to collaborate on building resilience to ensure a sustainable future for tourism in the region.

For information on attendance, email tourismforum@scdl.com.au.

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Skywest Virgin ARAN set to grow

SKYWEST Airlines is set to significantly expand the ATR-72 fleet which it operates under a wet lease arrangement with Virgin Australia, with firm orders which will see it add six more of the turboprop aircraft by the end of the financial year.

Late yesterday the carrier revealed its full year results to 30 Jun (**TD** breaking news), with overall revenue up 26% to A\$233 million, but profit down 28% to \$5.47m for the year.

The period included the launch of the Australian Regional Airline Network (ARAN) together with Virgin, which recently took delivery of its seventh ATR-72.

Skywest touted the on-time performance of the ATR network, which has "outperformed its competitor" on a consistent basis since Mar this year.

During the year competition on certain routes where Skywest operates its own scheduled flights saw it reduce capacity, but this was more than offset by growth

in the charter business.

Charter revenue grew 30%, and flight hours were up 25%, while Skywest signed its first charter contracts with Bechtel/Chevron for the massive Wheatstone LNG project during the year.

Other network changes saw the introduction of daily return flights to Derby and double daily Kalgoorlie operations.

As well as growing the ATR72 fleet to service the Virgin pact, Skywest "continues to explore opportunities to acquire more aircraft to meet growing charter demand".

The period also included the ACCC approval of the corporate alliance with Virgin which allows the carriers to jointly market bundled services to the resources market, and separately the company received \$8.3 million net proceeds from Virgin Australia which, if converted to equity would represent an \$11m investment in Skywest for 10% of the ordinary shares in the firm.

Seabourn to Antarctica

LUXURY small ship operator Seabourn will cruise to the Antarctic for the first time ever next year, with the Carnival Corporation-owned line overnight announcing a series of four 21- to 24-day voyages sailing to the frozen continent from South America.

Seabourn Quest will operate between Valparaiso, Chile and Buenos Aires, Argentina commencing Nov 2013, with the voyages cruising the Chilean fjords, the Falkland Islands and Ushuaia heading south via Cape Horn for five days in Antarctica including Zodiac landings.

The new Ultimate Antarctica and Patagonia sailings open for sale in Australia next Wed 05 Sep.

The 450-pax *Seabourn Quest* is the cruise line's newest ship.

Castaway safari

CASTAWAY Island Resort in Fiji will stage its first ever Fijian Food Safari in the week starting 03 Dec.

Aussie Executive Chef Lance Seeto, well known for his international standard cuisine with a Fijian twist, will host a series of sumptuous dinners, interactive cooking classes and intriguing excursions, with the program priced at F\$550 per adult plus accommodation.

Space is limited; more info from resmanager@castawayfiji.com.fj.

UA domestic 787s

UNITED Airlines overnight announced plans to fly its new 787 *Dreamliner* aircraft on US domestic routes in Nov, before rolling them out onto previously announced int'l destinations.

UA expects to take delivery of the first five of fifty 787s it has on order, with the new planes to be used on some flights ex Houston to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Denver and Cleveland.

Reservation systems will display the 787 for sale on the relevant flights effective from tomorrow.

Last chances for Tas

ONLY a few seats remain on Evergreen Tours 7-day "Best of the West" Tasmanian famil trip, with highlights including a stay in a Cradle Mountain chateau, a visit to Hobart and much more.

Land participation fee is \$325pp and to enquire, send an email to famil@evergreentours.com.



Window Seat

THAT ol' chestnut about "those whinging Poms" has been blown out of the water following a new TripAdvisor survey.

The poll rated the nationalities of travellers who posted the highest number of positive and negative reviews on products and services, finding that Britons generously rated hotels at 4.1 out of 5, higher than people from other European countries and only just behind the most positive travellers, South Africans, whose average hotel rating was 4.22 out of 5.

The nationality with the new title of "whingers", according to the survey, are Malaysians, who only left positive reviews 3.8 out of every 5 times.

A CASE of bad timing.

During a game of trivia hosted and sponsored by a number of Travelscene preferred partners last Sat afternoon during the National Consultants Conference in Alice Springs, Helen from Club Med found herself giving away a bit too much information.

Delivering her introduction prior to the set of Club Med questions she had prepared, Helen opened by saying there were 80 Club Med Resorts operated around the world - unaware the audio-visual technician had already placed the first question on the screen.

Needless to say, that first question was "How many Club Med Resorts does the company operate around the world?"

AIR CANADA



STAR ALLIANCE



AIRLINE MARKETING AUSTRALIA

Sales Executive – representing Air Canada Brisbane Based

Airline Marketing Australia is seeking a professional Sales Executive with airline or travel industry experience to fulfill a short- term contract representing Air Canada in Brisbane, Queensland.

Reporting to the National Sales & Marketing Manager in Sydney, the successful candidate will need to be self-motivated, results driven and pro-active with growing the Queensland retail, wholesale and corporate business.

The successful candidate must have the ability to develop and maintain mutually productive business relationships with key industry partners. Good presentation, analytical and communication skills are essential, along with a high level of professionalism and customer service excellence.

Please send expressions of interest to paul.mclean@aircanada.ca with the email entitled

****Sales Executive position – Air Canada**.**

Applications close September 20th, 2012.

Note: Due to the potential high level of interest, only successful applicants will be contacted for interviews.

Govt coach tender

THE Department of Finance has issued a tender for the provision of Luxury Coach-with-Driver services to COMCAR, the agency which provides transfers for a range of “entitled clients” including parliamentarians and dignitaries.

COMCAR is also responsible for providing a broad range of transportation services for the Guest of Government visits program as well as major events such as the Brisbane G20 in 2014.

The three year contract is for the provision of luxury coach services in Canberra, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide, Darwin, Cairns, Perth and other regional locations.

The successful provider must also be able to accept bookings 24 hours a day seven days a week and be able to ensure full transparency and accountability of travel and transport booked - details www.tenders.gov.au.

New OS products

AUSTRIAN Airlines will phase in new business and economy class inflight product from Dec.

The upgrades will apply to both 767 and 777 aircraft, with GDS displays now showing the new configurations as 36 1-2-1 business class seats and 178 economy seats in the 767 planes.

The OS 777-200ERs will have 50 business class seats and 258 in economy, with the new product planned to debut on flights from Vienna to Bangkok, the Maldives and Tokyo effective 05 Feb 2013.

Perisher tops 2 metres

IT IS still very much winter at the Aussie snowfields, with Perisher reporting overnight it has surpassed an average snow depth of two metres.

Many last minute deals remain available to the snowfields, with more details on snow conditions on **page six** of today's **TD**.



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Global Jul air traffic slowdown

GLOBAL air traffic figures for the month of Jul show stark contrasts across different regions, new stats released by IATA reveal.

In general, passenger demand for air travel over the month grew 3.4% year-on-year, a drop compared to the 6.3% increase reported in Jun.

Airlines have responded with reductions in capacity across some markets, resulting in a 3.6% jump in loads to an 83.1% average.

IATA has attributed the slowdown to recent drops in business confidence experienced across many economies globally.

Middle Eastern carriers continue to post the strongest

increases in pax traffic at 11.2%, while North American numbers dropped 2.1% year-on-year.

Asia-Pacific carriers remained generally stagnant, posting a modest 0.9% boost in numbers.

IATA director general Tony Tyler remained upbeat, saying “Overall, passenger demand is still up 3.4% on the previous July, but the growth trend is clearly slowing.

“This, along with rising fuel prices is likely to make it a tough second half of the year”.

HA to fly Big to Tokyo

HAWAIIAN Airlines has proposed new direct air services between the Big Island's Kona Airport and Tokyo Haneda.

In an application to the US DOT, the carrier says services could begin as early as Mar next year utilising A330 aircraft and complementing existing services to Haneda from Honolulu.

Second Ahn Luh hotel

CHINESE hotel management company Ahn Luh has signed up its second property - a 100-room island hotel on Xunliao Bay in Shenzhen, set to be open by 2016.



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Hong Kong Wine & Dine Month.
Best Place. Best Taste. 1 – 30 Nov 2012

Kick off this epicurean feast with the 4 day Hong Kong Wine & Dine Festival showcasing the best in wine, cuisine, live music and entertainment. Throughout the month enjoy food and drink promotions, wine appreciation classes, themed tours and cooking classes.

Sample the flavour of Asia's world city, where a new culinary experience lies around every corner.



SARA Merricks from MTA Travel was a lucky winner in a recent Finnair incentive for high-selling consultants to win a place on an exclusive "Journey through the Baltic States" famil trip, with Finnair flights to Europe.

Sara is pictured above centre receiving her prize from Anna Powell, Finnair BDM (left) and Nikki Woodward from Air Tickets.

Run in conjunction with Air Tickets and with Qantas providing flights to Asia to connect with AY, the incentive saw a high number of entries with only a few select winners to travel to Helsinki.

TNLA into Indonesia

THE latest phase of Tourism Australia's *There's Nothing Like Australia* campaign will roll out in Indonesia from this weekend, with the promotion featuring on TV, in cinemas and via outdoor advertising.

Tourism minister Martin Ferguson said "Indonesia promises great potential for Australian tourism, with a 6.2% increase in visitors to Australia in the year ending June 2012.

"With growing middle classes and great potential for visitor numbers, it is important that Australia gets in early and is ahead of the curve in emerging markets such as Indonesia, with many other destinations vying for visitors from Asian markets," Ferguson added.

AMR hedging funds

AMERICAN Airlines parent company AMR Corp. has said it has received interest from a group of hedge fund investors in providing equity financing to help the carrier out of bankruptcy.

Reports from the US say the investors, which already hold \$600m in AMR bonds, could be ready to pump up to US\$2 billion into the struggling carrier.

Back-Roads new year

SMALL groups touring company Back-Roads Touring will include access to Edinburgh's colourful New Years Eve party in its 30 Dec departure of its "A Scottish Winter" itinerary - 1300 100 410.

Wendy ups Myanmar

WENDY Wu Tours has released a further two departure dates for its Myanmar Explorer itinerary in response to popular demand.

New tours will depart on 30 Nov and 07 Dec - phone 1300 727 998.

Reho relaunch leisure

MELBOURNE based Corporate Travel business Reho Travel has announced it will relaunch its leisure arm, known as Vida Travel on the back of what it says is a "changing leisure market in Vic".

The company will also next week take up residency in a new "green" office on St Kilda Road as it celebrates the 30th anniversary of its former South Yarra office.

Ecotourism meeting

TOURISM representatives from nine ASEAN nations will gather in Cairns for the 2012 Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference from 15-17 Oct to provide high-level briefings on sustainability initiatives already undertaken and plans for the next decade to Australian officials.

Officials from Malaysia, China, Japan, Korea, NZ, Taiwan, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand will brief Australia on the potential of ecotourism over the next 10 years.

Duck Travel is plucked

THE Travel Compensation Fund has advised of the non-voluntary termination of Duck Travel in Woolloomooloo (ABN: 50 154 364 557), along with United Travel Agencies, Moorabbin, Vic; Saigon Star Travel Services, Abbotsford, Vic and Especial Business Travel in Matravilla, NSW for non-payment of participation fees.

Travel Daily
on location in
Vanuatu

Today's issue of TD is coming to you from Port Vila, courtesy of the Vanuatu Tourism Office.

BUYERS at the annual Tok Tok today got the chance to see what Vanuatu is all about.

Off they took in planes from Port Vila to the nearby islands of Espiritu Santo and Tanna to inspect hotels, resorts and spa retreats. TD was with the Santo contingent and we received a very colourful welcome by friendly spear-wielding natives, singing & dancing at the airport.

Wholesalers were taken by boat to see 3 private island resorts, Bokissa, Aore and Ratua, all featuring beautiful bungalows, fronting pristine palm-fringed beaches, and restaurants with dreamy views of the sea.

Groups were treated to a seafood and beef lunch at the Ratua Resort and an outdoor dining setting overlooking the stunning South Pacific.

There was also a stop at Champagne Beach which is said to be among the Top five beaches in the world - difficult to disagree.

"It's great to see these outer islands, I just love the remoteness of them, it's the real Vanuatu," said Cassandra Marshall from Omniche Holidays, Brisbane.

Shayne Clark from HWT from Sydney's Forestville remarked "Vanuatu used to be a hard sell to top echelon clients, but now there are world class restaurants and accommodation such as luxury lodges & upmarket villas.

I'm very impressed with what I've seen so far," Clarke added.

Technology Update

Today's Technology Update is brought to you by Excite Holidays.

The Evolution of Search



It is fair to say that since its inception, the way we use the internet has evolved dramatically.

Widely accepted as a part of modern day life, the demand for more sophisticated access to information via the internet is ever increasing.

The online travel industry is no exception and has had to adapt and embrace technological advancements in order to remain competitive in the online world. For travel agents using wholesaler platforms such as Excite Holidays the aim is simple; to source reliable products at competitive rates for their clients efficiently at the point of sale.

So how is this achieved? When we look at online search, and consider the origins of the GDS Systems there's clearly a noticeable shift towards a more modern functionality involving drop-down search bars and refined search options. Online trends indicate that searching online through rich visual features is becoming a more and more attractive search option for travel agents.

Excite holidays is currently in its final stages of launching a fully integrated Map View Search functionality that will allow agents to view hotels in a particular area, based on a refined search request. For example, agents will have the ability to view all 5* hotels, in a specific price range, by best value and with the exact location pinpointed on a map. Unlike many other map searches you may find online, Excite Holidays hybrid solution includes star rating, and prices on your selected properties, flagged on the map itself, making for easy reference, quoting and booking, in minimal clicks.

George Papaioannou, CEO, Excite Holidays



Jetstar drops CNS-SIN

JETSTAR has apparently decided not to proceed with its previously planned A330 non-stop flights between Cairns and Singapore, according to the *Cairns Post*.

21 marks for happy returns



WHEN you enjoy something, you usually do it over and over. Meet Denise Werner. Since 1996, Denise has booked her travels with Lesley Vass and the team at Harvey World Travel

in Bacchus Marsh, Victoria, and in the last 16 years has travelled on twenty Peregrine Adventures or Gecko's itineraries, recently booking her 21st trip.

Over those years and 20 tours, Denise has visited 24 countries, with her 21st tour set to take her to Burma next month.

As a reward for her loyalty and to mark the incredible milestone, Peregrine's National and Victorian Sales Managers joined Lesley in a visit to the HWT store to celebrate with Denise and offer her a 21% "super repeat customer" discount.

Over the 20 previous journeys, Denise has visited places such as Antarctica, Uzbekistan, Africa and the Galapagos Islands, and has earmarked a return to Africa.

Of her worldly adventures, Denise commented "I always travel with Peregrine because I love the small groups of like minded travellers, the wonderful local guides and great food".

Pictured above presenting Denise with a memento for her loyalty are Liz Young, Peregrine; Denise Werner, Lesley Vass and Anne Pierce, HWT Bacchus Marsh, and Paddy Brophy, Peregrine.

AA Iberia Express deal

AMERICAN Airlines has received approval from the US Dept of Transportation for a new codeshare agreement with Iberia low cost offshoot Iberia Express.

The move will see the AA code placed on Iberia Express flights between Madrid and 14 destinations across Europe.



Travel Specials

TRAVEL INDUSTRY CLUB



Travel, for travel people

THIS week's *Travel Specials* is brought to you by **Travel Industry Club**. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of send the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au.

Ignore the brochure price for yourself and take advantage of an offer from **Travel Industry Club**, who invite you to save 40% on a 5 star **Orion Cruise**. The journey is a once in a lifetime Expedition from Borneo across the Wallace Line. The 10-night luxury adventure is priced from \$3399pp, and to book, phone TIC now on (02)9700 8711.

For the daredevils, **Peppers The Sands Resort** in Torquay has launched a new "Escape to the Sky" package in conjunction with Australian Skydive. Starting from \$550 per couple, the package includes one night accom in a Studio Room with brekkie, room upgrade (subject to availability), bottle of wine, chocolates and an opportunity to jump out of a plane. Go ahead, take the leap - call (03) 5264 3333 to book yourself or clients in.

Spring arrives this weekend, and what better way to celebrate than by taking yourself to Melbourne to enjoy the **Hotel Windsor's Spring Arrival** package? The deal is inclusive of one night accom, a three-course set menu dinner and a souvenir Hotel Windsor umbrella, starting at \$335 per room. To book, contact the hotel on (03) 9633 6002.

Hit the rails and save up to \$750 on the full price of a 7-day holiday through The Ghan or The Indian Pacific and **Great Southern Rail's** "Adventure Package". Book either the "Kakadu Alive" or "Margaret River Experience" package and for an extra \$79, you can extend to a 7-day trip. For more details or to book, visit www.greatsouthernrail.com.au or call 132 147.

Hotels.com targets late bookers

EXPEDIA-OWNED Hotels.com has seen a significant change to booking patterns after the launch earlier this year of its new mobile and tablet applications.

The fully native apps provide a better user experience than a mobile website, and the company's vice president Asia Pacific, Johan Svanstrom, told **TD** that the company has seen that mobile users tend to make bookings much closer to check-in.

He said that Hotels.com has already reacted to this trend by encouraging its accommodation partners to make special offers of last minute inventory, which in some cases only become available from about 4pm in the afternoon on the day of booking.

He said that unlike deals which are available for longer booking windows, these "distressed inventory" rates enable hoteliers

to improve their yields and occupancies without affecting longer term consumer pricing or value perceptions.

At a function yesterday in Sydney, Hotels.com marketing manager, Katherine Birch, also outlined the way the firm is engaging with consumers through a major program of social and mainstream media initiatives.



WELCOME to **TD's** regular snow conditions update, providing info on the latest snow falls, depths and lifts in operation across key Australia and New Zealand ski-fields.

Here's the latest snow reports:

- Falls Creek - 183cm / 15 lifts
- Perisher - 204.1cm / 47 lifts
- Thredbo - 30cm / 13 lifts
- Charlotte Pass - 204.1cm / 6 lifts
- Mt Hotham - 190cm / 12 lifts
- Mt Baw Baw - 43cm / 6 lifts
- Mt Buller - 101cm / 19 lifts
- Coronet Peak - 30cm / 7 lifts
- The Remarkables - 60cm / 7 lifts
- Mt Hutt - 200cm / 4 lifts

Rocking hard in Mex

HARD Rock Hotels has opened its first property in Mexico, with the debut of the Hard Rock Hotel Vallarta, featuring 348-rooms, six restaurants and pitch & putt golf.

WIN AN IPOD SHUFFLE!



Every day this week **Travel Daily** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a 2GB iPod Shuffle, valued at \$55, courtesy of **Travel Trade Recruitment** - the recruitment specialists for the travel industry.

For your chance to win send in the most creative response to the daily question below.

In 25 words or less tell us why you love working in the Travel Industry.

Email your answer to TTRcomp@traveldaily.com.au Hint! Visit www.traveltradejobs.com.au

Congratulations to yesterday's winner, Monika Racz from **World Travel Professionals**.



WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO MAURITIUS

Throughout August, **Travel Daily** is giving readers the chance to win a fabulous Mauritius holiday package for two valued at \$5300, courtesy of **Beachcomber** and **Air Mauritius**.

The prize includes two return economy class tickets flying Air Mauritius ex Perth; six nights twin share accommodation in a Superior room at the 4½ star Le Victoria Hotel; breakfast and dinner daily at the resort; selection of free water and land sports including water-skiing, sailing, wind-surfing, pedal boats, snorkelling & glass bottom boat trips, tennis, gymnasium; nightly entertainment; travel wallet and documentation.

Every day **Travel Daily** will ask a different Mauritius-related question – just read the issue and email us your answer. There will be 23 questions in total, which will also be posted on our website.

At the end of the month the subscriber with the most correct entries and the most creative response to the final question will win this fantastic Mauritius holiday.

Email your answers to: mauritiustrip@traveldaily.com.au

FINAL QUESTION: In 25 words or less, tell us why you would like a holiday experience in Mauritius?



[Click here for more information](#)



Sarah Anderson award

GTI Tourism founder and md Sarah Anderson was today announced as a finalist in the 2012 Telstra Business Women's Awards, in recognition of the firm's contribution to the tourism industry and conservation efforts.

Star Clippers to Cuba

TALL sail cruising company Star Clippers has announced its Star Flyer vessel will operate a series of itineraries to and around Cuba during the 2014 season.

The vessel will operate four sailings, with pre- and post-cruise stays available in Havana.

More details at 1300 362 599.

NZ capital numbers up

POSITIVELY Wellington Tourism has announced increases in sales, visitor arrival numbers and overall spending for the 2011/12 financial year, reporting an 18.3% spike in arrivals to the NZ capital.

The company said despite a notable drop in visitors from the UK and USA, the result was heavily boosted by a 17.5% jump in numbers from Australia.

PWT said last year's Rugby World Cup contributed heavily to final numbers, with almost 2.5 million hits on WellingtonNZ.com, along with new e-news databases and increases in Facebook "likes" and Twitter "followers" driving the company's social media profile.

Bangkok cuts Bangalore

BANGKOK Airways will cancel its existing Bangkok-Bangalore service from 16 Sep - less than a year after launching daily A319 flights on the route.

Travel Daily
First with the news

Friday 31st Aug 2012

G what a rude haircut



STEVE Ladgrove from G Adventures is sporting new locks after recently agreeing to shave his head into any hairstyle his colleagues chose, if they could raise at least \$500 for children's charity Planeterra's initiative The New Delhi Streetkids Project.

If not for entertainment value alone, the desire to give to a good cause brought out the best in the office, who promptly put together a donation of \$1740 before downing tools and settling in to watch the fur fly.

As if Steve hadn't dug himself deep enough with his pledge, an extra condition imposed was that he had to keep the style for the whole weekend.

Which would have given his friends something to ask about during his birthday, which also happened to fall on the Saturday.

Steve is **pictured** above with Chelsea Kappeler and Chris Catanzariti as they lend their hairdressing skills to the cause.

Manage reviews tool

TRIPADVISOR has launched a free online tool allowing hotel managers, restaurant & attraction owners to gather reviews posted on their own websites and quickly publish them on TripAdvisor.

The Widget allows travellers to write reviews of their experiences without leaving the supplier's website, and can also link to a post-visit email to gather feedback.

Big China Airbus order

CHINESE aircraft leasing company ICBC Leasing has signed an agreement to purchase 50 Airbus A320 aircraft worth \$4b at list prices during a visit to the country by German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

It's the first significant Airbus order from China since the start of the country's dispute with Europe over emissions trading.

Supplier Updates

WELCOME to *Supplier Updates*, **Travel Daily's** new regular feature.

Agents can now access the latest special deals and promotions being offered by suppliers, simply by **CLICKING HERE**.

Supplier enquiries for notices: advertising@traveldaily.com.au

Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication. Produced each weekday since 1994, the newsletter is first with the latest industry news and is available by paid subscription to people within the travel industry. Sign up for a free 14 day trial subscription at www.traveldaily.com.au.

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THE LAP OF LUXURY

LEISURE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

SYDNEY CBD – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K

Do you prefer the nicer things in life? Do you have a passion for luxury travel? We are searching for an experienced travel consultant to join a well known premium brand, in their retail travel team. You will be handling air, land, cruise, touring and rail travel worldwide. You will be proactive and enthusiastic and have the ability to source a great deal. As well as consulting you will be liaising with marketing department airlines and suppliers in order to maximize opportunities – this is a role with style!

MAKE THE SWITCH TO CORPORATE TRAVEL

CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

NORTH SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE \$70K+ OTE

Give the tyre kickers and price beaters the flick! Top travel Consultants are making the switch to corporate travel! You will enjoy spacious open plan office environment, no face to face clientele, challenging and varied itineraries and dedicated corporate accounts. If you have a minimum of 3 years travel consulting experience it’s time you made a change for the better. Excellent salary plus incentives as well as training and career development opportunities on offer.

I STILL CALL AUSTRALIA HOME

CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE (INNER) - SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K

Are you ready for your next challenge in corporate travel? This boutique corporate travel agency located in inner Melbourne is searching for their next superstar consultant. Working on the domestic corporate account you will be booking various airlines and assisting your clients with the online booking tool. Monday – Friday hours and fantastic team environment, you would be crazy to miss this rare opportunity!

NO MORE LATE NIGHTS

RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

MELBOURNE (STH EAST) – SALARY PACKAGE \$45K (DOE)

They say a change is as good as a holiday. This retail travel agency located in Melbourne’s south eastern suburbs is looking for an experienced travel consultant. Working in a boutique office environment in a busy shopping centre you won’t have any issues reaching your targets here! With the bonus of no Sundays and no late trade, why wouldn’t you make the move?

CHECK OUT THE SALARY PACKAGE ON OFFER!

RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT

PERTH (NORTH) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$60K (DOE)

This boutique retail agency located in Perth’s Northern suburbs will see you move away from those price beaters and time wasters, working in a small team environment you will enjoy servicing your repeat and referral clients with their dream holidays. From Africa to Europe to the Maldives, no two days are ever the same! There is a fantastic salary package on offer for the right candidate! Min 5 years experience.

A ROLE WITH A DIFFERENCE

PRODUCT COORDINATOR

MELBOURNE (EAST) - SALARY PACKAGES TO \$45K (DOE)

Are you ready to move behind the scenes? This product role will see you doing just that! This prestigious and luxury travel company has an exciting new role in their product department. Your role will include providing expert product knowledge to agents, building and maintaining relationships with overseas suppliers, keeping product information updated, don’t miss this sought after role!

TOP NEW ACCOUNTS BRING BENEFITS GALORE

CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANTS x 8

BRISBANE CBD – SALARY PACKAGE OTE \$65K

This reputable corporate travel management company is seeking a number of travel professionals to join their growing team of multi skilled consultants. Now is the time to make the switch to corporate travel and advance your career and salary package. Sensational benefits are on offer such as progression opportunities, fitness benefits, educational plus much more! Say goodbye to late night trading & weekend trade and regain your life back! Call today to find out more.

WAKE UP SLEEPY HEAD

ADVENTURE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

BRISBANE – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$48K + BONUSES

Love talking about your adventures around the globe? Is your current travel role a little soft? If you are tired of selling the same old South Pacific holiday package and need some action in your day then this leading adventure travel office is for you. You’ll love selling exotic off the beaten track itineraries with no two requests being the same. Previous travel consulting experience and a passion for adventure travel is a must. Top salary pkg & benefits on offer.