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Travel Daily

First with the news

Tuesday 17th January 2012

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Holidays

AirAsia X plots SYD growth

AIRASIA X ceo Azran Osman-Rani has revealed the low cost carrier is planning to boost frequencies to Sydney, even before its new daily services take off in less than 80 days (**TD** breaking news).

The Malaysian carrier confirmed today it would finally launch long touted services to Sydney (**TD** 20 Aug 2008) from 02 Apr 2012, subject to government approval.

Osman-Rani said getting

approval from the Malay govt has been "something we've pushed very hard for" and comes four years after the budget airline commenced flights to its maiden Aussie gateway, the Gold Coast.

Osman-Rani said AirAsia's new service would provide budget concious Sydneysiders greater access to South-East Asia, now the carrier has delinked long-haul flights to Europe & India (**TD** Fri).

D7's business model had shown "it works" and allowed it to "pick countries and focus on those where we can fly into multiple cities with multiple frequencies, rather than spreading ourselves to thin", he said, adding that he's already in talks with Sydney Airport for "future expansion" as soon as aircraft become available.

Vale Wayne Tregaskis

THE travel industry is this week mourning the tragic death of Wayne Tregaskis who last Thu died in a boating accident in Sydney.

Tregaskis worked in Qantas public affairs in the 1990s, and was later the co-founder and major shareholder in travel insurance firm WorldNomads as well as being ceo of public relation firm S2i Communications.

His wife Jenny Lourey is Carnival Australia Senior Vice President, and a 'Celebration of Life' service will take place at St Ignatius College, Riverview NSW this Thu 19 Jan at 3pm.

Eight pages of news

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

- TMS Asia Pacific jobs
- AA Appointments jobs
- Garuda Executive Class
- Consolidated Travel

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CONSOLIDATED Travel has launched a new Singapore Airlines incentive, in which the agent with the top SQ sales each week will receive \$1000.

Consultants will also receive a \$100 David Jones voucher for every return First/Suites ticket to Europe; a \$50 DJ's voucher for business class tickets to Europe or Asia; and a \$30 (Europe)/\$20 (Asia) voucher for economy tickets - details on **last page**.

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on

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First with the news

Tuesday 17th January 2012

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Jewel pax overboard

P&O Cruises Australia yesterday confirmed a female passenger on *Pacific Jewel* had been reported missing by family members on Sun night while the ship sailed from Lifou to Noumea on day eight of a Pacific Islands cruise.

The cruise line said a complete search of *Jewel* failed to locate the elderly woman and that a review of onboard CCTV footage of a balcony area indicated that she had gone overboard.

Pacific Jewel searched through the night for the passenger and New Caledonian authorities assisted with an air search at first light on Mon morning but failed to find the passenger.

The ocean search meant *Jewel* was unable to make a scheduled port of call at Noumea.

QF/BA restructure JSA fares

QANTAS and British Airways today announced an Economy Class Fare Restructure on Joint Services Agreement routes between Australia and UK/Europe via Singapore, Hong Kong and Bangkok.

The changes will see inventory classes of S, Q and O dedicated to selling long-haul Australia-UK/Europe itineraries, while L, V and N will focus on selling mid-haul tickets to the Asian gateways.

Classes Y, B, H, K and M will continue to be available for both long-haul and mid-haul, with the move effective from 01 Feb.

The restructure is part of the major change to JSA operations

announced by QF ceo Alan Joyce last year (*TD* 16 Oct).

From 25 Mar Qantas will only operate to UK/Europe via SIN, with travel via BKK and HKG seeing passengers instead connect to British Airways flights.

Full details of the restructure weren't available before *TD*'s deadline today, but the carriers said the changes would give them improved visibility on the mix of mid-haul and long-haul traffic "allowing us to deliver consistent and optimal customer access to seats on joint services to and through those Asian hubs".

London luxury special

CHEVAL Phoenix House in London is offering a pay 6, stay 7 deal for guests staying until 29 Feb 2012, including free wifi and a Jo Malone Gift Box on arrival.

Rates start at £200 per night - more info 03 9520 2353.



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Thailand bounce back

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand says visitor numbers returned to normal during 2011 despite the recent floods, with the country recording more than 19 million international arrivals last year, an increase of 20%.

Hayman industry deal

HAYMAN Island is promoting an "I Heart Hayman" travel industry offer priced from \$315ppts including two nights in a Pool Room, daily buffet breakfast and return launch transfers.

The special is available until 31 Jul; industry employee ID is required along with promotional code INDSPL - 1800 075 175.

STA pulls Pamplona ad

STA Travel Australia has removed promotional posters which featured the Running of the Bulls from shops nationally after the ads caused outrage from animal activists.

Coast to Coast Animal Friends expressed its concern over the banners which were highlighting possible new year's resolutions for travellers.

The group used Facebook to voice its concern over the posters which promoted "blood sports of cruelty."

STA Travel Australia said on Fri that after discussing the matter with its global head office team, The 'New Years Resolution #3 Conquer Your Fears' promotion had now been pulled.



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Concordia still salvageable - Carnival

CARNIVAL Corporation says it's assessing damage to the *Costa Concordia* to see how long the ship will be out of service, after its catastrophic accident off the coast of Italy on Sun (**TD** yest).

In a stock exchange statement Carnival said it expects the vessel to be out of service for the current financial year to 30 Nov.

The cruise giant confirmed it has insurance coverage for damage to the vessel with a deductible of

approximately US\$30 million, as well as insurance for third party personal liability again subject to a deductible of US\$10m.

The company self-insures for loss of use of the vessel which is estimated to cost US\$85m-\$95m for the financial year to 30 Nov.

Yesterday Carnival Corporation shares plummeted more than 16% in the wake of the accident which saw the ship hit rocks causing a massive evacuation and the death of several pax.

More in today's **Cruise Weekly** - free at cruiseweekly.com.au.

Fantasy christening

DISNEY Cruise Line will hold a special christening ceremony for its newest vessel, the 4,000 pax *Disney Fantasy*, in New York City on 01 Mar 2012.

A godmother for the ship has yet to be officially named.

QF six weekly to DFW

QANTAS has ramped up services on its Sydney-Dallas/Fort Worth-Brisbane-Sydney service using Boeing 747-400s from four to six times weekly, effective Sun.

The Australia-Texas link will go daily from 01 Jul 2012.

MEANWHILE, QF's spectacular 747-400 Wunala Dreaming aboriginal print livery has now been removed from the VH-OEJ registered aircraft following a 21 day repainting project.

Taj Hotels for Kunming

THE Indian Hotels Company Ltd, the parent firm of Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces, has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with Yunnan Tourism Co. to build two hotels in southwest China.

The Taj and the Vivanta by Taj branded new build properties will be constructed in the Kunming Expo Gardens tourist precinct.

Window Seat

AIRASIA X's new Sydney route is probably the worst kept secret ever in the travel industry.

Although not formally announced until this morning (see p1) news of the new destination has been passing around on various social media sites for the last few days.

And yesterday AirAsia X ceo Azran Osman-Rani and his team hastily put together a Youtube video promoting the route - and it's something which really has to be seen to be believed.

It's not what you'd call a high quality production - and certainly not how you'd expect the ceo of a long-haul international carrier to appear.

To view 'Sydney here we come' click on the  **Travel Daily TV** logo or see traveldaily.com.au/videos.

PREVIOUSLY the domain of Tokyo, it looks like capsule hotels may come to Hong Kong.

A company called Galaxy Stars HK is offering developers a new range of "wifi-enabled capsules" which can be stacked together to create inexpensive visitor accommodation.

"It's like Lego," said md Eric Wong, who said he wants to "bring this product to Hong Kong tourists to relieve Hong Kong's hotel shortage".

They're not unlike a first class aircraft suite, measuring about 2m long, 1m wide and 1.15m high, and come complete with a bed, air conditioning, power outlets and a computer desk.

Canada

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Canada 2012 Corroboree

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Virgin/Alliance alliance

VIRGIN Australia is speculated to be considering a codeshare agreement with charter operator Alliance Airlines on some of its Queensland regional routes.

The Australian suggests today that the DJ code will be added to a number of Queensland services operating from Brisbane over the next 12 months ahead of the arrival of a new Boeing 737-800 it intends to operate on the routes.

The pact however is not likely to be under the same terms of DJ's current 10-year regional alliance with Skywest Airlines.

Alliance operates a fleet of Fokker 100 & 70LR jet aircraft as well as Fokker 50 turboprops.

MPT's new Journeys

MPT Worldwide Journeys has released three extra dates for its 13 day Spanish Gastronomic Adventure departing from Madrid 15 May, 05 Jun & 16 Sep 2012 - mptworldwidejourneys.com.au.

Ramsay to Las Vegas

POTTY mouth UK celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay will open his first restaurant at the Paris Las Vegas hotel later this year.

Gordon Ramsay Steak will replace the existing Les Artistes Steakhouse and feature a chef's table and private dining room.

New VX destination

VIRGIN America will announce a new domestic destination in the US later today with its Facebook page hinting it could be either Houston, Newark, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Bozeman or Atlanta.

Accor adds in Korea

ACCOR has signed deals to open three new hotels in Korea in the near future including the 288-room Mercure Ambassador Gangnam which will open in Feb.

The Ibis Ambassador Insadong & Novotel Ambassador Seongbuk are also scheduled to open in May 2013 and 2015 respectively.

SQ A380 FRA to JFK

SINGAPORE Airlines yesterday flew its inaugural daily Airbus A380 service between Singapore & Frankfurt and onwards to New York City's JFK, replacing the existing Boeing 747-400 aircraft used on the route.

The new aircraft will add 25% more seat capacity daily on the route and will make it the 9th and 10th cities that SQ operates its superjumbos to.

Last week Singapore Airlines took delivery of its 15th A380, the first superjumbo delivery by the aircraft manufacturer in 2012.

MEANWHILE SIA has reported increases in capacity, passenger kilometres and pax carried for the month of Dec, however there was a 1.1 percentage point decrease in load factors, down to 79.6%.

The largest drop in pax loads was in East Asia with a decrease of 4.6 points to 78.8% followed by West Africa & Africa down 2.7pts to 76.1%, while the South West Pacific fell 1.3 points to 84.7%.

Sportsnet ANZAC trip

SPORTSNET Holidays is hoping for a repeat of the success of its 2011 escorted group ANZAC tour led by former AFL Essendon Bombers player Jason Johnson, recruiting the star for another Gallipoli tour this year.

The exclusive trip is priced from \$4,249ppts, setting out from Istanbul on 21 Apr, and includes six-night's accom including one night at ANZAC Cove.

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DMS workshops

DESTINATION Marketing Services will host its annual workshops in Sydney and Melbourne in the coming weeks.

Featuring a host of DMCs from around the world, the Sydney "mini tradeshow" event will take place on 16 Feb while the Melbourne workshop will be conducted in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Incentives and Meetings Expo on Mon 20 Feb.

For more information on the events call 02 9368 1811.



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

EK breaks SYD curfew

EMIRATES may have incurred a Sydney Airport fine last week, after the late departure of EK413 from Sydney to Dubai on 08 Jan.

EK has confirmed that the flight was also forced to operate via Bandaranaike International Airport in Sri Lanka for refuelling, after a thunderstorm in Sydney impacted fuel delivery.

"In order to limit the inconvenience caused by the weather-imposed delay to Emirates' passengers the decision was made, prior to departure, to operate the flight via Sri Lanka," the carrier told *TD*.

"Once the thunderstorm had subsided the aircraft was cleared by Air Traffic Control for departure, however as this was beyond the imposed curfew at Sydney the airline may incur a fine," a statement added.

New ZQN airport ceo

SCOTT Paterson has been named as the new chief executive of Queenstown Airport in New Zealand.

Paterson will relocate to ZQN from his current position as ceo of Port of Portland in Vic, replacing Steve Sanderson who is moving from Queenstown to head up Wellington Airport.

WA golfing gold

THE upcoming Perth International Golf Championship, to be held at Lake Karrinyup Country Club in Oct, will be Australia's richest tournament with prize money of \$2 million.

That outstrips the \$1.5m available for each of the Emirates Australian Open, Australian PGA and JBWere Masters events.

The WA govt has also allocated \$3.6m over three years for top golfer appearance fees.

Festival chief to MEL

JOSEPHINE Ridge, the executive director and co-ceo of the China Southern Airlines-sponsored Sydney Festival, has been appointed to the role of creative director of the Melbourne Festival and will take up the new role effective 30 Apr.

Ridge has been involved with the Sydney Festival since 2003.

Record for Frankfurt

FRANKFURT Airport in Germany handled 56.44 million passengers during 2011, a 6.5% year on year increase and a new record for the key Lufthansa hub.

The growth looks set to continue, with Frankfurt opening its fourth runway in Oct last year.



Money

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

\$1AUD = US1.028

CURRENCY analysts are predicting further rises in the Australian dollar this year, with ongoing demand from China boosting the Aussie economy which will in turn keep local interest rates at current levels.

Merchant bank Credit Agricole has forecast that this will see the A\$ increase to around US\$1.10 over the next 12 months.

Meanwhile the European crisis continues, with ratings agency S&P downgrading nine nations on the weekend which will put further pressure on the Euro.

The Aussie \$ has consolidated its strength against the European currency and is now trading above €0.81.

Wholesale rates this morning:

US	\$1.028
UK	£0.670
NZ	\$1.291
Euro	€0.811
Japan	¥78.63
Thailand	฿32.87
China	¥6.41
South Africa	R8.22
Canada	\$1.041
Crude oil	US\$99.66

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400 international awards and over 115 destinations worldwide including 29 in Europe. *Return Economy Class airfares are inclusive of taxes and surcharges correct at 4th January, 2012. Prices listed are for Melbourne and Perth departures, other states also on sale. Offer ends 17th February, 2012 for travel between 1st February, 2012 and 30th November, 2012. Prices quoted are for the low season. Flight restrictions and amendments and cancellation fees apply. ^Prices are per person, per night for a two night stay on a twin-sharing basis and subject to currency fluctuations and changes to the tariffs payable to hotels. Valid for bookings made for travel in between 1st May, 2012 and 30th September, 2012. For bookings made for travel up to and including 30th April, 2012 prices start from US \$57 and from 1st October, 2012 up to and including 31st October 2012, prices start from US\$60 per person, per night for a two night stay on a twin-sharing basis and subject to currency fluctuations and changes to the tariffs payable to hotels. Rooms subject to availability. For more information contact your Emirates' Sales Team or the Emirates' Contact Centre on 1300 880 599. EMI 3469

Kenny G on Millennium

THE dulcet tones of saxophone musician Kenny G will grace guests onboard *Celebrity Millennium*, with the maestro performing during an Alaska cruise from 17-24 Mar 2013.

Bunnik releases India

BUNNIK Tours has this week launched a new India and Sri Lanka brochure - the third time it's had a brochure dedicated to the destinations.

Complementing Bunnik's 2012-13 annual holiday planner released last Oct, copies of the new program are available for agents through TIFS.

MD Dennis Bunnik said the small group operator is also set to release dedicated programs for South America and Africa in the coming months.

He said that Bunnik has been operating India and Sri Lanka tours for more than seven years.

For more info call 1300 125 007 or see bunniktours.com.au.

New NZ treetop walk

A NEW \$7.7m treetop walk attraction in New Zealand could open by the end of the year, after approvals were granted by the country's Conservation Dept.

The Hokitika Rimu Treetop Walk is being developed by eco-tourism operator Canopy01, and will include a visitor centre, 100-seat cafe and is estimated to attract 175,000 visitors annually.

HA/ANA c'share debut

HAWAIIAN Airlines and All Nippon Airways have confirmed a codeshare agreement on flights between Hawaii and Japan, commencing on 19 Jan 2012.

As previously flagged by *Travel Daily* (TD 14 Oct) Hawaiian will place its airline code on ANA's services from Tokyo Haneda to Honolulu, and domestic Japan links from Haneda to Osaka, Hiroshima, Oita, Fukuoka, Kagoshima, Okinawa and Chitose.

ANA will codeshare on HA's flights from Honolulu to Kailua-Kona, Lihue, Hilo and Kahului.

Late last month the carriers also began a reciprocal frequent flyer program enabling members to earn and burn miles through HA's HawaiianMiles and ANA's Mileage Club scheme.

Aloha Outrigger Surfers



OUTRIGGER Hotels and Resorts has celebrated its take over of the Holiday Inn in Surfers Paradise last week, which has seen the Outrigger brand reintroduced to the Gold Coast.

The newly rebadged Outrigger Surfers Paradise was celebrated with a Hawaiian theme including singing and dancing with guests receiving floral leis and Mai Tai mocktails on arrival.

The 411 room hotel is spread across 23 levels, and pictured receiving the first guests under the hotel's new name is Outrigger regional gm, Grant James.

Airberlin transfers

GERMAN carrier airberlin has this week announced the introduction of limousine transfers for business class passengers on its new flights between Germany and Abu Dhabi.

The carrier has also debuted a new cabin configuration on its A330-200 aircraft, with 20 business class and 279 economy class seats and a new in-flight entertainment system.

Airberlin's entire long-haul fleet will be retrofitted with the new cabins by Mar, with the announcements following the recent significant alliance between the German airline and Etihad (TD 19 Dec).

3rd Melbourne airport

LOBBY group, the Victorian Chamber of Commerce & Industry is calling for a third airport to be developed in Melbourne to cope with expected growth over the next two decades.

VECCI spokesman Chris James said action needs to be taken now to address the situation.

"It would be a good idea if we had two domestic airports either side of Melbourne," James said, suggesting sites at Tooradin or Tyabb, or in the city's southwest.

"Melbourne's population is anticipated to overtake Sydney's in the next 20 years, and we anticipate that Melbourne Airport - Tullamarine - will be Australia's largest international airport," James said.

The Victorian capital's other major airport is at Avalon.

CX pax up 7.9% in Dec

CATHAY Pacific Airways and sister carrier Dragonair carried 2.46m passengers in Dec, a year-on-year increase of 7.9%.

Capacity rose 8.7% and the overall passenger load factor fell 0.5 points to 79.6%.

Full year passenger numbers rose 2.9% to 27.6 million, while capacity increased 9.2%.

However there was a significant drop in cargo and mail traffic in Dec, which was down 11.9%.

P&O webinar on Wed

COMPLETE Cruise Solution is reminding agents that its next P&O 2013 cruise webinar is on at 8.30am tomorrow - myccs.com.au.



Position Vacant Administration & Events Manager

If cruising is your passion and you are looking for a role with enormous variety then this just may be for you. A unique position has become available where you are working for 26 of the World's leading Cruise Lines - all at once!

Located on the Northern Beaches of Sydney (Belrose), the International Cruise Council Australasia is an association that is charged with the responsibility of training the travel industry and raising awareness of cruising to the consumer.

We are looking for a very special individual who has strong administrative skills and the personality to handle everything from the ground up. This is a pivotal role in a small team where you are involved in every aspect of the organisation.

Common sense, integrity, initiative, eye for detail, people skills (members are our customers), creative thinker, telephone sales, accounts/invoicing, co-ordination of group travel and events, internet wizard, website maintenance and most importantly experience in database management is essential (Microsoft Access).

If you can put a tick next to all of these attributes and have the energy to match the skills then please email your resume along with a covering letter to brett@crusing.org.au



ABOVE: Destination NSW says AirAsia X's flights to Sydney (page 1) will be a windfall for the state, luring around 55,000 more int'l visitors per annum and generate around \$140 million into the New South Wales' economy.

DNSW ceo Sandra Chipchase heralded the announcement this morning, saying it puts the state in good stead to achieve the NSW Govt's goal of doubling overnight tourism expenditure by 2020.

Malaysia is a growing market for NSW, with 46,000 travellers from the country visiting for the year ending Sep 2011, and about 3/4 of Malaysian guests making up repeat visitors to the state.

Sydney Airport said D7's Sydney route will provide a "major boost" for tourism in NSW, while Tourism Australia ceo Andrew McEvoy said the route would provide "a future positive outcome of both greater visitor numbers & new consumers."

Destination NSW, Sydney Airport, Tourism Australia & AirAsia X will invest on a two-year marketing plan to promote the route.

Pictured above at the official announcement in Sydney, flanked by AirAsia X crew, from left are Sandra Chipchase, DNSW; Azran Osman-Rani, AirAsia X (in Bondi Beach surf lifesavers gear) Shelly Roberts, Sydney Airport and Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, D7 chairman.



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Perth

Emirates, International Award winning Airline, wishes to recruit a dynamic, dedicated and motivated individual to assist the Regional Manager in the Perth Town office.

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- Minimum 3 years experience in an airline sales support role or similar airline commercial role.
- Ability to handle a variety of tasks simultaneously and often under pressure.
- Good knowledge of airfares and ticketing.
- Familiar with GDS systems.

The successful candidate must be able to:

- Handle trade and direct customer enquiries, ensuring all enquiries are dealt with or ownership is established with in the sales organisation.
- Co-ordinate and manage the business affairs of, and provide full administrative support to the Regional Manager.
- Manage and coordinate sales functions and travel shows / expo's within WA territory.
- Liaise with marketing / sales teams in producing local / national sales incentives.

For further details, and on-line application process, please visit our web site www.emiratesgroupcareers.com. Ref No. SS&AS/CJ/20131

Please note: Telephone and postal applications will not be entertained. Applications close Thursday 26th January 2012.

Only candidates that meet the minimum requirements will be considered and contacted.

Keep discovering

AFTA UPDATE

The latest insights from AFTA's Chief Executive, Jayson Westbury



In this past week the travel industry has very unexpectedly and very sadly lost one of the industry's great personalities in Wayne Tregaskis. Wayne was very well known to me and over the past four years had become a good friend and a person who I valued greatly. He was the type of guy that would not let the little things worry him and was always watching out for his mates.

Wayne's World as he knew it: was a fantastic place and even if there was a drama or two going on his world, you would not know about it.

His talent with public relations and being the master "of the words" was well known and many may not know that Wayne had dedicated considerable time to helping AFTA over the past couple of years, all for the good of the industry.

As a person with a long and very distinguished past both at Qantas and George Patterson Bates and of more recent times with his love - S2i communications - Wayne just made things happen.

No fuss, lots of fanfare and with a style and charisma that was infectious.

Like me, those that knew Wayne and enjoyed his company will miss him deeply.

Wayne was the type of person you would put on your list of five people you would want at a dinner party. Or at least he was on my list.

He was, put simply a wonderful man, passionate, considerate, generous but most of all fun.

To his wife and immediate family both I, and I am sure the travel industry at large, pass on our deepest sympathies as this time of loss.

Wayne will be missed by many, he has left us way too early in his life and he will be remembered forever.



Moorings Tahiti move

THE Moorings is offering a new Moorings Signature 58-foot catamaran in Tahiti, as a new luxurious Crewed Yacht Charter holiday option.

The additional vessel offers three staterooms with private ensembles and a roomy interior, making it ideal for a group of six.

Including a professional Skipper and Chef, holidays also feature gourmet meals, a full bar and "water toys" - more information on 1800 553 720.

MU to double Paris

CHINA Eastern Airlines has announced a significant expansion of capacity to France, with flights from Shanghai to Paris to increase from one to two per day effective 30 Jun.

The flights by the Skyteam member (and Qantas partner) will utilise A330-200 aircraft.

Niseko 'Snow Art'

THE Niseko ski village in Japan will host a "unique snow art installation" this month.

Dubbed SETSUDO the unique tourist attraction includes a massive snow cavern, which opens to visitors on 21 Jan.

WIN A SAMSUNG GALAXY FIT



This week, **TD** is giving one lucky reader the

chance to win a Samsung Galaxy Fit mobile phone, valued at \$310, courtesy of **Sun Island Tours**.

Sun Island Tours offers a specialised range of destinations including, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Italy, France, Malta, Spain, Croatia, Slovenia, Portugal, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Oman, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Mediterranean Cruising.

Sun Island Tours is the experts, with a smile!

All you need to do to be in the running to win this great phone, is to email your answer to the below question by COB on Fri to: sunisland@traveldaily.com.au

In 50 words or less tell us why would you like to go on a "Sun Island Dream" Greek island hopping tour



Tuesday 17th Jan 2012

Garuda Business fares

GARUDA Indonesia has launched "significant savings" on Business Class fares, now priced from \$1358 from SYD to Jakarta or Denpasar or \$1340 ex MEL, on sale until 29 Feb, and travel for a max of 14 days up until 31 Mar.

Other destinations are also available ex SYD and MEL including Singapore, Bangkok, Guangzhou and Hong Kong.

MEANWHILE the Indonesian flag carrier has confirmed it will commence Visa Onboard Processing on flights from Sydney to Bali from 20 Jan (**TD** 15 Dec).



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Bench Egypt brox

BENCH International has just released its new Egypt brochure, with the destination offering its best value for the travel dollar in many years.

Product director Fiona Orton said competitive prices were due to the recent Arab Spring unrest but also a result of increased competition among operators to combat decreasing visitor numbers due to the European financial crisis.

Bench is offering a wider choice of Nile cruise vessels, while the program also includes new experiences in Jordan and Morocco - 1300 195 873.

El Al Airlines hacked

A SO-CALLED 'cyber-offensive' in Israel has seen the website of the country's flag carrier El Al Airways impacted along with the stock exchange, banks and other companies, following an earlier incident which saw the credit card details of thousands of consumers made public.

The airline said it had taken precautions against the attack but warned of further possible disruptions to online activity.

IHG loyalty revamp

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group has increased the earning rate for members in its Priority Club loyalty program, with the move initially affecting stays at US and Canada properties.

Previously members earned 2000 points per stay, but under the new policy guests will earn 10 points per \$ spent which IHG says will triple points earned per stay.

VS HKG sale fares

VIRGIN Atlantic has released Year of the Dragon sizzling hot fares in Economy, Premium Economy and Upper Class ex SYD priced from \$938, \$1918 and \$4188 respectively, on select dates up to 20 Jun and valid for sale until 23 Jan.

Win A Centara Holiday To Thailand

Throughout January, **Travel Daily** and **Centara Hotels & Resorts** offer you a chance every week to win a fantastic holiday for two at two of Thailand's most popular destinations: Phuket and Krabi.

The prize includes four nights accommodation at the Centara Grand Beach Resort Phuket followed by a three night stay at Centara Anda Dhevi Resort & Spa with daily breakfast, return economy flights for two and relevant transportation. In Phuket, you will also enjoy complimentary one-off entrance to the island's most fantastic water park at Centara Grand West Sands Resort & Villas Phuket.

Every week we offer one prize and to enter the competition, simply answer the question of the week.

(Email your answers to: centaracomp@traveldaily.com.au)

Question of the week

Describe your dream holiday in no more than 30 words



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Travel Daily
First with the news

Maldives transfers

CONRAD Maldives Rangali Island has partnered with Maldivian local carrier Flyme! to offer night time transfers from Male Int'l Airport to Maamigili Island priced from US\$466 per adults and US\$232 per child.

Breakaway Air Australia

BREAKAWAY Int'l Travel Industry Club is offering cheap fares on Air Australia when travelling Business Class or Economy ex BNE to Denpasar or BNE/MEL to Phuket or Honolulu.

Prices start from \$299 plus taxes in Economy Class and \$399+ in Business to Indonesia when travelling before 29 Feb and booked by 31 Jan.

Sofitel Fiji upgrades

SOFITEL Fiji Resort and Spa in Denarau has seen an increased number of Australian and New Zealand travellers choose to upgrade to its newly introduced Luxury Room category, following its launch in Oct 2011.

GM Adam Laker said guests from Australia and NZ are "becoming increasingly discerning. "Travellers are upgrading themselves and their room type of their own accord... the trend is to make every holiday moment count and small indulgences like booking the next room type up are on the rise," he said.

In the last three months of 2011 the hotel saw an 18% rise in bookings for the higher category.

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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Business Development Manager – Sydney

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They are currently looking for a motivated, dynamic and experienced Business Development Manager to help them identify, qualify and capture new business.

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We are looking for experienced Sales professionals with solid knowledge and success within the travel industry.



Contact **Stacy Balderston** T: 02 9231 6444
E: stacy@tmsap.com or apply online

Wholesale Reservations Consultant, Sydney

- ★ **CBD location**
- ★ **Exciting international product**
- ★ **Competitive salary on offer for the right candidate**

Come and join this leader in wholesale travel and be part of this dynamic reservations team.

This company is renowned for its funky culture and 'family' feel.

A rare opportunity exists for an experienced wholesale reservations consultant to be part of this winning team.

Contact **Sally Matheson** T: 02 9231 6444 E: sallym@tmsap.com or apply online

Inbound Travel Consultant, SYD

- ★ **Multi role with variety**
- ★ **Start up position**
- ★ **Leading corporate travel company**

Our client, a leading travel management company is seeking for an inbound travel consultant to join their team.

The Singapore branch assists with travellers heading to Australia so the successful candidate will manage the travellers land arrangements and domestic travel throughout Australia during their stay.

You will have a solid understanding of the Australian domestic travel market and a plus if you speak Cantonese, Chinese or Mandarin.

My client pays well and will pay the right salary for the right candidate. You will be situated in a great lower North Shore location.

Contact **Sally Frappe** T: 02 9231 6444 E: sally@tmsap.com or apply online

Corporate International Consultant, Sydney

- ★ **Award winning travel management company**
- ★ **Work in a team of 9 VIP Corporate Consultants**
- ★ **Salary \$65k + super + bonus**

Our client, a corporate travel management company is renowned in the industry as being the market leader in their field.

They have a long standing impeccable reputation, and most people in corporate travel aspire to work for this leader.

They are currently looking for an experienced Corporate Travel Consultant to join their Corporate Division.

You will be managing your own portfolio of VIP Corporate Clients, working in a team of 9 very experienced consultants, all of whom have been in the industry for a long time and are renowned for their customer service and travel knowledge.

This is a rare opportunity for an experienced Corporate Travel Consultant who would like to work for a leader in corporate travel.

You will be rewarded with an outstanding working environment, have the ability to work within the most experienced travel team and they are offering a leading salary in corporate travel.

Contact **Sally Frappe** T: 02 9231 6444 E: sally@tmsap.com

Documents Specialist, Sydney

- ★ **CBD location**
- ★ **International product in a dynamic team**
- ★ **Generous Package plus incentives**

In your new role you will be methodical in your approach, love working behind the scenes and have an eye for detail.

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**APPLICATION SUPPORT CONSULTANT
SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$60K**

Are you currently working in wholesale reservations and really want to change the direction of your career? Do you have strong computer skills and like being the go to person in the office? We currently have a rare role available for someone to work behind the scenes; assisting agents with technical problems they are experiencing. Strong communication skills, a high level of technical skill and at least 2-3 years in a wholesale role are vital for this position.

TAKE CENTRE COURT

**CUSTOMER RELATIONS CONSULTANT
SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$52K+**

Do you love receiving positive feedback from customers? Are you a natural problem solver? We are looking for a talented candidate to join a global tour operator within their customer service team. You will be responsible for replying to client feedback & investigating problems & coming up with suitable solutions for the company and the client. Ideally you will come from a customer relations background, with exceptional communications and written skills.

**YOU'RE A WINNER WITH P/T HRS & NEAR HOME!
AFTER HOURS CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT
MELB (EAST) - SALARY PKG TO \$58K (PRO RATA)**

This is a rare opportunity on offer to experienced corporate travel consultants out there looking for after hours work. If you have international corporate travel consulting skills and are proficient on a GDS (preferably Galileo), we would like to hear from you. Join this global TMC and reap the rewards, not to mention the great salary on offer! Fantastic opportunity for experienced corporate travel consultants.

WHAT A SHOT!

**RETAIL CONSULTANTS X 2
MELBOURNE (STH EAST) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$40K+**

This is your chance to join a privately owned retail travel agency that will offer you a higher base salary, still with the incentive of earning extra commissions! Both stores are located in Melbourne's East and South, with both environments described as fun, energetic and best of all busy! Min 2 years international consulting experience is required for both roles. What are you waiting for?

CLIMB THE RANKS

**RECEPTIONIST/DOMESTIC CONSULTANT
PERTH (NORTH) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$35K**

We have a fantastic opportunity for a junior travel consultant trying to break into the industry! This large corporate office is looking for a receptionist who they will eventually train into a domestic corporate consultant! This could be your big break into travel! All you need is to have completed a diploma in travel and have had some work experience in an agency (min 3 months) you won't want to miss this role!

MOVE WITH THE TIMES

**ONLINE TRAVEL CONSULTANTS
PERTH (NORTH) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$80(OTE)**

Are you sick of face to face but still love consulting? We have the perfect behind the scenes role for you! Located close to the CBD in Perth; this online agency is looking for sales driven consultants who want to earn the big bucks! This role is unlike anything else in Perth, you still consult and share your expertise with your clients; but you don't have to deal with them face to face! How good is that? Apply today!

MAKE A BREAK FOR IT!

**DOMESTIC CORPORATE CONSULTANT
BRISBANE'S NORTH EAST – SALARY PKGE UP TO \$49K**

Are you sick and tired of tyre kickers? Over working hard on a quote only to have it changed a dozen times? Make the switch to corporate travel today and work with clients who know exactly what they want. As part of this renowned, international company you will enjoy job security, a great set salary + no weekend work! This is your chance to secure the perfect job and Say goodbye to shopping centre trading & hello to Monday to Friday business hours. Minimum 12mths exp req'd.

WINNING ROLES

**CRUISE CONSULTANTS x 2
BRISBANE – SALARY PKGE UP TO \$50K + INCENTIVES**

This is a rare opportunity for a talented consultant with a passion for cruise. This amazing travel company is the best in the business when it comes to cruise. Whether it's a P&O South Pacific or luxury Cunard world cruise, you will be kept busy with a variety of requests; ensuring no two days are the same. Top salary, great perks & incentives are on offer for the right candidate. Don't let this opportunity cruise by. Apply now and enjoy fantastic educational away!



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	PER	\$1,390*
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	MEL	\$1,340*
SINGAPORE	SYD	\$1,884*
	MEL	\$1,865*
KUALA LUMPUR	SYD	\$1,882*
	MEL	\$1,863*
BANGKOK	SYD	\$2,085*
	MEL	\$2,066*
HONG KONG	SYD	\$2,177*
	MEL	\$2,159*
GUANGZHOU	SYD	\$2,176*
	MEL	\$2,157*

Terms and conditions apply. Prices are per person return Executive Class air travel ex SYD, MEL & PER. Taxes and fuel surcharges are included and correct as of 16 December 2011 and are subject to change. SYD, MEL bookings must be paid and ticketed by 29 Feb 2012. Valid for the following travel departures ex SYD 09 Jan - 31 Mar 2012 ex MEL 11 Jan - 31 Mar 2012, ex Perth from 18 Jan - 31 Mar 2012, and restricted to GA727/728/729 only. Perth fares must be paid and ticketed by 29 Feb 2012. Maximum stay is 14 days ex PER and 1 month ex SYD/MEL. Limited seats available at this price. 180 degree lay flat bed is only available on the A330-200 aircraft.





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CONDITIONS: Valid for tickets issued by Consolidated Travel or via Quikticket between 16 January & 05 February 2012 on 100% SQ itineraries ex Australia plated to SQ (618) ticket stock on the Consolidated Travel IATA only. Child, Infant, Group Sales, Wholesale and Cancelled or Refunded tickets are not eligible. Consolidated Travel and Singapore Airlines reserve the right to alter or cancel the promotion any time. Vouchers for this promotion are capped and will be distributed at the completion of the promotion. Receipt of a prize may have Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) implications. To the extent that there is any FBT liability, this will be paid for by the employer of the recipient. The grossed-up value of a prize and any other Fringe Benefits the recipient receives during the course of the FBT year may be reported on the recipient's annual PAYG Payment Summary as required by taxation law. Consolidated Travel Group ABN 60 004 692 791. Date of issue 13 January 2011.