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ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$909***

Departure periods: 02 Feb – 03 Apr 12,
25 Apr – 26 Jun 12, 25 Jul – 18 Sep 12
& 10 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$4239***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 15 Nov 12



VIETNAM

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$991***

Departure periods: 02 Feb – 03 Apr 12,
25 Apr – 26 Jun 12, 25 Jul – 18 Sep 12
& 10 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$4321***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 15 Nov 12

THAILAND

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$992***

Departure periods: 02 Feb – 03 Apr 12,
25 Apr – 26 Jun 12, 25 Jul – 18 Sep 12
& 10 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$4322***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 15 Nov 12



Twin Towers,
Malaysia

CHINA

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$1005***

Departure periods: 02 Feb – 03 Apr 12,
25 Apr – 26 Jun 12, 25 Jul – 18 Sep 12
& 10 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$3645***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 15 Nov 12



INDIA

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$1065***

Departure period: 20 Jan – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$4765***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 15 Nov 12



SRI LANKA

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$1073***

Departure period: 20 Jan – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$4773***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 15 Nov 12



Taj Mahal,
India

NETHERLANDS

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$1792***

Departure periods: 20 Jan – 24 Mar 12
& 04 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$5812***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 29 Feb 12

FRANCE

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$1819***

Departure periods: 20 Jan – 24 Mar 12
& 04 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$5886***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 29 Feb 12

UNITED KINGDOM

ECONOMY

RETURN FROM **\$1935***

Departure periods: 20 Jan – 24 Mar 12
& 04 Oct – 15 Nov 12

BUSINESS

RETURN FROM **\$6084***

Departure period: 21 Jan – 29 Feb 12



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France

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Hurry, sale ends 29 Feb 12. All travel must be completed by 30 Nov 12



***Conditions: All Offers:** Please read this information carefully because additional charges may apply to some flights. Fares are for Economy or Business Class return travel ex Sydney per person & include taxes, fees & fuel surcharges, correct as at 17 Jan 12. Prices subject to change and we reserve the right to alter or extend this offer without notice. Prices may fluctuate due to changes in currency exchange, fees & taxes. Fares are quoted in Australian Dollars. Limited seats available and may not be available on every day/flight throughout the travel period and subject to availability. Scheduling is subject to change. Malaysia fare applies to Kuala Lumpur. Vietnam fare applies to Hanoi. Thailand fare applies to Phuket. China fare applies to Hong Kong. India fare applies to Chennai. Sri Lanka fare applies to Colombo. Netherlands fare applies to Amsterdam. France fare applies to Paris. United Kingdom fare applies to London. International codeshare MH9000 series flights are NOT permitted. A mandatory stopover may be required at Kuala Lumpur International Airport for some connecting flights. Two voluntary stopovers are permitted in Kuala Lumpur in each direction. Additional stopovers will cost \$150 per stopover, per person. All voluntary stopovers will incur additional taxes. Local taxes may also apply. Other costs associated with voluntary stopovers are also at passenger's own expense. Other conditions apply. **Business Class Sale:** Fares valid for sale from 21 Jan – 29 Feb 12. Cancellation fees apply. Min/max stay applies. **Economy Class Sale:** Fares valid for sale from 11 Jan – 29 Feb 12. Cancellation and change fees apply. Max stay applies. [^]30 Kilos baggage allowance permitted to South Asian Sub Continent and Vietnam destinations. License No 2TA000530 ABN 19 796 498 145. MAS0513_TD

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Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 25th January 2012

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No Fiji state of emergency

THE Fijian govt has decided not to declare a state of emergency for western parts of Fiji's main island including Nadi, despite torrential rain and floodwaters.

Fiji's National Weather Forecasting Centre late yesterday issued a severe flood warning for all major rivers & low lying areas of Viti Levu, with the downpour predicted to continue.

Transport closures include the road linking Nadi Airport to the resort island of Denarau, home to some of Fiji's largest hotels.

Contingency planning has already kicked in, with tourists ferried by boat from Port Denarau to Naisoso resort (near the airport) "to enable visitors to board arriving and returning int'l flights which are continuing to operate," Tourism Fiji said last night.

Tourism Fiji said hoteliers on Denarau are "operating as close to normal as possible", and ferry services to resorts on the Mamanuca and Yasawa Islands are still continuing to run.

Helicopter charters are being used to transfer visitors stranded on the Coral Coast to Nadi, while

flights to outer islands have been cut until the weather improves.

Blue Lagoon Cruises & South Sea Cruises have suspended their ops until weather conditions improve, while Captain Cook Cruises has axed its day trips but is operating ferry transfers from Port Denarau to the airport/Naisoso.

The Fijian govt is advising locals to delay travel while the military is being called in to assist, and DFAT is suggesting Fiji-bound pax reconfirm travel plans with tour operators before departure.

DJ boosts capacity

VIRGIN Australia today announced a range of extra flights as "part of an accelerated capacity growth plan for major corporate, resources sector and leisure routes".

From 13 Feb DJ will operate extra flights on key trunk routes such as BNE-MEL, SYD-MEL and ADL-MEL, as well as from BNE to Cairns and Proserpine.

The growth also includes extra services to Gladstone and Rockhampton to meet demand.

No issue tomorrow

THE next *Travel Daily* will be published on Fri 27th Jan, due to the Australia Day public holiday across the country tomorrow.

Canada Corroboree

THE Canadian Tourism Comm. is hosting its annual Corroboree Roadshow across the country from late Jan, giving agents a chance to meet face to face with 20 destination and supplier reps.

Participants have a chance to win a fabulous trip to Canada, courtesy of Air Canada & partners.

Events will be held from 5.30 to 9pm in Perth (31 Jan); Adelaide (01 Feb); Melbourne (02 Feb); Brisbane (07 Feb) and Sydney (08 Feb) - bit.ly/ctcauscorroboree.

Seven pages of news

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

- AA Appointments jobs
- AA Appointments temp jobs
- inPlace Recruitment jobs
- Garuda visa on board
- Consolidated SQ incentive

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- Visit LA, San Francisco and Las Vegas + MORE!
- Any booking (not just USA) made between 16 January & 29 February 2012 will earn you an entry into the draw.

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*Refer to our website for terms & conditions, \$7 applies to instant online reissues, queued reissues cost \$22



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Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 25th January 2012

NOU YEAR SALE 2012

SAVE 25%

Return airfares from only \$422 plus Government Taxes, limited time.



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Wilkinson to host ICCA

THE Nine Network's TODAY Show host Lisa Wilkinson has been named as the Emcee of the 2012 International Cruise Council Australasia Awards.

Wilkinson replaces fellow Nine Network presenter Shelley Craft who was a late cancellation "due to work commitments."

She's well known to the cruise industry, having been named as *Avalon Panorama's* godmother when it was launched last year.

Star Alliance for PCOs

STAR Alliance has launched a new platform for convention organisers that allows delegates of events access to online booking and ticketing services for all air travel contracted under the Star Alliance Conventions Plus.

The tool provides organisers with a means to inform delegates of travel options on Star Alliance member airlines and access to real time availability and fares for their required flight itinerary.

New tourism labour plan

TOURISM Minister Martin Ferguson has released details of a proposed new "template labour agreement" which aims to help the tourism and hospitality sectors attract skilled workers from overseas.

The move follows last year's Tourism Employment Roundtable, establishing a common set of requirements tailored specifically for tourism businesses recruiting skilled overseas workers.

Ferguson said the proposal

would help address critical skills shortages, with the industry already experiencing significant vacancies and a further 50,000 workers required by 2015.

"Tourism injects around \$35 billion a year into the Australian economy and the Government is acting to ensure labour and skills issues impacting on the tourism industry's competitiveness are addressed under the National Long-Term Tourism Strategy".

Immigration minister Chris Bowen said the template "seeks a balance between upholding the standards of the visa system while giving employers easier access to workers whose skills are hard to find in Australia".

Occupations covered include hotel management, waiters, bar attendants and chefs, with feedback sought from industry stakeholders on the proposed list of eligible businesses, salary, skills levels, occupations and English language requirements.

Comments are invited by 16 Mar at tourism.gov.au/labour.

New Sydney hotel

MALAYSIAN hospitality company Cititel Hotels has lodged a development application for a new 282-room three star hotel in the Sydney CBD.

Part of listed firm IGB Corp, the \$43.8 million project involves the conversion of an existing 12-level office building at 34-36 Hunter St, currently known as the Guardian Assurance Building.

Week 3 comp winner

CONGRATULATIONS to Marg Abbott from Travel Yonder in Wye, NSW who has been selected as the third winner of a trip to Thailand in this month's *Travel Daily* competition.

Centara Hotels and Resorts is sponsoring the competition, with one final holiday up for grabs for entries until next Tue 31 Jan - see **page 7** for comp details.

The week 3 question was to describe your Dream Holiday, with Marg's winning entry:

*White sand, stunning lands
Beautiful food, relaxing mood
Grand appeal, time to heal
Prime location, great sensation
Gorgeous room, sweet perfumes
Water sports, deluxe resort
Centara Grand - the Promised Land!*

CCC Valentine cruise

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises is taking bookings for its lunch and dinner Valentine's Day cruises, available on Sydney Harbour sailings between 14-18 Feb.

The Top Deck lunch is priced at \$99pp, or \$139 for the Valentine's Captain's Dinner and \$169 for the special Valentine's Gold Dinner.

Travel Counsellors
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New G-Plus brochure

G ADVENTURES has introduced a new dedicated brochure for its collection of more than 150 Comfort tours called G-Plus.

Comfort tours offer guests more inclusions (transfers, meals and add-on activities) accom with extra amenities & services, and upgraded transportation.

The brochure give G Adventures the chance to "better highlight the depth and quality of product" in the range, said Head Honcho Australia/NZ Pete Rawley.

See <http://bit.ly/gadv-g-plus>.

Are you in the running to **WIN a Gold Bar*?**

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The final countdown is on for adventurers Cas and Jonesy to reach the finish line.

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Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 25th January 2012

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Etihad seeks Virgin Australia stake

ETIHAD Airways is keen to take an equity position in Virgin Australia, if restrictions on foreign ownership can be worked around.

EY is also planning to expand operations through its alliance with Virgin, including moving Brisbane-Abu Dhabi flights to

daily and adding another route out of Perth or Adelaide, according to a report in today's *Australian Financial Review*.

The story quotes EY ceo James Hogan saying a shareholding similar to the carrier's recent deal with airberlin could be attractive.

"This is an important partnership, so obviously if it made sense and both CEOs agreed, we'd consider it seriously".

The report claims that Virgin Australia has in the past examined several restructuring options such as splitting the company into separate domestic and international operations, or changes to its constitution, to obviate the 49% cap.

Currently Virgin Australia is 26% owned by Richard Branson's Virgin Group, with Air New Zealand holding another 20%, meaning there's no room for EY.

According to the story, in 2010 Etihad engaged investment bankers JP Morgan to look at options for acquiring a Virgin Blue stake, but was trumped by Air New Zealand when it moved first.

Express Tking conf

EXPRESS Ticketing will host its 11th annual Select Conference at the Centara Grand Hotel, Bangkok from 25-27 May.

The theme will again be 'Smarter, Faster, Stronger' and will focus on the "value add aspects of the Select membership made possible through the continued growth of the group and its strong business alliances," said CEO of Orient Express Travel Group, Tom Manwaring.

The group "delivered another level" to the Smarter, faster, stronger business platform for agents with the implementation of the next generation automated Fares & Ticketing system in Oct, Manwaring said.

Heavylift withdrawal

HEAVYLIFT Cargo Airlines has withdrawn an application for unlimited all-cargo capacity on the Singapore route.

Heavylift is a cargo carrier to PNG and the Solomon Islands, and according to an update from the International Air Services Commission, the company applied for the capacity in mid-Dec with plans to use the allocation in conjunction with its current Port Moresby operations through Brisbane and Cairns.

However on 10 Jan the IASC requested additional information in support of the application, and a week later the carrier withdrew the Singapore request.

BA back to Tripoli

BRITISH Airways will resume flights to the Libyan capital Tripoli effective 01 May, with operations initially three times per week and increasing to daily from 02 Sep.

Qatar Airways is also set to resume its Doha-Alexandria-Tripoli routing from 02 Feb.

QF QLD/NSW waiver

QANTAS has issued a flight waiver due to weather conditions disrupting services to parts of Queensland & New South Wales.

The waiver is offered to pax holding QF 081 tickets issued by 25 Jan for travel to/from Brisbane, Rome, Charleville and Coffs Harbour - qantas.com.au/agents.

Window Seat

THE customer is always right - even when they're wrong?

Croydon Travel, the operator of Antarctica Sightseeing Flights, had a bit of a job to reassure a passenger onboard last week's Qantas 747 departure to the frozen continent.

The business class passenger, sitting on the jumbo's upper deck, demanded to be moved to another seat because she was concerned that the "wing" below her window would block her view of the ice.

According to a well-informed source on board, the lady took some convincing to make her believe that she would actually have a great view - because the offending item was in fact the top of the aerobridge she had just walked through to board.

WILD Life Sydney is making the most of Australia Day, sending out photos of some of its "residents" (below) enjoying a quintessential Aussie picnic.

Visitors to the Merlin attraction tomorrow can see the real life coat of arms - wild-life.com.au.



PRODUCT MANAGER



Cox & Kings is the world's longest established travel company, having been organising innovative journeys to some of the world's most alluring destinations for over 250 years. Cox & Kings Australia is the parent company to four of Australia's most highly regarded specialist travel brands including Cox & Kings, Tempo Holidays, Bentours and ezeego.

We are now seeking an experienced Product Manager to work within the Tempo Holidays or Bentours brands (depending on skills & experience) and will be primarily responsible for developing an innovative and exclusive product range which is reputable and yields results in the market place.

If you are seeking a career development opportunity that is challenging and rewarding, please [click here](#) to view a position outline.



Perhaps it is the sangria
As well...or the moon
Spinning a spell...

Travelling to Barcelona?
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Travel Experts

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

Galaxy comp winner

SUN Island Tours has named the winner of last week's mini-comp in which the firm was giving away a Samsung Galaxy tablet, featured exclusively in *Travel Daily*, as Kate Narracott from Jetset Travel Albany Creek.

Kate's winning entry was: *My world is a living movie of 'Herculean' proportions, but if I could 'Get me to the Greek' Islands and meet a few gorgeous 'Wog Boys' then 'My Life in Ruins' would be no more - a Dream Greek Island hopping tour is the academy award winning solution.*

Eye capsule tablets

THE London Eye has installed Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 devices to offer in-capsule passengers information on landmarks and a 3D view of each sight.

The devices will be available as part of the standard ticket prices.

AF CDG assistance

AIR France has launched a range of new user-pays guest services for its passengers at Paris Charles de Gaulle, designed to make the airport experience more relaxing and seamless.

Personalised assistance includes being guided through the airport by AF staff and taking advantage of priority access routes for flight departures, arrivals and transfers to the departing aircraft or being greeted on arrival.

Air France says it will also be able to organise transfers for pax from Charles de Gaulle to the city by chauffeured car, minibus or motor-cycle; luggage collection and drop off in Paris; and hotel bookings for pax to freshen up.

Prices for the personalised services starts at €200 for up to four passengers, per agent.

"Air France continues to simplify and customise the journey from the beginning to end, whether for business or pleasure," said Air France-KLM marketing manager Christian Herzong.

"Our ambition is to get even closer to our customers while linking them to the world," Herzong added.

QR Heathrow lounge

QATAR Airways has this week opened a new Premium Lounge at London Heathrow Terminal 4, dedicated to the carrier's First and Business Class passengers.

The facility is Qatar Airways's only Premium Lounge located outside of its hub in Doha, and resembles a boutique hotel or private member's club, the airline says.

QR has recruited a team of lounge staff from 5-star hotels & restaurants to operate the facility.

Wonder back to Alaska

DISNEY Cruise Line will base *Disney Wonder* out of Vancouver in 2013 when the ship returns to Canada to operate seven-night voyages of the Inside Passage.

The switch from its Seattle hub to Vancouver enables guests to spend more time in Alaskan ports, says Karl Holz, Disney Cruise Line president.

MEANWHILE, *Disney Wonder* will reposition from Los Angeles to Miami in Dec, ditching voyages to the West Coast of Mexico which sailed from California.

Wonder will debut at Miami from 23 Dec, offering a series of four- and five-night sailings to the Bahamas and Western Caribbean, through until early May 2013.

Emirates Asia fares

EMIRATES has launched special return economy fares on nonstop flights to Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Bangkok priced from \$800.

The special fares to Bangkok are valid for travel until 15 Dec ex SYD when booked by 17 Feb 2012.

LAN Juan Valdez brew

SOUTH American carrier LAN Airlines has announced it will serve Juan Valdez coffee on international and select domestic services, effective 01 Feb.

Dusit Thani Maldives

DUSIT International will open its newest property, the 100-villa & residence Dusit Thani Maldives on 06 Feb 2012.

The "landmark addition" to the group is located on Mudhdhoo Island in Baa Atoll, 35 minutes by seaplane from the Maldives capital, Male.

Sofitel Fiji special rate

SOFITEL Fiji Resort and Spa is offering an industry rate of FJD199 (AU\$109) per night, for bookings & stays before 31 Mar.

The deal includes accom in a Luxury room, breakfast for two and wine at the Sofitel's Lagoon Restaurant - to book email reservations@sofitelfiji.com.fj and quote SFINDLUX.

Hilton growth rate

HILTON Worldwide has laid claim to being the fastest growing major hotel chain globally, adding more than 950 hotels since Jun 2007, lifting its portfolio by 29%.

Last year Hilton opened 170 hotels, adding more than 29,400 rooms, and signed management or franchise agreements on more than 320 other properties.

Trafalgar Floriade trip

TRAFALGAR has created a 19-day In Bloom guided holiday that incorporates Floriade 2012, the Chelsea Flower show and other flower shows across Europe.

The trip is priced from \$5549ppts and takes in Rome, Vienna, Salzburg, Paris and London, departing Rome on 07 May.

Orpheus reopening

THE Great Barrier Reef's Orpheus Island Resort is expected to reopen on 03 Mar following a 2 month closure for refurbishment.

Prices at the 21-room and suite resort start at \$1,400ppts.

Travelport appoints

TRAVELPORT has appointed Greg Urand as its National Sales Manager, reporting to Country Mgr for Aus/NZ, Sean Cummins.



Reservations and Ticketing Agent (Part Time Mon-Fri, minimum 20hrs each week) Melbourne, city location

Philippine Airlines' GSA, has a vacancy for a well experienced and enthusiastic consultant at its centrally located office in Melbourne.

Candidates should have 5 years international consulting experience with a travel agent or airline, strong GDS and fare skills, be well presented and demonstrate excellent customer service.

Applicants must have the right to live and work in Australia.

For more details call Chiqui Reyes on (02) 9249 9901.
Applications should be sent to jobs@philippineairlines.com.au
by Fri 03 February 2012.

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- Build and maintain solid professional relationships;
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TIME UPDATE
Virgin Australia

Virgin Australia utilises the Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) Program as a key element of its Development Program for team members within its Commercial Division. Feedback from participants that have successfully completed the program report that the program has offered tangible benefits including development of personal and leadership skills generally and a deepening of travel industry related knowledge.

Specifically, the program provides mentees with the opportunity to learn valuable lessons from the specifically selected mentor, as well as the opportunity to confirm ideas and work related concepts with them in open, confidential and honest discussions.

Sally Ryan, Client Development Manager at Virgin Australia, recently completed the program and reported "The program has exceeded my expectations". Sally also indicated that "my mentor provided an external source of advice and guidance which is invaluable and will hold me in good stead as my career progresses".

Sally also indicates that "it's hard to believe that other industries have always had official mentoring programs in place to help guide employees into senior management positions, yet, until now travel has not. The Travel and Tourism industry has one of the highest staff turn-over rates, therefore keeping inspired young talent is key to the success of our industry".

"Regardless of your present role, your future decisions will be easier and more valid if you have a clear understanding of your own orientation towards work, motives, values & self perceived talents. Such understanding will be enhanced by participating in the TIME program" -

-travelindustrymentor.com.au.

AW adds Lebanon

ADVENTURE World has added product in Lebanon to its 2012 Arabia brochure which also includes packages and tours in Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Oman and Morocco.

"There is an ever growing proportion of Australians with Lebanese heritage or looking to uncover Lebanon, making this new addition an obvious choice," said general manager Product and Marketing, Neil Rodgers.

30 new hotels & tours have been added to the Arabian brochure including three in Lebanon.

Thrifty joins TTNQ

THRIFTY Car Rental has become the newest member of Tourism Tropical North Queensland following the opening of a new 313sqm wash bay facility at Cairns Airport earlier this week.

TTNQ has also announced it will hold its annual conference in Cairns on 09-10 Aug.

AAT NT short breaks

AAT Kings has rolled out its 2012/13 Northern Territory Short Breaks & Day Tours program, with trips taking in the Red Centre, the Top End and the Kimberley.

Managing director Tammy Marshall says the program has been designed "in response to market trends in Australia."

She said trends indicate that "many travellers are choosing to take shorter, more frequent trips, rather than one long break.

"People are placing more emphasis on taking regular time out as a way to relax and to do something different."

Tours in the program vary in length from half & full-day tours to extended touring of between two and eight days in length.

Sun trading for WA

RETAIL travel agencies in Western Australia are likely to begin to open for longer hours, after the government announced plans to introduce new legislation to allow Sunday trading.

Acting Commerce Minister Troy Buswell said the bill would be introduced as a matter of priority next month, with the move coming a day after the state Labor opposition changed the party's policy to support seven day trading.

Accommodation Updates

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wednesday feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.



Caesars Palace, Las Vegas has opened the Octavius Tower of the hotel offering an additional 668 rooms and bringing the properties inventory up to 3960 guest rooms. The tower offers its own private valet entrance, separate hotel lobby and in-room technology.



Anantara Mui Ne Resort and Spa is the first hotel to open in Vietnam for the brand. Located 198 kms from Ho Chi Minh City the resort offers 89 rooms, suites and villas, pool and lagoon and banquet, event and meeting facilities with four conference rooms.



Swissotel Sydney has unveiled stage one of its newly renovated conference and meeting space. The level 8 Blaxland Ballroom & Maple Rooms have been fitted out with navy carpets, new furniture, contemporary wall art and a new paint job. Also new is the audio visual equipment and the addition of AVPartners as the in-house technical partner.



The Warwick Seattle Hotel has completed phase two of its renovation project. This phase has included the transformation of 75 rooms on floors eight to 12 as well as the refurb of the hotels corridors. Each room has been fitted with Serta pillow-top beds, and the carpet, paint, furniture and accessories are also new.



The Hilton Maldives Iru Fushi has opened the first dedicated champagne bar in the region named 'Bubble Lounge'. The champagne list is available via an Apple iPad and features a minimum of 50 varieties of the finest champagne and sparkling wines, 10 of which will be available to purchase by the glass.



RESERVATIONS CONSULTANT (FULL TIME)

Solomon Airlines is seeking to appoint a "Reservations Consultant" to be employed in our National Reservations Office located at Brisbane International Airport.

Key Criteria includes and is not limited to:

- Fares & Ticketing I & II with strong GDS skills, experience in Amadeus will be highly regarded.
- Work in a fast paced and constantly changing environment.
- Ability to work in a small team and possess a positive attitude.
- Minimum of 2 years experience in the travel industry.
- Posses a high level of customer service, excellent communication and presentation skills with strong knowledge of Microsoft applications.
- Be prepared to undergo a security assessment and meet the required standard.

Applicants must have the right to live and work in Australia with applications closing **Thursday 02 February 2012**.

Email your confidential application including the name and address of three (3) referees to John Valentak on jvalentak@flysolomons.com

We regret that only short listed candidates will be notified.

51m Dubai arrivals

DUBAI International saw 50.98m passenger movements in 2011, an 8% rise on last year's previous record figure of 47.19m.

Tourism Aust hails top Oz hotels

TOURISM Australia ceo Andrew McEvoy says the inclusion of a "raft" of Australian properties in a list of the '101 Best Hotels in the World' by UK lifestyle magazine *Tatler* is an indication of the range of top quality tourism product available within Australia.

MD Andrew McEvoy said that with eight properties in the 2012 *Tatler Travel Guide*, this "dispels the myth perpetuated by some commentators that the quality of Australia's tourism offering is not world class, when the facts continue to show we deliver on global leading product".

The top properties included in the *Tatler* list are Hayman Island and Lizard Island on the Great Barrier Reef, Wildman Wilderness Lodge in the NT, Hobart's Mona Pavilions, the Lake House in Daylesford Vic, Blue Mountains

Private Safaris in NSW, Deux Belettes in Dalwood, Northern NSW and Richard Branson and Brett Godfrey's spectacular Makepeace Island in Noosa, Qld which opened last year (TD 08 Jul).

McEvoy said it had also been an exceptional start of the year for Australian hotels, with 11 properties also included in the UK Conde Nast Gold List for 2012 including Wolgan Valley Resort and Spa, Cape Lodge, the Henry Jones Art Hotel, Qualia, Capella Lodge, Blue Sydney, Saffire Freycinet, Southern Ocean Lodge, Sydney's Four Seasons Hotel, Blue Sydney and Longitude 131°.

"It is exactly these sorts of exceptional tourism experiences that allow us to demonstrate to the rest of the world why there truly is nothing quite like Australia," McEvoy said.

Qantas catches up with Skroo

THERE'S no rest for the wicked, with the travel industry social scene already kicking off for the new year.

Qantas head of industry and corporate sales, Karen Tsolakis, is pictured at a customer event in Brisbane last week, together with Flight Centre ceo Graham Turner.



Westfield LAX shops

AUSTRALIAN shopping centre icon Westfield Group has added to its portfolio with the management of three new concessions at Los Angeles International Airport.

The company will operate retail outlets in Terminal 2, the Tom Bradley International Terminal and the Theme Building, with the deal including ongoing upgrades to the facilities in each location.

Los Angeles World Airports estimated that the new 17-year agreement would deliver it a total of US\$331.1 million of income.

Westfield already manages retail operations at nine other US airports including New York JFK, Boston Logan and Chicago O'Hare.

New Choice chief

CHOICE Hotels Australasia has named Trent Fraser as the group's new chief executive officer, with current ceo David Bayes to step down from the role in late Mar.

Fraser is CHA's gm development and franchise services.

Bayes, who has held the ceo title for six years, will move to a non-Executive Director position.

QF points transfers

QANTAS is offering a 20% boost on hotel loyalty scheme points when they are transferred into the QF Frequent Flyer program.

In an email to QFF members, Qantas reminds them that points can be transferred into the scheme from Accor's A|Club, Hyatt Gold Passport, Choice Privileges, Hilton HHonors, Marriott Rewards and IHG's Priority Club programs.

Amadeus joins EC

AMADEUS will help increase travel flow between Europe and other territories during the Low Season following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the European Commission.

The program will be piloted in South America, commencing with Brazil, Argentina and Chile, with the initiative said to "utilise the available spare airline and accommodation capacity, thus benefitting the local economy of the host destinations."

Amadeus will facilitate technology tools and solutions to help start the program, track its results and help the EC establish contacts in South America.

New Opportunity! North Sydney

The Cover More Insurance Group is a specialist travel insurance services business with operations in New Zealand, Australia, & the UK. With 25 years experience we have gained a reputation for providing top quality travel insurance cover, affordable rates, professional service and fair claims handling.

An opportunity has arisen for an Inside Sales professional to join our Sales Support team based in North Sydney. Reporting through to the Sales Support Team Leader, this role is required to maintain favourable contact with Travel Agents, in addition to achieving sales growth and high customer satisfaction.

Ideally you would have previous demonstrated experience in sales, office administration and/or 'outbound' customer service developed within a Travel/Tourism and/or Insurance.

Candidates require the ability to work as part of a team as well working independently and will have strong communication skills (both written and verbal).

If you want to be part of a progressive organisation, please email your expression of interest to: careers@covermore.com.au, applications close 31st January 2012.

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Abu Dhabi hits 2m pax

ABU Dhabi Tourism Authority saw a 35% rise in Australian hotel guests up to 34,930 for 2011.

The emirate also exceeded its forecasted overall guest target of 2 million guests by 6.5%.

Guest nights were up 22% to 63 million, occupancy levels rose by 7 percentage points, up to 69%, and the length of stay was now 2.97 nights on average.

The ADTA has placed its initial 2012 target at 2.3 million guests.

Travelport to Africa

TRAVELPORT has entered into a partnership with African travel firm Satguru Travel and Tourism that will see the GDS increase its African network to 41 countries.

The new 16 country distribution deal will also see Travelport offer the travel companies e-commerce apps.

Travelport saw a 7.7% rise in Africa flight bookings in 2011 and is expecting further growth in 2012.

Novotel Valentines

NOVOTEL Darwin Atrium has a Valentine's Day package priced from \$299 that includes accom, a 4-course degustation dinner menu with matching wines and brekkie.

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

What additional services would you like to experience at a Centara hotel or resort and why?

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Travel Daily
First with the news

Fares cheaper than ever - FC

FLIGHT Centre has pointed out that international flights have "effectively been immune to the impacts of inflation" over the last 30 years, with airline competition and the strong Australian dollar continuing to deliver record cheap fares for long haul travel.

In 1947 passengers flying to London paid about 85 weeks' pay for the average worker - the equivalent of \$117,000 in current Aussie dollars.

In 1961 the equivalent fare was 26 week's pay or \$35,783, and by 1981 this had dropped to six week's pay or \$8,257.

Even ten years ago the figure was 2.2 week's pay in 2001 - compared to the current average

cheap London earlybird fare of around \$1800, or about 1.3 weeks of average earnings.

The company said it had also seen a jump in travellers taking advantage of the exchange rate to convert A\$ into Euros or pounds.



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Wolgan Valley chef

WOLGAN Valley Resort & Spa has appointed Anston Fivaz as Executive Chef and Food & Beverage Manager.

NYC & Co guides

NYC & Company has launched three new brochures on Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island.

The Official Planner lists accom, dining, nightlife & transportation, *The Official Visitors Guide & Map* offers pocket sized travel guides for each borough, and designed for PCOs, the *Official Meeting and Event Planner* showcases event sites, convention facilities, accom, restaurants and more.

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Established in Nth Qld in 1986, BLT is a diverse travel management company with offices in Cairns, Weipa, Thursday Island and Townsville. We are now seeking an experienced professional to join our busy Weipa office. Weipa is a bauxite mining town situated 500kms northwest of Cairns. Applicants must have exceptional customer service skills, a bright and friendly personality and a keen sense of humour to join our team. Amadeus and Tramada experience will be highly regarded. We will reward you with a competitive salary package including quality accommodation. Full time or contract term available. Please email your resume in-confidence to careers@BLT.com.au by COB 3rd February 2012

www.BLT.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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Do you love receiving feedback from customers? Are you a natural problem solver? We are looking for two candidates to join a global tour operator within their customer service team. You will be responsible for replying to feedback from clients, you may need to investigate problems and come 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. Apply today.

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MELBOURNE (EAST) - SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K (DOE)

Do you love corporate travel, but hate the thought of commuting into the city everyday? Well look no further; this family run corporate agency located in Melbourne’s south eastern suburbs is looking for an experienced corporate consultant to join their team. With your previous international corporate experience this will be one of the best moves you ever make! Sabre preferred, but not essential.

SAY “SEE YA LATER” TO TIME WASTERS!

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

We have a wonderful opportunity for an experienced consultant located in Melbourne’s south eastern suburbs. This large family run retail agency is looking to expand their team due to company growth. With a focus on Europe and Italy why don’t you bring your knowledge across and work close to home with a fantastic salary package! Take the stress out of your daily commute and drive against the traffic!

SOUTHERN WONDER

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PERTH (SOUTH) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$40K + COMM

OK you can stop looking for the perfect role! WE have it! This large retail agency is looking for an experienced consultant to join their team! Located south of the river and in a busy shopping centre, you will never have a problem hitting those targets! Be part of an award winning team and have access to exclusive famils, bonuses and discounts! You won’t want to miss this amazing opportunity! Apply today!

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- ▶ **Homebush location, No more commuting to the city!**
- ▶ Earn uncapped commission & a great base salary!
- ▶ Parking onsite, shops nearby, what more could you need?

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