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First with the news

Friday 6th July 2012



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Three is the QH number

QANTAS Holidays has selected 3 as the "lucky number" in its major Fly Free Promotion, which offers customers departing on the third day of each month from May-Oct a full refund of their flight costs.

That means that agents with QH clients departing on 03 May, 03 Jun, 03 Jul, 03 Aug, 03 Sep or 03 Oct can claim their free flights at www.flyfreedraw.com.au.

For details, see the special front full page of today's *TD*.



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Qantas Platinum One lounge

QANTAS is continuing the push to recognise its highest yielding and most loyal customers, with the opening this week of a special new lounge - and its not even at an airport.

Members of the select Platinum One top tier of the Qantas Frequent Flyer program are now able to access the new Qantas MCA Lounge at Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art in The Rocks.

It's described as a "sophisticated loft-style space" at the newly renovated museum, on the ground floor facing Circular Quay and the Sydney Opera House.

The privileged guests are able to enjoy artworks from the MCA collection, with daily newspapers provided along with free wireless internet and complimentary tea, coffee and soft drinks.

"The lounge provides a CBD

based space for Platinum One members and their guests to meet, work and relax overlooking Sydney Harbour," the carrier told members in an email this week.

The Qantas MCA lounge is open to Platinum One members and one guest during normal museum hours (10am-5pm 7 days a week).

The adjacent MCA restaurant will also provide meals to lounge visitors who can dine al fresco on a deck, but this food is at the members' cost.

Platinum One launched last year (*TD* 17 May 2011) to recognise Platinum frequent flyers who earn more than triple the required Status Credits.

MEANWHILE, Qantas has increased the points required for taxes, fees and carrier charges on Classic Awards redemption tickets in response to the Carbon Tax.

Effective 01 Jul it will cost QFFF members 6000 points per segment for taxes and fees when redeeming flight awards.

EK 5x daily LHR A380s

EMIRATES is set to operate an all-A380 service between Dubai and London Heathrow, with all five daily flights to utilise superjumbos from 01 Feb 2013.

Currently, EK operates three A380 flights a day plus two 777s, one of which will switch to A380 from 28 Oct, while the fifth daily service will move to an A380 effective 01 Feb.

Dixon out of TQ

THE change of government in Queensland and the appointment of new tourism minister Jan Stuckey has seen a number of changes at the state's tourism body, including the departure of former Qantas ceo and Tourism Australia chairman Geoff Dixon from the Tourism Qld board, according to today's *Australian*.

Dixon has been at TQ for three years and cited heavy commitments for his departure, which comes alongside that of TQ chairman Don Morris, who was also once chairman of the former Australian Tourism Commission.

Seven pages of news

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news and photos, a special front full page from **Qantas Holidays** about its Fly Free Promotion, plus a full page from: (*click*)

- AA Appointments jobs

Kylie's off to Greece

CONGRATULATIONS to Kylie Ellis from Flight Centre Engadine, who has been named as the winner of last month's *Travel Daily* competition.

Kylie has won a fabulous trip for two to Greece courtesy of Sun Island Tours and Etihad.

As well as correctly identifying all of the photo locations from each issue, Kylie's final answer about Sun Island was "Super Friendly, Unique, Nice Staff, Invoices are Easy to Read, Such Great Product, Low Hold Times, Amazing Deals, Nice Commission, Destinations to Die For".

This month, *TD's* month-long competition is offering a trip for two to Hong Kong courtesy of Cathay Pacific and Harbour Plaza Hotels & Resorts - see page 7.

QF catering sale

QANTAS is continuing the restructuring of its catering operations, with the sale of the Cairns centre and one of its Sydney centres to Gate Gourmet.

370 staff will transition from the airline as part of the sale, which is expected to be finalised by Dec.



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Travel Daily

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Friday 6th July 2012



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EK ADL flights praised

TOURISM Australia says the new Emirates direct flights to Adelaide (*TD* yesterday) are a "major tourism coup" for South Australia.

TAM and Andrew McEvoy said he believes the new flights will be particularly popular with European travellers "and will greatly assist regional dispersal".

"Emirates has been a key airline partner for us for a number of years now and it's on the back of this close relationship, and because of a long term effort by the South Australia Tourism Commission and Adelaide airport, that the deal has been done".

SATC CEO Jane Jeffreys said the new service was a "major game changer" for the state in terms of both leisure and business tourism.

US now top Oz destination

THE United States was the top outbound destination for Australian travellers in May, according to Australian Bureau of Statistics figures released today.

Almost 74,000 Aussies crossed the Pacific, with the USA shooting to the top of the rankings, ahead of Indonesia in second place with 73,100 and significantly ahead of NZ in third place at 59,200.

The UK was in fourth place with 58,300 outbound travellers, followed by Thailand, China, Fiji, Singapore, Italy and Malaysia.

The fastest growing destination in the last 12 months has been Thailand which is up 12.8%, while travel to Indonesia is up 9.8% year-on-year.

Most countries in the top ten have grown in terms of Aussie visitation, but NZ is down 4.8% year-on-year, while Singapore dropped 4.4% and Fiji is down 6.1% compared to a year ago.

Currently, short-term resident departures are 5.1% higher than 12 months ago.

In terms of arrivals, New Zealand was still Australia's top

market, with 93,500 visitors - almost three times as many as those from China, in second place.

Overall arrivals are up 4.5% compared to May 2011, with the US in third place followed by the UK, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, India, Korea and Hong Kong.

The highest percentage increase in arrivals over the last year have been from China, up 17%, followed by Japan at 10.7% indicating a resurgence in the Japanese market.

The only top ten inbound market which has seen a decline was Singapore, down 2%.

Celebrity interview!

TODAY'S Travel Daily includes our latest Celebrity Interview - this time with Australia Zoo's famous owner Terri Irwin.

See **page 6** for details and an opportunity to win two nights accom at Oceans Mooloolaba Beach and a family pass to Australia Zoo.

QF daily DFW services

QANTAS this week commenced daily operations on the Sydney-Dallas/Fort Worth-Brisbane-Sydney route, with a number of the services being operated by reconfigured B747-400ERs that feature the A380-style cabin.

State of Origin winner

TONY Markovski from Qantas Airways is the travel industry's top State of Origin tipper, having been named as the winner of *TD*'s popular SOO competition.

Over the three game series industry tipsters were asked to answer a series of questions about each match, and Tony's responses were the most accurate overall.

He's won two nights accommodation including daily breakfast for two people at the luxury Pullman Hotel at Sydney Olympic Park.

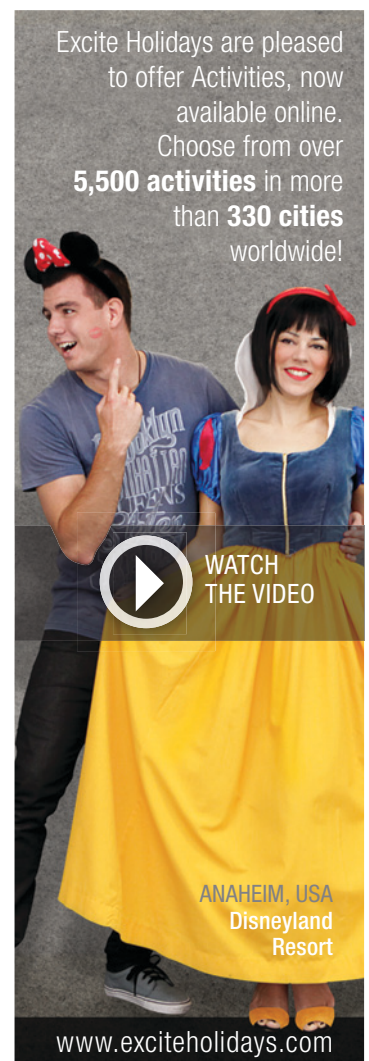
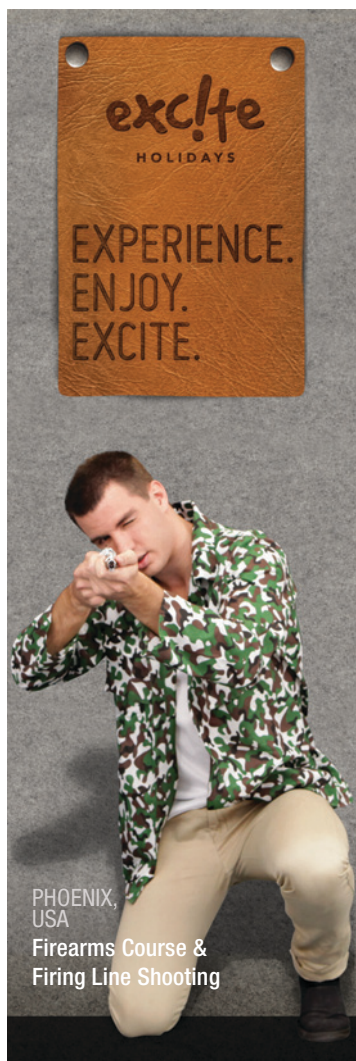
JTN's new iPad apps

JETSET and Travelworld have today launched what they're claiming as the industry's "first retail travel catalogue app".

Developed by Leedham Creative, the "Travel Escapes" app is an "enriched" version of the JTN bimonthly print catalogues which highlight various destinations and deals.

The app is free to download on the iTunes store, with Jetset & Travelworld marketing mgr Rashelle Toms saying it's been created because 25% of consumers are expected to have a tablet device by 2015.

"Pictures truly speak a thousand words when it comes to travelling, and we're leveraging this capacity to help our travellers decide where to go," she said.



WTM regos now open

ORGANISERS of World Travel Market have opened registrations for this year's event, which will take place at London's ExCel centre from 05-08 Nov.

For the first time attendees will be able to download an 'e-badge' as soon as their registration is complete, as part of a new My WTM event planning tool.

Registration is free - see www.wtmlondon.com.

LH South Africa rejig

LUFTHANSA is switching around its flights from Cape Town to Germany, which from 28 Oct will operate to Munich instead of Frankfurt due to new curfew restrictions at FRA.

The A340-300 route will operate five times per week.

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Friday 6th July 2012



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QF/PX codeshare extended 5-yrs

QANTAS has received approval from the International Air Services Commission to extend its code-share pact with Air Niugini between Australia & PNG for five-years.

The IASC handed down its decision late last week to extend the partnership, allocating 1,000 seats of capacity per week on the PNG route, until 30 Jun 2017, **Travel Daily** can reveal.

In a 16-page document, the Commission argued the case for and against an extension to the current codeshare, with Qantas saying the continuation of Air Niugini's Boeing 767 aircraft was "crucial" for efficient carriage of freight & "investment certainty."

The codeshare covers PX's two B767 services from Port Moresby to Sydney (one via Brisbane) and eight B767 weekly services to the Queensland capital.

The amended arrangements do not contain the "soft block component" which has been a feature of earlier agreements and caused concern to the IASC.

The Commission revealed, based on confidential data provided by QF, the Australian flag-carrier was obtaining high pax revenue yields on the Brisbane & Sydney sectors to Port Moresby, with Economy class fares "generally at the higher end of the economy class range."

It also identified that there were only marginal differences in the lowest Economy class fares offered by Qantas, Air Niugini and Virgin.

However, QF's Business class fares were up to 30% dearer than those of Air Niugini, "for what is effectively the same product," the Commission stated.

"Higher fares do not seem to have been an impediment to Qantas capturing a substantial portion of the business market, as evidenced by its high yields and profits on the route.

"This could be due to several factors, including Qantas' ability to match supply to forecast demand under the code share arrangements, corporate travel contracts and... access to more substantial marketing resources and its ability to offer connectivity to its large domestic and international networks."

In making its decision, the IASC said that if it was to reject the application, Qantas would likely re-enter the route with its own aircraft in competition with Air Niugini and Virgin Australia, and ultimately nudge out Air Niugini altogether, lessening competition.

"There would also be implications for Air Niugini's future viability and for the broader PNG economy," the IASC evaluated.

It also believed approving the pact could increase competition.

The Commission also agreed retaining PX's B767 operational on the route is "important to maintaining frequent, low cost and substantial freight capacity between the two countries."

Jumeirah Creekside

JUMEIRAH Hotels & Resorts has opened the doors to its ninth property in Dubai, the 292-room Jumeirah Creekside Hotel.

The hotel is located in the heart of 'Old Dubai' and is the first hotel in the Jumeirah Group in Dubai to offer the option to book a 24-hour check-in service - destined to be popular with guests from Australia and NZ.

Guests are spoiled for choice for room types with Superior, Deluxe, Deluxe XL, Studio Suites, Duplex and Apartment/Corner Suites and a Triplex Penthouse offered.

Positioned only minutes away from Dubai Int'l Airport, the hotel offers complimentary wifi access, and transfers to Deira City Centre, Dubai Mall & Mall of the Emirates, plus access to Madinat Jumeirah Beach & Wild Wadi Water Park.

AA 777-300s LAX-LHR

AMERICAN Airlines will launch daily Boeing 777-300ER services between Los Angeles and London Heathrow from 01 Jun 2013.

The LA route follows previously announced 777 services from Dallas/Fort Worth to Sao Paulo (launching in Dec) and between Dallas/Fort Worth & New York JFK to Heathrow, commencing in Feb.

Sheraton Jiaozhou

STARWOOD Hotels & Resorts Worldwide has welcomed its latest China-based property to its portfolio following the opening of the Sheraton Jiaozhou Hotel in the Shandong province.

The 270-room property is the first international branded hotel to open in Jiaozhou.

MAS PayPal payment

MALAYSIA Airlines has added PayPal as a new payment method for bookings made via mobile devices on the MHmobile app and at flymas.mobi site.

MAS says its the first airline in Southeast Asia to offer the PayPal service on smartphones.

Window Seat

WHO says sport is healthy?

A Chinese soccer fan has died after depriving himself of sleep for 11 straight nights in order to stay up to watch every match from the Euro 2012 football tournament, which recently concluded in Poland & Ukraine.

Following a match between Italy and the Republic of Ireland, Jiang Xiaoshan went back to his home in Changsha, took a shower prior to going to work, passed out and was unable to be revived.

Doctors stated that alcohol, tobacco and the lack of sleep combined to cause the man's untimely demise.

TOURISTS heading out beyond the Black Stump are being treated to quite an unusual sight at the moment - a desert in bloom courtesy of Lego.

A life-sized "forest of Lego" has been erected as part of a major celebration of the 50th anniversary of the iconic toy bricks in Australia.

The display, which was previously at Sydney's Martin Place, is now on show at Broken Hill's Living Desert reserve and includes 15 4m-tall 'pine' trees along with giant lego flowers.

The Lego forest is on display until 12 Jul.

CATERING is certainly a super competitive business among Gulf-based carriers.

Ethihad Airways has purchased 200 hens and three beehives to raise and produce its own eggs and honey products for exclusive use on its services, while a line of "signature pickles" is also understood to be in the works for inflight distribution.

It is expected the eggs will initially be on offer to first-class passengers via EY's popular "eggs - any style" meal option.

alphatravel

LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE?

Alpha Travel in Claremont, WA, is looking for a Senior consultant with the works! We are a boutique agency specialising in luxury travel and cruising. We like to look outside the square, so be prepared for a challenge. Knowledge of cruising would be an advantage. Superb working environment, attractive package and conditions.

Contact Gina Maitland on 08 92867100 or gina@alphatravel.com.au. Immediate start, but can be flexible. No Saturdays or Thursdays nights.

B-777 to MNL 5 times each week from 30Jun12

[Click here for more details](#)



Snow conditions

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 - 79cm / 13 lifts
- Perisher - 85cm / 44 lifts
- Thredbo - 85cm / 13 lifts
- Mt Hotham - 90cm / 11 lifts
- Mt Buller - 32cm / 13 lifts
- Coronet Peak - 65cm / 8 lifts
- The Remarkables - 60cm / 6 lifts
- Cardrona - 55cm / 6 lifts
- Mt Hutt - 97cm / 4 lifts

Hawaii capacity soars

HAWAII Tourism Authority is expecting total scheduled nonstop air seats from the Oceania region to rise by 29% in Q3 2012 - fueled by a 33% increase from Australia alone - the US state's second fastest growing market.

Venture beyond city

DESTINATION NSW has launched a new campaign in conjunction with the City of Sydney to encourage tourists to venture outside of the CBD to discover the city's "hidden gems" - going beyond iconic attractions like the Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

The "Make the most of Sydney just like a local" campaign will highlight the best food, wine, fashion, shopping, art and culture available outside the CBD.

Highlights in the campaign will include boutiques and street art in Newtown, to Paddington markets, art galleries in Waterloo, historic homes in Glebe, Pyrmont fish markets and waterside dining in Potts Point/Woolloomooloo.

Destination NSW ceo Sandra Chipchase said the campaign will run in tandem with the current "Love Every Second of Sydney" campaign which showcases all that can be fit into a visit to Sydney over a 48-hour period.

Change for Good yields \$25m



QANTAS Frequent Flyers will be able to use their points to make donations to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), as a further extension of the airline's 21-year 'Change for Good' partnership with the organisation.

Over that time, loose change from QF pax has raised millions of dollars for underprivileged children and their families, with UNICEF exec director Anthony Lake praising the carrier and "especially the crew members

who spread the message every day on every flight".

Change for Good has provided \$25m in funds for a huge variety of projects, with the extension into the Qantas Frequent Flyer program to be effective from Sep.

QF ceo Alan Joyce & QF Loyalty ceo Lesley Grant are pictured with Anthony Lake, flanked by Qantas cabin crew, at a cocktail event where UNICEF presented Qantas with a commemorative plaque to recognise their partnership.

emiratesagents.com/au

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Rome	\$1,920	Glasgow	\$2,121
Paris	\$1,944	London Heathrow	\$2,083

Special Business Class fares also available. Other destinations and regions also on sale.

*CONDITIONS APPLY. Prices quoted are for Perth departure and airfares are inclusive of taxes and surcharges correct at 22nd June, 2012. Other states also on sale at higher airfares. Offer ends 19th July, 2012. Travel from 18th September until 21st November, 2012. Airfares shown are for travel in low season. Higher fares are available for other destinations/seasons and for Business Class. Flight restrictions apply. Seats subject to availability. Blackout dates may apply. Amendments and cancellation fees apply. For more information contact your Emirates' sales representative or the Emirates contact centre on 1300 800 599.

QF scrum with the Wallabies



ONE day ahead of a crucial test match against Wales, the Qantas Wallabies posed for this team

photo with key industry partners hosted by Qantas Sales Victoria.

Joined by airline ambassador and former Wallaby captain John Eales, the group watched the team run its final training session ahead of the big match.

The Wallabies ended up winning the match 25 points to 23.

Pictured with the team on the left is Fab Leiva and Vlado Ristevski from Concorde, with Stuart Hunter from Voyager.

Standing to the right of the team is Tim O'Callaghan, Qantas Victorian sales manager, with Gareth Payne of Voyager and Richard Wignall from CTC.

ANZAC with Albatross

ALBATROSS Tours has released its 2013 ANZAC commemorative tour brochure, with three tours scheduled to run, visiting key sites involved in World War battles such as Amiens, Somme, Ypres and Villers-Bretonneux.

Five, eight and 10-day tours are timed to operate before and after the Anzac Day Dawn Service.

All tours are led by specialist Battlefield Tour Managers.

Blue Train bargain

ADVENTURE World is promoting a special deal on South Africa's famous Blue Train, in which a second guest pays half price, making it \$2186 per couple including one night's accom in a deluxe suite on board, all meals and beverages plus excursions - more info 1300 320 795.

Finnair Economy Class to Europe via Bangkok, from only \$950*.

Departures from 27 August - 19 November 12.

*Sale ends 31 August 12. The fare shown is for low season, excluding taxes and fuel surcharges.

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New Doha apt opening

QATAR Airways Group hopes to open Phase One of its state-of-the-art New Doha International Airport terminal by Dec.

The US\$15.5 billion facility is designed to initially cater for over 28 million passengers annually, doubling to over 50 million once the airport is fully operational beyond 2015.

Group chief Akbar Al Baker said the airport will be the "most sophisticated, most up to date & most passenger-friendly airport" anywhere in the world as it's been designed by an airline (Qatar Airways), not architects.

The dual runway New Doha Int'l Airport is 4kms from the existing airport & will, at first, incorporate a total of 41 wide-body aircraft gates, with that number boosted to 65 (six for A380s) after 2015.

Al Baker is pinning hopes on the delivery of the airport this year based on a contractual agreement with the builder, he said this week.

Saudi upstart to Aus?

QATAR Airways has signalled plans to launch a Saudi Arabian offshoot after newly-launched aviation liberalisation policies were introduced in the Kingdom.

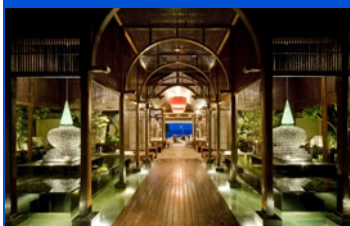
CEO Akbar Al Baker said talks with His Royal Highness Prince Fahad bin Abdullah Al Saud of Saudi Arabia were positive, but excessive fuel costs and the gov't's policy of dictating domestic air fares would need to be relaxed for the project to gather speed.

He cited capped airfares for the demise of Sama Airlines two years ago, as a barrier preventing airlines from flying commercially.

MEANWHILE, Al Baker has said if the Saudi carrier was to get off the ground, it will be operated by Qatar Airways metal and could possibly offer an Australian link.

Its operation may be either regional or long-haul, or both, Al Baker told **TD** in Perth, but will be "dependent on the policy of Saudi authorities, so why not?"

WIN A 3-NIGHT STAY AT SAREERAYA CHEWANG BEACH



This week, **Travel Daily** is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a 3-night accommodation package, valued at \$1530, courtesy of **Sareeraya Villas & Suites**.

The prize includes a 3 night package with American Breakfast at Sareeraya Chaweng Beach, Samui; a Touch of Siam Treatment (30min Herbal Steam Bath and 90min Massage) and free airport transfer.

For your chance to win this great accommodation package, answer correctly four questions featured in **Travel Daily** from Monday to Thursday this week, plus answer the final question featured on Friday.

Email your answers by COB on Fri to: sareeraya@traveldaily.com.au

Q.5: In 25 words or less tell us why you want to win a holiday at Sareeraya Villas & Suites?

[Click here for terms & conditions](#)



Travel Specials



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.

Where in the world could you stay in a 5-star hotel for \$35 per person per night? Thailand is the answer, and the **Travel Industry Club** can book you in at the **Mikhao Dreams Resort & Spa** in Phuket. Phone (02) 9700 8711.

Fresh off a year-long top-to-toe renovation, the "Executive Privilege" package at **The Peninsula Beverly Hills Hotel** offers a luxurious end to a busy day. Getting to and from LAX Airport is also easier with dedicated concierge service, early arrival, late checkout and American breakfast daily. Valid for stays from 01 Jun to 31 Dec, phone +1 800 462 7899 to book.

Soar high above in the skies with a special offer from the **Sebel Heritage Yarra Valley**. For \$400 per person, twin share, guests will receive one night accom, starting the next day with a **hot-air balloon ride**, followed by breakfast back at the hotel - www.sebelyarravalley.com.au.

With the London Olympic Games opening ceremony less than a month away, Sydney's **Four Seasons Hotel** has released a "Festival of Sport" package to celebrate, with overnight accommodation, breakfast, a special Olympic-themed amenities pack and two Olympic Torch cocktails, starting from \$360 per room per night - call (02) 9250 3100.

Technology Update

Today's Technology Update is brought to you by Amadeus IT Pacific.

Changing the way we do things



Innovation. A word we hear often when it comes to technology. The remote control, the bionic ear

and the cellular phone are all innovations that have changed everyday lives, given us more time or made life easier.

At Amadeus, continued investment in innovative IT solutions is part of our ethos – we have invested over €2 billion in R&D in the last six years, with €364 million invested during 2011 alone. Globally we have sixteen R&D centres, including one here in Sydney and in May, Amadeus was granted a €200m loan to continue developing world class IT solutions.

R&D allows us to develop solutions that can change the face of the travel industry.

Amadeus Offers is one of our newest innovations - the only solution available that enables agents to create, store and send recommendations for up to 20 different flight or hotel options and convert them into bookings in a few steps.

Amadeus Offers also exemplifies how leading organisations like Amadeus bring customers into the heart of the product development process. In Australia we encourage our customers to come to us with their ideas and work with us to develop the products and services our local market really wants.

I wonder what amazing innovation is next?

Sari Vahakoski, Managing Director, Amadeus IT Pacific



QT to feature spaQ

THE soon to launch chic hotel QT Sydney (**TD** 09 Feb) is to feature a new designer spa concept, dubbed 'spaQ'.

According to Design Hotels which represents the hotel, spaQ will feature a selection of facials and body treatments by USpa and Kerstin Florian and a range of "30-minute add-on treatments."

The 200-room QT Sydney will feature 12 room styles and is taking bookings from 17 Sep.

See the Rhine on Nine

TOMORROW night's episode of Channel Nine's travel program Getaway, airing at 5:30pm, features cruising the Rhine and exploring Cologne with Scenic Tours, 4WD-ing in Mudgee, NZ's Lake Taupo and Cairns.

BEA report on AF crash

AIR France has expressed its gratitude to the French Accident Investigation Bureau's (BEA) final report into flight AF447 which crashed into the Atlantic Ocean en route from Rio on 01 Jun 2009.

The final report concluded a combination of technical and human error was responsible for the loss of the aircraft and the lives of 228 passengers and crew.

AF has committed to carrying out a series of improvements and recommendations offered by the report relating to air safety.

Siteminder Bali 5-star

THREE of Bali's 5-star hotels - The Bale, The Amala and The Menjangan - have formed a partnership through Lifestyle Retreats and online travel distribution provider Siteminder.

Lifestyle Retreats will represent the hotels on its booking engine, TheBookingButton.

Wild Bush group spike

REMOTE luxury camp operator Wild Bush Luxury is reporting growth in incentive business and corporate retreats as companies reward their top performers.

CEO Charles Carlow said groups tended to book out the camps in groups of 10, & are typically men.

Wild Bush camps include Sal Salis in WA, Bamurru Plains in the NT and its latest addition, Kuri Bay on the Kimberley Coast.

More at wildbushluxury.com.

Celebrity Interview

with Terri Irwin



While on the Sunshine Coast this week celebrating the debut of direct Air New Zealand services from Auckland to Sunshine Coast Airport, **TD** had the opportunity to pick the brain of Terri Irwin - wildlife warrior, champion of conservation, mother to Bindi and Robert and of course widow of the late, great Crocodile Hunter himself - Steve Irwin.

Aside from a co-starring role on the popular wildlife TV show that has screened in 140 countries, Terri has a wealth of travel experience from her years championing animal rights causes and celebrating everything the great outdoors, of which Australia has plenty, to offer.

What is your favourite holiday spot and why?

One of my favourite holiday spots would have to be Qld, in the Simpson Desert, because it's one of the most remote places on earth, has spectacular reptile action and is just so special. And Tasmania - Temperate Zone Rainforest Habitat - it's like the garden of Eden for mammals...mammals everywhere.

What is one thing you cannot leave home without?

My kids...they've had sleepovers but I've not gone anywhere overnight without my kids...ever.

Do you have an embarrassing travel story you could share with us?

I was flying to Las Vegas to meet Steve, and on arriving, this man came up to me with a hat pulled down low and a baggy T-shirt and with the worst teeth I've ever seen and he tried to kiss me. I was totally freaking out and looking for Steve and then I realised it was Steve. He had fake teeth that looked like Chad Morgan, pulled a hat down

over his eyes so nobody would recognise him. That was embarrassing and everyone felt sorry for me when I left with him!

Do you have a travel tip you would like to provide for our readers?

If you're travelling long distances with your kids, get something special for the vehicle. My kids have iPads they can only use when they're in a car or on a long flight, so they're enjoying a treat they never normally have. And, if you're travelling by plane, drink lots of water.

Who is one person you would like to sit next to on a plane?

Judi Dench - she seems like a very wise person that I've never met and would love to hang out with.

What is one food you would like to see added to an airline menu?

More healthy options, because it seems that steak always comes with a sauce, and things always come with potatoes so it would be fun to have something that is just meat with steamed vegetables, so that there is that healthier choice.

Win a Sunshine Coast stay

Australia Zoo Home of The Crocodile Hunter

Oceans mooloolaba beach

Sunshine Coast Destination

Travel Daily is today giving away a Sunshine Coast short break courtesy of Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd, Oceans Mooloolaba Beach and Australia Zoo. Two nights at Oceans Mooloolaba Beach and a family pass to Australia Zoo will go to the first reader to correctly answer the question:

What is the Sunshine Coast's official marketing tagline?

Email your answer ASAP to terrcomp@traveldaily.com.au.

Kenya says 'Jambo'!



KENYA is continuing to prove its popularity with Australians, with visitor numbers up a healthy 23.9% last year - following 21.2% growth in 2010.

Total visitor numbers for the country last year stood at 1,095,842, of which 24,226 came from Australia.

"More and more Australians are travelling to Kenya each year seeking unrivalled wildlife experiences and diversity", said regional manager Australia, Alison Roberts-Brown.

"The warm, welcoming spirit and hospitality of the Kenyan people also entices Australians to

visit not only once, but time and time again."

During an exclusive media lunch in Sydney yesterday, part of a four day roadshow called 'Jambo Australia Sales Mission', John Chirchir, Regional Marketing Manager of Kenya Tourism Board and H.E Stephen K. Tarus, High Commissioner of Kenya stressed how important tourism is to the country and they talked about additional security measures that were put in place to ensure tourists are safe.

"We want you to tell the world what is available", Tarus said.

"You can travel everywhere else but if you have not gone to Nairobi you have not seen enough".

This "enjoyable country" offers diversity, culture, conservation and ecotourism as well as cultural heritage sites and the 'Big Five'.

New products include The Emakoko, a family run lodge which has been built into the side of a valley on the Mbagathi River; new rooms at the Lewa House and six new luxury tents at the Sarara Star Camp on the Namunyak, overlooking the Mathews Range.

The roadshow will come to an end tonight with an event being held in Brisbane for wholesalers.

There are 11 representatives from Kenya (pictured above at Sydney's Botanic Gardens yesterday), who are promoting Serena Hotels, Vintage Africa, Private Safaris, SafariLink, Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, Twiga Tours, Sun Africa Hotels, Sarova Hotels, Safari Trails and Africareps.

New Harrods chain

QATAR Holdings, which bought London's iconic Harrod's department store two years ago, plans to turn the brand into a luxury hotel chain.

Destinations flagged include Kuala Lumpur and Sardinia, Italy in addition to London.



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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US airways keen on AA

US Airways says it's still very interested in merging with bankrupt American Airlines, but any deal is unlikely to proceed this year after AA creditors agreed to extend a key deadline.

A reorganisation plan must now be presented by 28 Dec - three months later than previously expected, with US Airways ceo Doug Parker telling staff this means any possible merger plan wouldn't come through until 2013.

He said he believes a US Airways merger would be a "superior alternative" to AA emerging from bankruptcy still as an independent carrier.

Friday 6th Jul 2012

ConTgo releases app

CORPORATE traveller communications specialist conTgo has launched a new App which builds on its worldwide platform, offering travellers "company social sharing" and geo-location.

The company has also released a major upgrade to its MapCast traveller tracking system, with the app providing automatic fallback to SMS when wifi is unavailable.

WIN A HOLIDAY TO HONG KONG

WIN THIS MONTH'S MAJOR PRIZE

- 2 nights at the 5 star **Harbour Grand Kowloon**
- 2 nights at the 5 star **Harbour Grand Hong Kong**
- 2 return economy flights

WIN THIS WEEK

- 2 nights at **Harbour Plaza North Point**

The hotel is situated right next to the MTR Quarry Bay Station providing easy access to many tourist attractions. Hotel also provides complimentary shuttle bus to Airport Express Hong Kong Station, Causeway Bay and Taikoo area.



Throughout July, *Travel Daily* is giving readers the chance to win an incredible major prize and weekly prize to Hong Kong, courtesy of **Harbour Plaza Hotels & Resorts** and **Cathay Pacific**.

To win the weekly prize, simply answer all five daily questions by COB on Friday. The subscriber with the most correct answers and the most creative response to Friday's question will be the weekly winner.

There will be 20 questions throughout the month. At the end of the month the subscriber with **all** the correct entries and the most creative responses to **all** four Friday's questions will win the major prize of a holiday for two people to Hong Kong.

Q.5: In 25 words or less tell us five things that are unique about Harbour Grand Kowloon



Send your entries to: harbourplazacomp@traveldaily.com.au

Click here for terms & conditions

Hint! Go to: www.harbour-plaza.com



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ARE YOU TECH SAVVY?

**CLIENT SERVICE EXECUTIVE – GLOBAL GDS
SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K**

Do you have technology know how? Have a passion for travel but looking for a role that provides more of a technical challenge? Our client are a global CRS and they are searching for a new team member for second level support; you will be providing technical assistance to new and existing customers as well as being key in the implementation process. You will have min 5 yrs travel industry experience and ideally IT helpdesk experience. Great package, trendy CBD office!

HAVE YOUR CAKE AND EAT IT TOO!

**CORPORATE TRAVEL CONSULTANT
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS – SALARY PACKAGE \$60K- \$70K OTE**

Love your role in corporate travel but want to cut back on your commute? AA Appointments are currently recruiting for a number of corporate travel positions outside the CBD including Parramatta, North Ryde and French’s Forest. If you have min 2 yrs retail travel experience with exposure to business clientele then contact us today. Great salary packages, training and development as well as incentives and travel benefits – all within easy reach of home!

HEY TRUE BLUE – DOMESTIC BLISS

**DOMESTIC CORPORATE CONSULTANT
PERTH (INNER) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$70K**

Why don’t you kick off the new financial year with this sensational opportunity! This boutique office is located close to the CBD and is looking for an experienced domestic consultant to join their growing corporate team. Utilising Sabre you will be familiar with domestic product and fares and will enjoy focusing on customer service. Does this sound like you? Fantastic salary on offer and fun working environment!

BEST CORPORATE SALARY IN MELBOURNE

**MULTI SKILLED CORPORATE CONSULTANTS
MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$65K+ (OTE)**

This corporate travel agency is looking for an experienced international consultant to join their team. You will be responsible for servicing the academic market, with clients such as professors to students to university staff. Your days will be full of variety! Working Monday – Friday and with access to a brilliant salary package and benefits, you will kick yourself if you miss this! Min 2 yrs experience required.

DON’T FREEZE THIS WINTER – HOT RETAIL ROLES

**LEISURE TRAVEL CONSULTANTS
MELBOURNE (VARIOUS) - SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K+ (NEG)**

Retail agents urgently required! New jobs just called in! If you have a minimum of 12 months industry experience using a GDS such as Galileo, Sabre or Amadeus then we can help you make the move today. You can earn high base salaries, exceptional families and incentive trips, fun and friendly team environments and interesting itineraries. Apply today to find your perfect role and enjoy going to work again!

DO YOU ENJOY THE FINER THINGS IN LIFE?

**LEISURE TRAVEL CONSULTANT
PERTH (NORTH) –SALARY PACKAGE TO \$60K + DOE**

This role will see you working in a beautiful boutique agency assisting repeat clients and arranging luxurious travel itineraries. Book 5 star African Safari’s, River cruising in Europe and much more. If you have a minimum of 4 years retail experience why not make the move to this fantastic office and start living the high life! You will be offered exciting families and a high base salary! Sound good? Apply today!

JUST LOVE SELLING TRAVEL

**RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT
BRISBANE NORTHERN SUBURBS – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K**

If you had a bright, motivating and comfortable environment in which to demonstrate your passion for selling travel, wouldn’t it make a difference to how successful you were? We think so, which is why you should check out this great opportunity with a leading name in travel where your career will really take off! If you are a motivated, knowledgeable consultant with min. 3 years experience and able to provide top customer service, we want to hear from you! Apply and do a job you’ll love!

MAKE YOUR DREAM A REALITY

**SENIOR TRAVEL CONSULTANT
BRISBANE INNER SUBURBS – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$47K**

Imagine working Mon-Fri hours in a recently renovated office with limited walk ins, whilst planning detailed five star itineraries. Sound too good to be true? It’s not! We are currently looking for a senior travel consultant to join this prestigious agency. Enjoy working with some of the best consultants in the industry and love handling the travel needs of the discerning traveller. Earn a strong set salary and have access to five star families. Europe knowledge preferable.