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Travel Daily

First with the news

Friday 2nd August 2013

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A\$ at three year low

THE Australian Dollar has continued its downward trend of recent months, overnight falling to a fresh three-year low against the US Dollar, slipping to US\$0.89. This morning, \$1(AU) is buying €0.67 Euros and £0.59 Pounds.

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Record outbound travel

OUTBOUND travel boomed in 2012-13, with Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures released today showing a record 8.4 million short-term overseas trips for the 12 months to 30 Jun.

That was 400,000 more than in 2011-12, and almost three times the number set a decade ago.

During Jun the top outbound destination was the USA with 97,300 travellers, followed by Indonesia with 87,400 and then New Zealand in third place with 82,300 departures.

The fastest growing destination for Aussies in the last year was Singapore, up 15%, just ahead of the USA which grew at 14.1% and then the UK, up 12.6%.

Italy also grew strongly at 11.7%, while NZ rose 10.5%, in front of Fiji which was up 9%.

Arrivals have also grown over

the last 12 months, with 6.3 million movements recorded - again the highest on record.

In 2012-13 the fastest growing inbound market was China, up 21.3%, followed by India which rose 10.4% year-on-year.

Arrivals from most countries increased in 2012-13, with the exception of Japan, down 12.4% and New Zealand, declining 2.8%.

NZ was the top source country in Jun 2013 with 92,200 arrivals, and Singapore was in second place with 41,700 visitors to Australia during the month.

MEANWHILE, the ABS says it's "currently undertaking a rebuild of the Overseas Arrivals and Departures system," with a focus on improving the quality of the data via new methodology which will "incorporate considerably more robust imputations for missing traveller data".

The new system will be reflected in Jan 2014 figures, scheduled for release on 11 Mar next year.

TD reader survey

TRAVEL Daily is now in its 20th year, and we'd love your feedback about the publication.

TD readers have an opportunity to win a \$100 gift card by completing a short survey - to participate, **CLICK HERE**.

Today's issue of TD

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

- AA Appointments jobs
- Tempo Holidays

Shepherd DNSW role

SIMONNE Shepherd has been appointed as the new general manager-Industry Partnerships & Govt Policy at Destination NSW.

Her career has included senior roles with Canberra Tourism and the Canadian Tourism Commission.

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TEEN DEAL TO NOUMEA



Teens under 19 fly for the Children's airfare. For sale until 16 August and travel until 1 December 2013.

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McLachlan on TV

MAT McLachlan, from Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours, is one of the "passionate experts" who will star in a new Australian TV production by the National Geographic Channel debuting on Foxtel at 7.30pm on Sun 18 Aug.

Australia: Life on the Edge explores the coastal regions of the country in six parts, with McLachlan featuring as the expert historian in episodes covering Sydney Harbour, Victoria's Shipwreck Coast, Shark Bay to Port Hedland in WA, Perth, the Kimberley Coast and the Great Barrier Reef.

Directions earlybird

REGISTRATION for Tourism Australia's fourth Australian Tourism Directions Conference opened today, and those who lock in their attendance this month will pay the discounted rate of \$250, with the price increasing to \$300 in Sep.

The conference will take place in the Great Hall at Parliament House in Canberra on 29 Oct, and will feature presentations from the Minister for Tourism and other senior figures.

There will also be a Q&A-style panel discussion moderated by Tony Jones, with participants including Virgin Australia chief commercial officer Judith Crompton, TA md Andrew McEvoy and Lyn Lewis-Smith from Business Events Sydney - see tourism.australia.com/directions.

New China agent program

AUSTRALIAN travel agents can now be recognised for their expertise on China, with the launch last week of an official "China Travel Specialist" accreditation program for Australia and New Zealand.

Developed by the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA) in partnership with China Ready & Accredited, run by former Tourism Australia md Geoff Buckley, the program aims to establish a network of agents to meet the growing demand for China product knowledge.

An inaugural group of China Travel Specialists have already been inducted, including agents from Flight Centre, HWT, Jetset, Helen Wong's, Wendy Wu, Travel Counsellors and STA Travel.

China Travel Specialists will be promoted by the CNTA in a variety of ways including networking events and in connection with official visits by the many Chinese provinces

HWT termination

THE Travel Compensation Fund this morning advised of the non-voluntary termination of the participation of Cloud 9 Pty Ltd ATF The Travel Trust and Doel Pty Ltd ATF The Doel Family Trust.

The agency, which has had its licence cancelled, was located at Shop 42 Centro Tweed Heads, and formerly traded as Harvey World Travel Tweed Heads.

and cities which promote their destinations in Australia and NZ.

Following the strong response from the initial group, Buckley said the next step is to extend the program to an online offering which will be available to any agent interested in selling China, "one of the great travel destinations of the world".

Consultants wanting to register their interest in becoming China Travel Specialists can do so from the 'Contact' button at chinareadyandaccredited.com.

AFTA ceo Jayson Westbury backed the initiative, saying that encouraging outbound travel would also assist in supporting bilateral aviation capacity.

World Youth spray

A GROUP of 26 young adults who attended World Youth Day in Brazil earlier this month caused a crisis at Sydney Airport yesterday after being struck by vomiting and diarrhoea during the 14 hour Qantas flight from Santiago.

QF28 was met at the airport by a fleet of six ambulances, with 16 of the passengers taken to hospital - three of them so unwell they had to be taken off the plane in stretchers.

Qantas said that there were two doctors and a nurse on board who helped out, with NSW Health saying it's almost certain that they contracted the illness during the World Youth Day festivities.

Seasonal workers

FEDERAL Tourism Minister Gary Gray this morning announced the expansion of the Seasonal Worker accommodation trial, which will now incorporate the whole of Western Australia.

The trial is already underway in Broome, the Northern Territory, tropical Queensland, the Whitsundays Coast and Kangaroo Island, and will allow accommodation businesses in the WA tourism industry to hire seasonal workers from overseas, including selected Pacific Island countries and Timor-Leste during times of local labour shortages.

Gray said that almost 1500 seasonal workers were recruited by participating employers in 2012-13, with roles available including cafe workers, bar staff, kitchen hands and housekeepers.

He said the program will ensure that WA's accommodation businesses can offer their "very best service at peak season".

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BW takes two Accors

BEST Western has boosted its portfolio in Tasmania after taking over the management contracts of two hotels formerly operated by Accor's Mercure brand.

The properties include a 140-room hotel in Hobart and a 116-room hotel in Launceston, which have been rebranded as **BEST WESTERN** Hobart and **BEST WESTERN PLUS** Launceston.

Best Western plans to refurbish all guest rooms and meeting/event spaces of the Hobart hotel - due for completion in Q2 2013 - and upgrade in-room furnishings & amenities at the Launceston property, starting this month.

Etihad approval for Jat stake

JAT Airways will be rebranded as Air Serbia under a joint venture struck between Etihad Airways and the Government of Serbia.

Etihad plans to acquire a 49% stake in Jat after gaining final regulatory approval for a five-year management contract for the carrier, valued at US\$200m.

The strategic agreement was signed by EY president and ceo James Hogan and Serbia's Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic in Belgrade yesterday.

An overhaul of the loss-making carrier is underway, including plans to retire its fleet of 10

737-300s (replaced with leased narrow body aircraft initially), job cuts, introducing new services from Belgrade to Abu Dhabi, ramping up its codeshare alliance with Etihad to enhance its flight network globally, and more.

"We are delighted to welcome Air Serbia to our equity alliance and look forward to working constructively with them and their stakeholders to build a sustainable, competitive and profitable airline," Hogan said.

The Balkan carrier becomes EY's 6th airline equity partner, which already includes Virgin Australia, airberlin, Air Seychelles, Aer Lingus and India's Jet Airways.



Window Seat

FORGET racing car beds or a steam engine bed, this is the ultimate kid's theme bedroom.

Laurent Aigon, a doting father in France, has transformed his child's bedroom into a lifelike Boeing 737 cockpit, complete with training simulator and seat - plus some bunk beds.

In constructing the simulator, Aigon purchased a considerable number of airline parts based on cockpit designs which he sourced online.

The father, who is not a pilot or an engineer, spent five years building his creation, which is so accurate that he has been offered a position as a guest lecturer at an aircraft maintenance training institute.

LAS Vegas last week welcomed another amazing event - and it even included an Aussie victory.

The 2013 Rubik's Cube World Championship attracted almost 600 competitors from 37 countries, and 17 year old Feliks Zemdegis from Australia triumphed after a very tense three day event.

Taking place at the Riviera Hotel & Casino, there were 17 classic and non-traditional "official cubing events".

Zemdegis scored a fastest average time of just 8.18 seconds for solving the classic 3x3 Cube, also winning the 4x4 and the One Handed 3x3 awards.

Other speed events included solving the cube blindfolded, as well the "3x3 with feet," won by Poland's Jakub Kipa in 33.6 secs.



Territory Discoveries .com

Business Development Executive

Are you looking for a short-term opportunity to take you into 2014? Territory Discoveries, the wholesale division of Tourism NT is recruiting for a Business Development Executive, Sydney based, on contract until December 31, 2013

Key Responsibilities:

- Achieve sales targets
- Proactively service and grow all facets of the business with the retail travel sector
- Provide training, attend trade and consumer shows and contribute to the overall implementation of the Territory Discoveries' Business Plan

If you are an energetic team player with outstanding sales skills - **APPLY NOW**.

A flexible and attractive remuneration package, including company car and incentive scheme for the successful applicant.

For a copy of the Job Description and Selection Criteria visit

ONLINE: www.territorydiscoveries.com/careers or www.tourismnt.com.au/about-us/careers.aspx

ENQUIRIES: Call Alison Conroy on (02) 8281 9620 or 0407 105 072

To Apply: Please forward a current CV and Selection Criteria to recruitment.tourismnt@nt.gov.au with position number listed on the job description, no later than **COB 9 Aug 2013**.

Westin gets balanced

THE Westin Sydney has become part of the long-running global roll-out of the chain's gym gear lending program with sportswear specialists, New Balance.

Under the scheme, hotel guests can borrow a pair of running shoes (with disposable insoles), along with work-out shorts, shirts and socks for men and shirts and socks for women.

The Westin Hotels & Resorts/ New Balance tie-up launched a few years ago (**TD** 16 Dec 10).

Agoda with Velocity

MEMBERS of Virgin Australia's Velocity frequent flyer program can now accrue points when booking accom via Agoda.com.

The online site offers 285,000 hotels worldwide in 37,000 cities.

Reservations made through the agoda.com/virginaustralia portal will see Velocity members earn 3 Points per \$1 for qualifying stays.



2014 Europe & Britain Preview

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INSIGHT VACATIONS

The Art of Touring in Style

Friday 2nd August 2013

ANA to start new LCC

JAPAN'S All Nippon Airways (ANA) will launch a new low-cost carrier in Dec this year, following the cessation in Jun of its joint participation in AirAsia Japan.

As a result, AirAsia will wind down its Japanese operation entirely, only 14 months after the carrier launched from its base at Tokyo Narita (**TD** 03 Aug 2012).

In its place, ANA has confirmed it will start a new low-cost brand to be based at NRT as well as Nagoya, with the carrier's name to be announced later this month.

The new carrier will initially fly to Seoul, Fukuoka, Sapporo and Okinawa and will co-exist with ANA's current LCC, Peach Aviation.

Sichuan Aus/NZ GSA

WORLD Aviation Systems has been appointed General Sales Agent for Sichuan Airlines (which flies to Melbourne), from 01 Sep.

MEANWHILE, WAS & Air Tahiti Nui have "mutually agreed" to end their GSA agreement on 31 Aug.

Hard Rock hits Europe

HARD Rock International will open its first rock music themed hotel in Europe in May next year, debuting in the Spanish beach and party destination, Ibiza.

The Hard Rock Hotel Ibiza will feature 480 rooms over two buildings, linked by a combined lobby, numerous live music hotspots, spa facility, gym and entertainment venues designed for kids, teenagers and adults.

Topdeck web rejig

YOUTH tour specialist Topdeck Travel has spruced up its online presence, unveiling a refreshed website that features an agent booking platform to "make reservations quick and easy."

It features a brand new 'Agent Resources' section where users can access latest offers, request brochures, download forms and obtain selling information.

The new portal also provides real-time bookable availability.

View it at www.topdeck.travel.



Destination NSW

Country Manager, New Zealand
Auckland, New Zealand | Contract (Full time)

About the Organisation:

Destination NSW is a NSW Government statutory authority with responsibility for devising and implementing strategies to grow the visitor economy to NSW. Our particular focus is on driving tourism and acquiring and developing major sporting and cultural events for Sydney and Regional NSW.

About the Role:

The Country Manager, New Zealand is responsible for leading Destination NSW's operations in New Zealand to grow tourism and expenditure into NSW and to achieve organisational goals. This role develops and implements growth plans, co-operative marketing partnerships, identifies opportunities for publicity and promotion, provides market intelligence and represents Destination NSW at industry events and forums. Additionally, this position has a key focus on managing the operations and activities of the New Zealand office, and is a very 'hands on' role.

For further information and to apply for this role please [Click here](#).

Closing Date: Sunday 11 August 2013

Enquiries: Tracy Forsyth (02) 6391 3718 or tracy.forsyth@industry.nsw.gov.au

Applications submitted via email will not be accepted. An eligibility list may be created to fill future permanent, temporary, full time or part time positions as they arise.

Now 14 flights each week to Manila

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3 x A340 direct flights from MEL
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[Click here for more details](#)



Philippine Airlines

Singapore seats skyrocket

PASSENGERS numbers flying on the Sydney-Singapore route surged almost 16% year-on-year in May, bringing the city-pair ever closer to overtaking the nation's long-standing leader, the Sydney-Auckland run.

New Bureau of Infrastructure Transport & Regional Economics figures reveal over 1.33 million int'l travellers flew between The Lion City and Sydney in May, whereas 1.4 million flew between the New Zealand north island hub and Sydney - up just 0.7% on the year prior.

Together the routes accounted for 9% of the total uplift of passengers into/out of Australia.

Traffic on the Singapore routes out of Melbourne and Perth was also up 1.2%, consisting of over 1 million passenger movements in each case.

The SYD-SIN traffic boom follows adjustments made by Qantas in late Mar after it suspended the Adelaide-Singapore route, while at the same time improving schedules & boosting frequencies out of Sydney to 11 weekly.

For the year ending May 2013,

passenger uplift/discharge to Singapore grew 10% annually to 4.8m, trailing New Zealand by 1m (up only 2.4%), and over 2m more than the USA.

Not surprisingly, the highest passenger growth for the year-to-date has come from the UAE after Qantas made Dubai its newest hub earlier this year.

Over the five months, 2.4m passengers flew to/from the UAE, surging upwards 17.4%, with the region overtaking Hong Kong and Indonesia to claim the 4th top source market.

International passenger traffic through SYD for the year ended May was up 5.7% to 12.6m, compared to 6.9m at MEL.

The Gold Coast recorded the highest increase in pax traffic, spiking nearly 25%, from 707,400 last year to 881,700 so far in 2013.

MEANWHILE, Qantas' stake of passengers carried in May eroded by 1.2 percentage points compared to the same time last year to 17.2%, while Emirates had a 9.7% slice of traffic, followed by Singapore Airlines (8.8%) and then Virgin Australia (8.5%).

Unleashed.

Wholesale Sales and Marketing Co-ordinator

Unleashed Travel is looking for a travel industry professional to join their young team in a fast growing and exciting company. Based in Sydney, the successful candidate must have travel agent experience, they must have a commitment to customer service, excellent leadership skills, exceptional communication & time management skills.

The role is a mix of sales, marketing, reservations & administration. The role is responsible for managing casual reservation staff, supporting on-road sales team, communicating with our database of past pax and booking their travel.

Formed in 2007, Unleashed has become the market leading overseas schoolies holiday wholesaler.

Please email resume and cover letter to jot@unleashedtravel.com.au

Friday 2nd August 2013

Snow conditions

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

Here's the latest snow reports:

- Falls Creek - 42cm / 12 lifts
- Perisher - 53cm / 34 lifts
- Thredbo - 53cm / 12 lifts
- Charlotte Pass - 53cm / 5 lifts
- Mt Hotham - 33cm / 5 lifts
- Mt Buller - 24cm / 8 lifts
- Coronet Peak - 40cm / 8 lifts
- The Remarkables - 65cm / 7 lifts
- Mt Hutt - 290cm / 4 lifts
- Cardrona - 45cm / 7 lifts

Moscow to Kazan

BOOKINGS have opened for a new seven-night Russian river cruise on the *MS Gorky* between Moscow and Kazan in Jul 2014, on sale through the Russian Travel Centre, priced from \$1,789ppts. Phone 1300 668 844 for info.

GSR premium deals

GREAT Southern Rail has rolled out a range of special offers for premium class bookings on The Ghan and Indian Pacific, valid for travel between 01 Nov-30 Apr.

Offers include free flights, nights and inclusive tours when booking Platinum or Gold Service before the end of the year.

Free flights are available from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Darwin, Adelaide and Perth, and up to three free nights accom - see greatsouthernrail.com.au/fnt.

Niue \$200 credit offer

THE Pacific Island of Niue has released a series of stay/pay offers at select properties across the island, available for travel until 31 Mar 2014.

Niue Tourism Bureau is backing the promotion, providing visitors a NZ\$200 credit per room which can be put towards a tour, activity or souvenirs purchased at the Visitors Centre - for further info call Niue Tourism on 1300 13 NIUE.



Positions Available

Due to expansion and our recent success in acquiring new business, World Travel Professionals is looking for talented individuals to join our dynamic team in Sydney.

Proud of its numerous awards within the industry, World Travel Professionals is one of Australia's leading travel management companies, specialising in corporate travel, conference and event management and luxury travel.

We are currently seeking enthusiastic people, with a passion for the industry for the following positions:

- Multi-Skilled Corporate Consultant**
- Domestic Corporate Consultant**

With World Travel's superior technology solutions and industry leading proprietary systems, a good understanding of travel technology and online solutions will be a definite advantage.

In return for your knowledge, creativity and professional skills, we offer a great working environment and equally good salary package.

Confidential applications to:

Chrissi McDiarmid, Head of Operations

Email: chrissi.mcdiarmid@worldtravel.com.au



Citadines Sukhumvit 11 & 23
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*Promotion is valid till 30 Sep 2013, subject to availability and is inclusive of all local taxes & service charges. For booking, please email to enquiry.bangkok@the-ascott.com and quote **THTDA** to enjoy this promotion.

A decade of World of Accor



ACCOR is in the midst of rapid growth in the Asia-Pacific region, with almost half of the 38,000 new rooms opened last year located in the region.

Michael Issenberg, Accor Asia-Pacific chairman said the group views China, Indonesia and India as three of the fastest growing markets in the world today, with 52% of Accor's hotel pipeline in the Asia-Pacific region.

Short-term plans are for 200 hotels to be open in China, with 100 in Indonesia and a collective total of 700 in APAC by 2015.

Pullman Hotels is also continuing on its rapid growth curve, last year becoming the largest five-star brand operating in Australia, with 11 hotels and resorts nationwide.

Worldwide, there are a further 35 Pullman properties under development to add to the 42 already open, Australia inclusive.

"We're passionate about Australian tourism and our part growing the industry," Issenberg commented.

Further plans in the works include a collaboration agreement between Accor and Tourism Australia for a joint marketing program between Australia and Indonesia, which will also include Garuda Indonesia.

Accor Pacific chief operating officer Simon McGrath added that the amalgamation of the All Seasons, Formule 1 & Ibis brands

into three Ibis sub-divisions (Ibis Budget, Ibis & Ibis Styles) had also now been fully completed.

Last night celebrated the tenth anniversary of the group's annual World of Accor showcase, with hundreds in attendance, proving the event goes from strength to strength each year.

Held at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, World of Accor was once again the hottest ticket in town, attended by hundreds from the Australian travel industry as well as some of Australia's most popular, enduring and most loved celebrities from TV and music.

Serving as dual MC's for the night were Channel 7 personalities Melissa Doyle & Matthew White, with the highlight act being a show-stopping performance of Motown classics by the Las Vegas-based supergroup Human Nature.

Added sparkle to the event was the continued support of Peugeot, who once again provided a brand new Peugeot Allure 208 to give away, with the lucky winner drawn as Lisa Warnes from Optus, one of Accor's top corporate clients.

More coverage from World of Accor in Monday's *Travel Daily*.

Pictured from left at the event is Accor Pacific coo Simon McGrath, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth gm Erkin Aytekin, Accor Asia-Pacific director of communications Gaynor Reid and Accor Asia-Pacific chairman Michael Issenberg.

Get to know TIME

FOUNDER of the Travel Industry Mentor Experience Penny Spencer has released a new video to answer any questions about the program - www.bit.ly/timeqs.

Happy Swiss National Day!



FIREWORKS were set off all across Switzerland yesterday as the small European nation celebrated Swiss National Day, which marks the inauguration of the nation back in the year 1291. Australia also joined in the party, with a select group of guests invited to partake in a number of Swiss delicacies at a special dinner in Sydney last night.

Across the table were pots of cheese fondue - one of the Swiss national dishes, with plenty of bread and potatoes for dipping.

Imported Swiss wines were flowing, along with slices of panettone for dessert - ensuring nobody in the room left hungry.

Additionally, the event served as the official introduction of the Swiss Mountain Peak Pass, which

will be released for sale at the beginning of next year, bookable up to three months in advance.

The add-on pass offers visitors to Switzerland already holding a valid Swiss Pass with unlimited access to trains and cable cars servicing eight lesser known peaks at varying times of the year.

These include Mt Allalin, Mt Briener Rothorn, Mt Cardada, Mt Corvatsch, Mt Niesen, Mt Rochers-de-Naye, Mt Säntis and Mt Stanserhorn.

A four-day consecutive pass is priced from AU\$35, with an eight day ticket costing \$71 per person.

Pictured at the celebration above from left is Leigh Dryden from wine experts Decante This, Evelyn Lafone and Birgit Weingartner, Switzerland Tourism.

SICEEP consultation

INFRASTRUCTURE NSW is advising Darling Harbour Live will hold community forums in Sydney next week to gauge public feedback on the Sydney Int'l Convention, Exhibition & Entertainment Precinct (SICEEP).

Discussion points include the International Convention Centre Sydney, the Exhibition Centre & Theatre and the preliminary plans for the project's new hotel.

Feedback will be taken at events hosted in Pyrmont between 12:30-2pm and 5:30-7pm at the Harlequinn Inn on Wed 07 Aug and the same times in Haymarket at the Holiday Inn Darling Harbour on Thu 08 Aug.

Contact Darling Harbour Live by Tue 06 Aug to RSVP to attend on 1300 799 026.

TRAVELtech regos

EARLYBIRD registrations for this year's TRAVELtech conference will close next week on 09 Aug.

In 2013, the event has been expanded from one to two days and is themed 'Reboot'.

A huge list of guest speakers will present during the conference, including Amadeus IT Pacific md Tony Carter, Cruise1st.com.au gm Carl Frier, Travelzoo md Paul Marshall, Sabre Pacific cio Mark Mison and Australian Tourism Data Warehouse ceo Liz Ward.

TRAVELtech is being held 12 & 13 Sep at the Sheraton on the Park, Sydney, with the earlybird rate \$499+GST for one-day and \$649+GST for a two-day pass.

More at www.bit.ly/TTreboot.

DOT seeks TN answers

THE US Dept of Transportation has called on Air France, KLM & Delta Air Lines to provide further information on a proposal to add Air Tahiti Nui to its transatlantic alliance (**TD** 16 Apr), questioning what the airlines expect to happen to prices and capacity.

Le Meridien back in LA

SANTA Monica's Sheraton Delfina Hotel will be rebranded as a Le Meridien as part of a renovation project to be carried out on the property's 310 rooms.

The move sees the Le Meridien name return to the Los Angeles region for the first time since the closing of the Le Meridien Beverley Hills in 2007.

Toyota 86 with Hertz

HERTZ Australia is rolling out the Toyota 86 two-seater sports car to its Adrenaline Collection, available from Sydney, Melbourne & Brisbane airport & city depots.

The muscle car is part of the Hertz Make & Model Guarantee.

Technology Update

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

Good deeds for those in need



At Amadeus, we are not always about technology and customers; we like to give back to the community

too. This year, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a big focus for us. Amadeus has 138 CSR initiatives in 45 countries. Our team in Australia and New Zealand have been active in supporting the Cancer Council and Variety charities and we are also making an extra effort to make sure that our carbon footprint stays small. In fact, we have just published our **Corporate Sustainability Report** that tells you about our activities by downloading it here.

One of the events we are supporting this year is the NSW Variety Bash. One of our star employees, Gena Signorini, Key Accounts Manager for Amadeus IT Pacific will be entering this year's Variety Bash to raise funds to help empower children with special needs. Together with Lido/AADX+ and QBT, Amadeus is a joint sponsor of Gena's car as they travel over 4,500km in just nine days.

In 2012, NSW Variety raised over \$6M that helped over 12,500 children across NSW alone. Last week Gena's Team and her sponsors did their bit by hosting a fantastic travel industry trivia night that raised an additional \$1800- and I would be remiss in not mentioning that an Amadeus team took first place!

If you like to support Gena's Teams' Variety Bash please [click here](#) to visit their site.

Tony Carter, Managing Director, Amadeus IT Pacific

amadeus
Your technology partner



Travel Specials

WELCOME to Travel Specials, **Travel Daily's** Fri feature. 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.

Incredible industry rates are available at Jumeirah properties in London including the **Jumeirah Lowndes Hotel**, **Jumeirah Carlton Tower** & the **Grosvenor House Apartments by Jumeirah**. Up to 50% off Best Available Rates and bonus commissions for agents are on offer, with valid travel dates applicable. Email reservations@jumeirah.com for details.

Novotel Pacific Bay Coffs Harbour has partnered with the Cheese Making Workshop at Emerald Beach to launch a special Cheese Making package valid for travel until the end of 2013, priced from \$229.50 per person. The offer includes overnight accom, breakfast and a five-hour cheese making class. See www.pacificbayresort.com.au for more details.

Festival season in Byron Bay is nearly here, and **Breakfree Eco Beach** is gearing up with a Stay Longer & Save deal valid for bookings of three nights or more from \$144 per night. Visit www.breakfree.com.au for info.

QFLink SYD switch

QANTASLINK has today confirmed that effective from 15 Aug, its passengers will arrive and depart from Sydney Airport Terminal 3.

The move was exclusively revealed in **TD** earlier this year (**TD** 29 Jan), with the carrier saying that "bringing Qantas domestic flights and QantasLink together in the one terminal at Sydney Airport is a major milestone" which will improve the customer experience as well as on-time performance.

It will also give eligible pax access to the T3 Qantas Club and Qantas Business Lounge, kiosks and the Faster, Smarter Check-In system.

Coachella on sale

CONTIKI has launched a new six-day package incorporating the Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival in Palm Springs in 2014.

The We ♥ Coachella itinerary is priced from \$1,795pp, and includes a 3-day festival pass, five nights hotel accom, daily brekkie, some dinners and more.

Departures are scheduled for 09 and 16 Apr - see contiki.com.

ZQN backs conditions

QUEENSTOWN Airport has pledged its support for Tasman capacity conditions suggested by the ACCC for the pending reauthorisation of the Virgin Australia/Air New Zealand pact.

Novotel CHC opening

ACCOR'S 154-room Novotel Christchurch Cathedral Square will now reopen on 19 Aug (one day later than originally planned) in a further boost to the city.

Night at a Museum with UA/JTG

OVER 200 Jetset Travelworld Group members from across the network of brands were hosted along with United Airlines to a special evening at the Australian Museum recently.

Special entertainment was provided on the night, with Phoenix, African Beat and DJCassette mixing some beats for the agents to rock out to all night long.

Attendees were winners of an incentive conducted for the group by United Airlines, with gift vouchers and opportunities to attend the party up for grabs for every UA ticket issued.

Prizes of return Business First and Economy Class tickets to LAX or SFO were on offer to three attendees chosen on the night.

Pictured above transported to New York City for a brief second at the event from left is Eliana Martinez, United Airlines; Rob Gurney, Jetset Travelworld Group; Alison Espley, United Airlines; Chris Petty, United Airlines and Paul Hollingshead from JTG.



TA to brief Canberra

TOURISM Australia will host its annual half-day briefing session, offering an overview into the organisation's activity, market insights and more in Canberra on 26 Sep from 9am - midday.

The free-of-charge event is held in conjunction with the Department of Tourism as well as Tourism Research Australia, and also provide an progress update on the Tourism 2020 strategy.

For more details or to register, see www.bit.ly/tacbrbriefing.

New Dusit golf resort

LAGUNA Hospitality has signed a joint venture deal with the Dusit International Group to develop a new urban resort in Singapore.

The planned Dusit Thani Resort will be located within the 36-hole Laguna National Golf Club approx 20 mins from the CBD with a view to be promoted as a city resort.

Currently scheduled to be open in 2015, the property will offer 200 guest rooms, four restaurants, meeting & conference space, pools, gym and a spa.

DL shuttles LAX-SFO

DELTA Air Lines will expand its Delta Shuttle operation to a new hourly service between Los Angeles and San Francisco from 03 Sep, the carrier has announced.

An additional 14 daily flights will be added to the schedule in order to facilitate the new service, with flights departing at the top of the hour from 7am Monday to Friday.

Services will be operated by Delta Connection partner carrier Compass Airlines utilising 76-passenger Embraer E-175 jets.

WIN A HOLIDAY TO PERU



Throughout August **Travel Daily** is giving readers the chance to win a holiday for two people to Peru, courtesy of Aerolíneas Argentinas and Peregrine Adventures.

The prize includes two return economy airfares on Aerolíneas Argentinas between Sydney and Lima via Buenos Aires and Peregrine Amazon & Inca Heartland tour for two people.

Each day **Travel Daily** will ask a Peru-related question - just read the issue and email us your answer. At the end of the month the subscriber with the most correct entries and the most creative response to the final question will win this amazing holiday to Peru.

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

Q.2: When was the breathtaking citadel of Machu Picchu rediscovered by Hiram Bingham?

Hint:

<http://www.peregrineadventures.com>

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There has never been a better time to move into wholesale. If you are an experienced travel consultant looking to move away for face to face consulting & fine tune your skills to become a destination specialist then this is the role for you. Responding to incoming phone and email enquiries, you will be assisting to create and book complete holiday packages for your clients. With the potential to earn a generous salary package, be offered sensational famils and work in a young & social team then now is the time to jump into wholesale!

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