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Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 28th August 2013

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Rail Plus Great brox

GREAT Southern Rail's iconic three-day Ghan & four-day Indian Pacific rail trips has been added to Rail Plus' just released 2014 Great Train Journeys program.

Also new to the program is the seven-night Royal Rajasthan on Wheels journey in India, Pullman Rail Journey from Chicago to New Orleans in the US, and Orient-Express' Oracella which tracks its way across parts of Myanmar.

Sales & Marketing Executive

A Sydney-based hotel representation company seeks a talented Sales & Marketing Executive who enjoys challenge and can multi task.

Applicants need hotel or wholesale travel industry experience.

The role includes assisting the GM & Director with contracting, famils, reports and general office administration.

Email CV and cover letter to liz@randallmarketing.com.au

New industry trade show

THE Australian travel industry will next year have a new forum for information, networking, education & updates in the form of The Travel Industry Exhibition (**TD** breaking news), a new B2B show which is scheduled to take place in the lead-up to the 2014 National Travel Industry Awards.

The event, organised by Exhibitions and Trade Fairs (ETF), will be co-located with the NTIA, at the Royal Hall of Industries in Moore Park, Sydney - adjacent to the Hordern Pavilion where the 2014 NTIA will take place.

The Travel Industry Exhibition is expected to provide a showcase for suppliers from across the industry to engage with key

distribution partners, and as well as exhibitor booths the show will feature an educational seminar program including the latest details of the Travel Industry Transition Plan and the new AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme, along with other supplier updates.

Bookings for participation at The Travel Industry Exhibition have opened today, with a full website giving details of the floorplan at www.travelindustryexpo.com.au.

ETF spokesman Pascal Ibrahim said "we are thrilled to be working with a fantastic line-up of partners, bringing together key stakeholders in the Australian travel industry under one roof for an inspiring event."

TD is also partnering in the event, which will take place on Fri and Sat 18-19 Jul 2014.

What a ripper issue!

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

- AA Appointments jobs
- TMS

More movie tickets

FIVE more double passes to *The Best Offer* are up for grabs today courtesy of the Italian State Tourist Board, with yesterday's winners including Tori Matheson of HWT Caloundra; Mandy Finlayson from WOW Travel; Krystal Davidson of Tramada; Jay Bassi from Flight Centre; and Ki Gibson of Travelworld Blackwood.

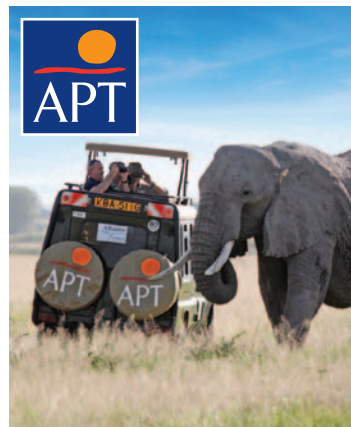
To win today's prizes, be one of the first five readers to answer this question:

Name one of the countries that The Best Offer was filmed in.

Email your answers asap to italycomp@traveldaily.com.au.

Accor gets a new ceo

ACCOR has announced the appointment of Sebastien Bazin, from investment group Colony Capital, as its new Chairman and ceo, replacing interim head Yann Caillere who has been acting in the role since Apr after the departure of Denis Hennequin.



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Toxa Tassie addition

THE 4-star Quality Hotel Hobart Airport will be rebranded as Travelodge Hotel Hobart Airport effective 01 Oct after Toxa Hotels acquired the 78-room property.

Toxa ceo Rachel Argaman said the group's second hotel in the Apple Isle offers "fantastic value & convenience for both our business and leisure guests."

The property is only four years old and is located 500m adjacent to the airport terminal.

In Feb, Toxa acquired its first hotel in Tasmania, the 131-room freshly refurbished Travelodge Hotel Hobart in the city's CBD.

MAS triples Sydney

MALAYSIA Airlines is continuing to boost its Australian capacity, yesterday announcing a ramped expansion of Sydney services to three flights per day.

Currently double daily, MH will boost SYD-KUL to 18 per week from 21 Nov 13, growing further to 21 effective 05 Nov 2014.

The additional services will be operated using a 777-200 with 35 business class seats and 245 in economy; MH142 will depart SYD at 0850, arriving in KUL at 1415.

JTG to spend up to \$40m

JETSET Travelworld Group will invest as much as \$40 million on its helloworld rebranding project, with new look stores and an online platform set to commence operations before the end of the year (**TD** breaking news).

The company yesterday unveiled its results for the year to 30 Jun, including an 8% drop in TTV to \$5.18 billion and "Adjusted EBITDAI" up 8% to \$54.6 million.

The after-tax profit was \$16.5 million - three times the \$5.5m figure reported last year.

CEO Rob Gurney said the results 'reflect a continued focus...on margin management, cost reduction and efficiency measures in a market that continues to experience a decline in average selling prices across both domestic and international air product'.

He said trading conditions in the second half of the financial year had improved, with some of the decline attributable to a reduction in trading volumes transacted in the Travel Management segment through the accounts held with government agencies.

Overall operating costs for JTG also declined 10%, and Gurney said the company expects to see an improved result in Wholesale as the business "continues to realise the benefits of the restructuring and productivity improvement initiatives".

MEANWHILE, the ongoing transformation of the business has so far incurred \$10.8 million in non-recurring expenditure.

Of the \$35m-\$40m to be further invested, the brand relaunch and store renewal program will account for about 50%.

One-quarter of the total will go to "multichannel and online development"; a further 19% will contribute to cost reduction initiatives in Wholesale and Travel Management; and 6% will be spent on project management and change support activities.

Gurney said that the long term strategy for JTG is "firmly focused on growing a strong position in the market by better leveraging the scale of the Group, building on customer insights and delivering new and innovative products to meet changing needs".

KMP turnover at JTG

THE Jetset Travelworld Limited annual report reveals the turmoil within the group's senior ranks over the last year, with four of the nine "Key Management Personnel" in the remuneration report having left the company.

These include former ceo Peter Lacaze, who the report reveals received \$751,271 in termination benefits and \$205,188 in salary; former group GM wholesale Michael Londregan whose salary package was \$372,890; former GM of QBT David Hughes who received \$345,045 and former Group gm Online Gary Elliott, whose package was \$264,606.

Current executives listed in the report include ceo Rob Gurney whose package amounted to \$1.556 million; coo and cfo Elizabeth Gaines who received \$1.29 million; Russell Carstensen, group gm Air Services & QBT whose package was worth \$847,024; gm Corporate Affairs Andrea Slark whose package was \$453,375; and Travelscene Amex ceo Mike Thompson who received \$447,625.

JTG non-executive directors were also paid a total of \$887,361.



DELTA

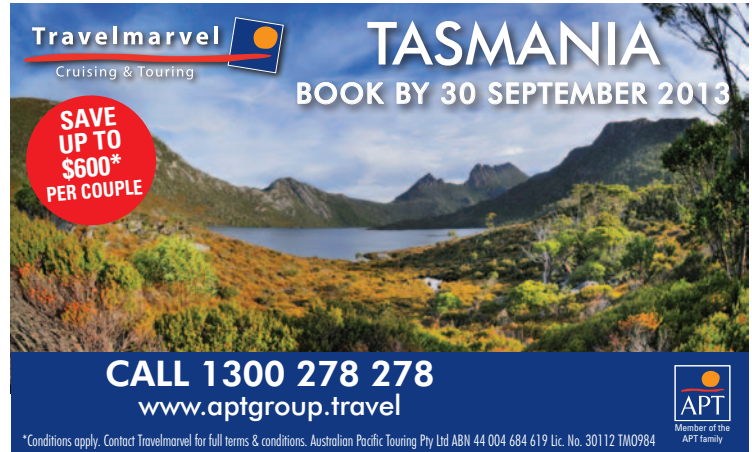
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Cover-More may list on ASX

COVER-MORE Travel Insurance has confirmed the possibility of a public float, but says that any IPO will not take place during 2013.

The statement came in response to speculation, including a report from merchant bank JP Morgan that said majority owner Crescent Capital Partners is "likely to seek a path to monetisation in the next 6-12 months" (*TD* yesterday).

Cover-More ceo Peter Edwards told *TD* listing on the ASX, when it happens, "would make Cover-More the first and only Australian travel insurance provider to list on the Australian Stock Exchange, ensuring that profits made in Australia, stayed in Australia.

"Cover-More is a highly successful, specialist travel insurance and medical assistance company and we are poised for another decade of strong, profitable growth through international expansion and diversification to support the

customer experience," he said.

Crescent Capital md Michael Alscher said the company did not currently have a clear view on when it would exit its investment in Cover-More, with the business performing well.

"The business has and continues to perform strongly and our investment could extend for some time into the future," he told *Travel Daily*.

Excite activities active

TRAVEL agent only wholesaler Excite Holidays is reporting a massive 530% year-on-year increase in bookings for activities for the first six months of 2013.

Among the top activity picks booked via Excite is sightseeing in the Grand Canyon, Alcatraz, the volcanoes and national parks in Hawaii, Versailles, 4x4 Dubai Desert Safari and hop-on, hop-off tours in New York & London.

Hayman not for sale

MULPHA Australia, the owner of Hayman Island in the Whitsundays, has dismissed suggestions that the iconic property has been sold, after a number of incorrect reports emerged yesterday.

A spokesperson told *TD* that Mulpha, which also owns IHG properties in Sydney and on the Gold Coast, is "strongly committed to the Australian tourism sector" and has no intention of selling Hayman.

Mulpha wasn't able to comment on speculation of talks with South Africa-based Kerzner group, which owns the upmarket One&Only hotel brand as well as Dubai's Atlantis The Palm resort.

A *Financial Review* report yesterday claimed Hayman would close for three months from Jan for "further renovations".

However yesterday Hayman exec gm sales & marketing, Anna Guillan, foreshadowed a "special announcement" on 10 Sep.



Window Seat

KEEN observers in Sydney's Crown Street could be forgiven for thinking a brand new hotel brand had popped up overnight.

But alas, it is instead a rather clever effort by Toga Hospitality, who is paying tribute to Dad's everywhere ahead of Father's Day this weekend by renaming the property, the DAdina.

The hotel is encouraging kids everywhere to treat their dad to the ultimate 'mancation' for Father's Day, with bookings made before 03 Sep all but guaranteed to make Dad's day!

Priced from \$210 per night, the deal includes one night's accom, a Hudson's meat pack and a six-pack of beer, for stays before 30 Nov this year.

To make a booking, phone (02) 8302 1000 and quote the codeword "DAdina Day".

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APT set for strong future

APT has implemented a new structure in recent months with the aim of ensuring the fast growing company continues to keep to its core ethos and family values.

There's a lot going on within APT, with the company evolving its product range and equity positions with suppliers in cruise, rail, river cruise and tour operations.

Yesterday APT ceo Chris Hall and head of sales Deb Fox visited the TD offices in Sydney (above), with Hall confirming that former JTG ceo Peter Lacaze is now chairman of an overarching group board.

The management of each business unit, which include brands such as APT, Captain's Choice and Topdeck, reports to its own individual board that



includes some group directors.

APT also has investments in suppliers including river cruise operator AmaWaterways, Kimberley Wilderness Camps & Lodges, Russian rail operator Golden Eagle - plus small ship cruise firm Noble Caledonia, which will shortly undertake its first ever Australian departure.

Hall and Fox also confirmed that APT would shortly release a brand new standalone USA program, building on the long success of its operations in Canada and Alaska.

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Vale Bill Peach

THE Australian travel industry is mourning the loss of the founder of Bill Peach Journeys, journalist and travel doyen Bill Peach.

Over 30 years, Peach hosted travellers on his private luxury tours around the country & world.

He was also a presenter of ABC's *This Day Tonight* in the 1960s and produced a documentary series dubbed *Peach's Australia*.

The accomplished writer also published ten books and was awarded the Order of Australia for his services to the Australian media and tourism.

Peach passed away yesterday morning in Sydney surrounded by family after a short illness.

"Bill was an amazing man, whose passion for travelling in Australia never swayed, whose zest for life was incredible. He will be greatly missed by all those who have worked and travelled with him," Bill Peach Journeys said in a statement.

SICEEP tourism hub

THE newly approved Sydney International Convention, Exhibition and Entertainment Precinct will "reinforce Sydney's image as a tourist destination," according to its developers.

The comment was made in the NSW Govt's Director General's Recommendation Assessment Report of the \$1 billion project.

It also discloses that the hours of operation of the Exhibition Centre's Event Deck and 'Oxygen Lounge' are limited to 7am-10pm.

"The delivery of an international standard and multi-functional exhibition, convention and entertainment facilities is a key goal identified in the NSW 2021 - 10 year plan and will reinforce Darling Harbour's role as a major entertainment and recreation precinct," the report concluded.

Other documents also reveal Sydney's IMAX theatre, located near the SICEEP, will be redeveloped between 2014-16.

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'Qantas Cash' card out

QANTAS and MasterCard today rolled out the new Qantas Frequent Flyer membership card (**TD** 20 Feb) which enables users to store foreign currency, access cash worldwide from ATMs and accrue points when shopping in Australia or abroad.

A whopping 500,000 Qantas Frequent Flyers (QFFF) had pre-registered for the chip-enabled card which will be dispensed to customers this week.

QF ceo Alan Joyce said the new MasterCard's 'Qantas Cash' concept - which allows members to load funds and lock-in exchange rates - has "really struck a chord" with QFFF customers.

"When you consider all the different things it does, this really is the Swiss Army knife of cards," Joyce reiterated again today.

Points are earned on eligible transactions at a rate of 1 Qantas Point per \$1 spent in foreign currency or 1 Qantas Point per \$2 spent in Australian dollars.

\$51m profit for Wotif Group

ONLINE agency Wotif.com this morning revealed a 12% drop in its full year profit (**TD** breaking news), with the figures particularly hit by weak performance in Asia.

The company also wrote off \$1.8 million in the value of some of its domain names.

Accommodation room nights sold in Australia and NZ were stable, while Asia and Rest of World bookings fell \$3.3m.

CEO Scott Blume said the flights business had been a "standout performer," with its TTV rising 16.1% to \$136.8 million, and contributing \$15.1m in revenue.

"However these revenue gains have been offset by a continued deterioration in Asia and Rest of World business volumes".

He said costs grew \$9.1m, partly due to a deliberate decision to continue to invest in marketing and technology "to give us a solid base for the future".

Blume said Wotif has "solid plans in place" around packaging, mobile and customer reviews, with the company also set to implement its previously announced commission increase to 12% which will be rolled out effective from Jan next year.

"Although the Australian retail environment continues to be problematic, I am confident that we have the right plan in place to improve the overall business and financial performance for the Group in the coming year".

Blume confirmed that mobile devices now provide 33% of all traffic across the group, delivering 17% of Wotif.com room nights.

During 2012/13 Wotif boosted its directly contracted portfolio to 27,380 properties, up 18%.

DOT full flight reveal

AMERICAN travel agencies must disclose all available and possible flight options matching a consumer's request under new guidelines issued by the US Department of Transportation.

The new rules aim to prevent any misleading of consumers by agents utilising internet flight search software who may limit results only to preferred carriers & advising that no other options for the route sought are available.

According to the American Society of Travel Agents, the DOT will regard an agent not marketing an available air service but instead advising nothing was available as engaging in misleading or deceptive conduct.

The DOT has provided a 90-day window for all agencies to adhere to the new guidelines.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

Harvey World Travel is seeking experienced, successful and enthusiastic Travel Professionals to join the Company Agency team. We have fantastic opportunities for retail travel agency **Managers** in Townsville and Sydney, as well as a number of **Senior Travel Consultant** roles in QLD, NSW and the ACT.

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For a confidential discussion, please call Alex on **0434 657 737** or email alexandra.serwinska@harveyworld.com.au

Applications close on **08 September 2013**



Sales & Marketing Coordinator

Vietnam Airlines is looking for a highly motivated sales professional to join its sales & marketing team. It is a full time position based at its Sydney CBD office.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Sales reporting;
- Analyzing of market activities and initiatives to enhance the Company's position in the market;
- Coordination of sales meetings & presentations;
- Coordination of sponsorship/media requests;
- Development of comprehensive database for media, VFR agents, tour operators & corporate clients.

The successful candidate will have the following skills and attributes:

- Minimum of 2 years experience in the airline/travel industry with a business development or marketing background.
- Working knowledge of GDS and Sabre in particular;
- Good knowledge and experience in pricing and fare distribution;
- Strong communication and presentation skills.
- The ability to work under pressure, unsupervised and within a team.

To apply please email your resume to vnaustralia@vietnamair.com.au by Monday 2nd September, 2013.

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SQ lifts dancers to new heights



LAST night Singapore Airlines hosted some industry guests to an exclusive Sydney Dance Company performance.

Featuring songstress Katie Noonan along with musicians from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the event was the premiere performance of *Les Illuminations*, a sensual showcase of duet dances set to the music of Benjamin Britten, with public shows to commence tonight.

Choreographed by artistic director Rafael Bonachela, *Les Illuminations* is a stunning 45 minute boutique performance set on a small catwalk-like stage in the intimate Studio at the Sydney Opera House.

It was accompanied by haunting vocals from Noonan in her second collaboration with the

Sydney Dance Company, singing words from a suite of romantic poems by French poet Arthur Rimbaud.

Singapore Airlines has a close association with the Sydney Dance Company (**TD** 24 Feb 12), and is this year once again the group's Official Airline Sponsor.

The Company is about to set off on a major tour, with 13 shows in six countries planned including venues in South America, the USA, Russia and Mexico where they will perform *2 One Another*.

Pictured above at a post show reception in the foyer last night are, from left: Bryony Duncan-Smith, Singapore Airlines and Sharon Lam from the Singapore Tourism Board with Katie Noonan and Charmene Yap, one of the amazing dancers in the show.

Due to the continued expansion of Asia Escape Holidays we seek the following:

1 x Sales Executive
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The role will require you to:

- Conduct regular sales calls to our retail travel agents
- Run product training seminars
- Increase brand awareness of Asia Escape Holidays
- Meet & exceed sales targets

Applicants must have strong product knowledge of Asian destinations.

Please forward cover letter and CV to:
sally@asiaescapeholidays.com

Applications close: 10th September 2013



Phnom Penh fire

THE Juliana Phnom Penh Hotel has been closed for at least a month after a fire broke out last weekend, causing damage to the restaurant and front office along with nearby rooms.

There were no casualties, with local ground handler Destination Asia reporting that all customers were moved to the nearby Cambodiana Hotel at no additional charge.

Repairs will take place over the next few weeks, with the aim of reopening again on 01 Oct.

Destination Asia Cambodia says customers with confirmed reservations in Sep will be automatically rebooked to the Cambodiana Hotel.

P&O calls backing up

P&O Cruises Australia is utilising social media to remind cruise-only passengers that e-tickets are not mandatory for ship boarding.

The cruise line this week used Facebook to inform the public of the condition, at the same time reporting it was experiencing "lengthy call wait times" through to its call centres.

TN tick for NZ c'share

AIR Tahiti Nui has been given a green light by the US Dept of Transportation to allow American Airlines to codeshare on its flights from Los Angeles to Auckland, via Papeete, for an indefinite period.

Hahn adds QC & 8R

HAHN Air has added the flag-carrier of Cameroon, Camair-Co (QC), and Argentinian airline Sol Linea Aereas (8R) as e-ticketing partners, effective immediately.

QC operates out of Douala Int'l Airport and 8R is home-based at Rosario Airport.

Greek Island discount

TEMPO Holidays is offering savings of up to 20% on select 2014 Greek Island Cruises, including the eight-day Jewels of the Cyclades - now priced from \$1,589ppts - if booked by 31 Jan.



National Sales Manager

Globetrotter Corporate Travel is an award-winning business travel agency dedicated to providing innovative travel solutions to our enviable client base. Our reputation is built on listening to our clients' needs, understanding their specific requirements and delivering tailored business travel solutions.

This high profile national role requires someone who holds a proven track record in sourcing and winning new business in this market. To be successful you will thrive on managing and motivating your team to sell a high end service to decision makers in medium sized corporations across a variety of industries.

As part of the leadership team you will provide strategic direction, hold and nurture relationships with key industry members and drive revenue growth.

In addition you will hold key strengths in the following areas:

- Delivering individual and team targets
- Corporate Travel industry experience and contacts
- Acting as a role model for your team
- Leading a team across three states
- Implementing and executing strategies

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Qld plan Ecotourism roadmap

A NEW vision encompassing five key guidelines on how to leverage the benefits of Queensland's existing tourism structure whilst protecting and conserving natural environments has been released.

The final Ecotourism Plan 2013-2020 was released by National Parks Minister Steve Dickson and Tourism Minister Jann Stuckey at the DestinationQ forum, which wraps up today on the Gold Coast.

Detailed in the plan are sets of guidelines under which operators, regulators, community and stakeholders must abide in terms of how the sector is developed.

In the compiling of the plan, Dickson said resource protection and conservation was critical to maintaining Qld's natural values.

A total of 43 key actions, to be delivered over three years makes up the plan's core (TD 18 Apr).

Five key priorities are outlined in the plan, among which are efforts for encouraging innovation for new world-class experiences,

raising the state's nature-based profile, promoting new operations and maintaining links between the industry and the traditional owners of the land.

Stuckey said the execution of the plan had the full support of both government and industry.

"The Plan is an excellent demonstration of the strong partnership between government departments & industry to deliver Queensland as a world leader in ecotourism," Stuckey said.

Queensland Tourism Industry Council chairman Shane O'Reilly said a strategy of compulsory accreditation was supported by tour operators already working or seeking to work in national parks.

"Many tour operators base their experiences on the natural environment, and it is critical that industry works closely with government & other stakeholders to ensure we maximise this opportunity," O'Reilly added - see the plan at www.npsr.qld.gov.au.

Qld bouncing back

QLD Premier Campbell Newman says the recent implementation of a 12-month action plan to boost tourism was starting to pay dividends.

Speaking at the DestinationQ forum on the Gold Coast this week, Newman said 25 points in the action plan which were devised by both government and industry had now been delivered.

"Not only has there been more visitors to Queensland, but they are spending more when they get here," Newman stated.

MEANWHILE, the Qld Govt has announced it is prepared to contribute \$750,000 to lure a tourism operator to establish a new eco-venture in the World Heritage Listed Green Mountains, in the Lamington National Park.

Tourism & Major Events Minister Jann Stuckey said the funding would go to an operator able to offer a range of experiences in the park, known for its colourful birdlife and dense rainforest.

Submission guidelines can be found at www.npsr.qld.gov.au, with entries open until 29 Nov.

Latest TCF sign ups

SIX new travel agency head offices have joined the Travel Compensation Fund so far in Aug, four of which are in NSW.

The new entities include Zhong Tong Bus Holdings of Sydney, Great Adventure Travel of Blacktown and Macphersons Coaches of Tamworth.

Other new head offices include Perfect Tours Australia of Surfers Paradise in Qld and Kimberley Boat Cruises of Bibra Lake in WA.

MEANWHILE, Garuda Indonesia has registered a branch location at Brisbane International Airport following its resumption of direct flights to the Queensland capital earlier this month - see page 8.

High costs stymie Aus

CONCERNS over affordability of a holiday to Canada was one of the major factors cited for a slowing-down of arrivals from down-under, according to Canada's Global Tourism Watch.

The report noted that Aussies still considered Canada to be a beautiful and friendly country to visit, however other preferred destinations such as NZ, the UK & US prevented making the journey.

Travel agents also factored highly in Australians choosing a Canada holiday, with 50% saying they would consult an expert.



Sales Manager Greater China (China, Hong Kong & Taiwan)

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Captain Cook Cruises, Australia's leading Cruise Company and part of the SeaLink Travel Group is seeking an energetic, highly motivated Sales Manager Greater China. This is an exciting role for those who enjoy a busy, challenging environment and are eager to use their proven B2B skills within their own and existing networks to build relationships and sales revenues across a broad range of culturally unique markets.

The Sales Manager Greater China is responsible for increasing and maintaining sales revenue for Captain Cook Cruises for Sydney, Murray River and SeaLink for Kangaroo Island, Adelaide, Darwin and Queensland in the markets of China, Hong Kong & Taiwan as well as maintaining key sales relationships with Australian based Inbound Tour Operators and key Distribution Partners.

Experience in dealing across a range of Asian markets, you will possess strong networks with travel distribution partners across markets as well as an understanding of distribution channels and working with our reservations and hospitality departments to deliver world class customer service. You will be sales driven and with an ability to work within a sales budget framework.

The successful applicant will have:

- Demonstrated business and sales development skills
- A minimum of 3 – 5 years in the tourism industry
- Ability to write and execute a sales development plan
- Excellent organizational skills & communication skills (written and verbal)
- Proficiency in all aspects of Microsoft Office is essential
- Understanding of a CRM system
- Understanding of international distributions partners and systems
- Able to work with minimal supervision and a team player
- Experience in making presentations to individuals and groups
- Mandarin language skills
- Ability to travel internationally and domestically

Apply by email to Richard Doyle – Head of International Sales & Marketing at sales@captaincook.com.au by Friday 6 September, 2013. Please include CV and cover letter.



Group Travel Consultant

An opportunity exists within our Australasian Group Sales team based in Sydney for a customer focused and results driven individual to join us as Group Travel Consultant.

Reporting to the Sales Operations Manager, you will be responsible for providing efficient customer service to our key trade partners in relation to group quotes and bookings.

To be considered, please apply online via our careers website careers.airnz.co.nz searching by the job code 106109TDA. For more information, contact Neha Bhardwaj on +64 9 336 2461.

Applications for this position close Sunday, 1 September 2013.

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\$35K/night Royal Suite

THE St Regis Saadiyat Island Resort in Abu Dhabi is now taking bookings for the largest suite in the United Arab Emirates.

Boasting four bedrooms and its own study, mini-cinema and game room, spa treatment room and sauna, a full living & dining room and a Steniway grand piano, the 22,600sqf Royal Suite is priced at the princely sum of AED130,000 (US\$35,000) a night.

PH joins SiteMinder

BRITISH hotel group PH Hotels has partnered with SiteMinder's global distribution platform to boost its online presence.

PH Hotels has a portfolio of 22 hotels, country estates and conference venues in England, Wales and Scotland, along with a chateau in France.

WIN TICKETS TO TRAVELTECH



This week **Travel Daily** is giving one lucky winner the chance to win a double two-day pass to **TRAVELtech** valued at \$1500.

Get set for TRAVELtech: Reboot, a reinvention of Australia's original travel technology, distribution, e-commerce, digital marketing and web event. It's happening in Sydney on September 12 & 13, one and two-day tickets are available.

For more information on TRAVELtech [click here](#).

For your chance to win, email your answer to the below question by COB on Friday 30th August to: traveltech@traveldaily.com.au.

Describe in 25 words or less what you think will be next big travel trend - and why.

The winner will be announced in **Travel Daily** next week.

Singapore F1 packages

SPORTSNET Holidays has four-night packages to the 2013 F1 SingTel Singapore Grand Prix next month which includes Grandstand race tickets and a Race Preview Lunch priced from \$2,595ppts.

The offer is valid for travel from 19-23 Sep and includes return airfares with Singapore Airlines from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Adelaide (add \$295 ex Perth), daily brekkie plus access to the Padang Main Stage for the after race concerts.

Details at www.bit.ly/SINF1deal.

WHV up 14% in '12/'13

WORKING Holiday Visas (WHV) granted to foreign citizens surged 14.2% for the year ending 30 Jun 2013, according to Department of Immigration data.

The figure continues positive growth in the program following a decline in 2009/10, building on the wider global economic situation as conditions in many partner countries remain uncertain, the Government says.

Visitors from the UK were the highest to be granted First Working Holiday visas, up 8.6% to over 38,780, followed by Korea at 29,600 - rising 8.1% compared to the same time last year.

Taiwanese WHV grants soared a whopping 57.6% to 28,600.

There were 38,860 Second Working Holiday Visas granted, an increase of 27.4%.

The document also confirms Australia is currently negotiating new Work & Holiday arrangements with 13 countries including Andorra, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Slovak Republic, Spain and Vietnam.

Jumeirah mates rates

TRAVEL industry professionals are being offered a 50% discount off Best Available Rates in London at Jumeirah Carlton Tower or Jumeirah Lowndes Hotel.

Similarly, the trade can take advantage of the deal at Jumeirah at Etihad Towers in Abu Dhabi for travel until 30 Sep, with rates priced at AED350++ (AU\$106++) per room per night.

For London requests, email JCTreservations@jumeirah.com or for Abu Dhabi bookings email JADreservations@jumeirah.com.

Garuda says "halo" to Brisbane



WELCOMED back to the Queensland capital city after five years away, Garuda Indonesia celebrated the return of services to Brisbane earlier this month at a glittering industry celebration.

Held at Brisbane's Gallery of Modern Art in the Southbank precinct, the airline hosted local agents and key partners, frequent flyers, special guests and local Garuda representatives.

The carrier again operates a full service non-stop services to Denpasar every day, utilising B737-800 NextGen aircraft.

Among the attendees was Queensland Tourism Minister Jann Stuckey, Minister for Trade

Tim Nicholls & GA vice president for Australia/SWP Bagus Y Siregar.

"We wanted to celebrate this momentous occasion with our valued passengers and partners showcasing our famous Indonesian service, the Garuda Indonesia Experience," Bagus said.

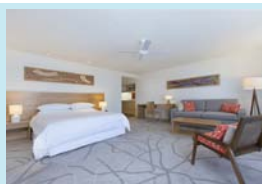
"We are very proud to offer our Queensland passengers a superior full service option to Indonesia and we're pleased to have seen such a strong response already," he added.

Bagus Y Siregar is **pictured** above with Qld Trade Minister Tim Nicholls and a group of Balinese dancers who performed for attendees on the night.



Accommodation Updates

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



The **Sheraton Noosa Resort and Spa** on the Sunshine Coast has unveiled the fruits of a \$10m renovation project which took an entire year to complete. All guest rooms, suites, villas, conference & restaurants were given a makeover, with the new look aimed at styling yet imparting a sense of calm. The building exterior was repainted, while a new Peter Kuruvita eatery was opened.



Located just minutes from the ocean, the quaint island of Niue in the South Pacific has opened its newest accommodation offering in the form of **The Matavai Villa**. The new property is next door to the Matavai Motel and boasts three spacious bedrooms, open plan living, full kitchen, BBQ and full laundry.

The new villa is aimed at families or as extra space to the existing hotel.



Perth's beachfront **Rendezvous Grand Hotel** has just completed a multi-million dollar upgrade project, with 336 redesigned guest rooms now able to be enjoyed. Refreshing works have been carried out on the Straits Cafe and Lobby Bar, as well as the installation of a new Club Lounge. Along with a modified Lobby, the property now also boasts state-of-the-art conference facilities.



AGENTS and suppliers from all over the NSW Central Coast turned out to two social events held last week by The Australian Domestic Symposium (ADS).

Kicking off the day in Wamberal, the wholesalers hosted a brekky expo for agents at the Breakers Country Club until 10:30am, with a pub-style trivia night held later that night at the Charlestown Bowling Club.

ADS is the instantly recognisable name given to a collective of wholesalers of Australian product, whose sales reps work together within NSW to highlight and promote the vast array and diversity of unique holiday experiences available in Australia.

The operations who form the group include Driveaway

Holidays, AAT Kings, APT, Captain Cook Cruises, Voyages Indigenous Tourism Australia, Coral Princess Cruises, Great Southern Rail, Hayman Island, Sunlover Holidays, Spirit of Tasmania and Cable Beach Club, Broome.

Approximately 90 retail agents turned up for both of the events, which in addition to plenty of information on Aussie tourism products, had two travel prizes to Cable Beach Club to give away.

Trivia was hosted by APT's witty and urbane NSW bdm Aaron Christian, with the Spanish musical talents of Driveway Holidays' Jose Solana Del Rio also entertaining guests.

The ADS sales representatives and agents attending the trivia evening are **pictured** above.

OTAs owe Hawaii \$3b

NINE online travel agents have been ordered to pay a combined US\$246m in back taxes relating to hotel sales revenue earned for the state over an 11-year period.

The sites, which included Orbitz, Expedia, Priceline and Travelocity, failed to pay the correct amount of taxes to the state of Hawaii (**TD** 29 Jan) for \$2.7 billion in hotel reservation takings earned between 2000 and 2011.

Included in the penalty is \$25 million in interest on the unpaid general excises taxes.

The HA Attorney General says it intends to appeal the ruling.

SYD connections bad

SYDNEY Airport has been rated the sixth worst airport of 42 global hubs for connecting on time to another flight.

According to the developer of a new Connect On Time app, pax need to allow a minimum of 1hr & 9mins getting from one gate to another at Sydney Airport.

Beijing Capital International (PEK), London Heathrow (LHR) and Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG) were rated the three worst airports, requiring 1hr & 20mins+ between flights, while Zurich (ZRH) was the best, with pax able to connect by as little as 10mins.

Discount to Indochina

COX & Kings Australia has reduced the price of its 19-day small group tour through Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia, which is already guaranteed to depart.

Leaving from Vientiane, the Grand Tour of Indochina itinerary is now priced from \$5,560ppts, departing on 15 Nov - for more details, phone 1300 836 764.

Hertz, Relais p'ship

THE Hertz Corporation has inked a three-year global deal with Relais & Chateaux which will see customers of both companies benefit from exclusive offers and preferential rates on car rentals and hotel stays, or when dining.

New distribution site

ONLINE hotel room inventory distribution software provider eRevMax has launched a brand new website to complement its renamed centralised XML solution.

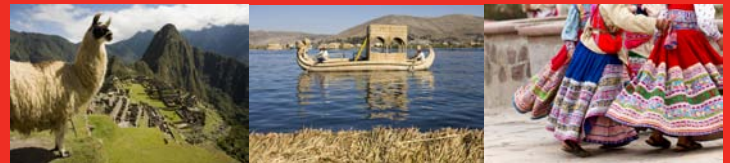
Now known as Connect, the new website provides a new public face for the program, which allows hotels to manage all of its online sales channels for rate and inventory distribution.

See www.erevconnect.com.

Biggest Holiday Inn

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group has announced it will open the world's largest Holiday Inn in Saudi Arabia in 2016 - the 1,238-room Holiday Inn Makkah.

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 Aerolineas Argentinas and Peregrine Adventures.

The prize includes two return economy airfares on Aerolineas 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.



Click here for Terms & Conditions

Q.20: True or False – Peruvian cuisine is one of the most varied in the world, with over 40,000 restaurants across the country, mixing its native traditions with the cuisines of Europe, Arabia, China, Africa and Japan?

Hint: <http://www.peru.travel>



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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GET DRESSED FOR SUCCESS AND START LIVING THE HIGH LIFE!

NIXON (pictured)

Naughtiest Deed: Making an outdoor plant an indoor plant Pet Hate: Phones ringing
Strangest Obsession: Having his hair blow dried Favourite Outdoor Activity: Playing at the beach
Favourite Indoor activity: Watching Beverley Hills Chihuahua No. 1

WORK BEHIND THE SCENES - CONTRACTING TEMPORARY CONTRACTING ASSISTANT SYDNEY - MON TO FRI ONLY

This award winning national company is looking for a contracts admin temp to join their friendly team in Head Office. Working in this growing department you will be responsible for data entry of contract information into the central reservations system, scanning contract documentation and posting agreements, Filing, and all other admin duties. Temp role for up to 3 months plus. Monday to Friday only plus get paid weekly! Step away from face to face & enjoy working behind the scenes. Apply today!

ACCOUNTS ROLE

CORPORATE TRAVEL COMPANY SYDNEY CBD - TEMP ROLE STARTING ASAP

Fantastic chance to work for a Global Travel company as an Accounts & Administration Clerk. Start ASAP working Monday - Friday on a temporary basis for 3 - 6 months. Duties will include managing travel accounts and financial reporting: assist with the preparation of processing invoices, chasing hotel payments relevant to accounting queries, liaise with the travel departments on financial transactions and queries. Fast paced, high volume travel and accounts related environment! Top hourly rate on offer!

THE CHOICE IS YOURS!

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

PERTH (STH) – SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$50K+ (DOE)

Two sensational retail roles have just been called in for Perth. With your previous travel consulting experience, this is your chance to take the next step in your career and develop your skills in retail travel. You will be offered fantastic benefits in return for your hard work and dedication to the role.

Sensational famils, continual product training and a generous salary are but some of the perks of what is on offer to the successful applicant. Contact AA Appointments today & tell us which role you would like to choose!

WHOLESALE ROLE READY TO BE FILLED

RESERVATIONS CONSULTANTS

MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$43K+ (DOE)

Have you ever thought about stepping into wholesale travel? Here is your chance. Wholesale travel offers you the opportunity to step away from face to face consulting & concentrate on building relationships with travel agents nationwide whilst responding to their incoming enquires. You must have min 12 months industry experience & be well travelled to be considered for this role. Working Mon to Fri with rotational Sat's, this really is your opportunity to make your next career move. We promise you will never look back!

GET WITH THE TIMES

CUSTOMER SERVICE CONSULTANT

MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K (DOE)

It is no secret that online travel is the way of the future. We have a unique position just called in working for one the pioneers of online travel working in their customer service department. Stepping into a behind the scenes role, you will be responding to customer enquiries regarding their online travel reservations. You must have previous consulting experience, be Galileo proficient & have superior customer service skills to be considered for this role. Contact AA Appointments today & get with the times!

THINKING OF A SEA CHANGE?

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

GEELONG & SURROUNDS – SALARY PACKAGE DOE

Are you thinking it's time for a sea change? We have a brand new role that is sure to tick all the boxes. This boutique agency is searching for their next superstar travel consultant to join their expanding team. You will be responsible for assisting the many repeat and referral clients of this office with their luxury worldwide holiday bookings. In order to make this role yours, you must have more than 2 years consulting experience & a previous knowledge of a GDS and back office. A can do attitude will also go a long way!

GREEN EYED MONSTER

DOMESTIC WHOLESALE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

BRISBANE – \$55K OTE ++

Turn your friends green with envy with this highly envious role, right in the heart of Brisbane CBD. Working Mon – Fri with weekends on rotation you will sell domestic products that you know and love to hassle free clients. To be successful you will need to have exceptional communication skills, a min 12 months travel industry experience and an excellent knowledge of domestic destinations. Great \$\$, free holidays, superb famils and long term career progression are just the start of the sensational benefits on offer.

BE THE EARLY BIRD & CATCH THIS WORM

INTERNATIONAL LEISURE TRAVEL CONSULTANT

GOLD COAST – up to \$45K PKG + \$\$ INCENTIVES

Our extremely well regarded client on the Gold Coast has an exciting role on offer but you will need to be quick as it won't last for long. You will love the variety of international destinations and products you'll sell. All you need is 3 years experience as an international travel consultant, have worked on high end bookings & have excellent CRS skills. In return you will receive a generous salary package, an opportunity to work on fabulous travel itineraries, travel to exotic destinations and be part of a great team of people.

Executives . . .



Helene Taylor - CEO

*We are currently recruiting for confidential executive roles
Please contact me for a confidential chat helene@tmsap.com*

Are you on our database?

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