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Travel Daily

First with the news

Friday 16th March 2013

# BE A PART OF AN EXPERIENCED TEAM OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

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#### Why so green today?

**TODAY'S** front page of *TD* has turned green in recognition of St. Patricks Day on Sunday.

Numerous attractions around the globe will also be turning green, courtesy of Tourism Ireland, including the Sydney Opera House.

#### Eight pages of news

**Travel Daily** today has eight pages of news, plus a full page of jobs from **AA Appointments** 



**Deb Duncan** General Manager

travel counsellors

#### **CHOCOLATE CAKE CONSULTING**

I loved our recent conference on Hamilton Island, the hugging of old friends, the sharing of stories and the wonderful feeling of belonging to a dynamic and innovative company. One of our speakers, who will be attending every Travel Counsellors conference worldwide made this year's event super-special and I have been dying to quote him...

Put simply, he talked about value as if it were a recipe. If we don't follow the recipe for success, things rarely turn out as they should. A chocolate cake may appear delicious but may turn out to be disappointingly tasteless if the correct ingredients are not added. Do we all follow the best possible recipe to ensure the very best outcomes? I know that our Travel Counsellors do because we make caring a criteria to join. We understand that it's not about selling the best price or just getting the product right but giving customers a total solution created with the best care and attention possible to make sure it fits perfectly around them.

Ensuring the right ingredients go into relationships with customers is what makes that relationship special and indeed it's this which clients see as far more valuable than a great deal. Don't just go through the motions make every client contact special to leave them with something more than a positive feeling. If the interactions aren't special, it isn't the recipe.

Thank you Anthony.



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## **ALAEA slams Dubai as hub**

THE Australian Licenced Aircraft Engineers Association (ALAEA) has demanded the ACCC hold off on final authorisation on the pact between Qantas and Emirates in an 11th hour appeal to block the proposed alliance.

In a chunky 39-page submission to the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission made public last night, ALAEA's gm Peter Somerville highlighted a dozen reasons why the Master Coordination Agreement (MCA) should be knocked back.

Reasoning included a likelihood of increased fare prices, capacity constraints, reduced hub choices and a lack of public benefits.

Somerville went so far as to highlight a lack of human rights in the United Arab Emirates for locals and tourists.

"Constitutional rights of citizens - let alone non-citizens and even more so non-citizens who might be of a particular ethnic or minority group - are frequently ignores," he said, citing a Human Rights Report on the UAE.

The Australian flag carrier itself has addressed basic UAE customs to QF operating and positioning crews through an internal memo.

The one-page communique *TD* cited features a 'Do & Don't' list of gestures/actions likely taken for granted in Australian and other countries around the world

The nine points flagged under 'Don't' - include not to indulge in any public displays of affection, disagree with or challenge a Police Officer, bring up any controversial topics (politics and religion) or swear, shout, spit or make offensive hand gestures.

Somerville said the competitive advantage of the Qantas/Emirates MCA would be one "no new entrant can match," due to significant marketing advantages.

The Association said there was no doubt maintenance jobs would be "off shored", most likely to Dubai, which will "accelerate and expand the loss of Australian aircraft maintenance skills."

He added that any potential public benefits from the proposed alliance " are negligible or non-existent and speculative to such and extent they should be given no weight."

MEANWHILE, ALAEA queried the ACCC as to why public benefits/ detriments were not considered for Emirates' dnata business (*TD* 15 Feb) which has over 20,000 employees around the world.

"It is not clear what role Dnata will undertake in the commercial framework established by the MCA," the group questioned.

Regardless of the competition regulator's decision on the joint venture with EK, Qantas will launch daily services to Dubai out of Sydney & Melbourne on 31 Mar.

#### Accor Stay 3/Pay 2

ACCOR'S loyalty scheme LeClub Accor has released a Stay 3/Pay 2 promotion valid at more than 160 participating hotels in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

Locally, guests can take up the offer at select Pullman, MGallery, Quay West, Sebel, Grand Mercure, Novotel, Mercure, Ibis, Ibis Styles and All Seasons hotels, with prices starting from \$125.

The offer applies to stays from now until 30 Jun 2013.

#### Monaco agent promo

FRENCH Travel Connection has unveiled a new travel agent incentive to win three nights in Monaco for booking two nights or more at either the Columbus Monte-Carlo Hotel or Novotel Monte-Carlo before 30 Jun 2013.

Clients booking the deal will also receive an exclusive 'Passport to Monte-Carlo' package which features a free return helicopter transfer between Monaco-Nice in low season & attraction tickets.

There are four three-night packages available for agents to win in the prize draw - more from Monaco on page four.



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Friday 15th March 2013





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## Europe's newest river ships

**SCENIC** Tours says a multi-million dollar investment in upgrading its fleet of Scenic 'Space-Ships' will set the benchmark for the next generation of river cruisers.

The Australian tour and cruise operator has injected a massive \$10 million across its vessels (*TD* 07 May), meaning it will have the newest fleet on Europe's rivers.

MD Glen Moroney said the refurb program promises that no matter where or when guests travel in Europe with Scenic Tours,

#### Last chance of BA tkts

**TODAY** is the last chance for readers to enter our mini-comp to win Business Class tickets for two aboard British Airways' inaugural B777-300 flight from Sydney to London Heathrow.

The price is for two Club World tickets on 02 Apr on BA16. **CLICK HERE** for terms & conditions.

To enter, simply tell us in 25 words or less why you would like to be on the inaugural flight.

Email your answer by close of business today to

ba777comp@traveldaily.com.au.

they will always be guaranteed to enjoy "the most luxurious tour to exacting standards."

Scenic's vessels are already young, ranging from 18 months to just four years of age, and will now all offer 'Sun Lounges'.

The fleet will now feature two new dining additions, the casual River Cafe & Table La Rive, while Portobellos has had a fit-out.

Other changes see new floors & light fixtures and marble desks at Reception, new carpets and soft furnishings throughout and an array of artworks.

Scenic will inaugurate its new build, *Scenic Jewel*, next month.

#### Aircalin BNE fare crash

**AIRCALIN** has introduced a new 'W' class wholesale fare product for services from Brisbane, with a new special level of \$305 gross.

Valid on a year round basis for travel commencing 06 Apr, the 'W' class option represents a 20% discount on the previously offered lowest wholesale fare.

Aircalin regional gm Ken Triffitt said the fare option complements its offering ex Sydney.

The carrier has also added extra seat inventory "to overcome the long standing problems of securing seats in our lead in class," he said.

#### **Morgan joins UTC**

FORMER communcations mgr for Hayman, Sally Morgan has this week been named as the Head of Media Communications with the Unique Tourism Collection.

Morgan will be juggling duties with her Project Consultant role at *TraveMedia*.



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Friday 15th March 2013



# Contiki g'tees 2013 Asia trips

"UNPRECEDENTED demand" for youth trips to South-East Asia has seen Contiki guarantee the departure of all of its tours in the region for the remainder of 2013.

Contiki managing director Fiona Hunt said the decision indicates the popularity of the region in the three years since launching its Asia range of tours.



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Contact Travel the World Reservations on 1300 857 037 or click here for more information up on last year fuelled by the ongoing strength of the Australian dollar, value for money in Asian destinations & the attractiveness of the Asia destination & the Contiki product," Hunt said.

Seven different itineraries visiting five countries make up the Contiki Asia range, with trip durations starting at nine days.

Hunt said the Contiki offering had proven to be a winner among young professionals fitting a visit to multiple Asian countries into their annual leave allocations.

#### P&O Aus F1 GP at sea

**PASSENGERS** aboard P&O Cruises' *Pacific Dawn, Pacific Jewel* and *Pacific Pearl* will be able to view the Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix live at sea this Sun.

P&O will also telecast three live NRL matches each week aboard its fleet this year after re-signing with the cruise company.

#### **Ellen postpones**

**US TALKSHOW** queen Ellen Degeneres has been forced to delay her trip to Australia.

According to reports, Degeneres was due to fly out of Los Angeles for Australia tomorrow but has pushed back her departure while she overcomes an illness.

Earlier this week she tweeted "Trying to get over a bug before I go to Australia. Nobody wants to be down under the weather."

#### Air Pacific financing

AIR Pacific has announced its international banking partners have agreed to finance all three of its new Airbus A330-200 jets.

#### **New Princess features**

**PRINCESS** Cruises' upcoming vessel *Royal Princess* will include a number of innovations such as an onboard television studio offering on-demand programming delivered direct to staterooms.

Other features will see the largest outdoor cinema screen at sea & facial recognition software in the photo gallery, with the ship also being the company's most environmentally friendly vessel.

#### **Fairmont Istanbul**

**FAIRMONT** Hotels & Resorts has announced plans to open a new 210-room property in the Turkish city of Istanbul.

The Fairmont Quasar, Istanbul is slated to launch in 2016 and will be the first Fairmont Hotels & Resorts property in the city.

#### 100th A380 delivered

MALAYSIA Airlines has taken delivery of its sixth Airbus A380, becoming the carrier's 100th superjumbo to go into commercial service in six years.

To date, 36 million passengers have been carried on 100,000 A380 flights since its 2007 debut.

#### 12 new Design hotels

**BOUTIQUE** independent hotel representative group Design Hotels has added 12 members to its portfolio, including Canberra's Hotel Hotel (*TD* Tue).

Three properties have been added in Istanbul along with the Luna 2 Studios in Seminyak, Bali.

Other new hotels are located in Rotterdam (Netherlands), Sofia (Bulgaria), Lisbon (Portugal), St Lucia (Caribbean), Lake Como (Italy) and the Austrian Alps.



### Window Seat

IN THE spirit of St Patricks Day this weekend and the associated greenery, Tourism Ireland has released a video spruiking the country by famous international Irish comedian Andrew Maxwell.

The video, promoting the Gathering Ireland 2013, has been a hit with online viewers & can be seen at www.bit.ly/irlgather.

FANS of the 2013 Isle Of Man Time Trial race need not even leave the track at the end of the day's racing - they can pile into an extra accom style on offer by Sportsnet Holidays, known simply as the "Snoozebox".

Overwhelming demand for extra accom has seen the sports holiday specialist offer what is essentially a shipping container, fitted with bedding for up to 12 people, with each Snoozebox containing three or four "rooms".

Snoozeboxes are apparently surprisingly roomy, containing either a double bed and a single or a double and two singles, an ensuite with shower and toilet, all in a compact 4m x 2.5m box.

**LEAKING** toilet facilities on a plane are understood to be the cause of an icicle which fell through the roof of a caravan on the ground below, leaving a hole 45-centremetres in diameter.

Caroline Guy, who lives near Birmingham, found the smashed brown and yellow icicle - which was likely made of faeces - all over the inside of the caravan.

Britain's Civil Aviation Authority has launched an investigation.



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## Travel Daily

enroute to London

Today's issue of TD is coming to you enroute to the 2nd annual

Hosted Buyers Marketplace, courtesy of VisitBritain

THIS year's Hosted Buyers Marketplace has attracted more than 200 top int'l buyers from key inbound markets, suppliers & operators from across the UK for the two-day conference, which is designed to introduce a range of product & new trends to buyers, as well as new destinations.

With up to 36 scheduled meetings per delegate, the event will include networking breaks, lunches, drinks parties and a gala dinner organized by Visit Britain.

As well, there are 16 famil trips across Britain to experience the very best of the country.

It comes as Britain witnessed 2012 as its best year for inbound tourism since 2008, with around 31 million people arriving, and the forecast for 2013 is an extra one million visitors - it's targeting 40 million annually by 2020.

Two Aussie UK travel specialists, Outdoor Travel and Holidays on Location, from Melbourne, have flown in especially for an update on Britain's tourism offerings and network with the main players.

Visit Britain will re-stage its Destination Britain trade show in Asia during May.

See next week's issues of *Travel Daily* for coverage from the Hosted Buyers Marketplace.

### Monaco pays Sydney a visit



THINK of Monaco and the first thing that usually comes to the forefront of many people's minds is the image of the Formula 1 race.

Monaco does not shy away from this amazing spectacle, but a delegation from the principality came to Sydney this week as part of a three-stop promotional tour to show off so much more of the little haven on the Mediterranean to the Australian travel industry.

Elegant hotels, beautiful yachts, fine culture, sublime wines, enchanting history and the ability to experience it all via a product designed for a true immersive experience - the Monaco Passport.

French Travel Connection are the exclusive sellers of the Monaco Passport in the Australia and New Zealand market.

Pictured above in the back row from left is Patrice Frank, Hotel de Paris Monte-Carlo; Koji Ito, Hotel Fairmont Monte Carlo; Guillaume Rose, Monaco Govt Tourism Dept; Brad McDonnell, French Travel Connection; Jean-Francois

Gourdon, Monaco Govt Tourism Dept and Benoit Badufle from the SBM Group.

Front row: Lena Froelich, Monaco Govt Tourist Bureau; Coralie Pierre. French Travel Connection & Alison Roberts-Brown, Monaco Government Tourist Bureau.

More from Monaco in Mon's TD.

#### **Growth of Swiss fleet**

**SWISS** International Air Lines parent, the Lufthansa Group, has overnight announced a significant aircraft fleet commitment with both Boeing and Airbus.

In an order worth \$1.9b at list prices, Swiss will take ownership of six new B777-300 jets as part of the replacement of its long-haul A340s flying services to Asia.

"Having a brand new Boeing 777 fleet operating on key Asian routes with larger capacities and the potential to further develop our Australian business is exciting and a demonstration of SWISS confidence in this region," Swiss Australia mgr Anil Rodricks said.

**MEANWHILE**, Lufthansa Group confirmed a big fleet replacement order of 70 Airbus A320neo, 30 A321neo aircraft and two A380 superjumbos (TD 22 Feb).



#### **Corporate Consultant**

Goldman Travel Corporation, a leading travel management company located in Sydney, is looking for an experienced Corporate Consultant to join our dynamic team in our Bondi Junction office.

Applicants must have the skills to work autonomously and be totally focused on customer care. Sabre/Tramada is an advantage, but not essential.

Very attractive salary and working conditions guaranteed.

If you believe this role is right for you or request further information, send through your resume or contact David Goldman at david@goldmantravel.com.au or (02) 8333 7700.

All applications and contact will be treated as confidential.





The World's turning GREEN for St Patrick's Day Ireland is throwing a party on the 17th March and the rest of 2013 is

no exception – a year full of events, festivals and gatherings Make sure you join in and tell your clients to travel to Ireland!

Call: (02) 9964 6900 or visit www.ireland.com

Join in the Great Green Off on: facebook.com/discoverirelandoz





## **Aussies flocking to Africa**

**SUN** International has seen a 45% year-on-year increase from the Australian market over the last financial year to its properties in Africa.

In Australia to promote its newly opened corporate property in South Africa - The Maslow Hotel, located in Sandton's

business district in Johannesburg - Lianne Kelly-Maartens (pictured) told *Travel Daily* that the top seller in the leisure market for Sun International is The Livingston in Zambia, followed by its five star property in Cape Town, The Table Bay Hotel.

At an intimate lunch this week at The Langham, Sydney, Sun International's three and five star properties - The Table Bay Hotel, Cape Town; The Palace of the Lost City at Sun City and The Royal Livingstone in Zambia - were showcased to attendees.

But Kelly-Maarteen wanted to stress "It's not about the



hotels...and Africa has more to offer than just the animals - it's about the experiences that you have while in Africa".

"There are 11 official languages and cultures" in Africa as well as many activities including golfing, game drives, walking safaris, sporting and recreational options, spa experiences and so much more.

Sun City is becoming popular with families as there is something for everyone across its spacious 235 hectares of land.

Four hotel options are available, ranging from 3 - 5 star, and suit a variety of budgets.

# Trave Daily First with the news

Friday 15th Mar 2013

#### Skywest A320 to KGI

**PERTH**-based regional carrier Skywest Airlines has commenced Airbus A320 services between Perth and Kalgoorlie, the first service kicking off on Wed.

Offered on selected peak flights, the A320s introduction provides a 60%-plus seat capacity increase, providing "significant benefits to business & leisure travellers alike," Skywest ceo Jason Bitter said.

"We are proud to continue our commitment to the Kalgoorlie-Boulder region with the addition of larger aircraft on the route."

#### Wheelchair travel site

A DEDICATED website aimed at informing travellers requiring a wheelchair-friendly hotel or attraction capable of catering to a guest in a wheelchair has debuted.

Currently containing information only on product in Australia and the US, the site encourages other travellers to share information for the benefit of other travellers.

The site is the brainchild of Julie Jones, a former travel agent who formed the idea while on a US holiday with her disabled son.

For more details on the site, see www.havewheelchairwilltravel.net.

#### **Quilting across the US**

**TRAFALGAR** has developed a 15-day Quilting USA itinerary, which will be offered as a onceoff departure in conjunction with Harvey World Travel Barossa.

In response to growing interest in quilting and patchwork, the tour - departing 12 Aug - visits a number of towns and cities in the north-east of the US and includes a visit to the 2013 AQS Quiltweek show in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The tour is priced from \$6,399 per person twin share, and for more details, ph (08) 8562 3411.

#### WIN A 2-NIGHT BREAK AT PALMER COOLUM RESORT

This week, *Travel Daily* is giving one lucky reader the chance to win a 2-night break at **Palmer Coolum Resort** on the Sunshine Coast.

The prize includes 2 nights accomin a Deluxe Junior Suite and flights from any Australian capital city.

With our new 'Summer Getaway'

packages, bringing your loved ones



together for some quality time has never been easier.

For you chance to win this great prize, email your answer to the question below by COB on Friday to: pcrcomp@traveldaily.com.au.

In 50 words or less, tell us which of our 'Summer Getaway' packages you would book and why?



#### **Cruising with A&K**

ABERCROMBIE & Kent will sell cabins on the *Amadeus Brilliant* for three departures of six- and seven-night cruises 2013 on its Connections by Abercrombie & Kent brand.

Itineraries incorporating a cruise on the vessel depart from various European gateways on 21 Jul, 17 Oct and 21 Dec.

#### Traveltek hits APAC

**UK TRAVEL** technology firm Traveltek has secured office space in North Sydney amid plans to expand its presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

The company will soon embark on a recruitment drive to bolster its Australian workforce for its airline, hotels and ancillary product technology solutions.





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Friday 15th Mar 2013

#### **Dubai famil entries**

**ENTRIES** for the 2013 Dubai mega-incentive hosted by Dubai Tourism and Emirates closes this Sun night at 11:59pm.

Agents are requested to log all of their last-minute sales of seats and stopovers to ensure they have the best chance of winning a place on the mega-famil trip to Dubai, taking place in May.

#### Crown Alaska debut

**PRINCESS** Cruises has confirmed Crown Princess will make its Alaska debut in 2014, where it will operate a seven-night Voyage of the Glaciers sailing.

#### IB strikes cancelled

**FIFTEEN** days of strikes over salary and job cuts at Spanish airline Iberia (TD 12 Feb) have been cancelled after a deal to return to work was accepted by a government appointed mediator.

#### **Dynasty dinner group**

**SELECT** Travel Group hosted Qantas and a number of agents in Melbourne at its annual Chinese New Year dinner (TD Wed), funded by Express Ticketing.

#### **Downtown Disney** revamp and rebrand

WALT Disney World Resort in Florida will be rebranded as Disney Springs after a multi-year transformation of the precinct, slated to be completed by 2016.

The project will see the Disney destination add significantly more shops, including boutique stores, unique flagship stores, and an increased number of dining and entertainment options.

Walt Disney Parks and Resorts chairman Tom Staggs said Disney Springs will be "a timeless, vibrant place" for guests and local residents alike.

"Featuring distinctive brands, world-class restaurants and unforgettable entertainment, Disney Springs will be brought to life with the same focus on storytelling and attention to detail that goes into our theme parks, resort and cruise ships, resulting in a welcoming space that only Disney could create," Staggs said yesterday.

Constuction on the revamp will begin next month, with new areas opening in phases.

#### JetBlue/Qatar c'share

**NEW** York-based carrier JetBlue Airways has announced a new one-way codeshare on flights to 26 markets between JFK and Washington Dulles.



**HAVING** docked for the first time in Sydney this week, Oceania Cruises' Marina hosted members of the Sydney travel industry to an exclusive tour of the ship and dinner at Red Ginger.

The liner boldly claims to serve the finest cuisine at sea, with the delectable meal doing no harm in adding fuel to that fire.

Pictured from left are Justin MacMillan, Emirates Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa; Lincoln Bache, Emirates; Craig Owens, Oceania; Joyce Weir; Qantas and Peter Kollar from Cruise Lines International Assoc. Australasia.

#### **New Six Senses site**

SIX Senses Hotels Resorts & Spas has launched a new website full of new imagery and featuring sections on Six Senses Residences, careers, the group's management style, mission & service philosophy.

More at www.sixsenses.com.

#### NT cabinet shuffle

**NT TOURISM** Minister Matt Conlan has regained the Sports, Recreation & Racing portfolios as part of an NT Territory Government reorganisation.



Conditions apply; click here for details. Only open to eligible travel agency employees in AUS & NZ aged 18+. Must be available to travel between 15/5/13 and 20/5/13. Starts 21/01/13 and ends 17/03/13. Trip prizes split as follows: NSW/ACT: 40, VIC/TAS: 40, WA: 40, QLD: 40, SA/NT: 40, NZ: 80. There will be 30 trips per State group (60 in NZ) awarded via a game of skill. Remaining trips will be awarded via a game of chance. Mystery prizes awarded in game of skill to first placed entrants in each State Group. See conditions for details.

#### TTC turn dunes to snowfalls

searing desert temperatures quickly reached the other end of the celsius scale as participants on the 2013 Travel Corporation megafamil reached Europe.

The European cold snap brought the winter woolies out of the agent's bags as Contiki took control of part of the group for a multi-day dash around London, France and Switzerland.

Contiki's "Backstage
Pass to Europe" was on show,
complete with many exclusive
inclusions and optional ME Time
activities.

While in London, the group visited Soho, took in the glamour of the West End, complete with street performers in Covent Garden under the light snowfall.

The next morning, after seeing the famous White Cliffs of Dover and a ferry ride, the group found themselves in France & prepared for a big night in the City of Lights with a Tour of Illuminations and a chance to sample some escargot and fine vino tinto wines.

**RIGHT**: Amber Gunther from Contiki and Laura of FC Kirribilli wondering whether its warmer on or off the coach.



ABOVE: Few expected snow but it was a pleasant surprise no less, enjoyed by Brittany Clayton from HWT Horsham; Marnie Northrop, FC Rouse Hill; Aaron Lim, FC George Street Sydney; Santina Marando, HWT Griffith; Cameron Keep, FC Corrimal; Ryan Webster, ET Tuggerah; Lachie White, FC Mornington; Corinne Bowes, Jetset Hurstville; Jason Sartori, Travelscene Wonthaggi and Amber Gunther, Contiki.



LEFT: Enjoying some French wine is Marnie Northrop, FC Rouse Hill; Samantha O'Malley, Travelscene Shellharbour; Astrid Lorenzen, HWT Mt Ommaney and Aaron Lim, FC George St Sydney.



# Travel Daily First with the news

Friday 15th Mar 2013

#### **Choice UK Adventure**

TICKETS to the Men's Quarter Final at Wimbledon, Ashes test cricket match at Lords, the British F1 Grand Prix, a Robbie Williams concert and more attractions are up for grabs in a new incentive from Choice Hotels Australasia.

The prize also includes return flights, 17-nights accommodation and \$3,000 spending money.

Choice Privileges members will receive an entry into the draw for all accom bookings made prior to 15 May - for travel any time - with further entries able to be earned by liking Choice's Facebook page.

See www.choicehotels.com.au.

#### Land of midnight sun

SPECIAL summer solstice cruise fares aboard a Hurtigruten vessel have been released by Discover the World Cruising, taking in destinations in the Arctic Circle where the summer sun never sets.

Fares are valid for departure from 01 May-31 Jul and start at \$1,376pp for a six-night Classic Voyage South - book by 31 Mar by phoning 1800 623 267.

#### New Cali cheese fest

LE MERIDIEN Noumea has announced that French "cheese Master" ('Maitre fromagier') Gerard Poulard will head the 8th edition of the French Cheese Festival, held from 28 May to 08 Jun 2013 in New Caledonia.

#### CZ flexes its muscles

**CHINA** Southern Airlines has said it is prepared to sacrifice profitability in the short term as it attempts to lure traffic to Europe away from carriers operating via Singapore and Hong Kong on to its 'Canton Route'.

"At the beginning of the operation we might lose some money," China Southern Australia and NZ gm Henry He said.

"The most important thing for us is experience".

From 01 Apr, when the Qantas alliance with Emirates is planned to begin, China Southern will operate more daily flights from Australia to Europe than Qantas.

#### **Technology Update**

Today's Technology Update is brought to you by Travelport.



Innovations in the social and mobile sphere continuously change the way travellers behave,

challenging businesses to keep ahead of the curve.

One example is the Facebook Graph Search, launched in Beta in January this year. The search uses big data from Facebook's one billion users, and results are formed by an individual's user preferences, "likes" and connections, to generate highly-personalised search results.

This new search feature holds enormous potential for the travel industry, including OTAs, and makes presence in the social sphere increasingly important. Travel agencies now must extend engagement with customers/fans beyond "likes", and foster comments and recommendations, to appear higher in search results.

Travelport believes in developing new technologies to enhance end-to-end experience for both travel agents and travellers. Our goal is to provide unrivalled content via an open platform. We encourage the developer community to come up with ways to enhance travel through the Travelport Developer Network and Travelport Universal API™. Late last year, the winning team from the THack event in Singapore, Skyscanner, used the Travelport Universal API to create an app that books business travel trips with just one click. Such innovations in the world of travel technology and social media make it an exciting time for businesses, inviting an array of solutions to maintain a competitive edge.

For learn more about the Travelport Developer Network, visit developer.travelport.com

Ming Foong, Travelport's Global Account Director, Pacific Region





Friday 15th Mar 2013

#### **Dinosaurs at Coolum**

MORE than 40 new lifelike and moving dinosaurs (TD 25 Oct) have arrived at Palmer Coolum Resort on the Sunshine Coast in the latest tourism venture speadheaded by eccentric billionaire Clive Palmer.

With the resort's T-Rex already in place, the resort will soon be home to over 150 models.

Two Triceratops were part of the most recent delivery, with the next shipment to contain approx 70 more dinosaurs, some of which will feature lifelike roaring sounds.

#### **Grounded for good**

**CAIRNS**-based charter airline Barrier Aviation, operating mainly in far-north Queensland, has been grounded permanently by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

A spokesman for CASA said the carrier was ordering its pilots to fly "defective planes", forcing the authority to take the strongest possible action against the carrier.

#### WLG tourism stakes

**NEW** Zealand's capital city Wellington is reporting spikes in bookings for the Anzac Day weekend, with expected occupancies of 87% predicted.

Interest has been piqued by the AFL playing a match between the Melbourne's St Kilda Saints and the Sydney Swans in the city.



Stand to win a Get Lost and Find the Real Singapore adventure for two. Includes return economy class airfares, 2 nights stay at Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore & 2 nights stay at Shangri-La's Rasa Sentosa Resort & Spa and attractions passes.

Just answer the daily question on Singapore in TD's newsletter for the month of March (20 questions in total). The prize will go to the reader with the most number of correct entries and the most creative caption

Email your answer to: singaporecomp@traveldaily.com.au



O.11: Other than the Sentosa attractions, kids staying with Shangri-La's Rasa Resort & Spa can have lots of fun without even leaving the resort. Name the highlight of their children's club.

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PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Phone: 1300 799 220 Fax: 1300 799 221 Publisher/Managing Editor: Bruce Piper

Editor: Guy Dundas

Assistant Editor: Matt Lennon Contributors: Chantel Housler, Jenny

Piper and Barry Matheson Email: info@traveldaily.com.au

Travel Daily Group:

## CRUISE

#### Advertising and Marketing: Christie-Lee Lachance, Lisa Martin and Magda Herdzik Email: advertising@traveldaily.com.au Business Manager: Jenny Piper

Email: accounts@traveldaily.com.au





#### can only be made at www.bit.ly/accoragtrate and valid industry ID is required at check-in. Further conditions apply.

participating and priced from \$140 per night in some locations. Bookings

WELCOME to Travel Specials, Travel Daily's Fri feature. If your firm has

Geckos Adventures has launched a "Welcome to Wherever" sale whereby

Trips) if booked and deposited by 12 Apr and departing by 31 Aug. Further

a 15% discount is available on all tours (except Antarctica and Tightarse

savings are available to repeat clients. For details, phone 1300 791 478.

Travel industry staff and their partners can enjoy room rates of at least

Rates start from \$50 per night at Ibis Budget properties, with Mercure,

Novotel, Grand Mercure, MGallery, Pullman, Sebel and Quay West all

30% off normal price at **Accor**'s range of brands around Australia in Apr.

released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of, send

Travel Specials

the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au.



THE waters of Eli Creek on Fraser Island were worth wading through by this group of product managers from the UK and Nordic region, who were in Queensland on a fact-finding tour to gather ideas for marketing their own products back home.

The creek is the largest on the island's eastern beach and spills 80 megalitres of fresh water into the ocean every day, as the group found out during their visit.

Hosted on this part of their trip by Fraser Island's Kingfisher Bay Resort, the group, pictured above from left, consisted of Rebecca Turner from Gold Medal UK; Katie Warburton, Austravel UK; Joe Currenti, Kingfisher Bay Resort Group and Victoria Brewer from Dial a Flight UK.

#### RyanAir aircraft order

**EUROPEAN** low-cost carrier Ryanair will buy up to 200 Boeing aircraft in a deal worth €14 billion at list prices.

The order is the single biggest placed by the carrier in its history.

Talks are reportedly underway with up to 60 airports for Ryanair to either expand service or to fly there for the first time as part of a significant global expansion.

#### Crystal super E/birds

**ITINERARIES** sailing as far ahead as 2015 have been launched by Crystal Cruises, who is preparing for its 25th birthday celebrations to occur in that year.

The company has released its 2014/15 Worldwide Cruise Atlas, with the 170-page featuring voyages of between 7-108 days & including its first circumnavigation of the world sailing in 2015.

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#### **GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNING!**

Is your career progression stalled in the pits?
Stuck in overdrive? Move into TOP GEAR with
AA Appointments and gain pole position with
these unique and exciting vacancies!



# \*NEW \* MOVE INTO MANAGEMENT IN-HOUSE TRAVEL CORPORATE TEAM LEADER NORTH SHORE – SALARY PACKAGE CIRCA \$75K

Are you ready to take a step up in your career? Want to lead your team to success? This is a great opportunity to step straight into a team leader role, within this well-established blue chip company who is one of our nation's leaders. Working directly for the client, you will enjoy spending 80% of your time consulting and 20% supervising & motivating the team.

All you need is a min 2 years corporate travel experience with strong GDS skills and a strong customer focus.

#### \*NEW \* RETAIL ROLE – THE BEST OF THE BEST RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT MELBOURNE (EAST) - SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K (DOE)

Due to company growth this successful award winning agency now requires an experienced retail consultant to join their team! Working in this unique retail travel agency you will be responsible for arranging worldwide holiday bookings for the many repeat and referral clientele of the office. Booking international travel for your repeat and referral clients you can finally step away from those time wasters! Min 2 years exp.

# FOLLOW THE CALL OF THE WILD AFRICA WHOLESALE RESERVATIONS PERTH (CITY) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K+ OTE

The wait is over; we finally have an African reservations role in PERTH! This luxury wholesaler will see you booking exotic African and Indian Ocean itineraries for your loyal travel agents! From South Africa to Kenya to Mauritius your days are filled with variety and fun! Monday – Friday hours and high base salary on offer! To secure this role all you need is min 2 yrs. consulting experience and personal travel to Africa!

#### DON'T LET THIS SHIP SAIL GROUPS CRUISE COORDINATOR BRISBANE CBD – TOP SALARY PACKAGE

Are you cruise savvy? Looking for a new and exciting role in the industry away from consulting? This is it. Come and join this growing division where you'll be responsible for negotiating cruise group contracts, analysing the market for growth opportunities and increasing profit margins. Being part of this dynamic team you'll enjoy a strong salary along with great bonuses and superb career progression. Strong cruise knowledge and travel industry experience a must.

#### \*NEW \* PART TIME/AFTERNOON SHIFT CORPORATE CONSULTANT x 2 NORTH SHORE – TOP SALARY PACKAGE – PRO RATA

Are you looking for flexible working hours? Do you want to work outside school hours? This is a rare and unique opportunity to work in a corporate travel part time role. Work directly for the client where you will get all be benefits of working for one the nation's leader. This is a reduced hours role working the afternoon shift. You will be responsible for handling all the corporate travel needs of the client. If you have 2 years industry experience, strong GDS. Apply today.

## UNIQUE AND WONDERFUL DESTINATIONS TRAVEL CONSULTANT

#### MELBOURNE (INNER) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K (DOE)

Wow - Do we have a role with a differencel This successful travel agency located close to the CBD is now looking for their new team member! You will work Monday – Friday hours and book interesting itineraries. Think luxury beach breaks to Mexico, trekking through Nepal or exploring Burma. No two days are same! This role could be yours if you have a min 3 years consulting experience.

# SICK OF DEALING WITH TIME WASTERS RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT ADELAIDE (CBD) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K OTE

We have a rare opportunity in Adelaide for an experienced travel consultant to join this successful retail agency. Located in the heart of the city centre you will create dream holidays for the many repeat and referral clients of the office. You will be offered exclusive famils and a sensational high base salary and commission structure! What are you waiting for? Make the move today and ignite the passion for travel again!

# FANCY WITH FARES AIR PRODUCT CONSULTANT BRISBANE CBD – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$55K

Here is a top travel role where you can use your strong fares knowledge and amazing Galileo skills behind the scenes. Joining this air team will see you responsible for sourcing the hottest fares out in the industry. Working to tight deadlines you will be providing marketing and advertising teams with competitive priced fares adhering to ACCC guidelines. Your hard work will be rewarded with a great salary package. Apply today and jump into this hot new travel role.

#### FOR ALL THE BEST VACANCIES VISIT www.aaappointments.com

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