



Friday 18th October 2013



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2nd GA 777 set back

GARUDA Indonesia has delayed the launch of new Boeing 777-300ERs between Jakarta and Sydney until mid-2014.

The new B777s were originally slated to commence services to the NSW capital from 07 Nov.

In Jul, *Travel Daily* exclusively revealed that "runway issues" at Jakarta caused the planned start up of new services to London Gatwick to be postponed indefinitely (*TD* 17 Jul).



Record profit for Magellan

MAGELLAN Travel Group is targeting a combined TTV across its membership of \$1 billion over the next three years, with ceo Andrew MacFarlane unveiling the plan at the group's conference on the Sunshine Coast this week.

Macfarlane said that by 2017 Magellan aims to build a "100+ member group" of high end leisure and business agents.

"Our strategy is to be a small group of larger agents, not a large

Intrepid back to Egypt

ADVENTURE tour companies Intrepid, Peregrine and Gecko's have announced they will resume operations in Egypt from 27 Oct, following civil unrest and public demonstrations earlier this year.

Intrepid Group managing director James Thornton said its Cairo-based DMC has determined the situation had improved to a safe level for foreign travellers.

"The safety of our passengers remains our highest priority and we will continue to monitor events in Egypt to ensure that all trips operate smoothly and any potential risks are minimised, Thornton commented.

A spokesperson said at the moment the expectation is to have two Peregrine & two Geckos tours depart, and up to seven Intrepid operate during Nov.

"Travellers are understandably being very cautious and a lot of short-term travellers have probably looked elsewhere when booking new trips before the end of the year.

"We do expect bookings for Egypt to pick up again in the new year," the spokesperson told **TD**.

group of smaller agents," he said.

"Our supplier partners appreciate the overall revenue and growth our members deliver plus the quality of the business," Macfarlane added, giving the example that across Magellan's airline partnerships over 60% of revenue is in premium cabins.

2012-13 saw a record profit for Magellan, with the overall result up 17% to \$4.1 million.

"That profit growth goes straight to our members," he said, with average profit distribution per agent increasing for the fifth year running.

Costs as a percentage of income have also declined, "so we are proud of our continuing efforts to keep central costs low and increase profit for our members."

Magellan has also announced the appointment of Penny Spencer from Spencer Travel Group and Carl Buerckner of Platinum Travel Corporation as directors, effective 01 Oct.

Macfarlane said the additions bring "unparalleled corporate travel experience and expertise to the Board".

Sabre Pac ceo quits

SABRE Pacific has announced the departure of chief executive officer Gai Tyrrell, who lead the company for the past six years.

A statement from the firm thanked Tyrrell "for her passion, leadership and dedication."

The search for a new ceo has commenced, with vp commercial at Abacus, Brett Henry taking an interim ceo title immediately.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has six pages of news & photos, plus a full page from: (click)

AA Appointments jobs



rail plus

NORTHERN EXPLORER KiwiRail Scenic Journeys





Find out more at bunniktours.com.au





Friday 18th October 2013





Travel Daily on location in

Hawaii

Today's issue of TD is coming to you from Aulani, a Disney Resort & Spa on the Hawaiian island of Oahu.

AULANI offers everything you'd expect from a Disney property - character breakfasts, lots of entertainment for children and adults, a range of restaurants from buffet through to fine dining and unlimited sodas!

Since its opening two years ago Disney has found that many more guests than expected spend their entire vacation within the resort rather than venturing afield in Hawaii.

Although it clearly targets the family market, the property is also ideal for a corporate group, with extensive meeting facilities, a stunning setting and of course easy access from Australia via direct flights from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

Aulani is also just a few minutes from Waikele Premium Outlets, making it easy for Aussie pax to get some retail therapy.

Kayak heads down under

ONLINE travel search site Kavak has announced its expansion into the Australian market, with the launch this month of a local site which offers a "consolidated snapshot comparing hundreds of travel providers at once".

Kayak is a "meta-search" site which was started in the US in 2004 and has embarked on significant global expansion, with new operations in New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Ireland and Mexico rolling out.

The business is owned by USlisted travel giant Priceline, which acquired it earlier this year.

Priceline also owns online accommodation specialist Booking.com which last month launched a major TV advertising campaign in the Australian market (TD 16 Sep).

The now live kayak.com.au site offers search results conducted in Australian dollars and localised date formatting.

Kayak compares airline, hotel, car, cruise and package holiday deals from a range of travel sites as well as other fare aggregators. It says its hotel search includes

more than 400,000 properties worldwide, "more than any online travel agency," and claims that "travellers can save 25% or more on the same hotel offered elsewhere".

Kayak chief marketing officer Robert Birge said the business is actively seeking local partners, "including potentially with local online travel agents such as Wotif and Stayz," according to a Business Review Weekly report.

Ireland drops air tax

THE Irish government has scrapped its Airline Travel Tax, with airlines already responding by planning to increase services.

Previously Ireland charged €3 per passenger per flight, but in the annual budget this week it was announced that this will be dropped effective from Apr 2014.

Low-cost carrier Ryanair says it aims to increase traffic at Irish airports by one million passengers a year as a result, and other carriers are also believed to be considering capacity boosts.

The government has also maintained its VAT rate at 9% and allocated a whopping €8m for the development of the Wild Atlantic Way touring route (TD 03 Sep).

Irish Minister of State for Tourism & Sport, Michael Ring, said the investment "will ensure that this new west coast route lives up to international expectations.

"We are marketing Ireland as an outdoor scenic destination and the Wild Atlantic Way is already being widely promoted by international operators, including those in Australia and NZ," he said.

Trafalgar TV promo

THE second phase of a multimillion dollar TV campaign has been launched by Trafalgar to showcase the product from an "insiders" point of view, and its 'Be My Guest' dining experiences.

The TVCs will feature on free to air channels Seven and Nine. as well as subscription TV with digital and social extensions, on top of an online presence.

Trafalgar's latest campaign will run through until Feb 2014.



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52 destinations

*Net fare not including fees, taxes and surcharges.





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ATEC TourConnect partnership

THE Australian Tourism Export Council this morning announced a new agreement with TourConnect which will provide automated, standardised annual contracting and rate loading processes for Australian tourism operators.

The partnership will "introduce the industry to the value of standardising processes in reducing overall administration costs," according to ATEC md Felicia Mariani.

She said that the online product allows suppliers to distribute their annual rates and product

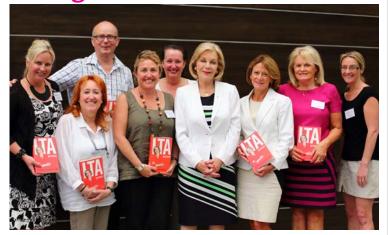
information to all wholesale partners from a central contact point, "making the job quicker and more efficient."

The move also includes a Technology Forum which will help ATEC members access the broad range of technical solutions available to increase business efficiency.

Workshops and events will also take place throughout the year at which TourConnect will help the industry to adopt the standardisation of processes.

See www.tourconnect.com.

Magellan-ites mix it with Ita



ITA Buttrose was the key-note speaker at the Magellan Travel Group Conference yesterday.

Pictured above is a group of lucky member agents who won the chance to dine with Ita.

From left are Sharon Hando, TTW; Anne Fuchs, Where2travel;

Mark Pearman, Epping Travel; Melinda Gregor, Gregor Lewis Bespoke Travel; Adrienne Wittemen, Trendsetter Travel; Wendy Buckley, Travel Specialist Mosman; Julie Avery, Brighton Travelworld and Michelle Taylor, TTW/Tauck.

QF Japan adjustment THE International Air Services

THE International Air Services Commission yesterday received an application from Qantas to vary its determination on the Australia-Japan route.

QF is now seeking unlimited capacity for passenger services between points in Australia and points in Japan, other than Toyko Haneda, under terms of the Australia-Japan air transport arrangement.

WWT Far East brox

WENDY Wu Tours has rolled out its first ever Far East brochure in 2014, offering a range of travel options through Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Mongolia, Hong Kong and Macau.

The program has a strong focus on independent travel packages, with the majority of product pitched at the FIT market.

New offerings include short stays in South Korea, Taipei and Mongolia, and there is also a new private tour of Japan.

Hawaii PreTick lanes

HONOLULU Int'l, Kahului and Lihue airports in Hawaii have each introduced TSA Pre√ lanes this week which expedite the processing of select passengers.

Peppers goes Luxe

PEPPERS on the Point Rotorua in New Zealand has been recognised as a Qualmark New Zealand Luxury Lodge.



Window Seat

MERLIN Entertainments' SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium this morning hosted a truly breathtaking event - a unique underwater yoga class.

Presented by Sasha Hawley, renowned as the founder of 'Yoga by the Sea,' the session apparently saw her performing "mesmerising yoga postures submerged in almost two million litres of water".

Eager yogis followed the moves through the aquarium glass, meaning they weren't bothered by some of the wildlife which included sharks and other marine creatures.

Daily one hour yoga classes at 7am are a new offering from the aquarium to encourage Sydneysiders to start their day with a sense of mental clarity.

Tickets cost \$30 online and include breakfast to go, with corporate enquiries welcome for a breakfast meeting with a difference - call 02 9333 9245.

SOME yoga-induced serenity was needed by a diner in the Czech republic, who attacked a restaurant with a chainsaw after being asked to leave.

36-year-old Petr Svacha was annoyed that the eatery in Zlin was closing and cut a hole in the door using the chainsaw so he could get in and finish dessert.

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BHG magazine tour

TRAFALGAR has partnered with Aussie home & lifestyle magazine Better Homes & Gardens to design a special itinerary to Italy exclusively for readers.

Travellers booking on the 14-day Crafts, Cuisine and Culture guided holiday will be joined by the magazine's editor Julia Zaetta.

The itinerary will incorporate elements of Italian food, lifestyle, home, art and gardening, and is priced from \$3,999ppts departing on 16 May 2014.

Guests on the holiday will learn about ceramic tile production in Positano, visit a chocolate factory in Perugia and learn pasta-making techniques from a Florentine chef. Details at www.trafalgar.com.

OPERA HOUSE ANNIVERSARY CONCERT TICKETS



This week **TD** is giving 3 lucky winners the chance to receive a double pass to the exclusive **Sydney Opera House** 40th anniversary concert on October 27, courtesy of Etihad Airways.

Etihad Airways is a major partner of Sydney Opera House and this year is delighted to be part of its 40th anniversary celebrations. By connecting Sydney Opera House to its vast global network, the Abu Dhabi-based airline is proud to bring international artists and overseas visitors to experience the magic of the World Heritage-listed performing arts venue.

To win, email your answer to:

etihad@traveldaily.com.au.

In 25 words or less, tell us what international cultural destination you'd like to visit with Etihad Airways and why.

Terms and conditions

Sydney domestic flat

A FALL in domestic passenger numbers through Sydney Airport in Sep impacted continued strong growth in international pax traffic, according to the latest statistics from the facility out today.

Compared to the same month last year, domestic pax numbers dropped 0.3%, with a 3.7% jump in int'l led to an overall growth of a modest 0.8% for the month.

Australia's largest airport is currently sitting at total year-todate growth just short of 28m pax, which is up 2.8% on 2012.

Arrivals from India were up 18% following the first full month of Air India operations of its B787 Dreamliner into Sydney, while China posted a year-on-year jump in arrivals of 28%, closely followed by Taiwan at 27%.

MEANWHILE, int'l arrivals into Melbourne Airport for Sep were up 8% year-on-year, with 635,111 pax arriving from overseas.

Like Sydney, domestic arrivals were flat, climbing only 0.1%.

CEO Chris Woodruff said North Asia was the key driver of growth. Woodruff added that plans

for construction and renovation works on its new domestic terminal and access roads was progressing well and remained on track to begin later this month.

Crown kks Sri Lanka

PLANS for a five-star integrated resort in the Sri Lankan capital city of Colombo are underway, Crown has confirmed.

Rumblings about the project first surfaced earlier this year (TD 07 Jun), with Crown chairman James Packer then in talks with the Sri Lankan Government and local joint venture partners.

In an official statement today, the casino giant said Crown Sri Lanka would be located on Beira Lake and consist of 450 hotel rooms, dining, conferencing, gaming and retail options.

The \$400m project is still awaiting full approvals from foreign investment regulators.



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Regal comes earlier

PRINCESS Cruises has today confirmed the expected early delivery of Regal Princess, with the maiden voyage of the new 3,650 passenger ship now 20 May 2014 - 13 days ahead of the originally slated debut.

As a result, two new cruises in the Mediterranean have been introduced: a seven-day sailing from Venice to Athens on 20 May and a six-day Athens to Venice voyage on 27 May - both of which can be combined for a 13-day trip.

PAL recruitment

PHILIPPINE Airlines general sales agent Rakso Australia has announced the appointment of Sam Heine as the carrier's new National Sales Manager, effective 22 Oct, to be based in Sydney.

He joins Michelle Narvaez who was recently named as Country Manager Australia/NZ.

Barossa ad pulls

THE national campaign to show off the food & wine produce of the Barossa is paying off, with preliminary research showing a "significant surge" in visitors.

South Australia Tourism Minister Leon Bignell said the "attention grabbing images of the Barossa" including soil has driven a renewed interest in the region since launching four months ago.

The distinctive 'Barossa. Be Consumed' clip features stunning images from the Barossa Valley and a soundtrack by Nick Cave.

"After watching the video almost half of the viewers surveyed said they were more likely to visit the Barossa, which is a fantastic indication of its success," Mr Bignell said.

The number of people passing through the Barossa Visitor Info Centre and traffic on the Barossa regional webpage have also both spiked since the ads launch.

Look who's on holiday in Hawaii



THE expansion of Disney's Aulani resort in Hawaii (TD yesterday) includes a stunning infinity pool area overlooking the resort's lagoon.

Last night, a welcome function included some very special guests who took in the sunset over a few drinks with Travel Daily.

Aulani, a Disney Resort & Spa "combines the magic and storytelling of Disney with the

rich culture and beautiful scenery of Hawaii," according to Tom Staggs, chairman of Walt Disney Parks & Resorts.

Unique experiences are on offer for the whole family including fantastic kids activities, the Painted Sky teen lounge and spa and Laniwai, a Disney Spa with 15 treatment rooms.

The resort also has extensive meeting and wedding facilities.

Agents taste the Five Star Life



RAIL Europe in partnership with Italian Rail specialists, Rail Plus and CIT, treated over 100 top agents in NSW to a piece of true Italian Cinema at the Palace Verona earlier this week.

Participants were lavished with fine Italian antipasto, Prosecco, popcorri and choc tops while they were transported into the world of the Five Star Life - a movie on the trials and tribulations of living the glamourous jet-setter life.

The event was brought together

under a joint coordination between Rail Europe, UTracks, Palace Cinemas and the Italian Tourist Office, with a similar event held in Melbourne last week.

Pictured from left are Antony Zeccola, bdm NSW Palace Cinemas; Federica Sakulsuvarn, Italian State Tourist Board; Rita Mardirossian, bdm CIT; Ute Junker, guest speaker; Ingrid Kocijan, assistant sales and marketing manager, Rail Plus and Jaclyn Lofts, UTracks.

Bunnik with Celebrity

BUNNIK Tours is promoting on Facebook that it has expanded its cruising partners to include Celebrity Cruises.

The South Australian company will offer Celebrity sailings on its Cruise & Tour options in South America, Mexico/Panama Canal and Turkey & the Black Sea.

Twain tickets selling

TICKETS for a new round of performances by international mega-star Shania Twain at The Colosseum at Caesar's Palace will go on sale on Sat 19 Oct.

The extra Shania: Still the One shows are planned late Jan/early Feb, with tickets priced from US\$55 to US\$250.



Travel Specials

WELCOME to Travel Specials, *Travel Daily*'s Friday 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.

Vietnam Airlines has released some red hot fares to Saigon and Hanoi for travel from now to 07 Dec, and from 16 Jan until further notice. Available from Adelaide & Brisbane via Sydney & Melbourne, fares start at \$350*. Ex Sydney & Melbourne starting from \$550 - * plus taxes/fuel surcharge. Agents also earn 5% commission - details at www.vietnamairlines.com.

Freestyle Holidays has launched a VIP package taking in the National Football League's (NFL) Pro Bowl at Aloha Stadium in Hawaii. Four-night packages that include accom, transfers, official Tailgate Party and Block party tickets and game-day tickets (on 26 Jan game) start at \$1,129ppts.

Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa at Jindabyne has a stay 4/pay 3 promo for visits in Dec and Jan from \$765, based on a mid-week Gold Mountain View Studio - excluding Christmas and New Year. See lakecrackenback.com.au.

A 50% off airfare discount is available on **Travel Indochina's** Saigon to Siem Reap sailing on *The Jahan* departing 26 Jan. Including Singapore Airlines flights, which are discounted by up to \$950 per couple, the 12-day itinerary (seven on *Jahan*) is priced at \$6,351ppts - call 1300 362 777.



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SIA SWP loads falling

SINGAPORE Airlines yesterday reported a 1.8% year-on-year rise in system wide passenger carriage during the month of Sep, with capacity growth up 2.6%.

Passenger load factor dropped 0.7 percentage points to 79.9% across the network, while loads to the South West Pacific fell 4.8 points to 78.9%.

Bora Bora incentive

SOFITEL Luxury Hotels has launched an incentive for Aussie travel agents, offering a five-night package staying at Sofitel Bora Bora Private Island in an Island Luxury Overwater Bungalow.

The winner will be determined based on the number of sales made between Oct and Dec, for travel over the same period.

Included in the prize for two is a dinner on the beach, daily brekkie, flights to Bora Bora for the agent and transfers.

To participate, all booking details must be emailed to Lisa at lisa.coakley@sofitel.com.

ADL Masters Games

SOUTH Australia says securing the hosting rights for the 2015 Australian Masters Games is a boon for the state.

Announced this week by SA Tourism Minister Leon Bignell, the biennial sporting event will lure over 10,000 participants and inject around \$12 million into South Australia's economy.

"This event will make a significant contribution to the local economy and is also a great opportunity to showcase both Adelaide and our regions to athletes and supporters," he said.

DAH pricing manager

DRIVEAWAY Holidays has this week appointed Nathaniel Abbott as the company's new pricing manager, relocating from the USA to Sydney for the position.

Abbott has nearly 10 years experience within the travel and car rental industry.

He will report to DriveAway Holidays ceo Chris Hamill.

TA/EK UK promo

TOURISM Australia and Emirates have launched a cooperative campaign in the UK, targeting affluent Britons aged 50 plus and showcasing Australia as a "premium, unique and achievable destination".

Technology Update

Today's Technology Update is brought to you by Tramada Systems Pty Ltd.

It's a winner.....



Travel agents around the country have jumped on board our new, exciting and unique feature that downloads CalypsoNet bookings into tramada®, simply and seamlessly.

We collaborated with Qantas Holidays and a number of our clients to be first to market with this game changing functionality. Sean Skilton, Director of Travelscene at South West Travel, worked with us to shape the solution and says "I am thrilled with the results of this work and being able to help Tramada get it right."

In the first four days following launch Tramada agents downloaded more than 300 CalypsoNet bookings which is testament to the simplicity of the functionality and how well it has been received by the market. Steve Labroski, MD of itravel Australia remarked, "We love it, it's saving our agents considerable time already, more than 15 minutes per booking in some cases, freeing up consultants to focus on selling."

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Jo OBrien, Chief Executive Officer, Tramada – your technology partner





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Starwood Thai boost

SHERATON has opened a brand new property in the Thailand resort town of Hua Hin in the form of the 55-room Sheraton Hua Hin Pranburi Villas.

5 reasons to visit Hawaii!



THIS week Hawaii Tourism Oceania invited their Aussie Ohana (family) to an Industry Update to review results and trends for 2013.

Hawaii has seen fantastic growth in the Australian market for MICE business - up 108%, as well as destination weddings to the Aloha State soaring 30%.

Plans and opportunities with trade partners into 2014 was also discussed at the events.

HTO are forecasting to end 2013

Voyages 2014 events

VOYAGES Indigenous Tourism Australia has detailed its major events planned for 2014 in the Red Centre, with four major drawcards confirmed so far.

Kicking off the calendar of events is the inaugural Indigenous Cultural Festival dubbed Tjungu (24-27 Apr), closely followed by Outback Fest (03-04 May) which includes the Camel Cup Race.

Now in its fifth year, the Australian Outback Marathon will be hosted on 26 Jul, and the Astronomy Weekend is scheduled for 22-24 Aug. with a record number of visitors, tracking favourably towards an Australian visitor count of 300,000 and gearing up for another bumper year in 2014.

Pictured at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney from left are HTO's Helen Williams, Janaya Birse, Holly Ballard, Ashlee Galea and Mary He.

UA seeks SFO/HND

UNITED Airlines is seeking US regulatory approval to introduce a new daily non-stop service between San Francisco and Tokyo Haneda service.

UA is hoping to pick up slots into Japan made available by American Airlines' decision to terminate its New York JFK to Tokyo Haneda service on 01 Dec.

MEANWHILE, Florida's Silver Airways has inked a codeshare partnership with UA on services to ports in the Bahamas.

The pact will offer through-fare and baggage and will also see the continuation of Silver Airways operating as United Express from the airlines' shared hubs in Cleveland and Washington DC.

Enterprise motorbike

US CAR hire company Enterprise Rent-A-Car has announced plans to start offering Harley-Davidson motorcycles solely from its depot in Las Vegas, Nevada.Rates for the bikes will range from US\$120-US\$160 per day.

Wotif recruits

PETRIK Oh has been appointed as senior web analytics manager for the Wotif Group, based in the OTC's Sydney office.

He will be responsible for leading the data analytics team and previously held similar senior positions with telcos Vodaphone and Optus.

Wi-fi on Coconuts

COCONUTS Beach Club Resort & Spa in Samoa has introduced new in-house wi-fi for guests, available in all suites/fales and public areas of the property.

The services introduction is a direct result of Coconuts listening to the feedback of guests.

Titanic Belfast offer

VISIT UK has partnered with Titanic Belfast and Hastings Hotel to introduce an exclusive twonight Belfast package.

Including accom, brekkie and admission to the attraction, the package is priced from \$205ppts - more at www.visituk.com.au.

WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO IRELAND

Throughout October, *Travel Daily* is giving readers the chance to win a fabulous holiday to Ireland, courtesy of **Tourism Ireland, Etihad Airways**, **Avis**, **Ashling Hotel- Dublin**, **Manor House Hotels & Irish Country Hotels** and the **Beech Hill Hotel – Derry-Londonderry**.

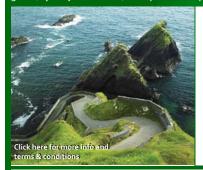
The prize includes:

- Return economy airfares for 2 people to Dublin flying Etihad Airways;
- 9 nights' accommodation (twin share) including breakfast daily;
- 7 days Avis standard car hire in Ireland (pickup & return to Dublin). Every day *Travel Daily* will ask a different Ireland-related question – just read the issue and email us your answer. There will be 22 questions in total, which will also be posted on our website.

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 fantastic holiday to Ireland.

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

Plus, two runner ups will receive an 'Ireland goodie pack', including Lonely Planet Ireland guide, Lonely Planet Dublin guide, Lonely Planet Irish Language & Culture guide, Lyndey Milan DVD, neck pillow and post-it notes.



Q.13: To the nearest 100 kms, how long is the Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way driving route?







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