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Travel Daily

First with the news

Friday 20th September 2013

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Emirates adds Boston

EMIRATES will add Boston as its 8th destination in the United States, effective 10 Mar, the UAE-based carrier has confirmed.

The new route from Dubai will be operated by Boeing 777-200LR aircraft on a daily nonstop basis, with passengers able to connect further across North America under a codeshare agreement with US carrier JetBlue Airways.

Flight EK237 will depart Dubai at 9:45am, arriving at Boston Logan Int'l Airport at 3:15pm, while the return EK238 flight leaves BOS at 10:55pm, touching back down in DXB at 7:10pm the next day.

Recently, chief commercial officer Thierry Antinori hinted the carrier would look to add Chicago, Miami & Boston to its expanding US route map (**TD** 30 Aug).

MEANWHILE, Emirates has this week topped more than 2 million Facebook 'likes' on its social networking page.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news & photos, a front full page for **Singapore Airlines** plus a full page from:

- AA Appointments jobs

Spencer joins Magellan

SYDNEY'S Spencer Travel is one of five new members of the Magellan Travel Group, with the multi-award winning agency switching from its long-time association with Travelscene Amex effective from 01 Oct.

Magellan chief executive officer Andrew Macfarlane this morning released details of the expanding group, with all five additions being current Jetset Travelworld Group franchisees.

The expansion includes TSAX member Benalla Travel based in North East Vic and Box Hill's Rheom Travel, currently part of the Jetset Travelworld Network Business Select brand.

Also joining Magellan is Platinum Travel Corporation - itself a JTN member - which was founded in 2009 by former AFTA chairman Carl Buerckner along with Greg McCarthy and Joseph Vella, and which has operations in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

The fifth new Magellan member is The Travel Centre in Coffs Harbour on the NSW north coast, which is currently trading as Jetset Coffs Harbour.

Including the various offices of the new members, today's announcement will take Magellan to a total of 85 agencies.

Macfarlane said "We are thrilled to have travel agents of such stature, experience and reputation joining the group, which further cements our place as the leading group for high performance, high achieving travel agents in Australia".

He said that "further exciting announcements" would be made at the Magellan annual conference which will take place on Queensland's Sunshine Coast from 16-18 Oct.

SATC director shuffle

CHAIR of the South Australia Tourism Commission board Jane Jeffreys has announced the expiry of director Michael Tilley's term at office after a 5.5 year tenure.

Jeffreys lauded Tilley for his direction over the period which saw the SATC achieve a significant increase in visitor expenditure, the development of a balanced calendar of events and attracted tourism investment to the state.

He will be replaced by Adelaide Airport managing director and chief executive Mark Young - the same man who has helped to lure international airlines to Adelaide including Emirates and AirAsia X, and Tigerair on a domestic-front, Jeffreys added.

"With a long career in senior financial positions, he brings a high level of business experience to the board," she commented.

Existing directors Brian Hayes QC, Jan Turbill and John Irving were reappointed for two years.

SIA earlybirds fly

SINGAPORE Airlines is today continuing to promote its innovative non-seasonal 2014 European earlybirds - see the **front full page** of today's **TD**.

QF5 SYD/SIN retimed

QANTAS has altered the timing of its afternoon direct service between Sydney and Singapore (QF5) by near 2 hrs, moving from the current 1:10pm departure to 3:05pm, effective 27 Oct.

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Travel Daily

First with the news

Friday 20th September 2013

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New LAX TBIT debut

FLIGHT operations have commenced at the South Concourse of the new Tom Bradley International Terminal at Los Angeles Airport.

There are now eight new gates operating on the terminal's west side, all A380 and 747-8 capable.

Expanded customs and immigration areas will also enable up to 4500 passengers to be processed per hour, up from the current 2800 pax hourly capacity.

Qantas/Emirates earlybirds

QANTAS and Emirates today for the first time ever released joint earlybirds, just over a year since they announced their partnership.

Low season fares lead in at \$1547 to Copenhagen, \$1554 to Milan and \$1754 to the UK, with the economy offer complementing the business and first class QF/EK earlybirds announced this week (**TD Mon**).

Open jaw itineraries are permitted and the earlybirds offer one-stop connections to more than 30 destination across Europe as well as ports in Africa and the Middle East.

Qantas executive manager International Sales Stephen Thompson said he was excited to launch the biggest ever QF/EK joint commercial offer.

He said that QF is thrilled at the progress of the partnership "and based on bookings and feedback, so are our customers.

"We knew we had the potential to do something that would have a huge impact on the industry, and we're now seeing that with over half a million Qantas

customers having travelled through Dubai," he said.

Earlybird bookings in economy must be completed by 15 Nov, with fares available (at varying levels) for travel between 01 Mar and 31 Oct 2014.

Some blackout periods may also apply to the earlybirds.

MEANWHILE, EK vp Australasia Bryan Banston said the carrier had seen particularly strong Australian bookings for its new Stockholm route.

LH aircraft order

LUFTHANSA has announced a new order for 59 fuel efficient wide-body aircraft split between Boeing and Airbus, worth a list price of US\$19 million.

The order includes 34 777-9Xs and 25 A350-900s, with the first of the new fleet aircraft to be delivered as early as 2016.

The Star Alliance member carrier said it plans to phase out its current fleet of Boeing 747-400s and A340-300s by 2025.

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Aussies hit NZ slopes

TOURISM New Zealand has today reported a 4.7% year-on-year spike in the number of Aussies heading across 'the ditch' during Aug, surpassing 100,000 visitors for the first time ever.

Over 44,000 movements were attributed as holiday traffic - up 9.3% on last year.

Across all markets, arrivals into New Zealand increased 6.2%.

Chief exec Kevin Bowler said the growth across most offshore markets "is a fantastic result" and maintains a strong trend which began at the beginning of 2013.

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Travel Daily

First with the news

Friday 20th September 2013



Flight Centre rebranding

FLIGHT Centre is set to amend its name to the Flight Centre Travel Group (**TD** breaking news), with the move aiming to reflect the company's "transformation from its traditional roots as a leisure travel agent to a world class retailer of leisure and corporate travel products".

MD Graham Turner said the FC board believes the name change is in the company's best interests,

"and reinforces the depth of its business, a strength that is sometimes overlooked".

He pointed out that Flight Centre generated more than 30% of its global sales last year from corporate travel, while almost half of its sales in Australia came from corporate or niche leisure brands.

The name change is subject to shareholder approval, with further details to be distributed in an AGM pack later this month.

MEANWHILE, Turner also confirmed a change to the Flight Centre board, with the retirement of Peter Barrow.

He'll be replaced by Sydney-based Robert Baker from PwC as an independent non-executive director.

TN trade incentive

AIR Tahiti Nui is inviting ten Australian travel agents to celebrate the carrier's 15th birthday, with an exclusive picnic on an "idyllic motu".

To go into the draw to win a spot, agents must book and ticket (on TN244 paper) any Air Tahiti Nui marketed flight for travel any time and to anywhere, between 23 Sep and 20 Oct.

The incentive trip will take place 14-17 Nov and includes airfares ex SYD or MEL to Papeete, transfers, luxury twin share accom and more - 1300 657 190.

Best Western Ballina

BEST Western has announced its newest member as the Ballina Island Motor Inn.

The property features 40 rooms and is located 20mins drive south of the coastal northern NSW city.

MH 2014 earlybirds

MALAYSIA Airlines today released its European earlybird fares for 2014, with the low fares available for departures starting from 16 Jan 2014 rather than the traditional Mar travel period.

On sale from today until 20 Dec, prices lead in at \$1711 for Sydney to London, Brisbane to Amsterdam from \$1546 or Darwin to Istanbul from \$1382.

There are also Business class fares starting at \$5492 from Perth to Paris, with the aggressive deals coinciding with a significant boost in MH capacity from its six major Australian ports.

Flights from SYD, MEL, BNE, ADL and PER to KUL will be operated by new A330-300 and B777-200 aircraft, while passengers flying onwards from Kuala Lumpur to London or Paris will be able to experience the Malaysia Airlines new flagship A380 superjumbo.

MH customers can earn and redeem miles and points across the **oneworld** network.

RCI boosts Asia

ROYAL Caribbean International has released details of 2014 Asian itineraries to be sailed by *Mariner of the Seas* and *Voyager of the Seas*.

Cruises range from three to ten nights in duration, with ports of call in Thailand, Malaysia, China, Vietnam, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan, homeporting from Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai and Beijing.

Both ships will also offer 'open-jaw' repositioning cruises.

Wet'n'Wild coming

VILLAGE Roadshow Limited has commenced the countdown for the opening of Wet'n'Wild Sydney, supported by a brand new web presence that reveals more about what is to come.

Wet'n'Wild Sydney will provide ground breaking RFID "MyBand" technology enabling a seamless in-park experience without needing a phone or wallet.

Scenic ERC last seats

AGENTS are being reminded by Scenic Tours there are now only three weeks remaining to take advantage of its European River Cruising (ERC) discounts for 2014.

Savings of up to \$5,490 per couple are on offer with free return flights to Europe incl taxes.

To cope with expected demand, Scenic is extending the operating hours of its customer call centre for the next four weeks - 7:30am-7:00pm AEST Mon to Fri (and to 8:00pm AEST on Thu) & 9:00am-4:00pm AEST on Sat.

MEANWHILE, Nine Network's *Garden Gurus* program - telecast on Nine at 4:30pm on Sat and at 2pm on GEM - will showcase the best of Ireland over the next two weeks, courtesy of Scenic Tours.

Window Seat

LAZINESS has sunk to a new level of...well, lazy, aimed at that extremely rare breed for whom even New York City isn't a reason to get out of bed.

The upmarket Trump SoHo property in the trendy lower Manhattan district has launched a new Shopping in Bed service where breakfast is served with a personal shopping consultant to learn what you're looking for.

Items are then sourced and delivered - gift wrapped no less - to your room that afternoon.

POMS love their Aussie soaps, and Tourism & Events Queensland is listening.

The organisation is listening, recently partnering with Channel 5 in the UK to launch a competition offering a trip to Australia to meet the cast of long-running soap Neighbours.

After visiting the set, winners will then be transported to Kingfisher Bay Resort on Fraser Island for a one-week holiday and whale-watching experience on the island, with a number of day tours also thrown in.



Ticket & Reservation Officer

As one of the fastest growing airlines in the world, this position requires high level of customer service to our call centre and serves our walk-in customer at our Sydney office.

Duties include:

- Answering travel agents and customer enquiries in a call centre environment
- Working as part of the professional National Call Centre team
- Promoting China Southern product and services
- Making and changing flight bookings
- Servicing walk in customers to our ticketing office

Successful candidates will have:

- Minimum of 2-3 years experience on airline ticketing & reservation
- Strong communication skills. Fluent English both written and spoken is mandatory, while Mandarin or Cantonese is preferable
- Solid understanding on daily ticketing & reservation tasks
- Intermediate to Advance level on the GDS system, preferably on Amadeus

Please email a cover letter with resume attached to hr@csair.com.au. Application closed on 30th September 2013.

Only the successful applicants will be contacted.

NZ nod for Virgin/Air NZ pact

AUTHORITIES in New Zealand have today approved an extension of the alliance between Air NZ and Virgin Australia.

The NZ Ministry of Transport has re-authorised the Tasman pact through until 31 Oct 2018, and has not imposed any additional conditions on the recent ACCC

approval of the alliance, which includes codesharing, joint pricing & other reciprocal arrangements.

VA General Counsel Adam Thatcher said the decision "will enable us to continue to bring substantial benefits to consumers, tourism and business across the Tasman".

Air New Zealand chief strategy, networks and alliances officer Stephen Jones said that the alliance had already delivered significant benefits to passengers, "including lower fares on the Tasman routes over the past three years.

"The reauthorisation will enable us to continue to further improve the trans-Tasman customer experience, as we realise even greater efficiencies, opportunities and cost savings," he said.

The renewal by the NZ Minister of Transport is the final step in the renewal of the pact.

SQ launch India airline

SINGAPORE Airlines will own a 49% stake in a new full-service airline to be established in India and based in New Delhi, with the majority to be owned by India's Tata Group conglomerate.

The two parties have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the project and applied to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board for approval.

Prasad Menon, nominated by Tata Sons, will act as the carrier's chairman on a Board of three, with no information on branding, management, routes or services announced as yet.

Tata's involvement will come on top of minority stakes in low-cost joint ventures with both Malaysia Airlines and AirAsia, while Virgin Atlantic has also expressed interest in India's aviation market.

HA earlybird demand

HAWAIIAN Airlines has joined the Earlybird frenzy, releasing a range of fares from Australia for travel to Honolulu & US mainland.

Available for sales & ticketing to 11 Oct, seats are valid for travel in pre-determined low and high-season periods until end of 2014.

Seats are on sale from today, priced from \$1,154 tax-inclusive.

MEANWHILE, HA and China Airlines are seeking US regulatory approval to begin codesharing between Honolulu and Taipei and multiple other US & int'l routes, including CI's flights between Sydney and Brisbane to Auckland.

QH Disney promo

QANTAS Holidays and Disney Destinations are offering 10 agents a chance to get a slice of 1 million Trip points when booking & depositing Disney packages in California, Florida and Hong Kong before 18 Oct, for travel between 05 Jan and 31 Mar 2014.

The joint promotion includes kids stay free at Disney hotels, kids get 2nd ticket free at Hong Kong Disneyland, stay/play & dine bundles in Florida, savings of up to \$415 in California and 10,000 bonus Qantas Points on air and land packages.

The top 10 selling agents during the campaign will share in the Trip points incentive - more at www.qvh.com.au/agents.

Cash card adds Baht

ACCESS Prepaid, operators of the multi-currency Cash Passport, has added the Thai Baht to the list of applicable currencies available on the card.

THB is now the tenth currency able to be added to the passport, and like others, exchange rates are locked in at time of purchase.

Meritus set for growth



SINGAPORE-BASED Meritus Hotels is on an expansion curve, with a strategy to acquire new properties in key gateway cities across the Asia-Pacific region.

The company, which operates the Marina Mandarin and Mandarin Orchard in Singapore as well as hotels in China and Indonesia, is also considering a significant rebrand which would focus on the 'Meritus' name.

Paul Stocker, regional vice president for the group, has been in Australia for the last few days with a team representing some of the properties.

He told **TD** that Meritus wants to grow its awareness in Australia, particularly with the addition of new properties in

Bali and Chongqing, China, while the company is also currently conducting due diligence on other potential acquisitions in Hong Kong and Shanghai.

"We want to elevate our brand and presence in key cities across the region," Stocker said.

He said that Australia is a key market for the company, which has been pleasantly surprised to see business strengthen despite Qantas shifting its hub for Europe from Singapore to Dubai.

Pictured above from left are Randall Lui, Randall Marketing; Veronica See, Meritus Pelangi Langkawi; Derek Chan, Mandarin Orchard; Liz Johnston, Randall Marketing; Denise Ko, Marina Mandarin; and Paul Stocker.



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You will ideally have 1-2 years marketing experience. You must have excellent written and verbal communication, with the ability to work on multiple deadlines. Exposure to digital and social media is an advantage. If you are passionate about marketing, and have a can-do attitude, then here is your opportunity to advance in your career in the industry.

If this sounds like your perfect job, please send your CV to Doris Li at: dorisli@stamford.com.au by 4 October 2013.

Friday 20th September 2013

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Aussie agents and the Temple of Thom



CHINA Southern Airlines and Adventure World hosted a group of Travelscene NSW/ACT agents on a recent famil to Cambodia. Highlights included visits to the Buddhist temples Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom in Siem Reap & Cambodian cooking schools.

The trip also gave the agents a chance to experience the best of China Southern's Guangzhou hub, taking advantage of the newly adopted 72-hour visa waiver.

In Guangzhou, participants cruised down the Pearl River and tucked into a traditional

Cantonese yum cha meal.

Pictured at the Buddhist Temple Angkor Thom from left rear are: Jonathan Hickman, Travelscene on Crown Wollongong; Leigha Clough; Travelscene Ulladulla and Allan Whiteley, M&G Travel Moree.

In front: Jacqueline Gatehouse, Travelscene Batemans Bay; Robert Diamond, Travelscene Manuka; Bruce Tener, Balgownie World Travel; Kelly Simpson, Travelscene Nowra; Brooke Wilson, China Southern and Nadina Bross, Adventure World.

VA Bali changes

VIRGIN Australian is advising that passengers arriving into Bali Ngurah Rai Airport will notice "some changes" as the carrier moves to the new international terminal (**TD** yesterday).

"As part of the change, Virgin Australia is required to expedite our move to the new terminal," VA said in a trade memo.

Passengers flying with VA back to Australia from Bali will depart from the old terminal (adjacent to the new terminal), and are being recommended to check-in at the airport at least 3hrs prior to departure.

MEANWHILE, Virgin's flights between Perth and Newman now depart/arrive at Perth Terminal 3.

Melb Aquarium open

MERLIN Entertainments Group will officially relaunch the SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium on Sat.

The unveiling comes after an \$8 million five-month refurbishment. New features include a state-of-the-art Croc Lair exhibit - home to a 750kg Saltwater crocodile.

"This latest, multi-million dollar transformation positions the aquarium on a global scale and heralds the way for the continued growth of our strong marine conservation program," said Edward Fuller, Merlin Entertainment Aus/NZ director.

Other new aquatic adventures include the Bay of Rays, Coral Caves, Rainforest & Seahorse Pier, see melbourneaquarium.com.au.

Four Seasons, a reason for Russia



FOUR Seasons Sydney last night hosted an intimate group of MICE partners and media to promote the luxury group's new opening and pending additions in Russia for the group/conference sector.

The 177-room Four Season Hotel Lion Palace St Petersburg opened last month in a landmark location beside St Isaac's Cathedral and a short walk from the State Hermitage Museum.

It will be joined by the Four Seasons Hotel Moscow, slated to open in mid-2014 adjacent to Red Square and designed as a modern replica of the famous Hotel Moskva originally built in the '30s. It will feature 175 rooms.

Access to Russia from Australia has never been easier thanks to increased air lift via Gulf carriers, Russian specialist from Neomic Concepts Sue Wallace says.

Also attending from her native home town of Moscow was Natayla Anikeeva who said the number of Australian groups to Russia is growing steadily, and her company, Rusmice, was keen to cater for events of all sizes.

In the Four Seasons' The Woods restaurant from left are Barry & Susan Wallace from Nemonic Concepts; Natalya Anikeeva, sales & marketing director, Rusmice & Cathy Favaloro, regional director of sales, Four Seasons Hotels.



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Cruise Office is a boutique sales and marketing office representing Oceania Cruises, Swan Hellenic, Voyages of Discovery and the American Queen Steamboat Company.

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Training our agency partners, hosting client film nights and developing strategies to increase sales is an essential part of this position.

Forward your resume to our Director of Key Accounts, Craig Owens - craig@cruiseoffice.net

Applications close 27 September.

The travel technology landscape



When deciding on investing in travel technology there are two main considerations. On one hand

there is an expectation and demand for a quick Return on Investment, on the other hand there is the growing complexity of technology. The whole shift to cloud based solutions which offer proven cost and time savings, see these expectations pushed even further.

Customers expect solutions to always be available, have snappy response times, provide rich features and be dead easy to use. It is a challenge to meet these expectations. However as travel is a growing industry and 44% of leisure travellers are planning to spend more money on travel this year compared to last and we have a growing population it augurs well for getting that return if you do it right.

We have developed a framework to help you visualise where you sit in the travel eco system and where you add or could add value. Of course building a strong foundation in your core technologies provides the solid structure on which your business can thrive. This includes technologies like tramada®, accounting systems and GDS but real creativity can come from low cost investments in fast moving technologies to engage with customers in a way that is consistent with your brand values.

How is your travel ecosystem empowering your business?

For more information about this or about tramada® - email sales@tramada.com

Björn Böhme, Chief Technical Officer, Tramada – your technology partner



Friday 20th Sep 2013

Asia push MEL growth

MARKETS from Asia continued to drive international passenger growth into Melbourne Airport in Aug, with official results from the facility showing a 14% year-on-year arrivals spike for the month.

Malaysia and Indonesia led the way, boosted by travel associated with Merdeka Day celebrations.

Domestic traffic increased 4% to a total of 1,967,419 pax arriving.

MEANWHILE, Sydney Airport saw a 5.6% jump in international arrivals during Aug, with more than 1.4m passenger movements.

Inbound arrival markets were also led by Malaysia, followed by China, India, the UK & Hong Kong.

The most popular outbound destinations for Australians in Aug were the USA, UAE, Singapore, Malaysia, NZ, Philippines & UK.

Viagogo Aus launch

TICKETS to shows and sporting events can be bought and resold as necessary on a new secure platform known as Viagogo, with the company this week expanding its service to Australia.

Already available in 50 countries around the world, the service is a secure and guaranteed way to buy tickets up to the last minute and even if the event is sold out.

Viagogo ceo Eric Baker said independent research showed that 38% of Australians wanted to be able to offload tickets to events they could no longer attend but that 95% were sceptical about using a service such as eBay or Gumtree to do so.

The company has already signed a partnership deal with two AFL clubs to become their official ticket marketplace - more details at www.viagogo.com/au.

SQ climbs all around

SINGAPORE Airlines reported an 11.7% jump in pax carried for the month of Aug network-wide, with a 4.1% jump in load factors to 82.4% on average.

The carrier uplifted more than 1.6m passengers during the month, with loads on South-West Pacific routes including Australia jumping 4.9% to 78.5%.



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Club Med pops up in Malvern



MELBOURNE travel agency where2travel, located in the south-east suburb of Malvern, has become the first Victorian home of Club Med's recently launched 'Shop-in-a-Shop' concept (*TD* 13 Jul 2012).

Situated in dedicated corners of participating travel agencies in key locations, Club Med's pop-up design provides a separate area with Club Med branding for customers to learn more about Club Med's worldwide resorts.

The launch was celebrated this week at a special event held

at the agency, with Club Med's senior Australian management mixing with local businesses and the team from where2travel.

Over selections of fine food and wine, Club Med also provided an update on the direction of its new concept and the overall direction of the Club Med resorts globally.

The team from where2travel Malvern are **pictured** above at the event, and from left consist of Diane Rawlings, Vicki Zwar, Cassie Muhlan, Johanna Dash, Jodie Gent, Sarit Fuchs, Lisa Harrison, Jennie Marsden and Kym Lewis.



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.

Abercrombie & Kent is offering savings of up to \$5,035 per couple on its 15-day Best of Argentina and Chile itinerary, for bookings and travel valid before 20 Dec. Prices start from \$8,195ppts - phone 1300 590 317.

Tuesday has been rebranded Choseday at **Travelodge** Australia hotels, with a choice of three bonus add-ons available for stays on any day, if booked on Tuesday. Choose from a 2-for-1 breakfast, late checkout or a free movie ticket. See www.travelodge.com.au/travelodge-choosedays.

Bring a friend for free on **Bentours** Norwegian cruises via a new deal from the Scandinavian specialists. Book the six-day Classic Voyage South by 30 Sep for travel in Nov or Dec from Kirkenes to Bergen. Phone 1800 221 712.

Celebrating 40 years this year, **Mercure Hotels** is rewarding guests also celebrating the same milestone, with 40% off Best Available rates for people celebrating 40th birthdays or 40th wedding anniversaries in 2013. Valid for stays to 31 Oct at 30 hotels nationwide. See www.mercure.com.

Metro Apartments Darling Harbour has launched a Princess Package ahead of the arrival in Sydney next month of Crown Princess Mary, priced from \$229pn weeknights and \$349pn on weekends. Phone 1800 004 321.



NORTHERN Territory's vast expanses of land are always a sight to behold, and were not lost on this group of agents attending NT Roundup 2013, an annual event hosted by Tourism NT.

Alice Springs hosted the group of 35 agents late last month in conjunction with Tourism NT's partners Qantas Holidays, Infinity Holidays, Territory Discoveries and Sunlover Holidays.

Following the event, the group ventured further inland to Uluru, Kings Canyon and Kata Tjuta as

part of a four-day mega famil, in which they immersed themselves in the landmarks of the area.

The group in attendance are **pictured** above just prior to embarking on the Kata Tjuta Walpa Gorge Walk.

A&K smash a winner

ABERCROMBIE & Kent has partnered with Tennis Australia to become the official tour operator for the 2014 Australian Open Grand Slam tennis tournament.

Packages inclusive of match tickets and accommodation at the Grand Hyatt are now available for the event, with optional touring around Victoria also on sale.

The event will again take place at Melbourne Park next year, running from 13-26 Jan.

Bugs bad for business

RESEARCH conducted by pest control firm Rentokil has warned Australian hotels that online hotel reviews detailing bed bug attacks can be "paralysing for business."

The survey found 86% of Aussie travellers won't consider booking a property if they read a report about the tiny bedding creatures on TripAdvisor or Expedia and that just one bad guest experience reported online can damage future booking levels.

According to the poll, 34% of Aussie travellers have experienced bed bugs at some point while travelling, with social media also likely to be a source for venting if a hotel appears to be infested.

Jumeirah brand water

CARBON reduction efforts have been increased at Jumeirah's resorts in the Maldives, with both properties announcing the launch of water bottling plants on-site.

The facilities will enable the resorts to treat & filter sea water, add minerals and bottle for use within the properties, aiming to save more than 100,000 bottles of imported water annually.

TNZ recruits in India

TOURISM New Zealand has appointed Neha Bola as its new country manager for India, based in Mumbai, effective 15 Oct.

A marketing communication manager and PR manager have also been recruited in the nation.

Regional manager south and southeast Asia Mischa Mannix-Opie said the fresh team would position TNZ in the right place to maximise opportunities from the burgeoning Indian market.

WIN A COSMOS INDIA TOUR FOR TWO

During September, *Travel Daily* is giving one lucky travel consultant reader and their travelling companion the chance to win a 7-day Golden Triangle Cosmos India tour, valued at up to \$5000 per couple.

The winning agent will enjoy:

- A 7-day Golden Triangle India tour taking in Delhi, Jaipur & Agra
- Return economy airfares from major Australian gateway cities
- Breakfast included daily
- Pre-paid Gratuities to Tour Director and Driver
- Airport to hotel transfers on first and last day of itinerary only
- Sightseeing with your Tour Director including visits to many attractions

To enter, simply send in a caption that best represents the photo featured above. You can enter as many times as you want.



Week 3

Get creative & email your captions to: cosmoscomp@traveldaily.com.au

Plus, a weekly prize of a bottle of Moët & Chandon champagne will be up for grabs for the cleverest caption received each week...so keep an eye out in *Travel Daily* each Tuesday to see if it's you!



[Click here for terms & conditions of the competition](#)

HV GDS merchandise

NETHERLANDS based low-cost carrier Transavia.com has become the latest carrier to sign with Travelport for GDS distribution of its range of ancillary products.

Luxury city properties

HOTEL representation group Destination Elite has launched a new sub-division collection aimed at promoting luxury city hotels.

Dubbed CityElite, the new brand has launched with a group of 48 luxury hotels in 40 cities over 14 countries, including Mandarin Oriental, Raffles-Fairmont, Oberoi Hotel Group & the Leela Gurgaon and complements affiliate groups such as Elite Resorts & Elite Living.

PGA heading to Fiji

THE Fiji Government has signed a five-year agreement with PGA Australia to host a tournament in the PGA Australasia Tour at the Natadola Bay Golf Course.

Planning for the first event at the course adjacent to the InterContinental Fiji Golf Resort is underway for Aug next year, but is expected to move to later in the year from 2015 onwards.

Tahitian name change

OWNERSHIP changes at the Te Tiare Beach Resort on the Tahitian island of Huahine has seen the property renamed the Royal Huahine, with a new Polynesian logo for the resort also launched.

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Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia
Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia
P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

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

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Join a hugely successful travel company based in the CBD. They are one of the highest paying wholesale companies in the travel industry and boast high staff satisfaction and very low turnover. You will be selling worldwide travel products and dealing solely with travel agents – no more direct public. You will have a minimum of 2 years travel industry experience, GDS knowledge and good sales skills. Earn an excellent salary plus commission on every booking. Apply today and watch your bank balance soar!!!

**THE EVENT OF THE YEAR!
SPORTS AND EVENTS CONSULTANT
MELBOURNE (STH EAST) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$45k +**

We have a rare opportunity in Melbourne for a junior consultant to join this well known sporting and events agency. This role will see you working M-F hours only, while being trained to be an experienced event consultant. You will be responsible for booking worldwide sporting events for your loyal customers via phone and email. With a unique location and career advancement you would be crazy to pass this up. Let us help you land your dream role today! Minimum 12 months travel industry experience required.

**A SOUTHERN DELIGHT
RETAIL TRAVEL CONSULTANT
PERTH (SOUTH) – SALARY PACKAGE TO \$50K (OTE)**

Calling all experienced travel consultants south of the river! We have an exciting retail position that will see you working with this well known agency in a busy shopping centre. You will be responsible for booking exciting worldwide leisure holidays to exciting destinations such as Europe, Asia and more. With a high base salary on offer and a sensational bonus system you will love your new position. This is a rare role for the South of Perth so be quick to secure this gem. Minimum 18 months consulting experience required.

**ARE YOU READY TO BE REWARDED?
WHOLESALE TRAVEL CONSULTANTS X 4
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There has never been a better time to make the move from retail to wholesale! We have 4 sensational roles available for experienced consultants in the heart of Perth. Working via phone and email you will be responsible for assisting your loyal travel agents with their clients worldwide holiday bookings. With the best salary in town and international rewards on offer you will kick yourself if you miss this! Come and join this global company and never look back. Min 12 months international consulting experience required.

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