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Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 9th April 2014



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Inland NSW online push

FUNDING of more than \$800,000 has been secured by Inland NSW for the development of a digital platform to “improve the online experience of visitors to the Inland region.”

Inland NSW Tourism is the amalgamation of a number of regional tourism organisations across the state, and represents about 28% of all NSW tourism operators and destinations.

The grant must be matched by partner organisations, with

the funds aiming to promote campaigns focusing on such market sectors such as VFR as well as culinary experiences.

A number of “touring routes and trails” will also be developed, highlighting themes like nature, history & heritage and arts & culture across the region.

Inland NSW ceo Graham Perry said the current approach presented to online consumers is “diverse and fragmented”.

“While we have some excellent destination sites throughout Inland NSW, we need to assist those operators who have yet to take the plunge to do so and to provide a bookable website”.

Perry said the organisation was seeking industry stakeholder and partner involvement, with the funding coming as part of the Regional Visitor Economy Fund managed by Destination NSW.

QF SYD-SIN change

QANTAS has confirmed it will switch the aircraft operating between Sydney and Singapore to a two-class A330 from 01 Oct.

Currently utilising a three-cabin Boeing 747, the change means that Premium Economy will no longer be offered on the route.

According to an update issued today, Premium Economy pax will be progressively re-accommodated to the economy cabin, with affected travellers also able to rebook to Business class on the same flight and travel date by paying the fare difference.

Nine pages of news

Travel Daily today has nine pages of news and photos, plus full pages from: ([click](#)):

- AA Appointments jobs
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CSA switches Australian codeshare

CSA Czech Airlines has dropped its current codeshare pact with Etihad on flights to Australia, replacing it with an expanded agreement with Korean Air.

The move will see the CSA 'OK' code placed on Korean Air's flights from Seoul Incheon to both Brisbane and Sydney.

Last Year, Korean Air purchased a 44% stake in the Czech carrier for less than 3 million Euro, at the time saying it planned to make Prague one of its European hubs.

OK and EY will continue to codeshare on other routes.

Avalon riding river wave

AVALON Waterways bookings for 2015 river cruises are already up 11% on last year despite the program only formally going on sale this morning.

It follows an exceptionally strong 2014 season which is already running at an amazing 94% load factor, the line said.

Globus Family of Brands md Stewart Williams last night launched Avalon's 2015 brochure, and forecast continued strong demand with river cruise numbers out of Australia likely to see double-digit growth annually for at least the next five years.

The 2015 program will see the *Avalon Poetry II* and *Avalon Tapestry II* deployed on France's Rhone and Seine rivers, doubling the line's capacity in the country.

Avalon is also set for a major Australia-focused event in Vienna in early Jun, when Aussie personality Deborah Hutton will officially name the new *Avalon Illumination* vessel.

The company said growth isn't confined to Europe, with the new *Avalon Siem Reap* to operate voyages on the Mekong River

in SE Asia, as well as the new 376-cabin *Avalon Myanmar* to cruise Burma's upper Irrawaddy.

Early booking deals on sale now include \$1000 savings per couple on selected voyages - more from last night's launch on **page 3**.

Dubai sponsors NTIA

DUBAI Tourism has signed on as a Gold Sponsor of the 2014 National Travel Industry Awards, with this year marking the first time the tourism organisation has served as a sponsor of the industry annual night of nights.

AFTA ceo Jayson Westbury welcomed the move, saying guests will be "blown away" with a surprise element added to this year's awards courtesy of Dubai.

Dubai Tourism director Julie King said the success of the destination is "a direct result of the unwavering support we receive from the Australian travel industry.

"We look forward to escalating our activities with the trade in coming months, with an aim to providing more substantial support," King added.

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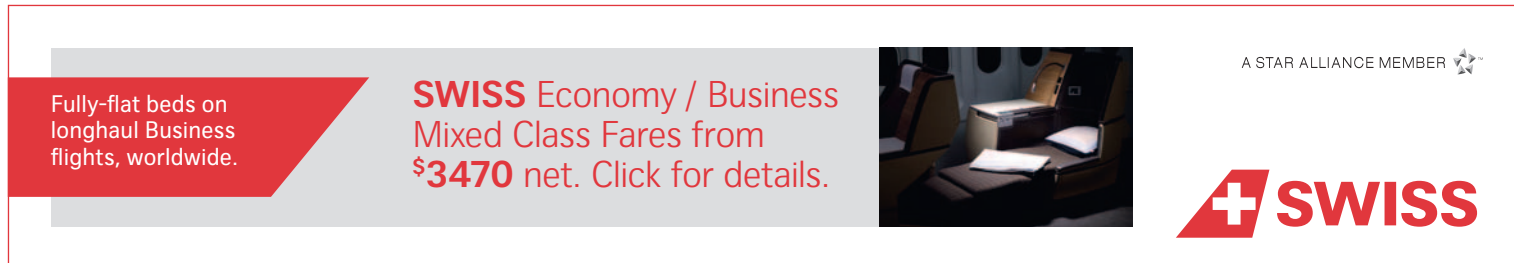
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Wednesday 9th April 2014

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Avalon 2015 launches

AVALON Waterways last night unveiled its 2015 program with the help of media personality Deborah Hutton, who will be the godmother of *Avalon Illumination* when it launches in Vienna in Jun this year.

Hutton, **pictured** right with Globus Family of Brands MD Stewart Williams, told **TD** she was looking forward to the experience, but feeling the pressure to make sure the champagne bottle smashes!

At the launch, Williams highlighted Avalon's key points of difference, with the brand targeting an active demographic who "like to do their own thing".

For that reason, Avalon's cruises don't include all shore excursions, allowing passengers more flexibility while also offering a lower price point, he said.



Bench volunteering

BENCH International has launched a 36-page brochure covering its new range of volunteering vacations offered under a partnership with Camps International (**TD** 07 Feb).

Trips in Kenya and Tanzania range from 2 weeks through to 3 months and include community, wildlife & environmental projects.

Insight ANZAC surge

INSIGHT Vacations says it has received an "overwhelming" response to itineraries which coincide with next year's Anzac centenary in Gallipoli after the results of the government ballot for places at the event were announced last week (**TD** 04 Apr).

Insight is offering a 12 day Turkey-only itinerary as well as a 22-day Splendours of Turkey & Greece escorted journey, with passengers who have secured ballot tickets transported via ferry and coach to Anzac Cove to attend the Dawn Service.

For those without tickets, Insight will visit the Gallipoli Peninsula prior to Anzac Day.

The 22-day tour departs Istanbul on 21 Apr 2015 and is priced at \$6895ppts, visiting Pergamon, Troy, Ephesus, Goreme, Athens and Argolis as well as Gallipoli.

The 12 day Turkey-only option is priced at \$3350ppts.

More on 1300 727 767.



Window Seat

THE new Tigerair "Infrequent Flyers Club" (**TD** yesterday) offers a fabulous new level of customer choice.

Rather than prescribing membership levels such as the mundane Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum - or even the sparkling **oneworld** choices of Ruby, Sapphire or Emerald, the new Tigerair club is "unlike frequent flyer schemes that make you work hard to climb the ranks".

Instead, members can choose whatever level they want for themselves, with options ranging from "Seventies Brown" right through to "Triple Emerald Sapphire Ivory".

The club also tempts its members with the tagline "we don't have a lounge - but you have one of those at home."

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New Travelmarvel positioning

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Travel More

APT'S Travelmarvel brand today unveiled a new logo and tagline 'Travelmarvel, Travel More' with the move following last year's expansion of the operation into a standalone business (TD 25 Sep).

GM David Cox said Travelmarvel had achieved more than 100% growth in forward sales over the last year, with the new positioning "much more reflective of guests' expectations and experiences with the brand."

"Those who choose to travel with Travelmarvel do so because they are well researched and enjoy securing the best price and deal," Cox said, with the savings enabling them to travel more often or take longer trips.

He said this was driving the growth of the brand, with the revamp including a new website.

KLM boosts GA partnership

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines has expanded its partnership with Garuda Indonesia, with the KL code now in place on selected GA flights to Australia.

The affected services include flights from Bali to both Brisbane and Sydney, while the KL code is also on Garuda's Jakarta-Sydney and Jakarta-Melbourne flights.

GA's services between Singapore and Balikpapan, Singapore and Surabaya, and Jakarta-Kuala Lumpur also now carry the KL code.

Croatia undiscovered

THE Travel Compensation Fund this morning advised of the non-voluntary termination of OTSW Pty Ltd trading as **Discover Croatia Holidays** (ABN 16 126 189 375) based in Brookvale, NSW, due to the agency's licence being cancelled.

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Showcasing natural assets

THIS week the "Australia's Nature Coast" partnership between Qld's Sunshine and Fraser Coasts have combined to present the destination to travel agents and buyers at events in Sydney and Melbourne.



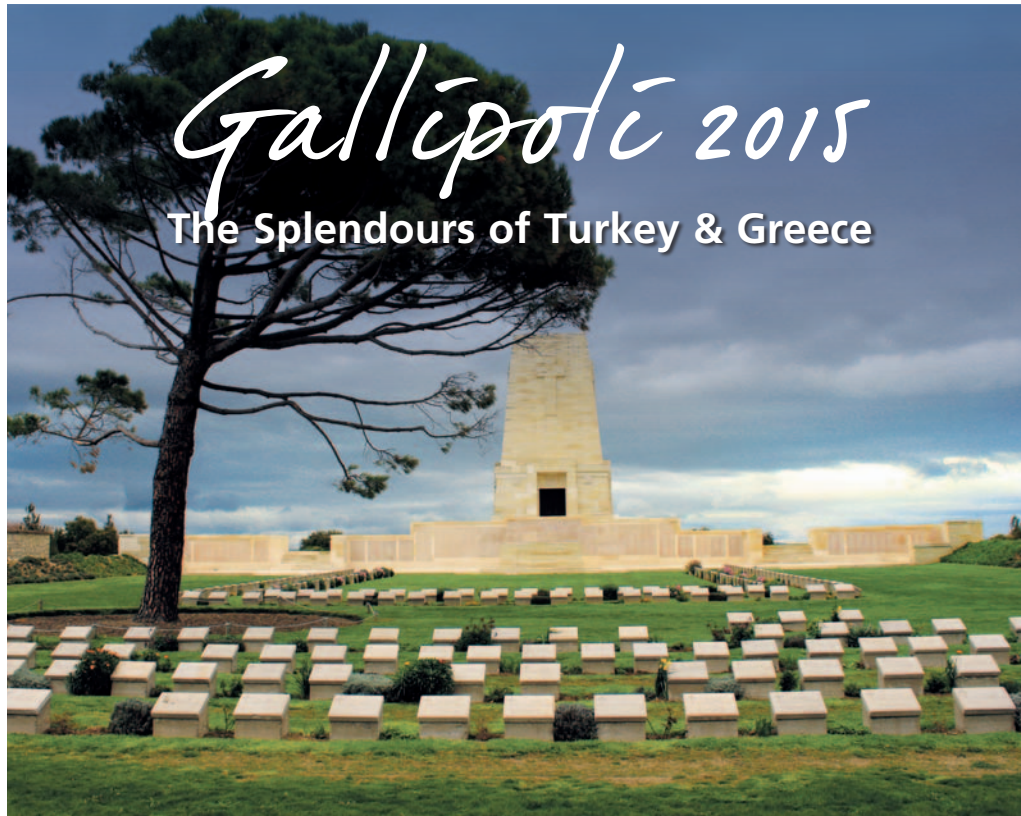
20 operators from the regions are taking part in the expo, with key targets including Asian inbound operators who are being encouraged to consider the spectacular offerings and easy access from Brisbane airport.

Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd ceo Simon Ambrose said there had been an outstanding turnout from across the industry.

He said both the Sunshine

and Fraser Coasts organisations had built a strong following in the Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia markets, with significant potential too from China & Korea.

Pictured above from left is John McCulloch, Coral Beach Noosa Resort; Louise Terry, Tourism Noosa; Janette Davie, Pinpoint Travel Group; Erika Kuehnle, Virgin Australia Holidays and Simon Ambrose from Sunshine Coast Destination Limited.



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Travel Daily on location in Amsterdam

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of Evergreen Tours aboard the inaugural cruise of *Emerald Sky*

Travel Daily is in Holland for the launch of the world's newest European river cruise operator, Australia's own Evergreen Tours.

Trading under the name Emerald Waterways, the brand is the latest development of parent -company, Scenic Tours.

Amsterdam is bracing for what will be one of Europe's busiest river cruises seasons on record, with a number of companies having already christened new ships in the past few weeks.

We are docked at Ruijterkade Oost in Amsterdam (just a 5 min walk from the CBD & 30 mins from Amsterdam Schiphol Airport), ahead of our first leg to Cologne.

Later today, Evergreen Tours will christen its first of four ships, *Emerald Sky*, at a special ceremony which will see the 182-passenger ship christened by English model/actress, Twiggy.

Onboard *Emerald Sky* will be 80 travel agents from Australia, the USA, Canada and England, accompanied by a handful of international media.

Over the next week, *TD* will sail the Rhine with Evergreen Tours, bringing readers exclusive coverage of Emerald Waterways' ships and revealing some of the latest innovations Evergreen is pioneering to the industry.

See photos from our first day in Amsterdam on *Emerald Sky* in the Horizon Bar & Lounge at www.traveldaily.com.au/photos.

Evergreen innovation

EVERGREEN Tours gm Angus Crichton says the development of Emerald Waterways and its range of cruise industry "firsts" provides agents with a unique opportunity to promote European river cruising to clients with renewed levels of enthusiasm.

Classified by Evergreen Tours as 'deluxe' cruising, the product is marketed at a marginally lesser level than that of parent company Scenic Tours and its 'Space Ships.'

He said the "clean lines" and "modern, chic and contemporary design" of *Sky* (and its soon to launch sister-ship *Emerald Star*), appealed strongly to Aussie tastes.

"People have made their decision to go with Evergreen based on 'Star Ship' innovations and what the ships represent," Crichton told *Travel Daily*.

Evergreen is using the tagline of 'innovation meets indulgence' to describe the product.

The most anticipated innovation Evergreen Tours will introduce is an indoor swimming pool at the rear of the ship (with a retractable roof) which can be converted to a cinema for around 30 guests by night - a world first-of-its-kind for the river cruise industry, he said.

Another innovation will be an alfresco terrace at the ship's bow.

'The Terrace' - an extension of the Horizon Lounge & Bar - offers wind sheltered seating for up to 30 guests for a new "casual dining" concept.

There are also two massive 90" LCD TVs in the ship's reception area which scroll between images of the ship and surrounding scenery and will be configured to enable guests to display their own photography via Apple TV.

Clients heading to Gallipoli in 2015 and have a ticket in the ballot?

gallipolitour2015.com.au



Reflecting in Reflections



WITH final tweaks just applied, Evergreen Tours yesterday began welcoming Aussie travel agents aboard its first brand new multi-million dollar ship, *Emerald Sky*.

Marketed under the moniker of Emerald Waterways, *Emerald Sky* was delivered to Evergreen Tours late last month (*TD* 26 Mar) - the first of two brand new ships delivered to the cruise/tour operator in 2014.

Another two ships will join the Emerald fleet next year.

Participants had the opportunity to explore *Emerald Sky*, getting to know their new abode for the next week before exploring Amsterdam's red light district on a walking tour in the evening.

Pictured in Reflections Lounge & Spa back row from left are Evergreen Tours' Andrew Kelleher, Georgina Battaglia and general manager Angus Crichton.

In front are Jacinta Hatzipaulou, Tara Sarnelli, Roxy Cameron and Amanda Todd.

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Ask Jetstar's Jess

JETSTAR Asia has added the 'Ask Jess' 24-hour "virtual assistant service" on its website, extending the roll-out of the system which is already available on Jetstar's Australian and New Zealand websites.

Ask Jess is a self-service tool which helps answer queries from customers relating to booking, baggage and seating, using technology from Nuance Communications which claims to deliver a "conversational experience that simulates a human interaction".

Jetstar Asia ceo Baru Pasupathi said investing in innovation to create better customer experiences can also help to drive down costs.

Ascott acquisition

THE Ascott Limited has acquired a 55-unit serviced residence in Hong Kong for HK\$545 million, which will be rebranded as Citadines Mercer Hong Kong by the end of the year.

The property is five minutes from the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal and also near the popular Lan Kwai Fong area.

Outrigger sales move

OUTRIGGER Hotels & Resorts has appointed Andrew Gee as Regional Director of Sales and Marketing in Australia and NZ as part of a significant expansion of its activities in the region.

Gee was previously DOSM for Outrigger on the Lagoon, Fiji, and will be based in Sydney where he will focus on Australasian outbound markets for all Outrigger properties.

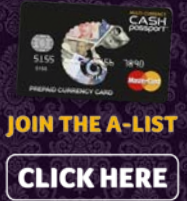
Karen Marvell, formerly head of sales & marketing for Castaway Island, has been promoted to DOSM for both Castaway Island and Outrigger on the Lagoon Fiji.

Catalonia experts

THE Catalan Tourist Board and the Spanish Tourism Office have launched a new online training course for Australian travel agents which allows anyone to become a "certified expert" in the region of Barcelona and Catalonia in just two hours.

Prizes such as jerseys from FC Barcelona are available for those who are among the first to complete the course, which can be accessed online at discovercataloniaexpert.com.

DON'T MISS THE LAS VEGAS SUPER FAMIL'!



Wu sees growth in SIA Holidays



DEPOSITS have already begun rolling in at Singapore Airlines Holidays, which was reborn from the start of this month under new Wendy Wu Tours management.

A monster 132-page brochure designed by the Asia specialist was formally launched last night at a function in Sydney.

Singapore stopover holidays remain the bedrock foundation of the business, with short breaks and special event packages including the Singapore Formula One Grand Prix later this year.

In addition, beach resort and hinterland getaways have been designed in a wide range of destinations across Asia.

Wendy Wu Tours md Alan Alcock said changes will be made to how SIA Holidays product is marketed, including the end of "one night stays" and all packages inclusive of SQ or MI flights.

The tour operator has injected its extensive knowledge of Asia into the new Singapore Airlines Holidays program, adding product in regions not available before.

Travel agents will be given

the opportunity to experience destinations first hand, with plans for a 100-agent mega-famil in the works to take place in Aug.

Singapore Airlines senior manager marketing and alliances Australia Dale Woodhouse told **Travel Daily** the decision to place its holidays division in the hands of Wendy Wu Tours was spurred by a range of exciting new ideas and technology innovations.

"An interesting thing about Wendy Wu is that it is using an Amadeus platform for Singapore Airlines Holidays which is what our platform is, so the synergies are already very much there".

In eight weeks since learning of the success of their application, Wendy Wu Tours has built a full website, trained a reservations team and cross-trained its BDMs in the SIA Holidays operation.

Pictured above at last night's brochure launch from left is Dale Woodhouse and Rosa Tripodi from Singapore Airlines; Alan Alcock, Wendy Wu Tours and James Hewlett from Singapore Airlines Holidays.

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Travel Indochina
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VA requests Cook Islands renewal

THE International Air Services Commission has requested a renewal of its existing capacity determination for seats to the Cook Islands.

VA currently has 360 seats weekly on the route, and says it intends to fully utilise this capacity on an ongoing basis, with renewal sought for a five year period from 09 Apr 2015.

The IASC is inviting other applications for the capacity, with a final deadline for applications of 21 Apr.

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Food Safari returns

CELEBRITY chefs Maggie Beer & Mark Best will host the second Kangaroo Island Food Safari, which returns for a second year following sell-out success in 2013.

The week-long experience is on sale through Abercrombie & Kent and sees guests stay at Southern Ocean Lodge and enjoy guided excursions to farms and wineries, learning about and enjoying wide varieties of first-class produce.

Inclusive of flights to Kangaroo Island from Adelaide, the itinerary is priced from \$7,350pp.

Schoolie booking gift

TRAVEL agents can earn \$50 gift vouchers from David Jones, Myer or Liquorland for every seven-night Schoolies package booked at Fiji's Sonaisali Island Resort through Unleashed Travel.

In addition, the three top agents selling the package will win a four-night Fijian holiday of their own to enjoy outside of the dedicated Schoolies week.

Discounts of 20% on the deal, priced from \$1,750pp triple share are available if booked by 30 Apr.

Sonaisali Island Resort will be operated exclusively as a secure haven for school leavers to enjoy for two week-long periods from 24 Nov - 01 Dec and 01 - 08 Dec.

New Hollywood tour

STARLINE Tours in Los Angeles has launched a brand new tour in celebration of the 100th birthday of the suburb of Beverly Hills.

The new Celebrity Homes & Rodeo Drive Shopping experience allows guests to tour the homes of celebrities before stopping for some shopping on Rodeo Drive.

Passengers can then return to Hollywood at their leisure aboard regular open-top double-decker buses from Beverly Hills, which leave every 20 mins until 6:30pm.

An upgrade to a 24-hour hop-on-hop-off ticket is also available.

The new tour runs for four hours and is priced from US\$55 per adult, departing on the hour from 10am to 3pm daily.



Accommodation Updates

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



Offering a peaceful haven of tranquility, **Club Med Bali** in Nusa Dua has opened its new Zen Pool - the first completed part of a major resort transformation. The area is adults-only and exudes a clean and crisp white colour scheme, providing a menagerie for relaxation. Up to 130 users can soak in the sea views from comfy day beds during daytime hours, where alcohol is not available.



Boutique Melbourne property **The Olsen** has opened its brand new 'Lake Eyre' penthouse room category, set on the hotel's 14th floor. The Penthouse offers a full size kitchen with an artisan water ioniser to mineralise drinking water, open-plan living area and master king bedroom with Art Series standard bedding. Also on offer are sweeping panoramic views over the Melbourne CBD.



Aimed at the corporate traveller market, a new executive floor has been opened at the **Berjaya Makati Philippines**. The new level takes hotel inventory to 223 rooms across 26 floors. Executive-style amenities are available to guests staying in the new category, with rooms offering extra space, a homely colour scheme and modern technology with space for the busy professional.

Honkers web training

AN UPDATED version of the Hong Kong Specialist training program has been launched by the Hong Kong Tourism Board.

Travel agents are being invited to try the new training materials including modules on destination info, major attractions, events and festivals are now available.

Modules increasing in difficulty are available, with all required in order to be accredited as a Hong Kong Specialist - with the course able to be completed at any pace.

See www.specialisthk.com/au.

More African AF A380

ABIDJAN in the Ivory Coast will become the next destination to be served by Air France's A380 superjumbo jets and the second in Africa, the carrier announced.

The Paris-based carrier will fly three of its seven weekly services to Abidjan using the superjumbo.

BER needs big bailout

TAXPAYER funds to the tune of €1.1 billion will be required to bail out Berlin's long-delayed Brandenburg Airport to prevent it from bankruptcy, it has emerged.

German newspaper *The Local* has reported initial costs for the facility were estimated at €1.2 billion but have now blown out to €4.7 billion, with the requested bailout taking this to €5.8 billion.

If granted, it will be the airport's second €1.2 billion bailout, with a final decision to come from the European Union next week.

Already five years behind schedule, Brandenburg will now not open until 2016 at the earliest - yet another year back from the latest prediction (**TD** 10 Jan).

The latest delay - its seventh - is understood to be due to a new requirement to completely rebuild the northernmost runway due to excessive noise concerns.

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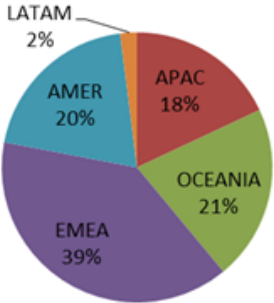
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HOT DESTINATIONS



THE TAAP TOP TEN Brought to you by Expedia

Expedia TAAP Destinations Mar 2014 AU



Expedia TAAP announced another Record Month for March 2014, being the 3rd record month in a row. A total of 596 different destinations were booked by AU Agents. The top Expedia TAAP destinations booked last month were London, New York, Sydney, Paris, Melbourne, Singapore, Los Angeles, Kowloon, Rome and Dubai. San Francisco, Kuta and Oahu were just outside the top 10. Europe reaffirmed as the dominant destination with an increase of 2% to 39% of the mix. Over 300 European destinations were booked during March. USA figures were strong at 20% of the destination mix from the Big Apple to Boise Idaho, Grand Rapids and the Oregon Coast. Oceania is holding steady at 21% while APAC rose 1% to 18% with Bangkok, KL and Tokyo performing well.

Some of the out of the way destinations last month included Kinki Japan, Galveston Texas, Casablanca Morocco and Napier New Zealand.



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Travel Daily

First with the news

Wednesday 9th Apr 2014

Social media seminar

PRACTICAL advice on how to make the most out of marketing via social media will be on offer at a special New Media Workshop on the topic prior to Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE) in Cairns.

The one-day workshop will take place on Sun 11 May as part of International Media Marketplace.

Over 100 operators have already signed up for the class, which will be run by Tourism Australia.

Topics to be covered will include an overview on how TA utilises social media, Instagram for business, SEO strategy, converting followers into sales and tips on creating compelling content.

CLICK HERE to register.

MEANWHILE, a new tutorial on managing social media has been launched on the Tourism e-kit, provided free by the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse.

Tutorials can be accessed after registering for the service at <http://tourismekit.atdw.com.au>.

Quest strong growth

QUEST Apartments says the opening of Quest Abbotsford in Vic later this month is the start of a "strong growth phase", with eight new properties set to debut this year across CBD, suburban and regional locations.

"Demand for extended stay accommodation is exceeding supply in Australia," said Quest chairman Paul Constantinou.

Quest Abbotsford will offer 93 studio, one, two and three bedroom serviced apartments, with bookings now open.

The new properties also include Quest Serviced Apartments in King William South, Adelaide; Berrimah NT; Wellington and Whangarei in NZ; Newcastle West in NSW; Woolloongabba in Qld and at Melbourne Airport.



AFTA UPDATE

The latest updates from AFTA's Chief Executive, Jayson Westbury

I NOTE with interest the latest departure numbers for Australians travelling overseas has dipped a little in what has been a dream run over the past couple of years.

While it shows a slight softening for the month of February, I do not see this as a trend. There are no indications or economic settings to suggest that we are on the top of a mountain and now headed downhill.

There are always ups and downs with these departure figures, so I don't see any cause for alarms at this point. As with all things travel, we are susceptible to a range of influences and who knows what they may have been in order to see this slight dip.

I think 2014 is likely to continue to be a strong year for outbound travel and no doubt the travel industry is feeling this with many reports into AFTA that bookings are holding well and advance plans are in shape. I hope this is the case for you no matter what part of the industry you might be in.

On the back of this, I am once again overwhelmed with the activity and energy for this year's National Travel Industry Awards. We have had record numbers of nominations which I think once again shows how much the industry values these awards.

Voting for this year is already off and running and again the interest level will hit records. All the best to those that are in the mix for this year and no doubt the gala in July will be bigger, better and grander than ever before. As the industry event of the year, AFTA is proud to continue to bring this event to the travel industry for the benefit for all.

For those of you that are in the running this year, all the best of luck. NTIA brings an exciting fever to the industry and it is delivering this again in 2014.



More baggage on VN

CHECKED luggage allowances on Vietnam Airlines services to Hanoi ex SYD/MEL have increased to 40kgs for each adult and child as part of a new fare structure.

The increased limit applies only to pax travelling through to Hanoi and vice-versa on FIT gross fares.

JL surcharges steady

JAPAN Airlines has announced that it will maintain the current levels of fuel surcharges on all international passenger tickets issued 01 Jun - 31 Jul 2014.

JAL sets its levies bimonthly based on the two month average price of Singapore jet fuel.

DL Luxperience pact

DELTA Airlines has been announced as the first airline partner and silver sponsor for the Luxperience high-end travel show to be held in Sydney in early Sep.

Rex seeks new ports

REGIONAL towns within a 600km radius of Sydney are being invited to register their interest with Regional Express (Rex) by 30 Apr to develop new Regular Public Transport air services.

Consultations on the viability of new routes take place as part of Rex's regular quarterly review, with Armidale the latest to pitch for services, which kicked off late last month (**TD** 31 Mar).

Rex chief operating officer Garry Filmer said there was a chance new slots could become available at Sydney Airport as part of its next review.

"We are launching this call for EOI now so that we can be ready to start services early in the next financial year should this eventuality materialise," he said.

Local councils are encouraged to write to Rex, providing details of the local market, airport charges & evidence of community support.

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TK FF scheme revamp

TURKISH Airlines has changed its *Miles&Smiles* loyalty scheme, awarding miles based on booking class rather than cabin but also boosting award ticket availability.

Escape team channels childhood



DISNEY Destinations International recently lassoed the Escape Travel marketing team, heading to Hong Kong Disneyland to experience the giddy thrills of classic childhood memories.

The trip was co-hosted by the Hong Kong Tourism Board, with the group spending several days checking out the sights, sounds and lapping up some of the city's

world class shopping avenues.

Pictured above with Woody from *Toy Story* casting a watchful eye over the group is Lisa Lee, HKTB; Nicole Bennett, Disney Destinations International and the Escape team of Emma Bielenberg, Sarah Capon, Paul Ellender, Emma Gilleland, Clint Hearne, Donyale Lau, Melissa Llewelyn and Carley Russell.

Glossy Kruger guide

LUXURY African lodge Londoloz Private Game Reserve, located in Kruger National Park, has released a glossy online brochure offering details on the destination.

The guide features details on its luxury camp sites, photos and video of the lodge facilities.

CLICK HERE to view the guide.

UA Pacific loads drop

PASSENGER load factors for United Airlines fell on all int'l markets served in Mar, according to official stats from the carrier.

Despite a 3% drop, average seat utilisation remained at 80.8% on trans-Pacific services, while overall network-wide passenger numbers stayed flat at 8 million.

WIN A TRIP TO PNG TO DO KOKODA

To coincide with the launch of PNG Tourism's new Kokoda campaign and website 'Do Kokoda', this month **PNG Tourism, Air Niugini & Back Track Adventures** are giving you and a friend the chance to trek Kokoda during the 100th year anniversary of the ANZAC.

Thousands of people walk in the footsteps of heroes on Kokoda each year through the jungles of the Owen Stanley Ranges in Papua New Guinea, our closest neighbours and allies.

The prize includes:

- Back Track Kokoda trek package for two including flights.
- 2 x return economy flights between Australia and Port Moresby with Air Niugini.
- 10 night/11 day package - 2 nights accommodation at Holiday Inn Port Moresby and 8 nights at Kokoda Track camping
- Total Prize Value: \$11,000

Each day **Travel Daily** will ask a PNG-related question – just read the issue and email us your answer. There will be 19 questions in total. 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 incredible experience.

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

Click here for terms & conditions of the competition.

Q.7: How long does it take approximately to fly direct from Brisbane to Port Moresby?



Bus/Ski combo deals

SKI field transport operator HothamBus is offering discounted accommodation for ski travellers when combined with bus transfers departing Melbourne.

A three-night low-season stay at Peppers Rundell Alpine Lodge is priced from \$686ppts when booked with bus transfers, with one three-day ski pass thrown in for additional value.

Pay as you go lounge

PHOENIX Airport will tomorrow open the city's first "Pay as you go" airport lounge, open to all travellers flying from Terminal 4 for a US\$35 entry fee.

Dubbed "The Club at PHX", the facility will offer access to snacks and beverages including alcohol as well as comfortable seating, free wi-fi and floor-to-ceiling windows offering tarmac views.

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Experienced travel consultants this is your chance to come and join an innovative company in an online travel environment. Handling phone and email enquiries you'll love the fast paced nature of this role whilst you sell a variety of international destinations with a strong focus on cruising. A solid base salary + achievable \$\$ bonuses is on offer along with ICCA training, superb educationals, Friday drinks and more. All you need is min 18 months consulting experience, a positive attitude & ability to reach sales targets.

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Do you love the customer service side of travel? Thrive on using your knowledge and passion to create amazing and unforgettable itineraries for your clients? Then retail is for you. We currently have sensational retail roles available with well known and professional brands in various locations on the Gold Coast. Not only will you get the chance to work for market leaders but you'll earn top \$\$, enjoy exotic famils and have access to some of the best training on offer in the industry. All you need is previous retail consulting exp.

DREAMING OF A NEW ROLE?
WHOLESALE RESERVATIONS x 5

MELBOURNE + PERTH – SALARY PKG UP TO \$70K (OTE)

Stop dreaming about moving into Wholesale and let AA Appointments make your dreams a reality! We have 5 sensational wholesale positions available in both Perth and Melbourne that will see you working with a global organisation and earning the best salaries in town! You will book exciting tailor made itineraries for your loyal agents to worldwide destinations. Working in an exciting rotating roster you will be a apart of a social and fun team where the sky is the limit. Min 12 months consulting exp required!

HIT THE SLOPES WITH THIS SKI ROLE
SKI SPECIALIST

MELBOURNE – SALARY PKG UP TO \$45K (DOE)

We have a sensational NEW ski wholesale role in Melbourne that will see you working with this boutique ski specialist company! You will assist direct customers and travel agents with their worldwide holiday bookings and will create packages inclusive of air, land and all things ski. With a focus on Japan and other international destinations now is your time to specialise. If you have personal ski experience and at least 12 months industry experience we want to hear from you! Call AA Appointments today to find out more.

STOP WASTING YOUR TALENTS
TRAVEL CONSULTANTS X 2

ADELAIDE - SALARY PKG UP TO \$55K (DOE)

Calling all experienced consultants in Adelaide! Now is the time to make the move to your next role and start being appreciated and paid what you are worth! We currently have two exciting new roles that will see you being a part of fun teams and booking high end travel arrangements for repeat and referral client. No more time wasters and brochures collectors. Now is your chance to really use your experience and passion and create those unforgettable experiences. Apply today to find out more.

ARE YOU READY FOR PART TIME HOURS?
PART TIME RETAIL CONSULTANT.

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Part time travel consultants, we have an exciting role that will see you moving into this well established retail office and servicing high end clientele. You will be responsible for creating luxury 5 star itineraries inclusive of cruising, boutique hotels, luxury resorts and business class airfares. This office can offer you 3 days per week plus every 2nd Saturday morning and the best part time salary in Melbourne. This role could be yours if you have at least 6 years industry experience and high end knowledge.



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Branch Manager

Sunshine Coast. \$DOE + Uncapped Comm. Ref:1086PS1

Do you thrive on leading a team to reach their full potential while being able to successfully manage a branch and hitting your own set targets and KPI's? If you are a proven leader and looking for a fresh challenge within a well established company that offer a very competitive base, uncapped commission plus additional Managers incentives then this could be the opportunity you have been waiting for! Strong worldwide product knowledge and GDS skills are essential for this role.

For more information please call Peta on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Group Travel Consultant

Sydney - \$Competitive – Ref:1085SJ1

A unique role is available in Sydney for a group travel specialist. This is more than just reservations though; get involved with sourcing & contracting airlines & accommodation to form the best travel package for your clients. Be it 10 people or 10,000 are you up to the challenge? Travel experience is necessary from a reservation or product background and the drive for long term career progression. In return a competitive salary is on offer & a great team environment.

For more information please call Sarah on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now

Global Groups Consultant

Geelong \$45K + Super Ref:1084KF1

Are you a passionate Wholesale Travel Consultant wanting to try something new in your career? Are you considered to be an expert at FIT's and/or Group Bookings with the ability to provide exceptional service, advice and recommendations to valued travel agents? If you're a natural at booking flights, accommodation and up-selling to a variety of products while working with different exchange rates and mark ups then I want to hear from you! Make the move you've been waiting for!

For more information please call Kate on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Wholesale Travel Consultants

Perth \$45-80K OTE– Ref:1079LA1

This multi-award winning global travel company is currently looking for 6 x new consultants to add to their expanding team in Perth. You will receive a fantastic package inclusive of uncapped commission and amazing company incentives. There is also a great opportunity to grow your career and of course, great industry perks! If you have at least 2 years experience within the travel industry and are a real sales go-getter, then we want to hear from you ASAP!

For more information please call Lauren on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Cruise Superstars

Brisbane CBD \$Excellent Package. Ref:1003PS1

Are you passion about Cruise with solid River Cruising product knowledge? Do you dream of a job where you can realistically rake in the money with a high base salary plus earn uncapped commission through an achievable target based commission structure? I am seeking high energy individuals with proven sales talent to join a independent travel company where work life balance is encouraged! This is no dream, this is a real opportunity to get the role you have been wishing for!

For more information please call Peta on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Customer Support Travel Team Leader

Sydney – \$Competitive + bonus – Ref:1991SJ2

Do you have experience in travel customer service, airfares and ticketing and content management? I have a unique leadership opportunity with a leading travel company based in Sydney. I am looking for a strong leader with a varied travel background to manage a strong team in various travel support areas. An attractive salary package with bonus & incentives is on offer to the successful candidate. Interviewing ASAP so apply now and don't let this opportunity pass you by.

For more information please call Lynsey on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Leisure Travel Consultant

Melbourne \$DOE Ref:1082KF1

Do you want to work for a successful travel agency and become an invaluable part of their team? Do you have solid, all-round leisure travel experience and want to bring this to an established, well-respected travel agency? Then this is the travel agency opportunity you have been looking for. Offering a loyal repeat clientele, a competitive base salary along with commission and a long term career opportunity, this role will be filled quickly and will be interviewing imminently.

For more information please call Kate on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Travel Sales Executive SA & NT

Adelaide \$50K + super + benefits – Ref:1036LA1

This destination specialist is currently looking for a highly experienced sales representative, to promote their brand on the road to travel agents around Adelaide. Do you have sales experience within the travel industry? Are you often described as a very proactive person? YES? Then this could be the role you have been waiting for!! Excellent benefits are on offer for a sales superstar that can effectively foster business relationships. Interviewing now so don't delay!

For more information please call Lauren on (02) 9113 7272 or click [APPLY](#) now.



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