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Travel Daily

First with the news

Monday 30th June 2014



FRENCH TRAVEL CONNECTION

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Another TATG buy

RED Gum Resources, which is set to be renamed The Australian Travel Group (**TD** Thu) had its shares placed in a trading halt this morning "pending an announcement regarding a material acquisition".

The company has already flagged the acquisition of HolidayPlanet and Asia Escape Holidays, with further details of the new deal to be released prior to Wed 02 Jul, the company said.

QF domestic drops 8.1%

QANTAS mainline domestic flights saw a hefty 8.1% year-on-year drop in passenger numbers last month to 1.297m, with the carrier saying demand was "negatively impacted by weak consumer confidence and business sentiment".

According to figures released this morning, QantasLink saw a 10.2% increase in carriage to 499,000, while Jetstar domestic numbers also increased 9.4% to 912,000 for the month.

Qantas International traffic rose 0.4% to 429,000, but Jetstar International numbers dipped 4.4% to 363,000.

Jetstar Asia's traffic rose 2.1% to 314,000 passengers in May.

Overall numbers across the

group were stable year-on-year at 3.81m, but a 3% capacity increase saw the combined load factor drop 1.1 points to 73.4%.

The carrier also confirmed that for the financial year to 31 Mar, its overall yields were lower, with domestic hit by market capacity growth and weak demand, while international was particularly impacted by "persistently high levels of competitor capacity growth into Australia."

EK boosting Jo'burg

EMIRATES is set to expand its operations in South Africa, with the launch of a fourth daily flight between Dubai and Johannesburg effective from 26 Oct 14.

All of the EK DXB-JNB services are operated using three-class Boeing 777-300ER aircraft.

Free USA tours

FREESTYLE Holidays is giving clients a free tour with any booking of a five night package in the USA, with options including a free 15 minute scenic helicopter tour in Las Vegas as well as city tours in San Francisco, Los Angeles or New York

For details, see the **front page**.

Today's issue of TD

TD today has nine pages of news & photos, including a front cover page for **Freestyle Holidays**, plus full pages from:

- AA Appointments jobs
- Travel Trade Recruitment

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Trafalgar guarantees

TRAFALGAR today announced that all remaining Europe and Britain departures between now and Oct 2014 are guaranteed, with the company offering travel agents an extra 3% bonus commission on the trips. Savings of up to \$700 per couple are also now available for Sep departures for bookings made and paid in full by 31 Aug. Promotional codes and info at www.trafalgaragent.com.

Hall promoted to APH head

INCUMBENT APT chief executive officer Chris Hall has been promoted to the role of group managing director for Australian Pacific Holdings upon the retirement of Barry Matters. Hall, who has been with the firm for 13 years, including the last five as ceo of the APT business unit, will take on the top job at Australian Pacific Holdings (APH) from 31 Aug.

In announcing the appointment, the APH Board extolled strong praise for the outgoing Matters for 35 years of dedicated service. "Barry retires after having led the company through a period of transformation, from being a domestic bus and tour operator into an international cruise and tour business," APT founder Geoff McGeary commented.

"He is highly regarded throughout the company and the broader travel industry." Matters' other achievements included driving strong growth for the group, building leadership across the organisation and restructuring the business to ensure it was well positioned to maximise new opportunities. Hall said he was looking forward to working more closely with APH partners in his over-arching role, saying Matters has left him an "extremely solid business to lead".

EY, NZ maintenance

ETIHAD Airways and Air New Zealand this morning announced a wide-ranging agreement which will see the carriers provide reciprocal line maintenance services in Melbourne and Los Angeles. Under the agreement, Air NZ is already performing full line maintenance for Etihad in Los Angeles, while EY will soon perform all scheduled and non-scheduled line maintenance on Air NZ planes in Melbourne at its Tullamarine engineering facility.

Delta eMD switch

DELTA Air Lines today announced that it will activate Electronic Miscellaneous Documents for BSP travel agents in Australia before 30 Oct 2014, but in the meantime the use of vMPDs is still required.

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EK WYSTC deal

EMIRATES will provide free flights for a limited number of sponsored delegates to the upcoming World Youth and Student Travel Conference in Dublin, Ireland this Sep. It's part of a partnership between the World Youth Student and Educational (WYSE) Travel Confederation, with complimentary registration also available for a number of qualified buyers - see WYSTC.org.



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Travel Daily

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Monday 30th June 2014

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Qantas ownership

SHADOW Transport Minister Anthony Albanese yesterday confirmed ALP support for amendments to the Qantas Sale Act, which would remove the current limits on a single investor owning more than 25% of the carrier, or a foreign airline owning over 35%.

However the government said it would continue to pursue its own legislation which would remove all foreign ownership restrictions.

Novotel dining launch

SYDNEY'S Novotel Darling Harbour has launched a multimillion dollar refurbishment of its public areas which will include "an exciting new restaurant and dining concept".

Once completed, the property will offer two "kitchen theatres" (an Asian and an OZ grill) as well as a wine bar, with gm Ruwan Peiris saying "we are looking to push the boundaries and move away from the traditional hotel restaurant and dining concept with this transformation".

The upgrade will take place over the next few months, with completion planned for early Sep, but in the meantime it is business as usual, Peiris said.

Novotel Darling Harbour's executive chef, Anthony Flowers, is spearheading the new concept.

He's well known to the Sydney dining scene, having worked at top eateries including Level 41, Berowra Waters Inn and more.

SYD T2/T3 hotel plan

SYDNEY Airport and the NSW Government yesterday released plans for an almost \$500 million investment in ground transport solutions and airport facility enhancements.

Among the projects is a 430 room hotel in the T2/T3 precinct to service increasing passenger demand for accommodation located near the airport.

The proposed 10-level four- or five-star hotel would be located on the eastern corner of Seventh Street extension on Qantas Drive.

The property will feature retail space, dining and bar facilities, swimming pool/fitness centre and conference & meeting space.

JQ launches MEL-AYQ

A NEW non-stop four weekly service between Melbourne and Ayers Rock Airport kicked into gear for the first time last weekend, launched by Jetstar.

JQ ceo Australia/NZ David Hall said demand from the public for the route since its announcement in Mar has been "really positive."

"Bookings remain strong," he added yesterday.

Hall said the flight time of just over three hours had opened up the Red Centre to Victorians like never before, with many in the past flying via Sydney - a journey time of up to seven hours.

"With the shorter travel time our direct service provides, we'd expect to see Victorians taking the opportunity to visit the spiritual heart of Australia for a short break, and this is great news for domestic tourism."

MEANWHILE, Jetstar is cranking up capacity on the Sydney-Uluru route due to demand, adjusting frequencies from four weekly to a daily service, adding more than 1,000 seats a week.

Window Seat

FORGET SARS, MERS and bird flu - travel doctors should be on high alert for a new syndrome which has been identified in China this week.

So-called "World Cup Fever" has become so prevalent in the soccer-obsessed country that a special clinic has been set up to treat the syndrome in a hospital in Chengdu, in Sichuan province.

Said to combine listlessness, tiredness and insomnia, other symptoms also include stomach cramps, loss of appetite and weakened immune systems.

Physicians are on standby 24 hours a day to treat side effects including psychological issues related to World Cup hysteria.

"This is new territory for us, but there is no getting away from the fact that people have been making themselves ill through football," said one of the doctors at the clinic.

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Trade supports QF Travel Show



DOZENS of Qantas' business partners were among the exhibitors at the 25th annual Qantas Corporate Travel Show, which took place last week at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

Exhibitors included airlines from around the world, cruise lines, car rental firms, hotel operators and destination management firms.

Prize winners from the occasion included Zoe Smith from People's

Choice Credit Union and Ryan Fargotten of Flight Centre Norwood, who each took home a \$1,000 Qantas travel voucher.

The next Corporate Travel Show will take place in Perth on 22 Jul.

Pictured above from left at the event is Craig Malthouse, Qantas Promotional Team; Jana Szyjko-Schuett, Ryan Fargotten, Flight Centre Norwood; Nicole Hill, Glen Williams and Peter Fietz.

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Serko corporate deal

NEW Zealand-listed web-based travel booking firm Serko Online has signed a deal with the Qld Government to support its corporate travel program.

Serko will take over the govt's Travel Management System for a period of two years.

"This is a key win for the Serko team in Australia. It demonstrates that Serko Online has the feature set and the content required by state and federal government agencies," Serko Online ceo Darrin Grafton said this morning.

Two-week SB sales

AIRCALIN will tomorrow launch a two-week flash sale with return airfares from SYD, BNE & MEL to Noumea priced from \$499.

Fares are eligible for sale from 01 Jul to 15 Jul, with travel dates valid from 01 Jul to 16 Dec, 2014.

The carrier recently commenced direct services from Melbourne, its third Australian gateway.

Boeing hits milestone

LUFTHANSA has taken delivery of Boeing's 1,500th B747 aircraft, with the milestone being a 747-8 Intercontinental model which LH will use on its long-haul fleet.

Boeing first began production of the B747 model in 1968.

Investment Forum

MINISTER for Trade and Investment Andrew Robb says tourism stands to be a significant beneficiary from the Northern Australia Investment Forum to be held in the second half of 2015.

On Fri, Robb said the forum will provide the Coalition Govt with an opportunity to showcase and secure international investment in the country's north.

He said development in Northern Australia would help generate a targeted international tourism market of two million visitors annually by 2030, at the same time providing a boost for Indigenous people.



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Italy determination

THE International Air Services Commission has permitted Qantas to use capacity on the Italy route in joint services with Emirates, as requested, for a period of five years.

In handing down its decision, the IASC said there were no other applications received seeking capacity on the route.

The fresh determination is for 400 seats of third country codeshare capacity to Italy, valid from 08 Jun 2015 to 08 Jun 2020.

Car lease upgrades

GLOBALCARS is offering value-add on Citroen car leasing of 21 days for collections in Europe before the end of Aug.

Discounts of up to \$718 on upgrades are available.

The base deal includes a Citroen DS3 lease which costs \$1,771 for three weeks, automatically upgraded to a DS4.

Likewise, the C3 Picasso for the minimum three weeks is \$1,813, but is upgraded to a C4 - a saving of \$484 - phone 1300 789 992.

IHG dual-brand hotel

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group has announced plans to introduce "dual-branded" hotels in cities across North America.

The first project will see the 501 room Hotel Melia in Atlanta, Georgia undergo a renovation, with 360 rooms to be branded under the Crowne Plaza model.

By Jan 2016, 102 rooms of the same building will reopen as serviced apartments under the Staybridge Suites brand.

IHG has earmarked similar projects in Joliet, Illinois which will be a mix of Holiday Inn and Candlewood Suites and a Hotel Indigo and Holiday Inn Express in Austin, Texas.

The dual-branded design has significant operating efficiencies.

Guests share services such as fitness centres, pools and food & beverage facilities, "without compromising the distinct offerings guests have come to know and expect from the brand," IHG said.

Chief development officer for the Americas Joel Eisemann said dual-branded models appeal to owners due to construction cost savings.

"Our owners are able to cater to many different stay occasions in the same location while generating a more profitable bottom line," Eisemann said.

Agents let loose in Cherating



CLUB Med and Malaysia Airlines united to host these Queensland agents on a four-day escape to Cherating Beach Resort on the east coast of Malaysia.

Jetting into Kuantan, the group were treated to the all-inclusive value of the 4 Trident Club Med Cherating Beach, where jungle & the South China Sea meet.

The property lies on the fine sandy coastline and offers guests an archery and a flying trapeze academy with circus activities.

One highlight of the trip was relaxing in the adults-only zone, overlooking the water, then ticking off a range of activities at the Treetop adventure, including zip-lining, rock climbing & a night tour to see fireflies & turtles.

Pictured having a blast in the Zen Pool from left are Jason Denisenko, MTA; Veronica

Baillie, Noosa Cruise and Travel; Cassaile Graham, Flight Centre Benowa; Gabrielle O'Halloran, FC Manly West; Kathryn Lynch, FC Newmarket; Samantha Hurley, Helloworld Buderim; Kristy McPherson, Escape Travel Runaway Bay; Kendall Best, Escape Travel Pacific Fair; Vittoria Bird, ET Casuarina (NT) and Ashlea Tucker, FC Garden City.

In front are Shawn Ohalloran, ET Tweed and Jodie Weeks, Club Med bdm Qld/NT/Nth NSW/NZ.

DL/GA c'share nod

APPROVAL has been granted by the US Dept of Transportation for Delta Air Lines to enable Garuda Indonesia to codeshare on DL's flights between Tokyo Haneda and both Seattle and Los Angeles through until 26 Jun 2016.

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Maria dealt a fantastic prize!



DELTA Air Lines rewarded one lucky early riser at the recent 2014 Starwood Travel Industry Breakfast hosted in Sydney.

Maria Ferro, helloworld's head of product was delighted to win the major prize of a trip for two to New York, flying Economy class with DL, coupled with a weekend stay at Le Parker Meridien in the Big Apple.

Ferro is pictured (right) with Delta Air Lines' Carolyn Hansen.

Bledisloe Festival

THE Bledisloe Cup Festival will return to Sydney in Aug this year.

Riding on the hype of the annual rugby tournament between the Qantas Wallabies and All Blacks, the festival is comprised of a number of components including the Bush2Bledisloe Tour (04-08 Aug) which visits Dubbo, Orange, Bathurst and Penrith.

Other events include The Bledisloe Cup Festival Race Day at Royal Randwick Racecourse (on 09 Aug) in the lead up to the 16 Aug match at ANZ Stadium.

See rugby.com.au for more info.

CZ launch Frankfurt

CHINA Southern inaugurated the first cross-continent service within Hunan Province last week, after debuting its new Guangzhou to Frankfurt route, operated via Changsa.

Located in Central South China, Changsa has a population of over seven million.

The new route operates thrice weekly using four-class A330-220 aircraft with flatbeds in First and Business Class.

Frankfurt is CZ's sixth European destination, joining Amsterdam, London, Paris, Moscow & Istanbul.

Tourism satisfaction

CONSUMERS have bestowed Qantas with dual honours in last month's Roy Morgan Research Customer Satisfaction Awards.

Qantas was rated most satisfying Domestic Airline and Domestic Business Travel Airline during May, achieving a favourable review from 83% and 85% of passengers respectively compared to the month prior.

Virgin Australia was second to Qantas in both polls.

QantasLink followed VA in the Domestic Airline customer satisfaction award, followed by Jetstar and Tigerair.

The results come just days after Qantas posted the best on-time performance for domestic departure & flight arrivals during the same month (**TD** Mon).

On Fri, Qantas Domestic ceo Lyell Strambi acknowledged that despite pressures on the airline group, "our operational performance has never been stronger."

"Qantas' punctuality record is one of the leading reasons QF customers continue to fly with us. Strambi commented.

Customer rated Singapore Airlines highest (at 89%) on the International Airline satisfaction score, with Emirates (the highest regarded in Apr), Air New Zealand, Thai Airways and Cathay Pacific rounding out the top five.

Oaks Oasis revamp

THE final stage in the \$9.7m refurbishment of Oaks Oasis in Caloundra has commenced on the Queensland Sunshine Coast.

Oaks is investing \$1.6m into the hotel's Sunset accommodation wing alone, which will see all studios and one- & two-bedroom apartments refreshed with new facilities, fixtures and balconies.

The property is expected to reopen the Sunset Wing in Sep.

AFL Rd 15 Results

CONGRATULATIONS

Bahariah Mahmud

from *Hastwell Travel & Cruise*

Bahariah is the top point scorer for Round 15 of *Travel Daily's* AFL industry footy tipping competition and has won a Breakfast Cruise for two, courtesy of *Captain Cook Cruises*.



Major Prize Sponsors

1st Prize: two return flights to Dubai, courtesy of Emirates



2nd Prize: 5-night holiday to Vanuatu, courtesy of Air Vanuatu & Hideaway Island Resort



TUI, TUI Travel merge

GERMAN travel juggernaut TUI and British subsidiary TUI Travel have announced plans to merge and form the world's biggest leisure and tourism company.

The planned £4.5 billion (AU\$8.1 billion) deal would see TUI's hotel and cruise ship operation aligned with TUI Travel's group tour operating business, and listed on German & London stock markets.

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austriancomp@traveldaily.com.au

Does Austrian offer full flat Business Class seats on all long-haul flights?



SA strict on kid entry

FROM 01 Oct, new immigration rules for South Africa will require children under the age of 18 to travel with a full birth certificate when entering the country.

Copies of the birth certificate must be certified and be no more than three months old, the Dept of Foreign Affairs & Travel said.

The new guidelines also require children travelling with only one parent required to produce a legal document signed by the non-travelling parent, permitting approval for the child to travel.

Passengers travelling without the documents may be rejected from boarding a flight, or being turned back at the border - for more details, [CLICK HERE](#).

AKL-MCY re-launch

AIR New Zealand has launched its seasonal services between Auckland and the Sunshine Coast for the 2014 season.

Up to 7,000 Kiwis are expected to commute on the route, which operates as thrice weekly during peak periods and twice weekly for the rest of the season - a total of 42 services.

Sunshine Coast Airport gm Peter Pallot said Air New Zealand has made a commitment to extend the seasons further in 2015 & 2016.

Bashir Tremezzo role

GRAND Hotel Tremezzo, Lake Como in Italy has appointed Kristen Bashir as its local sales and marketing representative.

She will work in partnership with The Brandman Agency Australia which handles pr and communications for the property.

Bashir also represents Six Senses Resort & Evason brands in Australia, along with a suite of other hotels overseas.

G Adv expand sailing

SAILING itineraries through Turkey, the British Virgin Islands and Cuba have been added to the line up of G Adventures sailing trips in 2014 and 2015.

G Adventures Australia/NZ 'Duchess of Delegation' Belinda Ward said expanding sailing options to new locations would cater for the product's "extraordinary demand."

Itineraries range in length from four to 15 days, carrying between eight and 14 travellers.

The new destinations join G Adventures' sailing options already offered in the Greek Islands, Thailand and Croatia.

flynas London route

SAUDI low-cost carrier flynas has announced it plans to launch a new twice weekly service between Riyadh and London Gatwick, commencing 27 Jul.

Flights will be operated utilising Airbus A330 aircraft.

Aussie agents & the seven dwarfs



DISNEY continues to go from strength to strength in all markets it serves, including Australia.

With the launch of MyMagic+ at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida and the 60th anniversary of Disneyland next year, Disney Destinations Int'l recently hosted a series of industry events around Australia and New Zealand to celebrate.

Announced at the events was the creation of The Golden Mickey Award, an annual industry accolade to be awarded at the following year's Disney Days.

More information on the award is expected in coming months.

In addition, a brand new Disney agent incentive was launched, with an array of promotions and prizes to be awarded.

The MyMagic+ technology is now available and allows a level of holiday customisation not previously available, with extra benefits to guests staying at Walt Disney World Resort properties.

A new website now available - www.mydisneyexperience.com - has been launched, allowing pax to reserve their favourite activities up to 60 days in advance.

Agents attending the events also learned about the new attractions and exciting Disney activities soon to be rolled out at theme parks, resorts and cruise ships globally.

Pictured centre is Michael Cassis, Infinity Holidays, one of the Disney Hall of Fame award recipients, with Nicole Bennett, Holly Kelly, Lee Siefken & Kristina Skondro, Disney Destinations Int'l.

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Centara Indian Ocean

THE first 17 units of the Centara Grand Azuri Residences & Suites Mauritius, located on the island's north-east coast are now open, with 15 more coming next month.

Treats of home for United PCOs



UNITED Airlines and Marriott International recently showed this group of conference & event organisers that some of life's luxuries can be found right here. The trip was timed well to take place during the Vivid Sydney

2014 festival, meaning the agents enjoyed the sights of the lights on many of the city's landmarks.

From Melbourne, the group also experienced luxury flat out, flying in United Global First and United Business First on the carrier's new B777-200 between capital cities, lapping up the flat-bed seating.

In Sydney, the group stayed at Marriott's newly acquired Pier One Sydney Harbour Autograph Collection Hotel, enjoyed a bike ride around the harbour and took in cocktails from the property's Harbour View Balcony Suites.

Pictured above enjoying the splendours of Sydney Harbour, from left is Melinda Kuhl, The Appointment Group; Amanda Sullivan, Impact Travel; Andrew St. Ledger, Marriott International; Danni Sampson, ETM; Verena Billett, United Airlines; Hannah Pickford, ASN Events; Vanessa Armstrong, Corporate Traveller; Emma McLellan, HRG and Jayson Frazer, Globetrotter Corporate.

Starline TCM site tour

HOLLYWOOD celebrity tour company Starline Tours has joined forces with Turner Classic Movies to launch a new Movie Locations Tour of Los Angeles experience.

The three-hour guide includes two stops at locations used in more than 50 old and modern classic films, mixed with movie clips & expert TCM commentary.

Tours operate from Thu-Mon at 1:30pm, priced from \$60 per adult, with an extra 9:30am departure on Fri, Sat and Sun.



Brochures of the Week

WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



Contiki - Europe Autumn, Winter & Spring 2014/15
To modify a phrase, Europe is a dish best served cold, and travellers seeking a fun winter adventure would agree based on the range of experiences available as part of Contiki's upcoming European winter program. Young travellers aged 18-35 are encouraged to get up close and personal with Europe in all its winter glory through activities such as ice skating in Paris, skiing in the Austrian Alps, celebrating Christmas in London or Paris or ringing in the New Year singing Auld Lang Syne at Hogmanay.



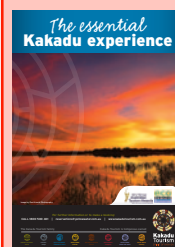
Avalon Waterways - Asia River Cruises 2015
Myanmar makes its debut on the Avalon destination list, with guests able to explore the historic temples accessible as they cruise along the Irrawaddy, Mekong and Yangtze Rivers in Asia. Two new ships have been added to the region, with the *Avalon Siem Reap* to ply the Mekong & the *Avalon Myanmar* on the Irrawaddy. Both ships offer 18 suites with panoramic windows that convert to an open-air balcony. Both ships also offer an open-air observation lounge and timber-floored dining room.



Driveaway Holidays - Prestige Car Hire 2015
The latest guide from Driveaway Holidays focused solely on first-class, high-performance and luxury cars vehicles in the UK, Europe and the US. Guests are able to rent Lamborghinis, Aston Martins, Porsches, Ferrari, Bentleys and more to experience driving in true style, plus many more, with special car requests possibly able to be accommodated. In true Prestige fashion, guests can opt for hotel delivery or to another point, with chauffeur drive limousine transfer services also available.



ClubMates Travel Australia - 2014/15 Holidays
A new player in the Australian market is ClubMates Travel Australia - a firm working to create holidays for people with all types and levels of disability. Another area of business is finding companionship for seniors or helping find travelling carers for special, medical or respite services from door-to-door while on holiday. The inaugural guide from the firm includes 80 pages of holiday experiences, with trips ranging from group journeys to individual getaways both domestically and around the world.



Kakadu Tourism - The Essential Kakadu Experience
An expanded range of day tours & products available in the new guide from Kakadu Tourism. The company operates a number of iconic hotels and tourist experiences in the area, all of which are featured in the new guide. New tours for 2015 include the 'Footprints of the Past' tour which takes guests deep into Kakadu's history, and a new photography trip where guests can learn from landscape snapper Paul Arnold.



Wendy Wu Tours - China Earlybird Specials 2015
Following the success of last year's inaugural Earlybird brochures, Wendy Wu Tours has followed up with a second release for China, offering savings of up to \$920pp for some departures from Jan-Jun 2015. Places on the most popular tours can be reserved now, such as the 27-day Glories of China, priced from \$3,690pp inclusive of Cathay Pacific airfares. The guide also features a range of land only stopovers in Hong Kong and Macau as well as short itineraries in Vietnam in places such as Sapa.

S Rd 17 Winner
SUPER RUGBY

Sponsored by:



CONGRATULATIONS

Kristy Te Hira

from *iTravel*

Kristy is the top point scorer for Round 17 of Travel Daily's Super 15 Rugby industry footy tipping competition, and has won an umbrella, courtesy of **Emirates**.

Major Prize:

Two return Economy Class airfares to Dubai with **Emirates**

USA culinary initiative

BRAND USA has launched a new food-inspired promotional campaign aimed at luring new travellers to the country. The campaign comes following the release of the Discover America: Great American Food Stories guide, which details the highlights of American cuisine. Five chefs featured in the James Beard Foundation - who worked with Brand USA to produce the guide - will travel to five markets in Asia to promote the guide including Australia, Japan & China. The campaign centres also on annual Fourth of July festivities.

Choice growth spurt

FIVE new hotels in NSW, Qld and WA have been added to the Choice Hotels Australasia property portfolio, marking the group's fastest growth levels since 2004. The group's new additions include Econo Lodge Metro Newcastle, Comfort Inn Discovery Cairns, Clarion Inn the Hudson Townsville, Quality Inn Bayswater and Quality Suites Fremantle. Choice Hotels Australasia ceo Trent Fraser said it was always pleasing to add new properties to the group. "With 17 new property additions already secured for the group in the first half of 2014, Choice Hotels Australasia is on target to have its best year for hotel openings in more than a decade," Fraser added. The group now comprises 270 hotels & more than 14,000 rooms.

Ladies lap up Banyan Tree luxury



PANORAMIC views over the Indian Ocean were endless for this group of VIP agents, recently treated to the lap of luxury at the Banyan Tree Ungasan, Uluwatu, on Bali's southern-most tip. The group of top sellers from Travellers Choice enjoyed the experience courtesy of Garuda Orient Holidays and Banyan Tree. While in Bali, the group soaked up some of the spa treatments on offer at the property as well as local shopping and sightseeing.

Victoria Hobbs, Banyan Tree Sydney; Tanya Bancroft, Garuda Orient Holidays; Ruth Osborne, Thornleigh Travel & Cruise and Luh Maharani from Banyan Tree Ungasan Uluwatu. Front row: Ludri Ratnawati, Banyan Tree Ungasan; Gail Wangler, Our Travel Agent; Cathy Barton, Canadian Bay Travel; Kim Simpson, Our Travel Agent and Fiona Ellis from Capricorn Travel.

Pictured above in the back row from left is Hayley Morris, Travel & Cruise Castlemaine;

Third KE A380 to USA

ATLANTA will become the newest destination for Korean Air to operate its A380 after the carrier took delivery of the ninth double-decker jet to join its fleet. The superjumbo will take off on its first scheduled service to ATL on 06 Jul on a thrice-weekly basis. KE initially flagged A380 services to Atlanta nearly two years ago (**TD** 15 Aug 2012), slated then to debut the service in Jan 2013.

Hilton weekend push

A CAMPAIGN centred on taking a 48-hr 'short-stays' and enjoying local cuisine has been launched by Hilton Worldwide in Australasia. The 'Be a Weekender' promo is focused on short urban stays at Hilton and DoubleTree by Hilton branded hotels in Australia, NZ & South Pacific, and runs to 31 Dec. See hiltonweekends.com.au.

Remote resort for NT

NORTHERN Territory Minister Gary Higgins has secured \$15,000 in funding from the NT Govt to conduct a feasibility study into the development of a remote resort near Wadeye, approx 230kms south-west of Darwin. A local firm, Maninh Kirmmu Limited, has submitted a business plan detailing high-quality accom & cultural experiences in the area with employment opportunity & investment potential also detailed.

FAA upgrades Serbia

AMERICA'S Federal Aviation Administration has upgraded Serbia to Category 1, advising the country now complies with ICAO int'l aviation safety standards. Following the upgrade, airlines based in the Republic of Serbia can now launch new services to the United States and establish codeshare deals with US carriers.

WIN A TRIP TO NEW CALEDONIA

Throughout June, **Travel Daily** is giving readers the chance to win a four night holiday to New Caledonia, courtesy of **Aircalin, New Caledonia Tourism and Le Stanley Hotel & Suites Noumea**. The prize includes return economy class fares to New Caledonia with Aircalin, airport transfers and four nights accommodation at Le Stanley Hotel & Suites Noumea, for two people. Every day this month **TD** will ask a different New Caledonia-related question. The subscriber with the most correct entries and the most creative response to the final question will win this holiday. Email your answers to: newcaledoniacomp@traveldaily.com.au.

Q20: In 25 words or less, detail what main activities you would do in New Caledonia and why.



Travel Daily is Australia's leading travel industry publication. Produced each weekday since 1994, the newsletter is first with the latest industry news and is available by paid subscription to people within the travel industry. Sign up for a free 14 day trial subscription at www.traveldaily.com.au.

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WANT YOUR CAREER SEARCH HANDLED CONFIDENTIALLY? CALL THE EXPERTS

JOB OF THE WEEK

**SENIOR INDUSTRY ACCOUNT MANAGER
SYDNEY – \$100K PLUS**

Make your travel career more relevant by joining the advancing world of travel technology. You'll be joining a global organization delivering cutting edge solutions to the travel industry, all the while strengthening your relationship across the industry. If you're hungry for success, recognition and career progression this company will offer you all that and more. If you have industry sales or account management experience apply today.

NEW ROLE

**SALES MANAGER – LUXURY PRODUCT
MELBOURNE - SALARY PACKAGE \$100K PLUS**

This fantastic new sales role has a vacancy open with your name on it. Looking after the NSW market, you will be self-motivated and utilise your strong negotiation skills to qualify opportunities and increase sales, growing sales revenue and build strong ongoing relationships with key industry personnel. Your friendly personality, presentation skills & creative ability is required here. Enjoy a high salary including high base and car allowance.

ROLL UP FOR THE BIGGEST PRODUCTIONS!

**EVENT PRODUCER
MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE \$\$**

This organization is committed to delivering the best event management, group travel and incentive programs for clients of all sizes using their experience teamed with creativity and innovation. If you have experience within event production, from small corporate meetings through to large international incentives & conferences, don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity. Ring for a confidential chat today as this position won't be around long.

ANALYSE THIS!

**SYSTEMS PROJECT ANALYST
BRISBANE – 12 MONTH CONTRACT**

Join this forward thinking operator using your analytical skills & travel systems experience. As part of this dynamic product team you'll be responsible for managing large scale projects for systems utilised by the business on a global level and liaise between end users and vendors to ensure the business requirement are delivered in IT solutions. You'll have a strong understanding of travel business practices and the ability to produce workable solutions to a range of problems

WALK THE HALLS OF POWER

**CORPORATE TRAVEL ACCOUNT MANAGER
BRISBANE - EXECUTIVE SALARY PACKAGE**

Are you a master in keeping relationships strong? Well connected throughout the academic sector & travel industry? We are looking for a polished & professional individual to join this recognised leader. As part of this successful sales team you'll be responsible for maintaining and growing their key academic accounts. This superb role is available now for a motivated account manager looking for wider horizons and aiming for greater success.

PLAY WITH GLOBAL PRODUCT

**PRODUCT MANAGER
SYDNEY – EXECUTIVE SALARY PACKAGE**

Looking for a challenging new destination to market? This wholesale company requires the skills of an adaptable Product Manager. You will be well organised and have the ability to source and develop new and unique products to your competitors while being able to develop a brochure that stands out from the rest. With your talents you will have a creative flare and an eye for detail.

TRAIN THE INDUSTRY THAT YOU LOVE

**PART TIME TRAVEL INDUSTRY TRAINING MANAGER
SYDNEY – TOP SALARY PACKAGE**

This industry leader is looking for an experienced training manager with proven training and people skills. Ideally you will have the ability to build strong relationships with clients, both internally and externally. You will be overseeing training along with other customer service areas ensuring the client remains a leader within the marketplace. You will have to be in the office on a Monday but the other two days are up to you, ring today to find out more.

YOUR CHANCE TO SHINE AT A NATIONAL LEVEL

**NATIONAL SALES MANAGER
SYDNEY – EXECUTIVE**

Make the move you won't regret! We're looking for a strong sales professional who has experience with national management. You will have extensive relationships across the trade and be known as a highly effective, professional and reliable person with the capabilities to grow a business. If you are ready for an exciting new challenge with a great brand you'll go along way in your career.

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Working in partnership with the Australian Travel Industry

Travel Consultant

North side Brisbane. \$DOE+ Ref:1544PS1

Worldwide Travel Consultant required to join a National travel company in a central shopping centre location to book all aspects of travel. Strong worldwide destination knowledge and solid general product knowledge is required to move into a role where you will regain your work life balance within a family friendly company. No Sundays trading, competitive base salary, incentives, parking and educational's are just a few of the benefits on offer for the successful candidate.

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

Corporate Leisure Consultant

Sydney East – Generous Salary – Ref: 1191RF1

Do you like mixing your corporate with leisure? Our client is an award winning boutique operator in the Eastern suburbs. Due to expansion they have an exciting opportunity for an experienced corporate leisure consultant to join their team. Previous exposure to corporate consulting is a must, as is a solid understanding of airfares and ticketing. This position comes with a highly competitive salary and is a rare opportunity for you to get in with an amazing employer.

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

Luxury Leisure Travel Consultant

Melbourne Generous Salary Ref:1912KF1

Are you a Travel Consultant with experience in Tailor-made or Luxury Travel Itineraries? Can you quickly & efficiently turn a basic enquiry into a booking? A leading Travel company in Melbourne, specialising in Luxury Travel are keen to recruit a Travel Consultant to manage their telephone, e-mail, internet and face-to-face enquires whilst pro-actively building rapport and turning enquiries into bookings. You will be rewarded with an attractive salary package for this role.

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

Leisure Travel Consultant

Adelaide \$DOE Ref: 1168LB2

Are you an experienced Travel Consultant with fantastic international product knowledge, that prides yourself on offering excellent service based attitude to your clients?! Candidates living in the south-west of Adelaide with a solid 3+ years of travel consulting experience will be considered for this rare vacancy. If you have a passion for service focussed consulting and use Galileo currently, apply now to join this established, reputable, nationwide company!

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

Travel Consultant

Sunshine Coast, to \$47K base + COMM. Ref1166PS1

Get your work life balance back in a locally based role If you are already working as a Travel Consultant with at least 3 years experience using a GDS teamed with excellent worldwide destination and product knowledge then I'd love to hear from you! Exceptional customer service skills are a must for this position within this friendly and supportive team. You will be rewarded with 9-5 working hours no Sunday trading and a very competitive base salary and commission structure.

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

Cruise Consultant

Sydney - \$40-50K + Uncapped commission + Super – Ref 671SJ4

Would you like to become a cruise expert & specialise in this niche travel product? If you have a passion for cruising & for travel sales then apply now. You will be working towards targets & earning an uncapped commission in return within a sales and service focused environment. You will ideally be experienced within the travel industry, have GDS skills & have been on several cruises yourself. Long term career progression & a CBD location are perks to this role.

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

Travel Consultant Retail

Melbourne Generous Salary+ Comm Ref: 1356MD1

Would you like to use all your travel industry knowledge whilst still earning a decent wage? This established travel organisation are looking for an experienced retail travel consultant that can join them to continue growing this strong performing team in the South Melbourne area. Previous experience in the travel industry with extensive product knowledge and extensive travel portfolio is a must. This is an amazing opportunity for any experienced consultant not to be missed.

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

Hotel Accountant

Perth \$60K + Super Ref: 1171LB2

Rare opportunity within a 5 star hotel, perfect for those with previous experience in accounting for a hotel in a senior role. If you haven't, but you understand financial management of accounts including financial analysis & reports, payroll, and all tax related matters when it comes to looking after a large number of employees then I want to hear from you! Fantastic luxury brand to boost your hospitality career with for the right person with the right skills. Interviewing now!

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



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