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## Winter. On Sale.

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## NT travel agent arrested

**DARWIN-BASED** travel agent Xana Kamitsis - who is ironically the chair of Crime Stoppers NT, was arrested last week over allegations of fraud related to the Territory's Pensioner Carer and Concession Scheme.

Kamitsis runs Winnelliebased Latitude Travel, which is a member of the Independent Travel Group and was raided by detectives executing a search warrant on Thu.

Kamitsis has been the subject of a year-long investigation, with **Detective Senior Sergeant Clint** Sims saying "police will allege documents were altered and signatures forged to gain benefit by deception," according to a report in the NT News.

#### Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has nine pages of news & photos, a front cover page for JITO, a page of photos from the **Independent Travel Group** conference plus full pages:

- inPlace Recruitment jobs
- South African Tourism
- Lindblad Expeditions

Under the scheme, pensioners are entitled to \$500 every two years, which can be directed to a range of services such as utilities or car registration as well as "interstate or overseas travel".

Sims claimed more than \$20,000 had been misappropriated, with the taskforce "continuing to investigate and charges are anticipated".

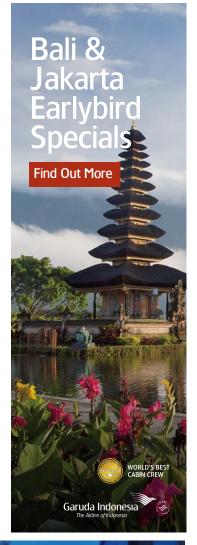
Crime Stoppers NT confirmed Kamitsis was under investigation, saying it had been deemed appropriate for her to step aside until the matter is finalised.

#### **Lindblad invitation**

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions is hosting a series of brochure launch and information evenings for industry partners and their guests, with events planned for Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney starting this week - see last page.

#### Check out JITO!

JITO.CO is inviting the industry to register on the new travel and tourism focused jobs portal - see the front full page of today's TD.



Hurry, our Europe & Britain 10% Early **Payment Discount ends** 18 December 2014.

To get The Real Deal for your clients call 1300 78 78 78 or visit www.trafalgar.com

\*Conditions apply





Holidays 40th Birthday

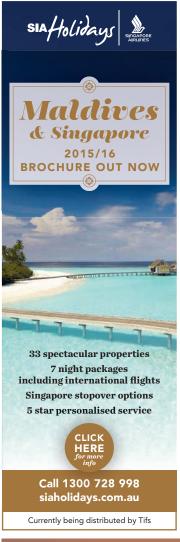
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13 - 29 November 2014









## Qantas expands MU deal

**QANTAS** and China Eastern Airlines yesterday announced a new joint venture which will see them cooperate more extensively on Australia-China flights.

The five year pact, which is subject to approval by regulators in both countries, "is designed to complement QF's existing alliances with Emirates in Europe, Middle East and North Africa and with American Airlines in the US," according to QF ceo Alan Joyce.

Under the new MU agreement, both carriers will co-locate their operations in Shanghai Terminal 1, cutting transit times by about an

#### **AFTA kicks a goal**

**AFTA** members are being offered discount tickets to the 2015 AFC Asian Cup, taking place across the country in Jan.

The "Friends of the Asian Cup" offers include 50% off the **Sydney** quarter final when purchasing a ticket to the Australia vs Oman game, with similar deals available in **Brisbane**, **Melbourne**, **Canberra** and **Newcastle**.

Click on the city names above to access the relevant deals.

hour and improving connections.

If approved, Qantas and China Eastern will also co-ordinate their schedules and pricing on the Sydney-Shanghai route where they currently operate flights almost exactly in parallel.

The pair also plan to operate a joint lounge and streamlined check-in facilities in Shanghai.

Potential new direct routes linking Brisbane and Perth to Shanghai & other mainland cities in China will also be assessed.

"It will be a win for our customers and, by making it easier for Chinese travellers to visit Australia, a win for trade and tourism," Joyce added.

China Eastern chairman Liu Shaoyoung said Qantas is the carrier's key partner in Australia, which is "one of the most important tourist destinations and trade markets for China".

#### **Damian Borg to APT**

**DAMIAN** Borg has been named as New Distribution Manager with APT, moving from his former role as Virgin Australia's industry leader for NSW (*TD* 07 Feb 14).





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Zanzibar	AUD 1500*	AUD 5440*
Kilimanjaro	AUD 1700*	AUD 5440*
Kigali	AUD 1700*	AUD 5440*
Juba	AUD 1500*	AUD 5600*

For more information refer to your GDS or call 1300 787 310.

\*Return Fares are per person, exclusive of taxes and surcharges.

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New! Industry rates on Seabourn Cruises! Valid for sales and departures until further notice.

Ocean View from \$1,222\* pp including taxes and port charges.

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## **CZ signs Tourism Aust deal**

**CHINA** Southern Airlines has signalled an ongoing aggressive push into the Australian market, yesterday boosting its partnership with Tourism Australia with a further \$4.2m jointly committed for cooperative marketing and promotion campaigns in China

The extended agreement was signed in Canberra yesterday, with CZ president Tan Wangeng saying Australia is the most important strategic market for

the carrier.

"We will continue to increase capacity in this market, enhance route profitability and hub support as well as in-flight and ground services, in a bid to increase the influence our Guangzhou hub and the Canton route throughout the Australian marketplace," he said.

CZ carried 20% of all Chinese tourists into Australia in the last year, and has lifted capacity more than fivefold since 2009 with direct services to Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Perth.

TA managing director John O'Sullivan said support from China Southern for the There's nothing like Australia campaign will "help deliver substantial results for Australian tourism".

#### SureSave agent policy

**SURESAVE** Travel Insurance has today officially launched its new Annual Frequent Traveller Policy (AFTP) which has been created exclusively for the use of Australian travel agents, partners and dependents under age 25.

SureSave national sales director Talbot Henry says it gives agents access to an inexpensive 12 month policy for all of their domestic and international trips, demonstrating SureSave's appreciation of the industry.

AFTP replaces SureSave's annual 'shop' policies, with Henry saying "agents are central to everything we do here at SureSave.

"They work hard to understand our products and sell our policies to their customers, so it's only fair that we reward them for their ongoing support and advocacy."

#### Hahn launches agent own-card solution

E-TICKETING firm Hahn Air is now permitting the use of its UATP-based "HR e-Payment Agent own-card solution" as a form of payment for issuance of its standard traffic documents (HR-169 e-tickets).

IATA has granted permission for the system, "notwithstanding the ongoing applicability of IATA Resolution 890," according to a Hahn Air statement.

HR-169 documents issued using the own-card solution also automatically include the Securtix airline insolvency insurance option, a refund promise and 24 hour service desk support.

For each ticket paid with HR e-Payment, the travel agency will also earn Hahn Air's "Rooster Points" and receive a credit.





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#### **Exclusive video content for ITG**

THE Independent Travel Group has signed an exclusive content deal with global broadcasting giant CNN to utilise its rich array of destination-related video content in connection with the fast-growing italktravel brand.



The CNNGo content deal has been brokered by media expert Vince Viola, formerly of ad agency McCann Erickson in Hong Kong.

Viola is working with the Independent Travel Group using the CNN footage to produce high quality travel videos featuring italktravel ambassador and SBS presenter Anjali Rao, who was also the MC at the group's Hawaii conference last weekend.

"We're pushing into the digital age," Independent Travel Group ceo Tom Manwaring told *TD*.

A dedicated italktravel YouTube channel will feature the content, which will also include vox pops from agents highlighting details of particular destinations.

ITG exec gm Ari Magoutis said the aim is to showcase the expertise of italktravel's consultants and provide a differentiation from impersonal online alternatives.

Rao's global experience as a CNN foreign correspondent will also be highlighted, and as well as being available online, the high quality content will be pushed out to the italktravel offices via their in-store digital screens.

The call to action will refer viewers to their local italktravel store, with Magoutis adding that it is another example of the group's "Faster, Smarter, Stronger" mantra.

"We don't want to be spending millions on mass media television advertising," he said, with the italktravel TV initiative a key part of ITG's social media strategy."



## Aus steps up Ebola virus precautions

last Fri, all travellers arriving on an int'l flight into an Australian airport will be required to complete a Travel History Card (right) as part of new

measures to



prevent the possibility of an Ebola outbreak in Australia.

Minister for Agriculture Barnaby Joyce said the heightened measures were necessary to "safeguard the community against the low possibility that Ebola could enter the country".

Arriving passengers assessed to possess a higher risk will also have their temperatures checked.

Joyce lauded airport operators and major airlines who have worked with the Department of Agriculture to implement the enhanced screening measures.

#### Scoot 787 schedule

**SINGAPORE-BASED** no-frills carrier Scoot has confirmed it will introduce Boeing 787-9 *Dreamliner* services on the Hong Kong and Perth routes from Jan next year (*TD* 30 Sep).

Last Fri, the Singapore Airlines offshoot said its *Dreamliner* fleet, which were originally planned to go to SQ, will feature inflight wi-ficonnectivity and in-seat power.



## Window Seat

AUSSIES are being encouraged by Tigerair to spread their wings in a new advertising campaign for its "Infrequent Flyer Club" (*TD* 08 Apr), but instead of using a soaring eagle for the phrase, the carrier has chosen chickens.

The peculiar campaign will be seen on cinema screens in Sydney, Melbourne & Brisbane for movie-goers heading to see the new *Hunger Games* movie.

A newly-launched 90-second commercial featuring chooks details the latest features of the program and a downloadable menu for members to prepare their own airline food at home.

**CLICK HERE** to view the ad.

WHO needs a Bachelor?

While Channel 10's Bachelor Blake Garvey fades back into obscurity, his "winner" and runner-up Sam Frost and Lisa Hyde have been relishing in the spoils of their newfound fame.

The pair were recently guests of Contiki on its 10-day Vietnam Highlights itinerary, personally hosted by the firm's managing director Australia Katrina Barry.

The girls, now "BFFs" are **pictured** right with Barry having more fun as single ladies in Ho Chi Minh City.







#### **New Tas rail options**

**THE** West Coast Wilderness Railway is set to commence two new itineraries from 15 Dec after an extensive upgrade of the track.

New options include the full day roundtrip 'Queenstown Explorer' that operates twice weekly from Strahan to Queenstown & includes time for a guided or selfguided tour of the historic town.

Highlights include the King River Gorge, the 'rack' section of the railway line and rainforests.

Heritage Carriage & Wilderness Carriage tickets on the journey are priced from \$149 and \$195 per adult, respectively.

Also new is a half-day 'River and Rainforest' experience that will commence operation on 17 Dec.

The afternoon rail trip departs Strahan on Wed, Thu and Fri and crosses an array of bridges including the Iron Bridge.

Prices range from \$95 to \$135 per adult.

The tracks rebirth was born as a result of a \$12 million investment from the former Federal Government and the Tasmanian State Govt (TD 19 Apr 2013).

"We are thrilled to be able to offer passengers the chance to experience the complete Railway experience which makes up an important historical part of Tasmania's West Coast," West Coast Wilderness Railway gm Michael Saville said yesterday.

**MEANWHILE**, Barking Owl has been named as representative for the WCWR's PR activities.

#### Swagman fly free deal

A COMPANION fly free deal (excluding taxes) to South Africa is available through Swagman Tours when booking on select itineraries before 15 Jan.

The Africa promo is valid on the 17-day Southern Treasures tour priced from \$5,599 or the 14-day Migration Seeker that leads in at \$7,955ppts land-only.

Guests need to be booked on the same tour and fly with South African Airways, ticketed with Swagman Tours, to avail the offer.

The fly free promo represents a saving of up to \$1,500 per couple. For details, call 1800 808 491.

#### LATAM agt resource

LAN Airlines has launched a new centralised online resource tool that offers transaction support to both IATA and non-IATA travel agents.

Unveiled yesterday, the carrier said Mundolan.com has been designed to ensure a streamlined interaction between LAN Airlines group processes and commercial procedures.

Registered users will be provided with the latest fare reassessment forms and regular LAN news.

The platform is currently available in 14 countries - full details at www.muldolan.com.

**MEANWHILE**. LATAM is advising agents that effective 11 Dec, the booking class 'G' will be enabled for sale on the GDS in Economy class on LAN Airlines flights.





**QANTAS** ambassador John Travolta has helped launch a new QF Boeing 737 aircraft which has been painted in special "retro" inspired livery to help celebrate the airline's 94th birthday, as well as the 70th anniversary of the QF kangaroo logo.

A special event took place in Seattle this week when the carrier took delivery of the plane, which features an ochre band around the window line - reflecting the colours of the Australian outback.

The new aircraft will operate on Qantas domestic routes from later this week.

#### Nikko Guangzhou

JAPAN Airlines offshoot Nikko Hotels International has announced the opening of the newbuild 400-room Hotel Nikko Guangzhou - the group's ninth property in China.

#### Tripadvisor adds tours

TRIPADVISOR'S acquisition of Viator (TD 31 Jan) has seen the launch today of a new feature allowing users of the site to easily compare and book tours and tickets for attractions.

Attraction searches conducted on TripAdvisor will now see users presented with up to three tour options along with descriptions and pricing for each - at which point they can click through to book their selection.

**MEANWHILE**. Viator has also today announced that it plans to launch an "open-listings platform" for tour operators, attractions and activities providers.

Scheduled to go live in 2015, the move will complement Viator's current curated offering, and enable the firm to efficiently add new suppliers and products plus expand to new destinations.



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Tuesday 18th Nov 2014

#### Anantara 20% comm

BOOKINGS at Anantara Phuket Villas or Anantara Phuket Layan Resort & Spa for stays prior to 31 Mar will earn 20% commission. Email phuket@anantara.com.

## African wildlife welcome Swagman



**SOME** of the rarer species of African wildlife came out to greet this group of agents during a recent famil to the continent.

The group was hosted by Swagman Africa in conjunction with MORE properties and flown on South African Airways.

During a visit to Madikwe Game Reserve and Kruger National Park,

#### Kyoto web welcome

A NEW official website for the Japanese city of Kyoto has been unveiled by the city's Mayor as part of a site renewal project.

Designed for overseas visitors, the 'Kyoto Official Travel Guide' seeks to promote the city's destinations in the lead-up to the 2020 Olympic Games in Japan.

The renewal project was carried out with help from TripAdvisor, which now allows travellers to access local accom booking pages and websites of local businesses.

Five new supported languages have been added to the site, taking the current total to 13.

the group were privileged to view Brown Hyena, Black Rhino and even the curious Aardvark.

Later, while in Cape Town, the group were able to spot Southern Right Whales as they return south for the summer months.

Star-gazing also took a unique turn in Cape Town, with Swagman founder Wayne Hamilton - ever the celebrity-aficionado - spotted Claire Danes and husband Hugh Dancy on a break from filming.

The pair were happy to oblige Hamilton's request for a photo.

Hamilton is **pictured** above with his group, which consisted of Nicole, Peta, Olivia, Jenny, Therese, Kaye, Cara and Justine.

#### Velocity earn at pump

**MEMBERS** of Virgin Australia's Velocity frequent-flyer program can now earn points with fuel and retail spend at BP service stations as part of a new partnership.

The tie-up will be valid at 1,400 service stations across Australia from early next year.

## Lisbon tourist tax

PORTUGAL'S capital will adopt a new €1 per person tourist levy from next year in an effort to raise some €7 million annually.

Although only a temporary tax, Lisbon City Council plans to enforce the tax until 2019.

The levy, which will be cranked up another €1pp from 2016, only applies to visitors arriving by air or sea and excludes arrivals by train, bus or private car.

A maximum €7pp will apply, however children are exempt.

#### TNZ offshore shuffle

**TOURISM** New Zealand has begun the search for a new gm for Europe and the Americas to replace Gregg Anderson who is taking a sabbatical next Jul.

Anderson has been with TNZ for 22 years and plans to return to the organisation in Jan 2016.

The early announcement of his break provides Tourism NZ ample time for his successor to undergo a handover, "while maintaining continuity of service in the market," the organisation said.

TNZ last week also announced the appointment of Tony Everitt as gm of Asia for a short term contract, replacing country manager for Indonesia Christian Sidharta, who has departed the tourist office.

#### **Fez Travel brochure**

**NEW** Anzac Centenary tours have been unveiled by Fez Travel in its just released Turkey 2015 brochure.

The range comprises 9, 11 and 16-day August Offensive tours, an eight-day Gallipoli Battlefields trip, an 11-day Remembrance Day itinerary and six different 'Anzac Day 2015' tours which vary in length from eight to 16 days.

Full details at feztravel.com.

#### Win *The Hunte* by Tony Park

This week *Travel Daily* and Swagman Tours is giving five lucky readers the chance to win *The Hunter* by Australian author Tony

Safari guide and private investigator Hudson Brand is on the trail of Linley Brown who's been named as the beneficiary

Park.



of a life insurance policy. Linley's friend, Kate, supposedly died in a fiery car accident in Zimbabwe, but Kate's sister wants to believe it is an elaborate fraud. South African detective Sannie van Rensburg is also looking for Linley, as well as a serial killer who has been murdering prostitutes on Sannie's watch. Top of her list of suspects is Hudson!

To win, simply be the first person to send through the correct answer to the question below to: tonypark@traveldaily.com.au.

Check out www.tonypark.net or www.swagmanafrica.com.au for a hint.

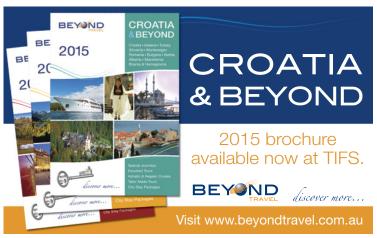
How many fiction books has Tony Park written?

#### **PAL seeks investors**

**PHILIPPINE** Airlines' newly appointed president Jamie Bautista has revealed the carrier is seeking a new investor to fund its expansion program.

Bautista indicated the airline would assess acquiring another airline or dealing with a business that has interests in the aviation sector. *Arab News* reported.

PAL's expansion plan includes purchasing additional long-haul aircraft - by possibly converting a previous order for narrow-body Airbus units to bigger aircraft or striking a new deal with Boeing - over the next decade and adding new local & international routes.







#### **AFTA UPDATE**

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

**WELL,** the G20 might be over and the world leaders of the 20 biggest economies have spent some quality time together in Brisbane and from all reports the event was incident free which in this crazy world is very good news.

It is good news for the event but equally good news for the image of Australia as Brisbane has set a new benchmark for global events.

Even the Queensland police have said they were very pleased with how smoothly things went. The G20 leaders have committed to a number of global policies and only time will tell if the rhetoric will deliver outcomes that actually benefit all of us across the globe.

You can see the G2o communiqué at www.g2o.org and for the absolutely obsessed you can also see details of what the world leaders had at a little Aussie BBQ which was held as one of the events during the G2o. It is amazing just how much detail they have included on the site and at least we can all be proud that the world leaders ate well.

Meanwhile, the Independent Travel Group (ITG) held its annual conference in Hawaii and a big congratulations goes out to all involved for organising a fantastic conference agenda and Hawaii definitely put on all that is great about the destination.

Having only been to Hawaii once before it was a very welcome reminder of just how much Hawaii has to offer and what a great holiday or conference destination it is.

And as they say in the classics that brings to an end (well for me) to the 2014 conference season. Now we can all focus on the sprint to Christmas and the many industry events that will be held between now and the end of the year.

There is no question that the travel industry loves to party and I look forward to seeing many from all parts of the industry over the next six weeks as we celebrate what has been an excellent year for travel and a very big year for the future of travel agents across Australia.



MOVEMBER will see multitudes of males growing mo's to raise funds for the Movember Foundation's programs and to encourage community awareness and support around men's health.

Amadeus IT Pacific men are putting out the challenge to the travel industry to raise funds for the cause. The person who raises the most money will win a **Shaving Brush Travel Kit**.

It's not to late to join - register at au.movember.com (add your company name after your name and choose to join the Amadeus IT Pacific team).

Email your before and after pics and progress updates to mocomp@traveldaily.com.au and we will showcase them on Facebook and in *Travel Daily*. Get involved as an Amadeus Mo Bro! Click HERE to learn more about the program.

Proudly supported by **amadeus** 

#### **Grand appointment**

FORMER Toga Far East Hotels group director of sales Nicole Pasqual has been named as the new director of sales & marketing at Grand Hyatt Melbourne.

Pasqual's 22 years industry experience includes stints with Mirvac Hotels & Resorts, Oberoi Hotels and Carlton Hotels.

#### **Odyssey guarantees**

**EDUCATIONAL** tour operator Odyssey Tours has guaranteed a number of its tours departing next year including the 17-day Persian Heritage in Apr, the 11-day Heritage Italy, seven-day Dutch Tulip Festival & seven-day Chelsea Flower Show - all in May - and the 18-day Southern African Odyssey departing in Aug.

See www.odysseytraveller.com.

#### Asiana sport alliances

**ASIANA** Airlines has signed on as official sponsor of The Presidents Cup and Gwangju Summer Universiade in 2015.

The partnerships will see OZ provide participating players and athletes with flights.

#### **Centara expand Krabi**

**CENTARA** Hotels & Resorts will open a fourth Centra resort in the Thai region of Krabi, with the newbuild 158-room Centra Phu Pano Resort to open in mid-2016.



Tuesday 18th Nov 2014

#### Peru hosts PTM famil winners



FIRST-HAND knowledge of the highlights of Peru was picked up by this group of Personal Travel Managers (PTM) during a recent exclusive incentive from homebased group TravelManagers.

To earn their spot on the trip, the PTMs participated in a Peru webinar and also recorded the highest Peru sales figures during the incentive period.

#### MU B777-300ER debut

**CHINA** Eastern Airlines has operated its first int'l services using two new Boeing 777-300ER, flying the aircraft to New York JFK.

The carrier will operate the jet in a 316-seat three-class layout on both of its daily services to JFK, replacing the A340-600 formerly operated on the route.

MU will take delivery of two more B777-300ER aircraft by Dec, deploying them on the LAX route. Over eleven days, the group of eight got to grips with a multitude of cultural & historical landmarks as well as unmatched scenery.

The trip was hosted by PromPeru Australia in conjunction with TravelManagers, with return air seats provided by LAN Airlines.

Kicking off in Lima, the group quickly developed a taste for South American cuisine in the country's gastronomic capital before moving on to enjoy a Paso horse show in Pachacamac.

Plenty of colourful macaws and other wildlife were spotted while exploring the Peruvian Amazon.

Pictured above overlooking the famed Machu Picchu ruins from left is Nagiba Nagpal, LAN Airlines; Deborah Davies, Julianne Gazal-Rizk, Julie Lunn, Kirsty Whittaker, Manuel Nielsen, PromPeru Australia; Claire Kilcullen, Karen Doyle, Alexa Petherick and Kerrin Poupos.

# ASSISTANT FINANCE MANAGER 12 MONTH CONTRACT



Show Group Enterprises, an award winning travel and freight logistics company located in Botany servicing the entertainment, film and sporting industries is seeking an experienced **Assistant Finance Manager** for a 12 month contract.

The successful applicant must be CPA/CA qualified (or near), be self-motivated and pro-active, and possess good attention to detail. Excellent organisation/time management skills and advanced excel and systems experience are essential.

If you would like the opportunity to work for a great company, supported by a motivated and friendly team, please email your application to hr@showgroup.com.au.

## **Independent Travel Group says Aloha!**

WITH the stunning backdrop of Waikiki Beach, members of the Independent Travel Group gathered last weekend at the Moana Surfrider Resort & Spa in Honolulu for their annual conference.

The event marked a milestone for the company, because it was the first time that many members had attended an ITG conference after the formation of the italktravel brand earlier this year.

As well as presentations from the group's array of preferred partners, delegates experienced plenty of

Hawaiian hospitality along with inspirational keynote speakers and lots of relationship building.

These pictures were taken over the weekend, with lots more at www.facebook.com/traveldaily.

**BELOW:** Susan Haberle from APT - at her first Independent Travel Group conference - rolled her sleeves up to showcase APT's hard working partnership attitude.



RIGHT: Tom Manwaring, ITG ceo; conference host Anjali Rao; exec gm Ari Magoutis; and Vince Viola who's working with ITG on its new online video presence (see page 4).



**RIGHT:** Euan Landsborough of **Albatross Tours** with Shelley Wyatt of Warragul Travel.



First with the news

Tuesday 18th Nov 2014

**BELOW:** The branded italktravel members got together for drinks early in the conference on the terrace of the Westin Moana Surfrider.



**BELOW:** Kim Aquilina from Qantas with Mohammad Nasiry, Independent Travel Group.



LEFT: Karina Hill of Independent Travel Group with Mirza Juddani of

Skiddoo.

ABOVE: Ashlee Galea and Holly Ballard of Hawaii Tourism welcomed delegates to the Outrigger Canoe Club with celebratory flower garlands.





LEFT: Karen, Mark and Julia van Huisstede of the first ever italktravel offices at Maitland, Rutherford and **Newcastle West** - all glammed up for the conference gala dinner which was sponsored by The Travel Corporation.



Tuesday 18th Nov 2014

#### Vibe repositioning

TFE Hotels will launch a new "strategic positioning" for its Vibe Hotels brand, with a new blue colour scheme and logo (below) to be adopted starting with the opening of Vibe Hotel Marysville early next year.

Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport and Vibe Hotel Rushcutters in Sydney will follow suit, with the new positioning "centered on enhancing travellers' sense of connection with each of the hotels' local surrounds, fellow guests and via technology".





#### Money

WELCOME to Money Talk, TD's Tue feature on what the Australian dollar is doing.

#### \$1AUD = US\$0.87

THE Australian dollar has been at the mercy of global sentiment around the US greenback and the Euro over the last few days.

Poor consumer inflation expectations in the US saw the US\$ drop back and a corresponding bounce in the A\$, but this has now been corrected.

Losses overnight were also driven by comments from the European Central Bank - and British CPI figures released tonight may also have an impact. Wholesale rates this morning:

US	\$0.868
UK	£0.555
NZ	\$1.092
Euro	€0.697
Japan	¥101.09
Singapore	\$1.122
China	¥5.168
South Africa	R9.630
Canada	\$0.978
Crude oil	US\$75.64

#### **Garuda TA promotion**

**GARUDA** Indonesia and Tourism Australia have today launched a "massive joint marketing campaign," which is being supported by seven major travel agencies in Indonesia.

The promotion will run until Jun 2015 across Indonesian TV & digital media and has spurred the creation of specially adapted There's Nothing like Australia travel packages focusing on food and wine, fresh produce, romantic destinations, the great outdoors and exotic wildlife.

"Garuda is a valued partner for Tourism Australia, and it is a pleasure to work with the award-winning airline to bring Indonesians to Australia to find out why There's Nothing like Australia," said Tourism Australia regional gm Southeast Asia and The Gulf, Michael Newcombe.

Indonesia is one of Australia's fastest growing international markets, with 150,700 arrivals recorded last year.

The seven Indonesian travel agencies participating in the promo are Dwidaya, Golden Rama, Australian Centre, Panen Tour, Avia Tour, AntaVaya and Smailing Tour.

#### Airtrain PayPal deal

BRISBANE'S Airtrain is now allowing customers to make e-ticket purchases via PavPal on its website and mobile site.

#### **Butts out in Thailand**

**PUBLIC** areas of popular holiday islands in Thailand could become smoke-free under a new smoking ban proposal from the Thai Health Promotion Foundation.

Areas identified for the ban to be implemented include Koh Tao. Koh Samui and Ko Pha Ngan.

The mooted ban also carries the support of the Koh Samui Municipality and lobby group Action on Smoking and Health.

Regional officials are in favour of the ban, saying it will improve the image of the islands for tourism purposes as well as reduce public impact of second-hand smoke.

## FTA to boost China tourism

THE government's newly signed Free Trade Agreement with China includes a range of benefits for the travel and tourism industry, but doesn't go far enough in relaxing visa requirements, according to some stakeholders.

The pact will allow Australian hoteliers, travel agents and tour operators to develop businesses within China without the need for a local joint venture partner, while the lifting of a threshold for scrutiny of projects by the Foreign Investment Review Board will also help lower barriers to Chinese firms investing in Australia.

The government will grant visas for up to 5,000 Chinese working holidaymakers annually, which is viewed as having major potential for the hospitality industry.

In addition, a further allocation of 1,800 Chinese skilled workers eligible for 457 work visas will include chefs and Mandarin

language tutors.

**Tourism Accommodation** Australia acting ceo Carol Giuseppi welcomed the FTA because it will strengthen ties between the countries and provide a pool of labour familiar with the fastgrowing China market.

However, TTF Australia ceo Margy Osmond said the agreement still leaves Australia's visa regime for Chinese visitors "stuck in a time-warp" because it still imposes "onerous conditions".

#### SIA Maldives guide

**SINGAPORE** Airlines Holidays has released its new 2015-16 dedicated Maldives brochure.

A total of 33 properties are featured, with convenient connections to Male via SQ's 119 weekly flights from Australia.

Traditional 5-night packages have been extended to 7 nights, with bonuses offers also featured.



This month *Travel Daily* is giving the travel industry a chance to win a trip to Mauritius, courtesy of Air Mauritius and Sun Resorts. The prize includes:

> 2 return economy flights between Perth and Mauritius (excluding taxes)

4 nights staying Long Beach resort

Breakfast daily

Everyday TD will ask a different question about Mauritius.

The subscriber with the most correct answers and the most creative answer to the final question will win this great prize.

Send your answers to: mauritiuscomp@traveldaily.com.au



What are the best months for surfing in Mauritius?

SUN RESORTS

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 at www.traveldaily.com.au.

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- ► Based on Sydney's North Shore
- Boutique Corporate Travel Agency
- ► \$55K + super + uncapped commission

Ben Carnegie

Are you an experienced corporate BDM that is seeking a boutique company to join and help grow in a completely autonomous environment? Look no further!

Our client is seeking an established corporate travel BDM to add value to their business by driving sales and identifying new opportunities for growth.

Your clients will receive a fully integrated travel solution from flights, accommodation & car hire right through to visa's, group and conference travel with a speedy turn around on all requests.

If you are driven by sales incentives and have a proven track record in corporate travel sales, then the sky is the limit when it comes to your earning potential in this role.

This company offers a complete travel service to their valued clients. Don't miss out, apply today!

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#### **Retail Travel Consultants - Inner Sydney**

- ► Monday to Friday only!
- ▶ Drive, bus or Ferry to work
- Fun, energetic and supportive team environment

Do you love to work in a thriving, busy environment? Sick of working on weekends? Then join this expanding brand that values premium service - 15 mins from the CBD!

Call Cristina or click here for more details

#### High End Inbound Product Administrator - Syd

- ► A niche company with a luxury product range
- ► Interesting and unique itineraries
- ► Monday to Friday in a busy, lively CBD office

This market leader specialises in premium domestic product & needs an experienced product guru who among other tasks, will load rates, produce manuals & monitor the website.

Call Sandra or click here for more details

#### Retail Travel Consultant - Blue Mountains

- ► Walking distance from the local station
- Great working conditions
- Monday to Friday 9-5 and Saturday on a roster

Well respected local agency seeks a Retail Consultant with multiple destination and cruise knowledge looking for a new challenge. Amadeus CRS preferred.

Call Cristina or click here for more details

#### Travel Designer Inbound Luxury Mkt- Sydney

- ► Monday to Friday, CBD location
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- Salary up to \$65K depending on exp.

This globally respected brand specialises in tailor-made domestic travel itineraries for the discerning, affluent client. Must have exceptional Australian product knowledge.

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- ► Night shift role working only every 2nd week!
- ▶ A perfect balance to a busy life schedule with no hard sales
- ► Sydney CBD \$46K pkg

Forget booking flights & accommodation, this role deals only with the best parts of anyone's holidays - the tours! Which is often the reason people go on holidays in the first place!

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Register and complete the South Africa Specialist program before 31 March 2015 to be in the running.









# YOUR INVITATION TO EXPLORE



# Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic invites our industry partners and their guests to join us for our 2015 brochure launch and information evening!

Our fleet of 10 expedition-style ships visit all 7 continents and we offer over 40 unique itineraries. 2015 brings an exciting year of expedition travel, with a range of new itineraries on offer, including sailing the coastline of South Africa and the pristine Indian Ocean, and a suite of 6 new South Pacific voyages.

Our alliance with National Geographic allows you access to experts in the field, including scientists, marine biologists and photographers, and is designed with curious, intelligent travellers in mind, offering extraordinary experiences.

#### We look forward to you joining us

19th November Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, Kooyong, VIC
 20th November Centennial Parklands Dining, Sydney, NSW
 09th December MODA Events, Hamilton, Brisbane, QLD
 11th December Hayden Orpheum, Cremorne, Sydney, NSW

Events are at 2pm and 6pm.

**CLICK HERE TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE** ▶



