



Win \$10,000 to brighten your horizon.

Simply book and ticket any Qantas Domestic or International flight on 081 paper between 22 January and 3 February 2015 and you will go into the draw to win \$10,000 Qantas Cash, or one of three Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix hospitality packages.

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Major prize: \$10,000 Qantas Cash. Minor prizes: 3 x Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix hospitality packages.

The packages include: Double pass for 14 March 2015 to the F1 Australian Grand Prix in the Qantas Hospitality Suite / 2 x Return Economy tickets on Qantas Airways to Melbourne / 1 night's twin share accommodation at The Langham Hotel Melbourne.

To record your entries, enter an OSI QF HORIZON/ AGENCY CODE/CONSULTANT NAME into each booking:

The agency code is your Agency IATA/TIDS/DAPA number (only 7 digits required)

Amadeus: OS QF HORIZON/AGENCY CODE/CONSULTANT NAME / Sabre: 30SI QF HORIZON/AGENCY CODE/CONSULTANT NAME

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Travel Daily

First with the news

Thursday 22nd January 2015

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AIR NEW ZEALAND

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*Educational ticket terms & conditions apply

Virgin drops US fuel levy

VIRGIN Australia has responded to the recent slump in oil prices, today revealing a revamp of its fare structure on flights to the United States and a price drop of up to \$50 on round-trip airfares (**TD** breaking news).

The two-pronged approach will align VA's trans-Pacific fares with those of the rest of its network, whereby fuel levies will be incorporated into the base fare, rather than as a separate charge.

Virgin Australia operates double daily services from Australia (Sydney and Brisbane) to Los Angeles and has imposed the fuel surcharge for approx 5 years.

A spokesman for VA told **Travel Daily** the restructure was not influenced by the ACCC's recent acknowledgement that it would investigate airlines for excessive fuel surcharges (**TD** Mon).

Luke O'Donnell said VA has been monitoring the sustained change in oil prices over recent months & the carrier expects levels to stay at lower levels than the record highs experienced in past years.

He said Virgin has always been up front with fuel levies and the change will provide "greater clarity" for customers.

Effective 23 Jan, VA's Economy & Premium Economy class fares to the US will fall by \$40 & Business Class fares will decrease by \$50.

Agents can expect to see global distribution systems updated with the latest changes overnight.

Qantas \$10k incentive

QANTAS is offering \$10,000 in Qantas Cash along with three Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix hospitality packages, as the prizes in a new agent incentive which has launched today.

To go in the draw, consultants must book and ticket any Qantas domestic or international flight on 081 stock between today and 03 Feb - for details see the **front cover page** of today's **TD**.

Six pages of news!

Travel Daily today has six pages of news & photos, a front cover page for **Qantas** plus full pages: (**click**)

- AA Appointments jobs
- Travel Trade Recruitment

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GPT NZ brochure

GRAND Pacific Tours has rolled out its 2015/16 New Zealand Coach Holidays brochure with a selection of five touring options.

The range includes affordable & luxury coach holidays and "Ultimate Small Group Tours".

Orbitz decides to sell up

US ONLINE travel giant Orbitz Worldwide has hired a team of bankers from Goldman Sachs to scour the market for a potential buyer for the company.

According to business portal *Bloomberg*, the fourteen-year old Orbitz Worldwide has today confirmed it is investigating the prospect of a sale, with a number of private equity funds and other internet firms showing interest.

News of the prospective sale sent the company's share price up on the New York Stock Exchange.

Increased competition and rival buyouts from Orbitz's major competitor Expedia are also understood to be major catalysts to the reported sale outsource.

The latest reports now say that Travelocity is poised to be the

next in line to fall to Expedia.

Orbitz Worldwide operates a range of brands in the Australian market including HotelClub and HotelClub for Agents as well as being party to a ten-year Strategic Alliance Agreement with Helloworld Limited.

When queried, Helloworld told *Travel Daily* it did not comment on rumours and speculation.

Local rep for Far East

GREAT Southern Outbound has been appointed to handle the sales and marketing activities for Far East Hospitality in the Australia & New Zealand markets.

The two-year deal will cover Far East's Quincy, Oasia and Village Hotels & Residences brands.

QF extend eating time


QANTAS has extended the service of main meal times in Economy class on short and medium domestic sectors.

The move enables customers to enjoy their Neil Perry inspired cuisine earlier and longer than was previously available, with a greater choice of options as well.

Breakfast is now served for an extra 30mins for departures up until 0859, lunch now starts an hour earlier for departures commencing from 1100 & dinner also starts an hour earlier for departures starting from 1700.

"That means even more of your customers can now enjoy a main meal service in Economy when travelling on Qantas within Australia," the carrier told agents.

CLICK HERE for more details.


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CTM regional shuffle

CORPORATE Travel Mangement has announced the reassignment of its WA operations head Glenn Wilcox to general manager NSW.


He takes the role vacated by Kim Wethmar who has joined TravelEdge as the company's new chief executive (*TD* yesterday).

Wilcox possesses over 19 years industry experience, handling some of CTM's largest Australian and global accounts.


Filling Wilcox's vacated role as general manager WA is CTM's highly experienced Salv Silvera.

More appointments on [page 6](#).


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CLICK HERE for further details

Uniworld winning in India

THE first deposited Australian group booking on Uniworld's new Ganges program indicates the potential of the destination, says gm Australia John Molinaro. Uniworld announced plans to

begin packaging India in Sep (**TD** 04 Sep), however reservations for the Asia program only opened just prior to Christmas.

Molinaro told *Travel Daily* the Uniworld Boutique River Cruise India program was already getting attention by agents and past pax.

"The calls are coming in. Agents are very excited. Because we are so different, when they see us launch a new product, they react," he said.

The 13-day 'India's Golden Triangle & Sacred Ganges' cruisetour includes five-nights on the ground "to experience the hustle & bustle" of India before taking to the water for seven nights of "serenity," he added.

Currently under construction by Haimark, the all-suite *Ganges Voyager II* will feature the same level of opulence guests encounter on Uniworld's ships in Europe, in Russia and the Nile, Molinaro told *TD* this week.

Sixteen charters will operate next year in Jan, Feb, Mar, Oct, Nov and Dec, bypassing the rain and heat of the northern summer.

"And the price point for our 13 day trip is a minimum of \$9,275 - that's our market. You are not going to get a three-star product. We deliver what you expect."

Uniworld's Asia brochure also features four itineraries on the Yangtze in China and a 15-day Timeless Wonders of Vietnam, Cambodia & the Mekong cruise.

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Top Aus hotels voted

XANADU Holiday Resort in Main Beach, Queensland has been ranked as Australia's Best Hotel in the 2015 TripAdvisor Travellers Choice Awards.

Winners were chosen based on millions of reviews, opinions and votes by TripAdvisor site users.

Emirates Wolgan Valley, soon to be rebranded by One&Only, was voted into second, with qualia in Hamilton Island in the top three.

In a special category, Spicers Vineyards Estate in the Hunter Valley, NSW was voted as the #1 hotel for Romance in the Country.

CLICK HERE for the full rankings.

Wandering the World

FORMER Peregrine executives Glenyce Johnson and Jane Reed have joined forces once again to launch a new touring company specialising in walking holidays.

Dubbed Wandering the World, the new firm has seen immediate success with all 2015 itineraries released so far sold out, with the first departure later this month.

Trips scheduled to take place this year include Nepal, Bhutan, Northern Spain and Sri Lanka.



Window Seat

CELEBRATING its launch into Japan this year, Contiki is set to bring a popular Japanese dining experience to Sydney for two nights only next month.

The Japanese Robot Restaurant will serve up plates of Japanese culture in a Robots Unrivalled experience that Contiki says promises "two nights of total sensory overload".

Diners will be "taken on a futuristic journey to the edge of insanity" as they enjoy Japanese food and beverages.

High-energy dance routines set to futuristic beats, lasers and fluorescent colours and robots doing battle will keep diners on the edge of their seat through the excitement-packed dinner.

Robots Unrivalled will take place on 23 and 24 Feb, with prospective diners able to register for a place - **CLICK HERE**.

Opportunities to buy tickets will be offered later this month on a first-come-first-served basis to those who pre-register.

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Dallas and Fort Worth saddle up



THE Texan twin cities of Dallas and Fort Worth last night formally launched a new Australian marketing partnership which will see them jointly promote the destinations to the local market for the first time.

The initiative is being led by Geoffrey Hutton from Kent Marketing, who outlined a series of activities planned for the year including participation in the upcoming Visit USA workshops, and a sales mission by the heads of the cities' convention and visitor bureaux in May.

Double digit growth in visitation is being driven by the increased Qantas A380 capacity into DFW, Hutton said, along with plenty of other traffic also coming in via DL, VA, NZ and United Airlines.

Dallas and Fort Worth will also participate in next month's AIME business events show in Melbourne for the first time ever, signalling a stronger focus on the potential for MICE business from the Australian market.

Hutton is **pictured** above centre with Simon Dodd from American Airlines and Tina Evans of Qantas.

WIN TICKETS TO THE SING-A-LONG 'SOUND OF MUSIC' INSIGHT VACATIONS

The Art of Touring in Style

To mark the 50th Anniversary of 'The Sound of Music', Insight Vacations is giving away 5 tickets to the 'Sing-a-long Sound of Music' at the State Theatre in Sydney. Join us to see the classic film on the big screen with song subtitles, so everyone can sing-a-long!

To enter be the first to send the answer to the following question to insightvacations@traveldaily.com.au

Where was Maria's wedding filmed in the movie?

Need a hint? [Click here.](#)

Congratulations to Tuesday's winner Trish Park from Wiltrans International!

Austrian National Tourist Office



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Brunel joins Go Group

BRUNEL Chauffeur Drive has joined the Go Group consortium of ground transportation companies, with its Sydney-based Redy2Go shuttle service now part of the global organisation.

"Our membership in The GO Group is the next step in offering a global solution to the increasing numbers of international travellers requiring cost effective ground transportation both here in Australia and worldwide," said Brunel ceo Paul Highams.

Redy2Go plans to expand its service into Brisbane and Melbourne later this year.

Accor's solid half year

GLOBAL hotel giant Accor has reported mixed revenue results across all regions in its full year accounts for 2014, with its Hotel Services division in Asia-Pacific up 3.5% for the full year.

According to new figures from Accor this week, the APAC region recorded a much different result in its Investment division, with revenues down 0.5% year-on-year.

The result was largely driven by a downturn in China and propped up by positive figures in Australia.

VA ends 2014 on top

VIRGIN Australia maintained its late-year success in on-time running, holding onto top spot in official government stats for Dec.

Sir Richard Branson's baby saw 86.9% of its flights in Dec depart on time, ahead of Qantas which posted an 84.5% score.

Tigerair held third place by a comfortable margin over Jetstar, with 81.8% of flights leaving as scheduled and 74.2% for JQ, with the same order kept for arrivals.

Regional Express remained on top among regional carriers with 86.7% of flights departing on time ahead of VA Regional at 83%.

QantasLink and Jetstar saw the most flight cancellations with 2.7% and 2.3% respectively, with the Sydney-Canberra route faring worst with nearly 1 in 20 flights axed among all carriers.

HRA signs Rosewood

HOTEL Representation Australia has been appointed as gsa for the Rosewood Hotel Group locally, with the move significantly expanding HRA's global portfolio.

MD Craig Davies told **TD** the addition brings around 120 new hotels into the group across the Rosewood, Pentahotels and New World brands in Europe as well as North America and Asia.

The Rosewood collection includes some of the world's top hotels such as the Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek in Dallas, New York's The Carlyle and the Hotel de Crillon in Paris.

Rosewood has also earmarked a property in Brisbane as part of the DBC's Queen's Wharf project.

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Aus desired by the US

AUSTRALIA has leapfrogged ahead of Italy to become the most desired destination for US and Canadian travellers in 2015.

According to the *Fly.com New Year Travel Resolutions Survey*, Australia was most favoured by Canadians and Americans living in the US South and Midwest.

TTF policies for Qld

INCREASING cruise shipping capacity in Brisbane, linking Gold Coast light rail with heavy rail and increasing marketing have been outlined as key priorities in Qld by the Tourism & Transport Forum.

TTF ceo Margy Osmond congratulated both candidates in the upcoming state election for strong tourism policies but said "there is more to be done".

Osmond highlighted jobs as a major concern, with the TTF Employment Atlas report showing tourism supported 140,000 direct jobs & that Qld currently leads the nation in unemployment levels.

Marriott eye a million

INVESTMENT in real estate by the Marriott Int'l hotel group for the year is tipped to exceed US\$50 billion by the end of 2015, according to new projections.

The company signed agreements to manage 650 new properties totalling 100,000 rooms last year or around two signings per day.

CEO Arne Sorenson said that working with its hotel owners, it hopes to this year create 150,000 new jobs to manage and operate its hotels around the world.

Naughty tourists list

MISBEHAVING Chinese tourists will have their names and details added to a national register in order for authorities to keep their eye out for repeat offenders.

According to China's National Tourism Administration, the system will allow for punishments to be applied to unruly tourists who give the country a bad name.

Data on the list will be shared with airlines, hotels and agencies.



Oregon goes Wild!

ABOVE: The scenic splendour of Oregon was showcased to a group of industry partners on the big screen during a special advance screening of the film *Wild* in Sydney last night, hosted by Travel Oregon and supported by Hawaiian Airlines.

Scenes from the flick were filmed on the Pacific Northwest Scenic Trail through Oregon.

Pictured from left are Gai Tyrrell, HA regional director; Joanne

Motta, Travel Oregon; Meredith Salotto, HA and Jill Collins from Barking Owl Communications.

12-hr check-in at HIA

GUESTS staying at The Airport Hotel at Hamad Int'l Airport, Doha flying with Qatar Airways can now check-in their luggage up to 12 hours prior to flight departure.

The service is available to pax who have pre-booked the hotel.

Join us for a journey in honor of the brave sacrifice 100 years ago.

"Gallipoli Centenary 2015":
A cruise program, touching the lands where the ANZAC legend was born.

Louis Cruises launches a new brand, Celestyal Cruises.

Say Kalimera to Celestyal Cruises!

Celestyal stems from celestial, which means "pertaining to the stars" and "heavenly" or "divine". By launching Celestyal Cruises, Louis Cruises focuses on the real Greek experience, already enjoyed by thousands of visitors.

Celestyal Cruises will include all the Aegean, Ionian and Adriatic Sea destinations and will be addressing a call to the international market promoting classic or new cruises full of Greek gastronomy, Greek culture and entertainment, new themed programs and personalized service that defines Greek hospitality! Celestyal Cruises is here to enhance **the real Greek experience!**



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BUNNIK Tours has slashed the price of select European tours departing in Apr and May by as much as \$300 per couple.

The promotion applies to the 08 & 29 May departures on the Moscow to Prague journey, 04 & 25 May departures on the Turkey in Depth itinerary and others, when booked before 09 Feb.

Broken Hill heritage

THE NSW regional township of Broken Hill has this week been recognised as Australia's First Nationally Heritage Listed City following an assessment by the Australian Heritage Council.

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UA MEL-LAX winners

THE winners of a United Airlines Melbourne-Los Angeles incentive for travel agents in Australia and New Zealand have been named.

The trade campaign was based on agents who booked UA flights between Australia and LAX, along with participating hotels in the Los Angeles area, run alongside the launch of 787-9 Dreamliner services to Melbourne in Oct.

Organised in partnership with the Los Angeles Tourism and Convention Board, up for grabs was a spot on a famil to Hollywood, departing on 06 Mar.

Winners are Tracie Pascoe, Escape Travel Stock Exchange Melb; Lisa McCracken, Travel on Crown Wollongong; Yvonne Lennard, Toorak Travel; Bronwen Simpson, Hills Travel Centre Kings Langley; Lisa Chew, STA Travel UNSW, Kensington; Michelle Nagy, Flight Centre Bondi Junction; Gabrielle Patten, Flight Centre Templestowe; Stephanie Eichler, Flight Centre Waurin Ponds; Yehudis Jager, FBI Travel and Gabrielle Hall, Travel Beyond.

Warwick Doha opens

WARWICK International Hotels has announced the debut of its first property in Qatar.

The 5-star Warwick Doha Hotel features 164-rooms and is located nearby the Doha Corniche.

ITP Ireland partner

INTERNATIONAL Travel Partnership has welcomed J. Barter Travel as its associate agency based in Ireland.

Based in Cork, J. Barter Travel offers a wide range of services covering all areas of leisure and corporate travel management.

Muri Beach wi-fi deal

GUESTS staying at Muri Beach Club Hotel who purchase three cocktails during 'Happy Hour' will now receive a complimentary 120MB wi-fi voucher.

The property says the initiative is part of its 'social' campaign and is available in the SilverSands Restaurant & Bar from 4-6pm.

Industry Appointments

WELCOME to Industry Appointments, *Travel Daily's* Thursday feature which has the latest job appointments from across the industry. If you have just appointed someone to a new position and would like to update the industry, send us an email at appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

The **Travel Daily Group** has welcomed the return of **Magda Herdzik** to the newly created role of Sales, Production and Marketing Executive, working across the company's portfolio which also includes *Cruise Weekly*, *Business Events News*, *Pharmacy Daily* and *travelBulletin*. She rejoins the **TD** family from her former position as Digital Marketing Coordinator for Wendy Wu Tours.

Fiona Cogar has joined the team at **Arabian Adventures** in Dubai, where she is managing the Australian/New Zealand markets. She was formerly Leisure Sales Manager with One&Only Hayman Island.

Hilton Worldwide has announced the appointment of **Paul Hutton** as its new Vice President for Operations in Australasia. Currently the group's Regional General Manager for China South, Hutton takes up his new role effective 16 Feb. He replaces long-time Hilton head of Australasia **Ashley Spencer**, who is retiring from his 27-year career with the hotelier but will continue to work in a consultancy capacity on a number of projects across Australasia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Carnival Australia's **World's Leading Cruise Lines** has appointed former Luna Park staffer **Christopher Rich** to the newly created role of P&O Cruises Corporate Groups Executive. Also new to the Carnival team is former Aircalin GM **Ken Triffitt**, who becomes Cunard/P&O Cruises World Cruising Business Development Manager.

The **Darwin Convention Centre** has named **Pietro Delpechitra** as its new Director of Client Services. He was most recently Venue Services & Operations Manager of Auckland Live.

TravelEdge has appointed **Kim Wethmar** to the newly established role of Chief Executive. The move will allow the company's joint Managing Director Sue Hollis to spend more time abroad pursuing a personal commitment. Wethmar will work with Managing Director Grant Wilson, while Hollis will be a Consulting Director until Jun 2015 to assist with a smooth transition. Wethmar joins TravelEdge from Corporate Travel Management, where she was General Manager NSW.

Pieter van der Hoeven has been appointed as General Manager of the **Outrigger Mauritius Beach Resort**. Formerly Outrigger Vice President of Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific until early 2013, he rejoins the company after a stint with Raffles Hotels & Resorts in Cambodia.

Rail Plus has announced the promotion of **Kieran Healy** to the Melbourne-based role of Operations Manager Australia. **Kirsty Blows** has also been appointed to the newly created position of Country Manager New Zealand, while former Sales Manager NSW **Nicki Schleibs** returns to Melbourne as National Account Manager.

Emmanuelle Moneger has been appointed as General Manager of **The Royal Livingstone** in Victoria Falls, Zambia. She was previously Regional Manager at &Beyond.

Fiji Airways has appointed **Shaenaz Voss** as its new General Manager Industry, International and Government Affairs. She was formerly General Manager of FJ's short haul offshoot Fiji Link - a role which will be taken over by **Thomas Robinson**.

Tourism Western Australia has welcomed KPMG director **Nicole Lockwood** as a new member of its Board of Commissioners. Current Board members **Alistair Donald** and **Neville Poelina** have also had their terms extended until 30 Jun 2017.

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PRODUCT IS TAKING OFF IN 2015

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Product Managers and Product Executives looking for a new role in 2015, stop here. We currently have two companies with very different products looking for experienced Product Managers to join their teams. Your strong negotiation, contracting and packaging skills will be highly sought after, send your CV for more information. This could be a good opportunity for a Product Executive to step up to a manager.

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Amazing opportunity to join this successful well established travel business located on the Southside of Brisbane. You will have vast experience in the Australian Wholesale Travel industry in a Product Management role where you have managed teams, negotiated with suppliers, managed promotion activities and contributed to growth of the business. You will be an accomplished Product Manager with established and current supplier network in the region. Highly competitive package to attract the best!

For more information please call Anna on (07) 3023 5023 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Leisure Travel Consultant

Central Coast, to \$41K DOE. Ref: 1383SZ1

Work close to home! No more commuting to the CBD, Monday to Friday only! This is the dream job for anyone living in the Central Coast. Work, life balance and working for a company that cares about their consultants, not to mention rewarding educational trips and attending events. This is the perfect opportunity for an experienced travel consultant with STRONG fares knowledge along with a great customer service focus to really be apart of a fantastic independent travel agency.

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

Luxury Travel Specialist

Melbourne, \$40-\$50K, Ref: 1656MD1

My client is offering Monday to Friday hours, fantastic like minded travel team, social events, generous starting salary and yearly famils! Working with a fantastic call centre team, taking client inquires over the phone, email and internet. You will be booking luxury hotels, flights, transfers and tours directly from the public and from travel agents. Successful candidates will have at least 2 years experience in the travel industry within a similar role and competent on a GDS.

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

Corporate Travel Consultant x 2

Perth, \$55-\$62K DOE, Ref: 1506LB1

Corporate travel consultants required for two of Perth's leading independent travel agencies. You will be specialising in dealing with repeat corporate clientele, servicing their requests as needed. To be considered for these multi-skilled offices you will have a solid corporate consulting background with proven silver service when it comes to working with clients. Working predominantly Mon-Fri, these roles won't last! Those with Galileo or Sabre experience will be highly regarded.

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

Wholesale Ski Consultant

Brisbane, Competitive Package, Ref: 1449HB5

An industry leading Ski Wholesaler is looking for senior travel consultants to start ASAP due to a significant increase in enquiry. Using your love and knowledge of skiing/boarding, first hand experience of a least 3 world wide ski resorts in conjunction with your expert GDS ability is required. This role will allow you to specialise in a booming niche market. On offer are very achievable targets with uncapped commission, a fantastic team culture and great worldwide ski famils.

For more information please call Helen on (07) 3023 5027 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Sales Manager - Part Time

NSW / ACT, \$70K Pro Rata + Bonuses, Ref: 1373MB1

We have a rare Part-Time Sales Manager opportunity for a Lavishly appointed and well respected Luxury touring company! Do you have sound Business Development or Sales Manager experience and a proven sales record? This leading tour company is looking for an experienced Sales Manager to assist with their ongoing expansion across the travel market. This is a Brand that you will want to work for, work with the world's best in Luxury travel. Potential future full time opportunity.

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

Travel Product Manager

Melbourne, \$60-\$65K DOE, Ref: 1507KF1

Are you looking to challenge yourself in your next role? A long standing, industry leading Travel company has a new and exciting position on offer for an experienced Europe & Latin America product manager. We are looking for an experienced travel professional to jump on board with this new position, bringing creativity, passion and enthusiasm in order to reap the rewards!! You will need to have managed a destination and be keen to develop and strive for the best within your brand.

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

Business Travel Consultant

Perth, \$50-\$58K, Ref: 1528LB2

A rare vacancy currently exists for an international travel consultant within a national corporate travel management company. With locations Australia wide, this is an excellent opportunity for a service and support focused individual, with solid international consulting knowledge looking to further their career with a major TMC! Career development and excellent base salary plus incentives on offer for the right person working Mon-Fri only. Those with working Amadeus knowledge favoured!

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



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