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Travel Daily

First with the news

Monday 4th April 2016

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Travel Daily
on location in
France

Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of **Atout France** which is hosting its annual **Rendez-vous en France** trade show in Montpellier this week.

SOUTHERN France's Languedoc Roussillon region has welcomed buyers and media from around the world, including Australia, for a series of hosted famils ahead of this week's **Rendez-vous** show. 120 travel agents and tour operators took part in the famils that featured the natural beauty, history, culture, cuisine and adventurous spirit of the region. Highlights included a visit to the magnificent ancient Roman aqueduct Pont du Gard (a UNESCO world heritage site built around 50 years AD) at Vers-Pont-du-Gard, a horse and carriage ride across fields to witness the 'rounding up of the bulls' in the town of Castries and a stroll along the cobblestones of the medieval village of Uzès. More from France on **page 3** and in *Travel Daily* this week.

Scoot adding India routes

SINGAPORE-BASED low-cost carrier Scoot is on the cusp of expanding into the subcontinent with not one but three leisure destinations, offering new options for Australians to get to India. The carrier is yet to formally announce routes, however *The Economic Times* in India reported the destinations will include Chennai, Armistar, Jaipur. "The airline is in the process of getting all mandatory approvals," a source told the media outlet. "A final announcement in this regard is expected to be made in the next couple of weeks".

Travel Daily understands Scoot's first foray to India will come as soon as the end of this month, with the destinations all offering connectivity to and from

Australia on routes from Sydney, Gold Coast, Melbourne & Perth. Scoot operates an all-Boeing 787 *Dreamliner* fleet consisting of both -7 and -8s, enabling the budget airline to rotate the state-of-the-art aircraft as seasonality and demand requires. Services to MAA, ATQ and JAI are likely to be offered through the addition of new 787 deliveries due to join the sister airline of Singapore Airlines in coming weeks and months. Last week, Scoot announced it would commence services to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia, operating the service on a thrice weekly basis, beginning 02 May. Until 10 Apr, Scoot has one-way Economy class fares from SYD & MEL to Jeddah priced from \$1,210 - www.flyscoot.com.

Today's issue of TD
Travel Daily today has nine pages of news, a photo page for **Best Western** plus full pages from: (click)


- Amadeus
- AA Appointments jobs
- JITO
- JITO

JITO jobs live now

TRAVEL industry job site jito.co is reminding people to register for job alerts as well as expand their contact base via the new JITO CONNECTED smartphone app. More details on the **last two pages** of today's *Travel Daily*.

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Fiji Link disruptions

FIJI Airways is advising pax that a number of flights to outer islands today have been affected by two "Tropical Disturbances".

Services to Labasa, Tawawa and Koro were cancelled earlier this morning due to "unfavourable weather", while afternoon flights to Labasa, Savusavu and Taveuni have also been shelved.

"We urge passengers booked on tomorrow's Fiji Airways flights out of Nadi to make arrangements to move closer to the airport," the Fiji national carrier suggested.

MEANWHILE, Pacific Island Air has cancelled all flights for the remainder of today & tomorrow (05 Apr) due to bad weather.

P&O finalise order

P&O Cruises Australia finalised its newbuild ship with Fincantieri in Italy last weekend.

Featuring 2,100 rooms, the yet-to-be named vessel will be based locally year-round from 2019.

Airport strikes called off

INDUSTRIAL action at Australia's points of entry and exit has been suspended for at least 90 days, after a ruling by the Fair Work Commission.

The series of rolling strikes was set to disrupt flights and cruise operations across the country, with the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) taking the action in protest as part of a pay and conditions claim.

However on Fri the Department

of Immigration and Border Protection made an application to the Fair Work Commissioner to suspend all industrial action for three months on the basis of national security.

The application was granted, much to the fury of the union group which says it will "continue to vigorously oppose the department's application".

The series of stoppages, which had been set to continue until 12 Apr, had only just resumed on Wed last week after the initial plan to walk out just before the Easter break was suspended out of respect for the victims of the Brussels attacks.

At this stage all industrial action by Immigration and Border Protection staff has been suspended until 02 Jul under an interim order handed down during a partly confidential hearing on Sat, pending further court action tomorrow.

Excite Dubai promo

PAID bookings to Dubai made with Excite Holidays between today and 22 Apr will see agents entered into a draw to win a five night package to the emirate.

The prize includes flights with Emirates, accom at the Vida Downtown, touring and more.

Every night booked in Dubai during the period will also see agents rewarded with an extra 1,000 reward points.

Qantas ad series

QANTAS is rolling out its second series of advertisements celebrating the "spirit" of its staff.

The series follows a Qantas pilot, engineer, ground handler and a lounge host - all real employees discussing their roles within the company.

Advertisements will run across digital, print, social and in terminals, with an accompanying series of videos set to screen in Cinemas.

Visit www.qantas.com/spirit to view the series.

Alaska Air wants VX

ALASKA Airlines is reportedly the frontrunner in talks to acquire Virgin America for over US\$2b, with an announcement of a merger possible this week.

Based on people familiar with the likely transaction, Reuters allege the takeover will see the Seattle-based carrier pay between US\$56 and US\$58 per share to buy Virgin America.

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SCENIC®

VIEW
OFFERS

**EUROPE
RIVER CRUISING
TRAVEL IN 2017
AT 2016 PRICES***

ATAB 2015/16 survey results

THE Australian Travel Agent Barometer has released its 2015/16 survey results based on 150 responses from travel agents, buying groups and businesses. Key issues highlighted by compiler Simon Bernardi included industry confusion over ATAS accreditation, with over half of respondents (57%) rating

their understanding of the ATAS scheme as "little awareness".

A scarcity of well trained staff, was another concern, with 73% of owner managers saying it was difficult to find well trained travel staff when required.

Online OTAs and disruptive technologies like Airbnb were seen as a top challenge.

Respondents said they would like more commission and earning potential from suppliers as well as more campaigns to educate the public on why they should use a travel agent.

Consumer marketing and attracting new customers was also of concern, with some saying they were joining agency networks with the hope of marketing support "but few groups are delivering on the expectation".

The full results are available for purchase at a cost of \$300+GST by calling 0418 111 484.

French show of force

TOURISM authorities in France are putting their best foot forward with this week's annual Rendezvous-en-France trade event showcasing the perennially popular destination despite recent terrorism incidents.

Wholesalers, travel agents and other buyers from across the globe have gathered for the event which saw participants feasting on fabulous cuisine over the weekend as they explored the Languedoc Roussillon region.

They enjoyed various reputed restaurants and eateries serving inspired meals that drew on local, fresh produce.

Local specialities included foie gras, aligot (mashed potato blended with cheese and garlic) and creme brûlée.

In addition to Australia, other nations represented on the Sud de France Développement famils included Germany, Serbia, Taiwan, Armenia, Brazil, Norway and South Africa.



Window Seat

AN IMPORTANT lesson was learnt at a welcome event for over 100 buyers ahead of this week's Rendez-vous en France trade show in Montpellier (p1).

At various venues in the city they nibbled on delicacies such as escargot vol-au-vent and candied cherry tomatoes on toothpicks, saving room for an anticipated dinner.

However at the next and final stop all gathered in the elegant foyer of the Hotel Grand du Midi, where dessert was duly served.

With some dreaming of a main meal, most cheerfully accepted that copious trays of tiny sweets and champagne would be their sustenance for the night.

For the record, while some assumed that a 7pm to 10pm function included dinner, the invite read, 'cocktail reception'.

Canada pre-release

SCENIC is offering Fly Free deals on Apr 2017 departures of its 18 day Canadian Rockies & Alaskan Cruise itinerary as part of a pre-release promotion for its 2017 Canada, Alaska & USA program.

Early bookers are guaranteed to get the "very best pricing", choice of dates and any brochure upgrades that may be included in the main Canada, Alaska & USA brochure release.

Preview the brochure **HERE**.

Turn to **page seven** to preview more of the latest brochures.

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Hello Singapore!



SIX Helloworld agents were treated to three luxurious nights in Singapore, hosted by British Airways and Starwood Hotels & Resorts.

Agents stayed at the Sheraton Towers, The Westin and the W Singapore and were treated to lunch at St Regis, explored the Aquarium at Sentosa and visited the Gardens by the bay.

Pictured above soaking in the Singaporean sun are Melissa Lau, British Airways; Dayana Brooke, MTA Travel, Rebecca La Haye, Show Group; Sam Seaton, Travelplan; Melissa Connor, helloworld Campbelltown; Rachel Carter, Pinpoint Travel Group and Amanda Frack & Kathy Polak from Starwood Hotels & Resorts.

Brussels back to biz

IT'S back to business for Brussels Airport, with the facility welcoming its first passenger plane over the weekend following the devastating terror attack which killed 16 people there only 12 days prior.

Security measures at the airport have since been tightened, with passengers asked to arrive three hours prior to departure, to be screened on an approach road and again before check in, according to *BBC* reports.

A second police check and ID and boarding pass check will take place at the entrance of the departures area, with those not flying temporarily denied entry.

Vanuatu earthquake

A 6.9 magnitude earthquake struck 151 kms off the coast of Vanuatu's Espiritu Santo Island last night.

A tsunami warning was initially issued by The Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre for a 300km area of the Pacific Ocean but the threat was lifted less than an hour after the quake.

There have been no reports of damage.

Aqua Hotels webinar

ASIA Pacific Travel Marketing Services is hosting a webinar on the Aqua Hotels & Resorts portfolio of properties at 9:30am (AEST) on 07 Apr.

The group has more than 50 properties across Hawaii and the USA mainland.

To register **CLICK HERE**.

Watson clarification

APOLOGIES from *Travel Daily* to the family and friends of the late Cherrill Watson, who passed away last week.

TD incorrectly stated Cherrill's surname was Lewis.

Cherrill had worked in tourism since 1979 with companies such as Regent of Fiji, Sheraton Fiji Resorts, Blue Lagoon Cruises, Tourism Fiji and other businesses.

The LINQ gets tastier

CAESAR'S Entertainment has announced a string of new retail stores to open this year at The LINQ Promenade, including the first In-N-Out Burger joint on the iconic 'Strip'.

The burger chain will open this fall, along with other restaurants to debut through the year including Gordon Ramsay Fish & Chips, Canter's Deli, Virgil's Real Barbecue and the flagship outlet in the USA for European gelato brand, Amorino.

A daiquiri bar called The Purple Zebra, the C&E Studio Tony Vegas art store and soap & lotion retailer Basin White are also among the new businesses.

DriveAway pr reps

SMB Communications will act as media liaison and public relations consultant for DriveAway Holidays after being tasked with the role by the drive holiday specialists.

DriveAway Hols offer car rental, Peugeot and Renault car leasing, motorhomes & USA motorcycles.

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San Fran 2016 result

A TOTAL of 24.6 million visitors travelled to San Francisco in 2015, data from the San Francisco Travel Association confirms.

The record-breaking year was up 2.7% on the year prior.

Leisure travellers accounted for 18.9 million visitors - up 2.7% - with visitors spending US\$8.5b in the city, jumping 3.4%.

Port of San Francisco hosted 82 ship calls and a shade under 300,000 pax in 2015, breaking the previous mark in set in 2014.

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Aviair switches hands

EAST Kimberley airline Aviair, operated by Aviator Group in Sydney has been acquired by co-owners of Kununurra based aviation firm Helispirit.

The deal will see Michael McConachy and Geoff Hamilton expand their fleet of aircraft from 21 to 28, spanning NSW, the Top End, Karratha and the Pilbara.

"The two aviation businesses will continue to run separately, however there are definite synergies in linking the aeroplanes and helicopters together for a range of client requirements," McConachy remarked.

A range of single and twin engine planes are on the radar for the aircraft business which has been granted a Low Capacity Regular Public Transport licence to operate RPT services in the North West of Australia.

"Our goal is to provide our clients with a newer fleet of fully airconditioned aeroplanes making travel around the Kimberley more comfortable for both charter customers and tourists alike," Hamilton added.

Garuda London switch

GARUDA Indonesia is operating its Jakarta-London service to Heathrow effective immediately, having shelved its previous ops to Gatwick and to Amsterdam.

The CGK-LHR service operates on a five weekly basis using Boeing 777-300ER aircraft.

Flights operate nonstop west-bound and stop in Singapore on the outward journey.



Kia Orana Rarotonga!

THIRTY-SEVEN top selling agents in Australia visited the Cook Islands this month as part of Cook Islands Tourism Corporation's mega famil.

The week-long program saw agents participate in cultural experiences and activities as well as making a stop at sister island, Aitutaki to inspect the properties and network with the Cook

Islands' industry.

Pictured here is Team Te Au O Tonga on the Vaka Cruise (from left) Merryn Edwards, Tanya Graham, Chloe Chun, Skye Hindmarch, Theresa Pollacco, Karen Doyle, Jackson Lewer, Monique Sgro, Samantha Johnson, Olivia Bradshaw, Sarah Pogson, Fiona Murphy and Sam McPaikie.

Fiji SOE remains

TRAVELLERS bound for Fiji are being advised to contact their travel agent or local suppliers to check their resort is open and operational.

The notion comes as the Dept of Foreign Affairs & Trade suggests the state of emergency (SOE) in Fiji will remain in place until at least 20 Apr - a month after the largest storm to hit the South Pacific, Cyclone Winston, struck.

Areas where the SOE still remain include the northern Yasawas, Bua, Wainunu, Wailevu, Vaturova, Tunuloa, Savusavu, Rabi, Koro, Ovalau, Verata, Raikraki, Tavua, Ba and the northern Lau Group.

Denarau and Nadi resorts are operating as normal while a number of resorts in the Yasawa and Mananuca Group remain closed, Smarttraveller indicates.

Darwin heli tours

THE Northern Territory Govt has named Nautilus Aviation as the successful tenderer to provide scenic helicopter flights at Charles Darwin National Park.

Nautilus currently works within the Australian domestic market as well as China, the United States, India and New Zealand.

Flights over the park started Fri.

MU adding Prague

CHINA Eastern Airlines is set to launch nonstop flights between Shanghai Pudong International Airport and Prague from 22 Jun.

Flights will operate three times weekly using two-class 264-seat Airbus A330s.

MU had initially earmarked a start date for the Prague service for 02 Apr (**TD** 07 Dec).



SUPERUGBY

Round 6 Winner

Congratulations

JESSICA GRUMMITT

from helloworld Mt Isa

Jessica is the top point scorer for Round 6 of Travel Daily's Super Rugby footy tipping competition. She has won a one day family pass to Luna Park courtesy of Luna Park Venues.



LUNA PARK VENUES



Emirates

Major prize for the 2016 footy tipping competition is return economy class airfares to Dubai flying with **EMIRATES**. Emirates has 77 flights per week to DXB.

NSW permit LPFS/16/01379; ACT permit TP 16/00359



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Maui's Makena Resort to close

THE owners of Makena Beach & Golf Resort on the island of Maui, Hawaii gave notice last week to its 385 employees the property would be closed from 01 Jul.

ATC Makena Holdings LCC said the 310-room resort would be shut down to make way for a high-end condominium project - the Makena Golf & Beach Club, managed by Discovery Land Co.

In a press release, Makena

Resort said: "It is with much sadness that we announce the final chapter of our Makena hotel story when on July 1st, 2016, we check out our last guest at Makena Beach & Golf Resort.

"But not before we do what we do best for the next three months, serve up Aloha the Makena way."

Previously known as the Maui Prince Hotel, the property is one of the southern-most resorts on the Hawaiian island.

Hawaii Tourism Authority ceo and president George D Szigeti said ATC Makena Holdings' news was "heartbreaking" for the staff and that the organisation was committed to supporting efforts to assist the laid off staff find a new job.

Management at Makena is now working with nearby hotels to relocate guests who have been booked at the Makena Beach & Golf Resort beyond 01 Jul.

The US\$240m project to overhaul the resort to condos is expected to take 30 months to complete.

ITP general manager

WITH immediate effect, Richard Lovelock has been appointed the role of general manager for ITP - International Travel Partnership, taking over from Virginia Palla.

Pacific Cruise content

THE South Pacific Tourism Organisation has rolled out an enhanced online Pacific Cruise micro-site to assist international cruise lines and yachties when passing through the region.

The portal acts as a one-stop shop for information on port & maritime information for 16 countries - American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, New Caledonia, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Timor Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu.

Funding for the micro-site came from the European Union.

Mint to Caribbean

JETBLUE has announced it will deploy aircraft featuring its 'Mint' Business class offering on two new routes to the Caribbean, commencing 05 Nov.

Seasonal services will operate from New York JFK to St Lucia and St Maarten, along with the city pairing of Boston and Aruba on varying schedules from weekly to daily.

The Mint private suites feature on select B6 Airbus A321 aircraft.

MEANWHILE, JetBlue will offer Mint services between Los Angeles and Boston from 20 Oct.

HKIA MFC operational

A GRAND opening ceremony was held on Thu last week to mark the full operation of the Midfield Concourse (MFC) at Hong Kong International Airport.

The MFC is positioned west of Terminal 1 between HKIA's two existing runways and is accessed by an extension of T1's Automated People Mover.

The 105,000m² facility is five-storeys high and provides parking for 20 aircraft.

MFC soft launched on 28 Dec and now handles around 230 flights per day - about 20% of Hong Kong's daily passenger flights - and will increase the airport's handling capacity by 10 million passengers annually.

Midfield Concourse is the primary hub of Hong Kong Airlines which operates around 83% of flights from the facility.

Hong Kong Airlines is intending to open a new VIP lounge at MFC within the year which will be double the size of the current Club Bauhinia at Terminal 1.

MEANWHILE, Hong Kong Airlines is set to introduce a self-bag drop service at HKIA.

The budget carrier will install six self service kiosks at Aisle K.

During a two week trial period the service will only be available to pax with one checked bag.

New Dusit Int'l coo

DUSIT International has named Lim Boon Kwee as chief operating officer based at the hospitality giant's Bangkok headquarters.

Lim has been associated with Dusit International since early 2013 where he took on the title of president of Dusit Fudu Hotel Management Company, Dusit's Shanghai based arm.

He possesses 30 years of management experience having worked with brands including The Westin, InterContinental and Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts.



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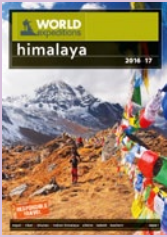
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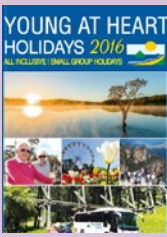
WELCOME to Brochures of the Week, *Travel Daily's* Monday feature. If your firm is releasing a new brochure you'd like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description summarising its features and itineraries, including a PDF of the front cover, and contact details to brochures@traveldaily.com.au.



World Expeditions - Himalaya 2016-17
The latest brochure from World Expeditions offers one of the most extensive Nepal programs on the market. It features itineraries packed with activities including: trekking for all levels (from introductory to challenging), mountaineering and the 1,700 km Great Himalaya Trail. Since the devastating earthquake which ripped through the region in Apr last year, World Expeditions has raised more than \$250k for relief efforts and rebuilding schools - for more information, call 1300 720 000.



Journeys & Africa - Africa and Mauritius
This online brochure features itineraries exploring East Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands. Popular packages include: The Best of Southern Africa & Mauritius; Bush, Beach & Sun as well as Sun, Sand and Safari. Properties featured in Mauritius are Beachcomber Hotels although any property in Mauritius can be applied as packages can be made to suit the individual, group or incentive group travellers - **CLICK HERE** to download the online version.



Young at Heart Holidays - 2016 itineraries
This year, Young at Heart Holidays, is concentrating on "stay put" trips, where travellers unpack once and spend a few days in and around interesting destinations. Included in the latest brochure are event based holidays, with some centred around musicals such as Turandot on Sydney Harbour, My Fair Lady and Rhonda Burchmore on Hamilton Island. Itineraries of note include a Norfolk Island Getaway and the brand new four- and five-day Lord Howe Island experience. To view the new brochure, **CLICK HERE**.



Insider Journeys - Private Travel Collection, Japan
This 32-page brochure offers private travel packages with personal guides and exclusive concierge services in Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka. Included is an eight-day Japan Highlights itinerary which traverses Japan's most popular cities such as Tokyo and Hakone; and a self guided nine-day Hokkaido Nature Discovery adventure that is home to volcanos, hiking trails and a dynamic food and drink scene. Download a pdf of the new brochure by visiting www.insiderjourneys.com.au.

Travelplan tech deal

AUSTRALIAN ski wholesaler Travelplan has announced a new collaboration with US-based Ski.com, which will see Travelplan integrate Ski.com's booking engine into its website.

The arrangement will provide customers and Travelplan's consultants in Sydney and Melbourne with live access to Ski.com's inventory of accommodation, lift tickets, flights, ground transport and rental equipment at over 120 ski resorts across the globe.

The integration is expected to be completed by 01 Jun.

CEB profit jumps

BUDGET Phillipine-based carrier Cebu Pacific Air has reported a PHP4.4 billion (\$93.6 million) net profit last year - an increase of PHP85.3 million net profit compared to the prior corresponding period in 2014.

Total group revenue spiked 8.7% year-on-year to PHP56.5 billion, attributed in part to Cebu's presence in developing markets and its fleet expansion which saw the carrier acquire five new Airbus A320 and A330 aircraft.

During the 2015 Financial Year, Cebu carried 18.4 million pax, an uptick of 8.9% on the PCF.

Great Walks shuffle

GREAT Walks Australia has expanded its collection of guided walks, today announcing the inclusion of its first walk in Western Australia - the Margaret River Cape to Cape Walk by Walk into Luxury.

The walk explores natural landscapes and gives guests the opportunity to get up-close with flora and fauna.

Accom is at the luxury Injidup Spa Retreat, which offers guests private plunge pools with uninterrupted ocean views.

Great Walks is a collective of nine privately owned trails.

MEANWHILE Geoff Dixon has been named the new chair for Great Walks of Australia.

Dixon brings to the table a wealth of knowledge in aviation, tourism, markets and partnerships having formerly held the position of CEO at Qantas and chairman of Tourism Australia.

KLM E190 biofuels

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines is set to launch a series of nearly 80 biofuel flights from Oslo to Amsterdam.

Utilising Embraer E190 aircraft, KLM said in a statement the remaining flights will be operated over a period of five to six weeks.

"Embraer has been director involved in several initiatives and partnerships for research and development of biofuels for aviation, but these flights with KLM are a flagship," commented Embraer president-Europe, Jorge Ramos.

AFL Round 2 Winner

Congratulations

**PAULA
SANCHEZ**

from *Destination NSW*

Paula is the top point scorer for Round 2 of Travel Daily's AFL footy tipping competition.

She's won a Lonely Planet 360° USA book from Collette.



Major prize for the 2016 footy tipping competition is return economy class airfares flying with **EMIRATES** to any one of the 39 cities they fly direct to in Europe including Rome

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Read more about the role and what the ideal candidate looks like at qantascareers.com.

Email your resume to mingchang@qantas.com.au

New look for Best Western

BEST Western Hotels & Resorts recently unveiled its new logos to hundreds of key travel agents at Roadshow events held in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth.

Steve Richards, Best Western Australasia, Head of Commercial presented on the company's evolution over the last 70 years, the improvement in quality, service & global distribution and the latest new logos.

Major enhancements to the Best Western Rewards loyalty program were also announced.



Travel agents attending the roadshow enjoyed canapés and drinks while networking with key Best Western hoteliers from around Australia.

There were plenty of free night prizes on offer including Best Western Travel Cards and \$1,000 Visa cards to spend on anything.



ABOVE: The Apartment, Melbourne.



ABOVE: Mark Allen, BW Plus Apollo International, Newcastle with Debra Mack and Danny Apostolidis from QBT (Melbourne).

RIGHT: Daniel Baker & Stuart Munro, Assistant Manager from Corporate Traveller.



LEFT: Tim Wallis, Best Western Sales Manager NSW, Rosa Cavalcanti (left) and Rachael Thomas from Flight Centre.



BELOW: Ian Sandilands, Best Western Australasia President and Chairman with

John Lengacher & Daniel Price, TravelManagers Windsor and Patricia Boniani & Andrea Pearson from ATPI Voyager Travel.



RIGHT: Robert Caldwell, Michele Stefan and Thomas Fleming from FCM Corporate Traveller.



**China Eastern
Qingdao Subsidiary**

CHINA Eastern Airlines is planning to start a new subsidiary airline based in Qingdao.

It will be the carrier's sixth subsidiary along with Shanghai Airlines, China United Airlines, China Eastern Wuhan, China Eastern Jiangsu and China Eastern Yunnan Airlines and the new Shanghai-based carrier announced on 30 Mar.

The Qingdao airline will be based on the assets of China Eastern's Shandong Branch and will be wholly-owned by China Eastern with a total registered capital of 2.66 billion yuan.

K-pop promotes Qld

ONE of Asia's major K-Pop stars Rain has launched a music video featuring Queensland.

It was filmed during Rain's Nov 2015 visit hosted by Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ).

Expected to reach crowds of 49 million fans, the video is part of a nine-month TEQ campaign which aims to capitalise on the growth of Asian markets.

Packages follow Rain's travel experiences in Cairns, the Great Barrier Reef, the Gold Coast and Brisbane.

Since Nov 2015, 13,000 bookings have been made.

QR 787s to Geneva

QATAR Airways has announced its Doha to Geneva route will be serviced by its new 787 Dreamliner aircraft from 01 Jul, doubling the capacity on the direct daily service to 254 seats.



Meet Borobi

GC2018's mascot

BOROB the blue surfing koala (pictured) was revealed today as the new 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Mascot.

Borobi was dramatically winched out of a helicopter over the ocean on the Gold Coast this morning as crowds waited below

at Burleigh Beach.

Borobi means 'koala' in the Indigenous Yugambah language.

His design was inspired by a drawing from Brisbane school teacher Merrilyn Krohn, who won a nationwide competition to create the mascot.

Hotel group rebrand

HOTELQUICKLY has re-branded and relaunched its website and launched a new app.

The app now allows multi-room bookings and the ability to view all available offers by location plus 'special gift' offers given by partner hotels to guests who book through HotelQuickly.

Solomons webinar

REGISTER for the upcoming Solomon Islands Visitors Bureau webinar for a chance to win a \$50 iTunes card.

The 12 Apr webinar will start at 8:30am Eastern Australia Time and run for about 20 mins including a Q&A session.

To register **CLICK HERE**.



**WIN A KIMBERLEY
4WD ADVENTURE
WITH APT**

Explore the magnificent and mystical Kimberley across 20 days with this month's exciting **Travel Daily** competition, brought to you in partnership with Australia's award-winning travel operator **APT**. Every day we will be taking you on an adventure, showcasing the many highlights available on an APT Kimberley Wilderness Adventure.

The person with the most correct answers, and who wows us with the most creative answer to the final question, will win an unforgettable 'Kimberley Complete 15 day small group 4WD adventure' for two people, departing in September 2016.

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

Q2. APT is celebrating 50 years of outback touring in Australia, but how many years of experience does APT have in the Kimberley region?

HINT: [CLICK HERE](#) and see p7



Terms and conditions

**Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours
Reservations Consultant - MANLY BASED**

We are seeking a motivated, enthusiastic and experienced Team Member to work across all our touring brands.

The successful candidate will have at least three years' experience as a wholesale or retail consultant. They will be a self-starter, motivated, well-travelled, and energetic, have a mature outlook and be dedicated to providing the best service for our customers.

Reporting to the GM Operations, you will be part of our small but growing team of experts and gain product knowledge across Battlefield Touring, European River Cruising and bespoke FIT.

Whilst this is a full time role, we value experience and welcome working mums and possibly job sharing.

Interested applicants should email their CV with short cover letter to karen@mclachlantours.com.au by 22 April. Remuneration package will be based on experience.

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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HUNTERS WANTED

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Know how to target new business? With your winning ability to develop pipelines, deliver pitches, negotiate deals and win new business you will be well rewarded within this leading corporate travel agency. Representing a well-known brand in the market you will be proud to be part of this growing team, showing off your sales skills to close the deal and getting new clients to sign on the dotted line. Strong salary package + benefits on offer.

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SALES MANAGER - VICTORIA

MELBOURNE – SALARY PKG TO \$80K + CAR + BONUSES

A leader in their field this global specialist offers clients an amazing travel experience. Looking after the VIC market, you will be responsible for developing strategies to increase sales, growing sales revenue and building strong ongoing relationships with key industry personnel. Previous experience in the travel industry as a sales executive and strong contacts in the industry essential. Enquire today.

****NEW ROLE** INDUSTRY SALES**

SENIOR SALES MANAGER

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE OVER \$100K

This exciting travel company have an opening for strong senior sales manager to lead coach and develop a team of existing sales executives. Working closely with different departments to achieve set revenue goals across the region. You will be results orientated, have a proven track record in achieving sales targets and have strong contacts in the travel industry. Interviews are underway so ring for a confidential chat today.

LEAD THE TEAM

CORPORATE TRAVEL OPERATIONS MANAGER

DARWIN – TOP SALARY PKG

This award winning Travel Company is looking for a talented senior travel manager to oversee their operations. Key responsibilities include day to day operations, human resources, supplier relations, increasing efficiencies & staff productivity as well as financial growth & profitability. You will enjoy a strong salary package and staff benefits. If you come from a strong travel management background with proven leadership skills we want to hear from you.

THE NEXT BEST THING IN MELBOURNE

BAR & RESTAURANT MANAGER

MELBOURNE – SALARY PKG TO \$80K+ (DOE)

Be part of this exciting new restaurant bound to have all of Melbourne talking! This Restaurant is ready for you to take it to greater heights with a dash of creation, a splash of innovation blended with a mix of visionary thinking and great leadership. We are searching for a hip and vibrant Restaurant Manager that is embarking on their career or an experienced Restaurant Supervisor to become the newest member of this award winning team. Enquire within.

GROWING A RATE OF KNOTS

CORPORATE ACCOUNT MANAGER

MELBOURNE – SALARY PACKAGE \$98K + BONUSES

You will have the skills and knowledge to drive solutions for your clients improving expenditure and creating a lasting impression which will retain clients for the future. As a master of building relationships you will know how to develop those key connections and gain their trust in your ability to do the best for them. Be rewarded with a great salary and stable work company that see growth year on year. Enquire today

SOMETHING DIFFERENT ON THE SUPPLIER SIDE

TEAM LEADER – CORPORATE SALES

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE \$120K + BONUS

This global travel industry supplier is looking for a talented corporate sales manager to lead a team, selling their direct product to the end user within the corporate space. Working alongside their consortia partners, your role will be to design and implement sales strategies and engage directly with corporates to sign preferred deals. Essentially you will have strong corporate business travel contacts and have led a sales team. Want to know more? Call us now.

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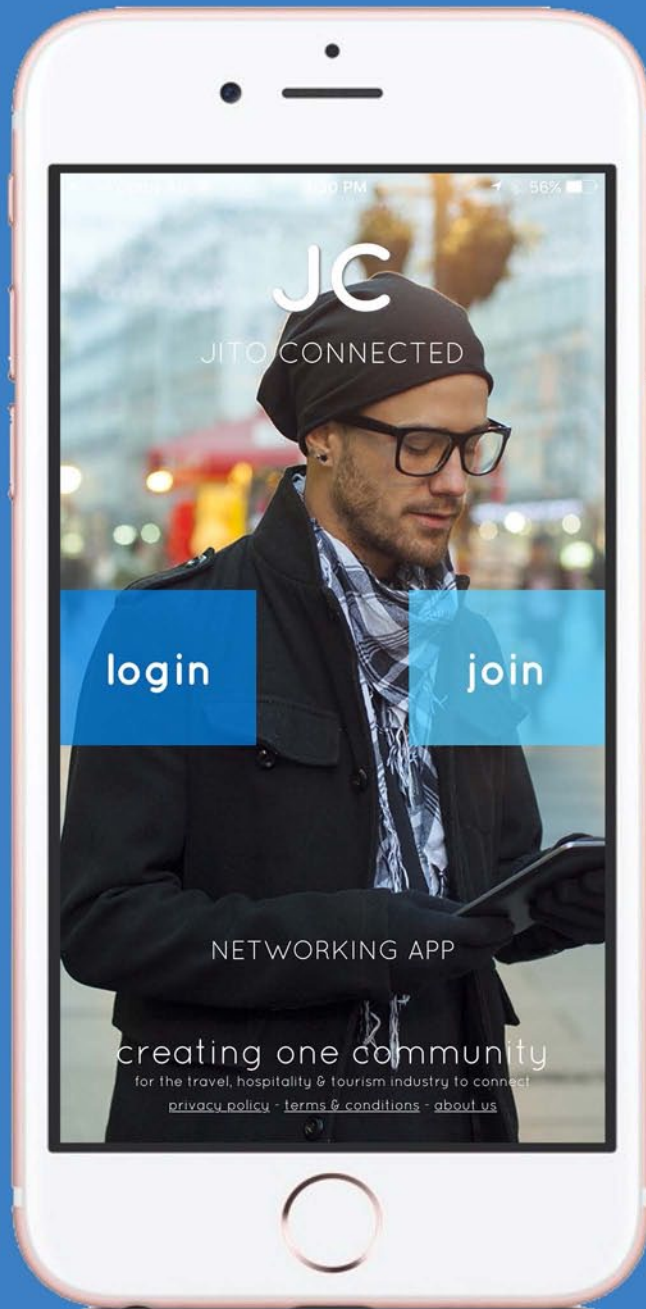
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