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QF confirms PER-London

QANTAS will deploy its Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner on the longest air route in the world when it begins passenger services from Perth to London in Mar 2018 (**TD** breaking news yest).

The London non-stop route had been flagged by the Australian airline multiple times in recent weeks, and comes after Qantas struck a \$14 million deal with Perth Airport and the WA govt.

At 14,498 kilometres and 17hrs, Qantas is billing the Perth-London route as the "shortest & fastest" version of the Kangaroo Route.

"This is a game-changing route flown by a game-changing aircraft," QF Group ceo Alan Joyce said yesterday in the WA capital.

Women for Women

JITO is preparing to hold a dedicated "Women for Women" event in Sydney on International Women's Day next year.

The 08 Mar initiative will bring together more than 400 industry figures in a move to boost female leadership in the travel industry.

For more details including high profile speakers, see **page nine**.

"Australians have never had a direct link to Europe before, so the opportunities this opens up are huge," Joyce said, adding that timing of the route will enable connections from the east coast.

The service will operate from QF's existing domestic terminals (T3/4) in Perth, which would be upgraded to accommodate int'l flights under the one roof.

QF's existing int'l services from Perth to Singapore and Auckland will also move to T3/4 "to simplify the journey" for travellers, but will move to an expanded T1 by 2025, pending a commercial deal.

Other direct routes from Perth to Europe on Qantas' radar include Paris, Rome and Frankfurt.

Qantas' 787-9 will carry 239 passengers in a three-class cabin configuration (**TD** 27 Oct).

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has six pages of news and photos, plus full pages: (**click**)

- Voyages to Antiquity
- AA Appointments jobs
- JITO Women for Women

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Monday 12th December 2016



Japan visits up 17%

PRELIMINARY arrival data collected by the Japan National Tourism Organisation for Oct indicates the nation witnessed a 16.8% year-on-year rise in visitors, with numbers up to 2.13m.

Australia was among one of the top growth markets, with visits up 27.3% for the month, to 37,700.

For the year-to-date, Japan's arrival numbers for this market are up to 360,600 - 21.3% on the same time last year.



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Badgerys Creek go ahead

THE second Sydney Airport has been given the green light, with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Minister for Urban Infrastructure Paul Fletcher finalising paperwork today.

The 18,000 hectare Badgerys Creek Airport in Western Sydney will be located about 50km west of the CBD and includes a 3.7km runway, long enough to cater for aircraft up to and including the size of the Airbus A380.

Speaking on the 2GB breakfast program this morning, Fletcher said it was very important for Sydney and for the nation that additional aviation capacity was provided in the NSW capital.

"There was a major study done by the previous govt which found by 2027 there will be no vacant slots at Kingsford Smith Airport."

The Minister, who called the

project a "game changer", said the project included a terminal that would cater for up to 10 million passengers annually.

The Badgerys Creek project is expected to be operational by the mid 2020s.

Helloworld on front foot in New Zealand

HELLOWORLD has launched a major drive for new members in New Zealand, including a trade marketing campaign highlighting its "four retail networks to suit every NZ travel business".

Late last week HLO ceo Andrew Burnes hosted a festive season event to thank suppliers for their ongoing support, at the same time formally launching the My Travel Network affiliate network into the Kiwi market (**TD** Thu).

The NZ promotion is offering "preferential joining bonuses" for new members who sign up before 15 Dec, offering the choice of the Helloworld Branded Network, Associate Network, the My Travel Group and the company's existing Travel Brokers Network in NZ.

Antiquity France trips

VOYAGES to Antiquity is offering six voyages through France & Italy in 2017, exploring the country's historical treasures, spectacular gardens and cities.

More details on **page seven**.

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Turpie joins DNSW

DESTINATION NSW has named Julie Turpie as the organisation's director event development - arts, entertainment and lifestyle.

Turpie has a strong background in the events, sponsorship and commercial services arena, most recently managing a team of 40 as director commercial and marketing services at Sydney Living Museums.

She takes up the position at DNSW next month.



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Zurich in Cover-More bid

COVER-MORE has revealed a take-over bid worth \$854 million by the Zurich Insurance Company, which has made an offer of \$1.95 per share (**TD** breaking news).

The Cover-More board has unanimously recommended

shareholders accept the deal, which equates to a 48.3% premium on Friday's closing price of \$1.32 per share.

The offer represents an implied market capitalisation of \$741 million and an implied enterprise value of \$854 million.

Cover-More chairman Louis Carroll said the sale would be an attractive outcome for shareholders and reflected the value of the company's business and market position.

"It is also an attractive outcome for Cover-More's employees, customers and partners," he said. "Zurich proposes to operate Cover-More as a discrete business and retain Cover-More's management team."

An independent report on the offer will be prepared by KPMG and distributed to shareholders in Feb or Mar, 2017.

Contiki Lombok crash

A **NEW** Zealand-based Contiki Holidays employee was killed in Indonesia while on tour when the minivan in which she was a passenger crashed off a cliff last weekend.

The 23-year-old woman from Auckland was one of seven people travelling in the vehicle to a surf beach in South Lombok when the accident occurred.

Two other Kiwis, two Americans and two Aussies were also in the vehicle, *Stuff.co.nz* reports, with some suffering broken bones.

ICC Syd public launch

A **PUBLIC** open day heralded the launch of a revitalised Darling Harbour precinct yesterday, including the new International Convention Centre Sydney.

NSW Premier Mike Baird unveiled a commemorative plaque to officially open ICC Sydney and said the venue would revolutionise the city's business and entertainment offering.

The centre's first day of operation will be 20 Dec.

Cairo attacks

A **BOMBING** at a Cairo cathedral killed 25 people and wounded another 49 yesterday, just days after the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade warned of potential terrorist acts (**TD** Fri).

The department's advice for Egypt has since been updated, suggesting attacks are possible in areas frequented by Westerners and that Australians should reconsider travel to Egypt.



Window Seat

AUSTRALIA'S air traffic controllers will be working hard to keep aircraft well clear of Santa's flight path this Christmas, having promised his arrival will proceed as efficiently as possible.

Air Services Australia has revealed its plans for Santa's visit this year and will again post news and updates on the jolly chap's progress via a dedicated Facebook page.

"We have used a number of initiatives including the use of tailwinds to lessen the effort for the reindeers to keep them fresh for the long trip," said ASA's executive general manager of air navigation services Stephen Angus.

To monitor Santa's progress via Facebook, **CLICK HERE**.



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Tas PTMs welcome nat office



TRAVELMANAGERS' national partnership team recently boarded a plane from Sydney to Hobart for its annual state meeting.

A whopping 75% of all Tassie Personal Travel Managers were in attendance, with the forum capping off with a soiree to celebrate the silly season (inset).

Pictured above, back row from left are: Ali Banks, Michael Gazal,



Tanyu Cilek, Jose Canas.

In the front row: Anna Bayley, Sheridan Wilson, Pru Gallagher, Gary Jensen, Chrissy Millington, Kirsty Whittaker, Suzanne Laister and Anneli Williams.



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G'Day USA '17 line-up

AUSTRALIA is set to be promoted as a travel hot spot to an American audience as part of the G'Day USA program, which is now in its 14th year.

A new initiative dubbed G'Day USA Champions will debut next year, which puts prominent Aussies in the limelight to promote the country.

The first 'Champions' include actors Hugh Jackman and Rachel Griffiths; Westfield co ceo Peter Lowry; Village Roadshow ceo Greg Basser; News Corp ceo Robert Thomson and Australian Record Industry Australia's Dan Rosen.

G'Day USA will be featured in New York and Los Angeles, with the initiative to expand for the first time to include Austin, Texas.

Another key event in the lineup is Qantas' G'Day USA Gala.

Held 28 Jan, three Australian entertainment stalwarts will be honoured at the celebrations: David Hill, Catherine Martin and Ben Mendelsohn.

SureSave myth buster

CUSTOMERS choosing to use complimentary travel insurance via products such as credit cards should be aware of some common misconceptions, SureSave's national sales director Talbot Henry has warned.

A common belief among consumers was that travel cover via credit cards was automatic, when in truth the policy must first be activated, said Henry.

The other challenges to look out for included fine print surrounding age restrictions, existing medical conditions, additional fees, excess payments, flexibility and emergency assistance.

"Travel insurance is not one size fits all, but most credit card travel insurance assume that travellers are," he said.

"Agents play a critical role when it comes to travel safety, ensuring that their customers are not left under-insured, paying too much or missing out on key benefits," Henry concluded.



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WorldVentures in Oz

TRAVEL membership company WorldVentures opened a new Australian headquarters in Sydney over the weekend, in response to record membership take-up in the country over the past 12 months.

It's anticipated 20 new people will be hired in customer service, administration, marketing and tourism over the next 12 months to staff what is the company's first local office (**TD** 03 Jun 14).

The new Australian base at Sydney Olympic Park will be responsible for managing local membership growth and for expanding membership benefits.

Tassie Airwalk selling

THE Tahune AirWalk has been bought by Tahune Pty Ltd, headed by major shareholder and former manager of the Tahune AirWalk, Ken Stronach.

New operators of the attraction will commence on Fri.

Forestry Tasmania is selling the business and leasing the facilities, but will retain ownership of the fixed assets and the land.

CHC visitor centre

NEW Zealand's outgoing Prime Minister John Key has opened the new Christchurch Visitor Centre in his last official engagement.

The i-SITE is expected to attract 300,000 visitors in the 2016/17 season and is open daily from 8:30am, except Christmas Day.

Classic Aussie Cruise

A NEW 80 min Classic Aussie Cruise is on offer by Fantasea Cruises, with four daily sailings.

Fantasea Cruising ceo Anthony Hayes said "not only will our guests experience Sydney's iconic landmarks from our state-of-the-art multi-level catamaran with retractable sunroof, they will also be hosted in style with an on-board BBQ, complete with Australian condiments, Aussie beverages and even a Vegemite tasting station".

STR Sydney Nov data

STR'S preliminary accom data for Sydney indicates Nov reached the third highest occupancy level for any month on record.

Nov enjoyed a 91.8% occupancy, up 1.1% year-on-year, while demand (+4.7%) was outpaced by a 3.6% increase in supply.

The revenue per available room climbed 4.5% to \$222.33.



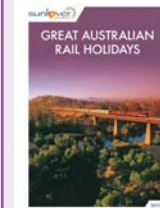
Brochures

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



Scenic - New Zealand 2017/18

Six tours ranging from six to 24 days in length have been packed into Scenic's New Zealand 2017/18 program. The 20-day Royal New Zealand tour has been extended by two days and now begins in Christchurch and ends in Auckland. The itinerary includes three nights in Queenstown and an overnight stay at Mt Cook. Also new are Scenic Freechoice activities include wine tasting Volcanic Hills wines and a gondola ride to Skyline in Rotorua, and a half day guided Lakeshore, Forest and Bird walk in Queenstown.



Sunlover Holidays - Great Australian Rail 2017/18

The Sunlover Holidays Great Australian Rail Holidays 2017/18 brochure combines train journeys with activities along the way. This year the Ghan Top End Escape has been revamped and the fully escorted Indian Pacific Great Southern Rail Adventure tour has been added. Another highlight for this year's program is the Overland train, which travels between Melbourne and Adelaide.



Coral Expeditions - New Guinea Circle 2017

Coral Expeditions has unveiled its 2017 New Guinea Circle program for the newly refurbished *Coral Discoverer*. The expedition spends 25 nights venturing to the most remote corners of Papua New Guinea and Indonesia and departs from Cairns on 29 Oct 2017. Shorter sections of the voyage are also available. With a maximum of 72 guests, the itinerary introduces guests to tropical rainforests, island village culture and untouched underwater ecosystems.

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Dreams about AC's Dreamliner



ANGE Dean from Travel Dreams submitted this hilarious entry in **Travel Daily's** exclusive Air Canada Christmas-themed competition to win flights to New York from Sydney or Brisbane.

There's still time for agents to send us their own photo or meme entry to be in the running to win two Economy class flights to the Big Apple, flying via Vancouver. For all the details, **see right**.

Kakadu Bird Week

EXPRESSIONS of interest to participate in next year's Kakadu Bird Week have opened.

Held from 01-07 Oct, Kakadu National Park is seeking interest from businesses to co-ordinate bird-themed activities and products to entice people to visit the Top End tourist attraction.

Maze on the market

OWNERS of the Bellingham Maze on the Queensland Sunshine Coast have put the well-known tourist attraction on the market.

Located on Tanawha Tourist Drive at Tanawha, the maze was opened over 20 years ago and has been operated by its current owners for 14 years.

Ctrip finalise buyout

CHINESE travel conglomerate Ctrip.com Int'l has completed the takeover of UK-based global travel search site, Skyscanner for US\$1.74 billion (**TD** 25 Nov).

Bateleur renovation

ANDBEYOND Bateleur Camp in Kenya's Maasai Mara has been earmarked for a six-month refurbishment, with work set to commence from 15 Nov 2017.

Guest tents at the camp will be completely rebuilt and increased to 97m², while two swimming pools, a fitness centre and a massage sala will be added.

North Camp guest area will close from 15 Nov, with the South Camp staying open until 07 Jan.

The entire site will close between 08 Jan-28 Feb 2018, with North Camp reopening on 01 Mar.

It's expected the renovation at andBeyond Bateleur will be completed by 01 Jun 2018.

During the refurbishment a range of special offers will be available for guests, including a Stay 3/Pay 2 promotion.

Iran Air Boeing order

BOEING has finalised a contract with Iran Air for an aircraft order of 80 jets, valued at US\$16.6 billion at list prices.

The order includes 50 737 MAX 8s, fifteen 777-300ERs and fifteen 777-9s, the first of which will be delivered in 2018.

Dreamworld reopens

THE reopening of Dreamworld & WhiteWater World on Sat has been seen as a "positive step forward for staff, members and guests" during a sombre time.

It's been six weeks since the Queensland theme park closed after an accident on the now decommissioned Thunder River Rapids ride resulted in the deaths of four visitors.

"Our hearts & thoughts remain firmly with the families who lost loved ones," Dreamworld chief executive Craig Davidson said.

He said the attraction reopened after a stringent safety audit.

"Every single attraction open today passed an unprecedented multi-level safety review, encompassing Workplace Health and Safety Queensland's audit, Dreamworld's internal engineering review, Pitt & Sherry's independent review and the external peer-review by UK based theme park specialists, TLC," Davidson said on Sat.

Rashid Port connector

THE operator of Rashid Port in Dubai, DP World, has unveiled plans to connect Terminals 2 and 3 with a new 465 metre bridge to improve passenger facilities.

DP World said the project would begin work next year, and include expanding the Port's number of quays and the addition of a new terminal to accommodate a higher number of visiting ships.

Over the 2016/17 cruise season, Rashid Port will welcome 157 cruise ships, up 16% year-on-year.

Okura Prestige Saigon

HOTEL Okura Co Ltd has signed a deal to develop and manage the first Okura Prestige branded property in Vietnam, slated to open in Ho Chi Minh City in 2020.

Okura Prestige Saigon will form part of the 40-storey Satra Tax Plaza multipurpose complex and will feature 250 rooms.

It will be Hotel Okura's third property in Vietnam.



It's the season to be creative
Win tickets to New York with Air Canada

This month Travel Daily and Air Canada are giving readers the chance to win two Economy Class return tickets from BNE/SYD to New York (EWR) and two CityPASSes for NY attractions from NYC & Company.



To win, submit a photo, meme or similar which combines Air Canada with a Canadian and New York theme, showcasing "Air Canada's Canadian connection to NYC via Vancouver". Send your entries to aircanada@traveldaily.com.au



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SENIOR AIRFARE CONTRACTING MANAGER

SYDNEY – EXCELLENT SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$97K +

A rare opportunity has landed at AA for a strong airfares manager to step into a newly created role with this amazing travel organisation. You will have worked in a fares and ticketing role or a supplier contracting role and MUST have a strong understanding of fares and ticketing to apply. Many benefits are included with the bonus of working for one of the best in the business. This role is interviewing now so ring for a confidential chat 92312825.

INTERVIEWS TO COMMENCE JANUARY

DIRECTOR OF SALES AUS- TMC

SYDNEY – SALARY PACKAGE \$155 K + BONUS

The search is on for Australia's most talented, inspiring Corporate Sales Manager who enjoys leading from the front. This is your opportunity to join this award winning global TMC in a role that will allow you to mentor and develop others, whilst still managing your own client portfolio. If you love the thrill of the chase and can motivate others, this is the dream role you have been waiting for. Apply today or ring for a confidential chat on 9231 2825.

HIT THE ROAD WITH A LEADING BRAND

SALES EXECUTIVE - CRUISING

SYDNEY - SALARY PACKAGE \$80K

Our client is searching for a Sales Executive who is passionate about cruising along with the ability to source and secure new business. You will have a real drive, passion and understanding of the cruising market along with the ability to establish relationships and conduct presentations to secure wins for the business. Be rewarded with a supportive team and be proud to walk through the doors with this product under your arm.

AUSTRALIA'S ONLY DEDICATED EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT TEAM

executive@aaappointments.com.au

NSW & ACT - 02 9231 2825 VIC, WA, SA & TAS - 03 9670 2577 QLD & NT - 07 3229 9600

FOR ALL THE BEST EXECUTIVE VACANCIES VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.aaappointments.com.au

WOMEN FOR WOMEN ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



An initiative to help drive more female leaders in our industry.

An entire day dedicated to personal development for females.

400+ amazing women in Travel Hospitality & Tourism are invited to a fun packed day to hear inspiration, motivation and build confidence from these inspiring female leaders.

Male supporters of female leaders are also welcome to attend.

Dockside Venue Cockle Bay Wharf, Sydney - 8th March 2017 - 9.30am until 5.30pm

SPEAKERS



Penny Spencer
Managing Director
Spencer Travel



Jennifer Vandekreeke
Vice President ANZ
Carnival Cruise



Alex O'Connor
Managing Director
Insight Vacations



Anna Guillan
Regional Director
Sales & Marketing
One&Only



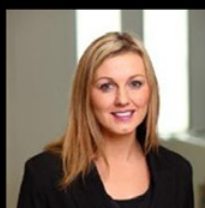
Turia Pitt
Motivational
Speaker



Kaylene Shuttlewood
Managing Director
Pacific Travelport



Katrina Barry
Managing Director
Contiki



Laura Ruffles
Global COO/CEO ANZ
Corporate Travel
Management



Lisa Akeroyd
Managing Director
Carlson Wagonlit Travel



Lynne Clarke
Managing Director
MSC Cruise



Kathryn Robertson
Regional General
Manager
Air New Zealand

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