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**TODAY'S** issue of the LA Insider features a profile on the upcoming Fairmont Century Plaza Century City, LAX updates plus the chance to win a \$50 gift card by sending your best insider tips. For more information, see **page 11** of today's *Travel Daily*.



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# Hong Kong's huge plans

**HONG** Kong is firmly cementing its place as the major gateway to mainland China, with huge infrastructure projects aiming to facilitate travel and tourism in the burgeoning Greater Bay Area.

The area - which includes Hong Kong, Macao and nine major cities in southern China's Guangdong Province, has been designated as a key initiative under the Chinese Government's latest Five Year Plan for the country's reform.

It was one of the major topics discussed yesterday at the 2018 International Tourism Convention Hong Kong, where a host of

#### Today's issue of TD

**Travel Daily** today has 10 pages of news, including a photo page for **Switzerland Tourism**, plus full pages from: • LA Tourism

• AA Appointments jobs

Explore

Canada

CANADA

**KEEP EXPLORING** 

dignitaries including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region CEO Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor spoke about the potential for cooperation with other regions.

The Greater Bay Area is likely to be marketed as a new "multidestination" tourism option, with key connectivity projects including the newly completed Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail link, which for the first time ever provides direct high speed rail access from Hong Kong to 44 stations across China.

The new Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, opened just over a month ago by Chinese President Xi Jinping, is also a game-changer, comprising a massive 55km-long bridge/tunnel system which is the longest sea crossing in the world. The other major topic of the

conference was Hong Kong's vital place in the government's Belt and Road Initiative - see **pg five**.

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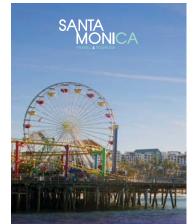
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**ABERCROMBIE** & Kent has released its 2019 luxury private and small group journeys through the Indian subcontinent.

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AIR New Zealand has avoided strike action that would have hit the carrier over the peak Christmas period, agreeing to a deal with unions representing engineering and logistics workers.

The deal was secured late last night after three days of negotiations, resulting in the lifting of strike notices which would have impacted up to 120,000 travellers over the three busiest days of the year (TD 07 Dec).

Air New Zealand Chief Ground **Operations Officer Carrie** Hurihanganui said customers could now be reassured holiday travel plans were secure.

"We know how important it is to our customers to get where they need to be, particularly at this special time of the year, and the negotiating teams have been working diligently to achieve this result," she said.

New Zealand's E Tu union said details of the agreement had not been made public while members were consulted.

"Industrial action of this nature is always a last resort and so it's a positive sign that we've reached

an agreement in principle," said an E Tu spokesman.

"We will be recommending the deal to members at ratification meetings over the coming week - then it's up to the members to discuss and vote on the company offer." he said.

## **US suspects China**

HACKERS in China are suspected of being responsible for the Marriott data breach which compromised the personal details of up to 500 million customers (TD 03 Dec).

Investigators in the US believe the breach was part of a Chinese intelligence-gathering effort involving the country's Ministry of State Security, the New York Times says.

The Trump administration is planning action in coming days, the newspaper says, including indictments against Chinese hackers working for intelligence services and the military.

It notes that Marriott is a major hotel provider for American govt and military personnel.









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#### **Excite incentive**

**EXCITE** Holidays is reminding agents there's just over a week to secure one of 13 spots available on an Indonesia famil, offered in conjunction with Wonderful Indonesia.

The famil includes return flights with Garuda Indonesia from Sydney, Melbourne or Perth, four nights of accommodation at minimum 4.5-star properties across Bali and an emerging Indonesian island "set to become the region's laid-back luxury destination", transfers, most meals and activities.

The incentive ends 23 Dec, for more details, **CLICK HERE**.

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**UNITED** Airlines has announced a further expansion of its Australasian network, with plans to launch direct services between Melbourne and San Francisco

#### from Oct next year. The new route has been revealed as part of the carrier's largest international expansion from its San Francisco hub, which will also include the upgrade of

Auckland's seasonal service to

year-round operations. The Melbourne flights will operate three times per week and will join United's existing services between the Victorian capital and Discover which state has some of the most jaw-dropping landscapes in the US. Read more in the December issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read

# United set to fly MEL-SFO

Los Angeles.

The carrier also flies non-stop services between Sydney and San Francisco, Los Angeles and Houston, with all Australian services currently operated by Boeing 787-9 *Dreamliner* aircraft.

"This route expansion solidifies United's position at San Francisco as the gateway airline serving destinations across the Pacific, the continental United States, as well as to Europe and beyond," said United CEO Oscar Munoz.

Other additions from the San Francisco hub include a seasonal service to New Delhi, a second flight flown four times per week to Seoul & the upgrade of a seasonal Papeete service to year-round.

The carrier's year-round Auckland services will be operated by Boeing 777-200ER aircraft from 30 Mar, flying three times per week.

United also recently announced flights from SFO to Amsterdam.





**HOTEL** owners in the Spanish city of Cadiz are in a flap after calling for the exile of 5,000 local pigeons.

According to restaurant owner and President of the Federation of Spanish Hoteliers, Antonio de Maria, the birds are "menacing" and are becoming "intolerable", with the city losing 20% of business due to complaints.

The not-so-affectionately named "rats of the skies" are expected to be trapped, given health checks and released 600km from the city - we just hope they don't start a "coo".







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Today's issue of *TD* is coming to you courtesy of the Hong Kong Tourism Board, which is today hosting the Hong Kong International Tourism Convention.

MORE than 1,000 delegates gathered for the convention yesterday, which featured an array of high profile speakers discussing the massive tourism potential generated by the Chinese Government's Belt and Road economic cooperation strategy and the development of the Greater Bay Area.

The convention lunch also featured some stunning cultural performances, with drummers and dancers followed by an orchestral piece featuring Hong Kong's top child musicians.

# West Kowloon taking shape

**DELEGATES** at the 2018 International Tourism Convention Hong Kong were yesterday given a sneak peek at the city's new West Kowloon Cultural District.

The arts-focused precinct is rapidly taking shape with a number of museums, theatres and performance spaces under construction and set to open starting from 2019.

The area is being developed around the new West Kowloon railway station, which sits between a local MTR station and the Kowloon Station link to the airport, providing an unparalleled transportation hub including Hong Kong's first high-speed rail connection.

Customs and immigration facilities allow passengers to complete formalities for mainland China before boarding, with up to 80,000 people making a regular Guangdong Province commute.

# Qantas lifts Qld network

**QANTAS** has announced a major expansion of its Queensland operations, adding an extra 2,600 seats per week to key destinations including Cairns, the Sunshine Coast, Mount Isa and Townsville.

From 31 Mar, the carrier will add 11 extra return flights on the BNE-CNS route, while boosting capacity on the SYD-CNS route with A330 aircraft.

Weekday SYD-MCY flights will increase from daily to double daily, while weekday BNE-ISA flights will return to double-daily. Six return flights will be added

## Contiki Rock 2019

**CONTIKI** has revealed the location of its agent incentive party Rock for 2019 will be Tennessee, USA.

In partnership with Brand USA, 23 Aussie agents will score a VIP trip from Nashville to New Orleans, three-day access to the Bonnaroo Festival, flights, accommodation, and a tour of the Jack Daniels Distillery.

Spots will be allocated to 20 agents from top selling stores in addition to three wild card winners who sell a minimum of 10 2019 Contiki holidays. See **HERE** for more information. between BNE-TSV per week. The carrier has also announced it will resume daily flights between Cairns and Port Moresby for the first time since 2016.

#### Avianca bankruptcy

**BRAZILIAN** carrier Avianca Brasil has filed for bankruptcy protection amid rising fuel costs and threats of aircraft repossessions.

The country's fourth-largest airline yesterday assured its flights would continue to operate and turned to the courts to prevent leasing companies taking back part of its all-Airbus fleet.

"Due to resistance from the lessors to reaching a friendly settlement, we have filed seeking protection from creditors, to protect clients and passengers," the airline said in a statement.

The airline is reported to have debts of more than R493 million (A\$177 million) and has suffered from increased fuel costs paid in US currency, which has risen sharply in value against the volatile Brazilian Real.

News agencies report creditors include Brazilian oil company Petrobras and Sao Paulo's Guarulhos Airport, as well as three aircraft leasing companies.



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#### **Cathay expands**

**CATHAY** Pacific is expanding its Japan network from Apr with a new seasonal service to Komatsu.

The new twice-weekly service will be operated on Wed and Sat between 03 Apr and 26 Oct 2019 using Airbus A330-300 aircraft featuring Business and Economy class cabins.

Cathay Pacific has operated charter flights to Komatsu, the gateway to Ishikawa, in central Honshu, at peak holiday periods over the past two years, and the introduction of the new scheduled service "underlines the airline's commitment to its key Japanese market".

With the addition of Komatsu, Cathay Pacific and its regional airline Cathay Dragon will soon fly to a total of nine airports in eight cities across Japan, including Tokushima, which will be inaugurated on 19 Dec. Ishikawa is known for its gastronomic diversity.

## TG football winners

THREE lucky *Travel Daily* readers will be heading to Sydney's ANZ Stadium this weekend to see the Western Sydney Wanderers take on Sydney FC in the A League, thanks to THAI Airways.

After an enthusiastic response from entrants, THAI increased its ticket giveaway to three double passes to the Sat match, which have been awarded to Lynn Bradley of Compass Travel & Cruising, Matthew Chisholm of Travel Associates and Kathleen Knipp of BCD Travel.

THAI is a Corporate Partner of the Wanderers in 2018/19.

#### QF Osaka service

**QANTAS** will maintain expanded frequencies on its Sydney to Osaka Kansai route, subject to Government approval.

From 31 Mar, the carrier will retain the fourth weekly flight on the route using an Airbus A330.

## HKG gateway to new "Silk Road"

THE Chinese

Government's "Belt and Road" economic cooperation strategy is set to see Hong Kong play an even more vital connecting role between East and West, according to Hong Kong Special Administrative Region CEO Carrie Lam. Lam (**pictured**)

opened the 2018 Hong Kong International Tourism Convention

yesterday with a speech highlighting the importance of capacity building and shared benefits.

Described as a "21st Century Silk Road," the plan aims to boost links between countries stretching from Africa, through Europe to Central, North, South and South-East Asia.

Lam suggested it would lead to multilateral cooperation including boosting flight connections, easing visa restrictions and alliances between destinations to boost tourism which is seen as a strong driver of GDP.

Closer to home, the nearby Greater Bay Area (see **page one**) "has the means to rival Tokyo, San Francisco and New York - the



world's three renowned bay areas

 - in tourism potential," Lam said. The region has a collective population of 70 million people and a combined GDP of around US\$1.5 trillion, making it roughly the economic size of South Korea or Australia.

Lam also highlighted the huge investments being made in tourism projects in Hong Kong, including a third runway for Hong Kong International Airport which will boost capacity to 100 million passengers annually by 2024.

There is also a new boundary control point being developed between Hong Kong and Shenzhen which will significantly shorten the time needed to travel from Hong Kong into China.



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\* Offer valid until 22 December 2018, unless sold out prior. Fares quoted above are for departures from Sydney and are the lowest adult return prices per person including taxes, fees, and airport charges. Economy Class fares are valid for departures between 15 January – 8 April 2019, 23 April – 6 June 2019, and 1 September – 31 October 2019. Business Class fares are valid for departures between 15 January – 8 April 2019, 23 April – 6 June 2019, and 1 September – 31 October 2019. Business Class fares are valid for departures between 15 January – 31 October 2019. Other sale dates may be available. Other sale fares are available from Melbourne, Perth, Canberra, and Adelaide. Fares may vary due to currency or tax fluctuations. Seasonal and weekend surcharges may apply. For all other terms and conditions please review at time of booking.



#### Adv World 2019/20

**ADVENTURE** World Travel has launched its 2019/20 South America brochure, including a widened selection of properties in Brazil's Pantanal plus additional lodges in the Amazon.

Highlights include a seven-day Patagonia Jeep Safari visiting spots such as the Laguna Azul, the Grey Lake and an expedition to the Perito Moreno Glacier, as well as a five-day Trekking the Inca Trail trip which includes a complimentary Inca Trail permit.

Travellers can also access two free nights and a culinary experience worth \$779 when booking the 13-day Handpicked Peru journey, which takes guests to Arequipa, Lima, Cusco, Puno and Machu Picchu.

For more information on the new South America brochure, **CLICK HERE** or call Adventure World on 1300 363 055.

#### Airline future bright

**THE** International Air Transport Association (IATA) has predicted the global airline industry's net profit in 2019 will be US\$35.5 billion, an increase on the expected US\$32.3 billion net profit this year.

The industry body suggests the key drivers of the anticipated profit increase will include a growth in global GDP, lower fuel costs, improved labour productivity, and a boost in overall passenger traffic.

Carriers in North America continue to lead the pack in financial performance, accounting for nearly half of the industry's total profits, while the Africa region is not forecast to make a profit next year.

"Air travel has never been such a good deal for consumers," said IATA Chief Executive Alexandre de Juniac.

## Crystalbrook to shine in Newcastle

**CRYSTALBROOK** Collection Hotels and Resorts has won the tender to acquire Newcastle's Council Administrative Centre, flagging plans to build a new luxury five-star hotel that will open in late 2020.

The new property will be called the Kingsley, following company naming convention for giving each of its hotels a "gender neutral name and its own unique personality" and will be the first five-star hotel to open in the city.

Initial studies indicate that the hotel could accommodate up to 100 rooms, with a rooftop restaurant and recreational area featuring a swimming pool.





Crystalbrook Collection CEO Mark Davie said the company was excited by the possibilities the site offered.

"There's really nothing like this building, it has a strong identity and connection to the city of Newcastle and I see a lot of potential," he said.

"We think the location, with the City Hall, the Civic Theatre, the Art Gallery and the War Memorial Cultural Centre right on the doorstep, makes it a perfect location for a five-star hotel."

In the last quarter, Crystalbrook Collection has opened Riley, a Crystalbrook Collection Resort in Cairns, and acquired Little Albion, a Crystalbrook Collection Boutique Hotel in Sydney. Renders are **pictured**.



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#### **Celestyal expansion**

**MEDITERRANEAN** cruise operator Celestval Cruises has announced it is working towards making the Greek cruise experience "available to the world, year-round".

Speaking to media in Athens, the cruise line's CEO Chris Theophilides said Celestyal Cruises was targeting 130,000 guests in 2019 by extending its season by eight weeks, with the goal of being year-round by 2021.

"In 2018, we met our targets in terms of passengers...and now we are really focused on 2019 and the significant extension of our operating season in Greece," Theophilides said.

Celestyal will add seven ports to its Eastern Mediterranean product in 2019/20.



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SYD	12 Feb



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#### **Ovolo updates**

**OVOLO** Hotels has invested \$5 million in the extension of Ovolo Nishi in Canberra, set for completion in the second quarter of next year.

The revitalising of the hotel includes 17 new rooms, taking the room count to 126, along with a refresh of the property's inhouse restaurant and entertainment space, Monster Kitchen and Bar.

#### **Tucan Travel tours**

**SOUTH** America specialist Tucan Travel has released four group tours combining mainland South America with a four-night Galapagos Islands cruise.

The new itineraries include the 14-day Machu Picchu, Amazon & Galapagos from \$7,919, along with the 26-day Peru and Galapagos from \$10,099.

The longest tour, Iconic South America, is 41 days long and travels from Cartagena, Colombia, through Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina before ending in Rio de Janeiro. CLICK HERE for more.

#### Sabre China Airlines

**SABRE** Corporation's flight operations management solution, Sabre AirCentre Movement Manager, has been implemented by Taiwan's carrier, China Airlines. The tech is set to improve network efficiency & productivity.

#### WiT 2018 talks tech

THE Web in Travel (WiT) 2018 Conference held in Singapore brought the travel industry together to discuss the influence of tech on travel and tourism.

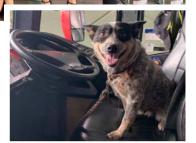
Panellist Livn CEO Mark Rizzuto said there were "enormous opportunities" for travel agencies to begin shifting their business booking processes online; "not only to capitalise on substantial waiting demand, but to make efficiencies in running costs". WATCH the full discussion here.

# Trafalgar's paw-some donation

TRAFALGAR loaded up a brand new coach to deliver over 1.3 tonnes of donated dog food on Tue to aid drought stricken farmers and their working dogs in NSW's Tamworth.

The company also bought 14 palettes of cattle and animal feed from community suppliers, collectively totalling a value of \$20,000, with CEO Gavin Tollman pledging \$10,000 personally.

"Awareness surrounding the damage the drought has caused farmers is widespread, however not too many people are aware of the repercussions for families with several working dogs, in some cases farmers are having to choose between feeding themselves or feeding their



animals," the company said.

Non-for-profit organisation Doing it For The Farmers, connected Trafalgar with 14 farming families most in need of assistance.

Trafalgar MD Matthew Cameron-Smith is **pictured** with Tamworth agents Rebecca Swain, Emily Marshall, Danna Cousins and Trafalgar Sales Manager Andrea Massaro.

Inset is a working dog at the wheel of the Trafalgar coach.

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# **Brothers in arms**



**THE** biggest travel industry event in Melbourne kicked off yesterday with Christmas Traveleague seeing some 960 travel industry representatives celebrating the festive season at the impressive Crown Palladium.

Event co-producer Matthew Fleming, GM of The Kimberley Collection, told **Travel Daily** that despite this year's record crowd and tickets to the event selling out in a matter of hours, numbers for 2019's event would be similar.

He said that there were several new sponsors of the event this year who were provided with additional recognition ahead of the official festivities taking place.

Fleming is **pictured** left with fellow event co-producer Craig

Hunt of Ski Max. See more photos from the day on **TD's FACEBOOK**.

#### Visit Cali campaign

**VISIT** California has launched a new "California Love" campaign to help the destination with wildfire recovery.

Visit California President & CEO Caroline Beteta said its "multilayered crisis response initiative will serve as a bridge to Visit California's \$70 million brand advertising launching globally in a few weeks".

**CLICK HERE** to watch the campaign video. For more information on the push visit **HERE**.

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Helloworld Travel Limited is one of Australia's leading integrated travel businesses and is currently seeking a motivated Product Coordinator to join the Commercial Team for a period of 12 months.

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If you are interested in applying for this role, please send your resume to careers@helloworld.com.au by close of business 21 December 2018.

Only successful candidates will be contacted.

# **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 email appointments@traveldaily.com.au.

**Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings** has promoted **Harry Sommer** to the position of President, International. Sommer was formerly the Executive Vice President of International Business Development at the cruise line.

**Sunshine Coast Airport** has welcomed **Andrew Brodie** to the role of CEO. Brodie has 27 years' experience in the aviation and majorinfrastructure sectors and previously held the role of General Manager, Airline and Retail Management at Brisbane Airport Corporation.

**Emma Prineas** has joined **AAT Kings** as Head of Marketing. Prineas has 17 years' experience in the travel and tourism industry and previously served as Head of Marketing at Wendy Wu Tours.

**BCD Meetings & Event** (BCD M&E) has named **Sanjay Seth** as its new Managing Director, Asia Pacific, effective o1 Jan. Prior to BCD M&E, Seth founded Truth Serum 317 in 2015 and helped clients, including Abbott Diabetes Care, with design thinking & business transformation.

**Ee Jin Lim** has started a new role as Director of Marketing and Communications at **Oakwood Asia**. Lim was previously the Field Marketing Manager at IHG.

#### China aviation plan

THE Civil Aviation

Administration of China has declared it plans to become "one of the best in the world" by 2050. The administration has released

a 2021-2035 action plan which outlines steps to reach the goal.

It said China would strengthen its aviation to have the "most competitive airlines and aviation hubs, advanced air service system and general aviation system".

The strategy also included "modernised air traffic management system...and a highly efficient management mechanism".

Development & Planning Bureau Administration Deputy Chief Dong Faxin said the plan aimed to meet the needs of the public for safe, fast, convenient and quality transport services.

#### Qatar ups Europe

**QATAR** Airways has revealed aircraft upgrades and additional frequencies for its most travelled European destinations.

Helsinki, Stockholm, and Manchester will receive aircraft upgrades, with Manchester and Stockholm routes upgrading from an Airbus A350 to a Boeing 777.

The Helsinki route will be upgauged from an Airbus A320 to an Airbus A330.

Gatwick flights have also been increased from 14-16 weekly.

#### Canada fatigue

**CANADA** has introduced new regulations for flight crew to prevent fatigue and improve air travel safety.

The changes include prescribed flight and duty time limits.

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# Agents' Superstar Switzerland tour

Montreux and explored the city's Christmas market.

AT THE dragon's lair on Mt Pilatus.

Thu 13th December 2018

**A TEAM** of 10 agents have just returned from a week-long winter famil to Switzerland as part 2018's Swiss Travel Pass SuperStar Program, a joint initiative between the Swiss Travel System, Switzerland Tourism and Rail Europe. The famil saw the group sample the country's transportation system of trains, cable cars, boats and buses while taking in the beauty of the alpine land.

Highlights included dining at the world's first vegetarian restaurant, Haus Hiltl, a fondue dinner and Christmas light show at the Illuminarium Fondue Palace, visiting the Johann Wanner Christmas House & taking in some fine art at the Kunstmuseum. The group were also immersed in Switzerland's largest Christmas market in Basel,

ascended Mount Pilatus & explored Lucerne, embarked on the Luzern – Interlaken Express; visited Jungfraujoch, Top of Europe and jumped on the GoldenPass Line to

Agents also discovered Hinterdorf, the oldest part of Zermatt village; rode up to Gornergrat and Matterhorn Glacier Paradise, and checked out the brand new Glacier

The group met up with other agents from around the world for an international gala

Participating agents were Callum Henson, Marion Fourmann and Meredith Mock from Flight Centre; Wendy James, Kaleidascopic Travel; Aimee Van Dongen, Bicton Travel; Rhiannon Wollington, Travel Associates; Deborah Schofield, Main Beach

Express Excellence Class before journeying to Brig on the Glacier Express.

<complex-block>

 Aueen / King

 Or Glacise Pala



**CHECKING** out the brand spanking new Glacier Express Excellence Class.

**MEETING** Basel's Father Christmas, Johann Wanner at his shop.



GETTING snowed on in Jungfraujoch.

night in Zermatt.

Travel; Linda Gorter, House of Travel Ponsonby NZ; Craig Martin, Martin & Grigg Travel Associates NZ; and Rebecca Carey, Helloworld Ballarat.

Hosting the group was Shelley Bunce from Rail Plus NZ.



**CUDDLING** up by the tree on Jungfraujoch, Top of Europe.









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# New lounge for Lufthansa



**LUFTHANSA** has opened an additional 1,100m<sup>2</sup> of lounge space at Frankfurt Airport in response to an increase in passengers accessing its Business lounges.

The Panorama lounge, **pictured**, is located opposite gate A26, and adds to the existing two lounges the airline already offers.

Offering views over Frankfurt Airport's apron, the lounge features a spacious main seating area as well as a food and beverage buffet.

It also provides several smaller rooms for working or taking time out, a smoking area, multiple buffets and a "high quality sanitary area" with four showers. Andreas Otto, Group Product





Manager for Premium Airlines Lufthansa and CCO of Austrian Airlines said the addition of the Panorama lounge was a positive move for the carrier.

"I am delighted that by renting the Panorama lounge we can once again offer our lounge guests the service they have come to expect from us," he said.

"In addition, we have planned several further renovation and expansion measures in the lounge area at our Frankfurt hub, which will further improve the lounge experience for our guests."

The opening of the Panorama lounge increases the carrier's Business class lounge capacity by 40%, and is open between 6am and 9pm daily.

Pictured **left** is a range of seating options, and **inset** is the lounge concierge.

# Counted out of the count of the

Club Med loves Christmas whether it's in the sun or in the snow! So to celebrate the festive season, they're giving agents the chance to win a stay at the Club Med resort of your choice in Asia or the Indian Ocean.

#### The all-inclusive prize includes:

- Five nights for two people in a superior room at the Club Med resort of your choice in Asia or the Indian Ocean
- Gourmet meals and all day snacking
- Premium open bar including beer, wine and cocktails
- A wide range of included sports & activities
- Nightly entertainment

To win, tell us in 25 words or less which Club Med resort you'd love to go to for Christmas and why. Send your entry to clubmed@traveldaily.com.au

#### DriveMyCar in Bris

PASSENGERS flying from Brisbane Airport can now rent their car out while they are not using it with the launch of DriveMyCar's Manage My Car services at the airport.

The service pays car owners a rate to rent their vehicle out, and manages the parking and handover to incoming renters. For more info, **CLICK HERE.** 

#### Contiki top 10

**YOUTH** tour operator Contiki has released a list of the top 10 destinations it says are on the rise for 2019 after research revealed 97% of the 2,500 Aussies surveyed by the brand said they planned to travel in the new year.

The company listed Jordan as the top spot to visit, followed by Turkey, South Africa and Japan.

In fifth place was India, with Sri Lanka and the West Coast of the USA coming in next.

Portugal, Brazil and the Netherlands rounded out the top 10 list.

#### **ANA adds PayPal**

ALL Nippon Airways has expanded its online booking capacity by adding PayPal to its list of payment options.

"We are excited about taking another step to offer individually tailored services to passengers by adding PayPal to our list of payment options," said Mitsuo Tomita, Executive Vice President of ANA.

PayPal joins existing payment methods including credit cards, SKY coins and bank transfers.

#### Fig Eight warning

**ROYAL** National Park tourist hotspot Figure Eight Pools, south of Sydney, has a new online wave risk rating tool that predicts wave conditions for each daylight hour at the site up to four days in advance.

The tool joins existing warning signs and daily safety alerts and aims to convert "complex ocean data into five easy-to-understand wave danger ratings".

For more info, CLICK HERE.

# Travel Daily

**Travel Daily** is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

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# L.A.INSIDER

#### Coming soon: Fairmont Century Plaza Century City



Accor Hotels' Fairmont badge will take over the landmark Century Plaza hotel in Century City, adjacent to Beverly Hills, when the property reopens as Fairmont Century Plaza in 2019. The redeveloped property will boast 394 guestrooms and 63 luxury residences. The project will also have 290 luxury residences in the project's two new 46-story towers.

#### fairmont.com



## Sony Pictures Studios VIP Lunch Tour

Sony Pictures Studios, located in L.A's Culver City – Guests can walk through the famous gates of one of the busiest studios on Earth through Sony Pictures Studios' VIP Lunch Tour, which offers an exclusive look at one of the most historic studios in the world. The guide will meet guests at the Visitor's Centre with a personal cart to begin the behind the scenes adventure, which includes a stop at the Sony Museum, filled with actual props and artifacts from some of the most iconic productions. Guests will also have access to the unique Sony Virtual Reality experience. The three-hour tour includes a delicious three-course meal in the Sony Commissary Dining room, with a featured menu from Wolfgang Puck.

#### sonypicturesstudiostours.com/viptours.html





#### Share your best L.A. Insider tip for a chance to win a \$50 gift card

Know where to get the best tacos or how to skip a queue in LA? Email **oceania@latourism.org** with your best insider tip for Los Angeles and the best entry will win a \$50 Gift Card of their choice!

Competition closes Monday December 17. You must be registered on the L.A. Insider website to be eligible to win.

All agents who complete the L.A. Insider training will receive a certificate, access to discounts and specials from L.A. members, invitations to exclusive events, eligibility for famils and training opportunities.

To join L.A. Insider visit **insider.discoverlosangeles.com** 

### LAX Los Angeles World Airports

#### LAX Update

Midfield Satellite Concourse – Designed as an extension of Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT), the new \$1.6-billion Midfield Satellite Concourse will feature 12 boarding gates, L.A.-centric dining and shopping options, airline lounges and other quest services and amenities. It is also poised to become one of the "smartest" concourses with automated biometric boarding gates and flight information display scanners allowing passengers to receive personalised maps on their boarding passes. The MSC will be connected by a 300 metre long underground tunnel and is slated to open by 2020.

flylax.com

## The Dreamliner Way to L.A.

With the holiday season in full swing, why not enjoy a Northern Hemisphere Christmas. Fly the American Way, and book your next trip to L.A. with American Airlines. American Airlines' state of the art Dreamliner aircraft departs daily from Sydney to Los Angeles and there's really no better way to fly.

Our Dreamliner offers Flagship<sup>™</sup> Business, Premium Economy, Main Cabin Extra, and Main Cabin. With AC power outlets, USB's, and international Wi-Fi, you can stay connected all the way to L.A. Happy holidays from American Airlines, we look forward to sharing your American Dream!

Check out: https://bit.ly/2F8HK5q

#### Pompeii: The Exhibition



Relive the catastrophic eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the rediscovery of Pompeii in this awe-inspiring exhibition at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley. Open until April 21, 2019 and featuring nearly 200 artifacts, hidden from view and forgotten for centuries until rediscovered over 250 years ago, Pompeii: The Exhibition includes frescoes, mosaics, gladiator helmets, armor, weapons, plates, furniture, jewelry, statues and more. A 4-D eruption theater even allows visitors to experience the deathly impact Mount Vesuvius had on this ancient city, culminating in the reveal of full body casts of twisted human forms, asphyxiated by extreme heat and noxious gases and forever frozen in time.

reaganlibrary.com

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NATIONAL PRODUCT LEADER	STRATEGIC SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGER
BRISBANE - \$120K - \$150K PKG	MEL- \$110K PLUS PLUS
Don't miss out on the opportunity to step into a senior	This award winning TMC are on the hunt for a senior
leadership role in Brisbane. As National Product Leader of	strategic account manager to join their very successful team
this well respected and reputable travel brand you'll be	based in Sydney. You will ideally have previous TMC
responsible for developing and executing brand strategies	experience in Account Management or sales. You will be
into successful marketing and product plans to drive and	joining an organisation that offers a supportive environment
increase sales, enquiries and market growth. A top salary	with ongoing training and career opportunities. A strong
package is on offer along with long term career growth.	package is on offer, including a high base salary plus
Previous experience in a similar role is required	bonuses.
INTERVIEW THIS WEEK TO START IN JAN CORPORATE TEAM LEADER – PREMIUM BRAND SYD - \$86K PACKAGE Be very quick for this rare gem. Working for a premium global brand. You will be leading a team of the very best consultants servicing corporate clientele. Strong leadership skills and strong Travel Industry knowledge required. Working in the CBD you will enjoy a strong base salary. Career progression is another huge reason for applying. Interviews commencing in the next two weeks.	SYSTEMS GURU CORPORATE TRAVEL SYSTEMS & SUPPORT MANAGER BRISBANE - \$72K PKG Bring your corporate travel and systems knowledge to this new support role with a leading travel company. Your responsibilities will range from supporting consultants with system queries and errors to liaising with third party vendors, new system testing and enhancements and ad hoc reporting. Previous experience in a similar systems support role and a solid understanding of the corporate travel sector is a must. Strong salary package and top benefits on offer
GROW THE BUSINESS	ON THE ROAD AGAIN
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER - CORPORATE TRAVEL	TRAVEL INDUSTRY BDM
ADELAIDE - \$75K PKG ++	BRISBANE - SALARY PACKAGE UP TO \$75K
Due to expansion this globally recognised brand requires a	We are searching for a Sales Executive who is passionate
talented sales manager to both grow and retain their	about cruising along with the ability to source and secure
corporate client base. You will be adept at working within	new business to join this industry leader. You will have a real
the corporate market, pipeline development and winning	drive, passion and understanding of the cruising market
new business through to key account management, growth	along with the ability to establish relationships and conduct
and retention of clients. The rewards here are huge	presentations to secure wins for the business. Be rewarded
including international travel benefits and incentives.	with a supportive team and be proud to walk through the
Interviewing soon.	doors with this product under your arm
SHOWCASE YOUR STRATEGIC SKILLS	PASSIONATE ABOUT PRODUCT
STRATEGIC SALES MANAGER	PRODUCT MANAGER
SYD & MEL- \$100K BASE PLUS COMMS	MELBOURNE – up to \$80 PKG + BONUSES
These roles rarely come up so if you are a true sales	Looking for a new product role? This leading travel company
professional from preferably a corporate background we	have a Product Manager role based in their Melbourne
want to hear from you. Positioned in Sydney you will have a	office. Managing amazing destinations you will be

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