



Enquire Now



EXTRAORDINARY Rail Journeys from YORK

NORTHERN COAST
& COUNTRY
5 nights and rail travel

FROM \$1,160* pp

[CLICK HERE](#)

tempoholidays.com

*Terms and conditions apply.

Virgin back in the black

VIRGIN Australia has delivered its strongest first-half result in 10 years, rebounding from past weakness to post an underlying pre-tax profit of \$102.5 million.

The carrier's group statutory profit after tax was \$4.4m, up \$25.9m over the first-half loss of \$21.5m last year, while group revenue was up 6% to \$2.791b (TD breaking news).

"The group has significantly improved its underlying financial performance compared to the prior corresponding period, recording one of our strongest ever first half results," said ceo and md John Borghetti.

"This demonstrates the success of our long-term strategy to reposition the business and strengthen its financial foundation; however there is more work ahead to ensure we

continue to deliver," he said.

The airline's domestic network performed strongly, increasing its earnings (EBIT) by 91.4% over the first half of last financial year.

Tigerair's performance was hit by its forced exit from Bali, which resulted in surplus aircraft being deployed temporarily on its domestic network.

The low-cost arm's earnings (EBIT) fell from \$6.2 million in the first half of last year to a loss of \$6.7 million as a result.

Borghetti said the group's improvement was expected to continue in the second half.

More from Virgin Aus on [page 3](#).

FC spruiks changes



FLIGHT Centre has produced a video for consumers to explain the rebranding of its Cruiseabout and Escape Travel stores to Flight Centre and Travel Associates, proclaiming "a change is as good as a holiday" - [CLICK HERE](#) to see.



PREMIUM ECONOMY SYD/MEL - EUROPE

From **\$2024***

NEW ADDED SERVICES
Express Path ex Aus,
Welcome Drink,
Dedicated Meals & Amenity Kits
OFFER ENDS 28thFeb18

* Terms and conditions may apply. Price is in AUD and correct as at 26thFEB18, but may fluctuate if surcharge, taxes, fees or currency change. Fare is subject to seat availability.



www.vietnamairlines.com

Franz Josef Glacier, West Coast
100% PURE NEW ZEALAND

DISCOVER A LAND OF CONTRASTS

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE
You could win \$250!

[ENTER NOW](#)

**North Island
Winter Escape**

QANTAS HOLIDAYS

**NORTH ISLAND
DISCOVERY**

7 NIGHTS **\$999*** per person
from twin share

*Conditions apply

**100% PURE
NEW ZEALAND**

ON SALE UNTIL 18 MARCH 2018

Visit TheUSA.com

Brand USA's Discovery Program
DASH FOR CASH

Complete any 5 badges and be in the draw to win...
\$2,500.00 USD CASH

Click [here](#) to get started on your 5 badges!



PRISTINE TASMANIA
7 NIGHT EXPEDITIONS > JAN-MAR 2019

NEW BROCHURE



coralexpeditions
AUSTRALIA'S PIONEERING CRUISE LINE

Crowne Plaza Adel

THE Crowne Plaza hotel brand will return to Adelaide in 2020 after a short hiatus.

InterContinental Hotels Group has inked an agreement with Kyren Group to open the Crowne Plaza Adelaide as part of a mixed-use development on Frome Street, between Rundle Street and North Terrace.

The 326-room hotel will be located within Adelaide's tallest structure, Frome Central Tower One, with the property's check-in on Lvl 10, and featuring an infinity pool, bar, restaurant and gym.

It will also offer 600m² of meeting and conference space.

Below the hotel element of the tower will be 83 residential apartments contained within the "Adelaidean" dwelling.

Crowne Plaza previously operated at 16 Hindmarsh Square in Adelaide, before management was handed over to AccorHotel's Pullman brand on 01 Oct.

Rex 1H profit soars 60%

REGIONAL Express Group has today reported a first half FY18 statutory profit before tax (PBT) of \$13.8 million on turnover of

\$151 million, representing a 60% improvement on its PBT for the prior corresponding period.

Profit after tax was \$9.08 million, up from \$6.1 million.

During the period, Rex received one Saab 340Bplus, boosting its total Saab 340 fleet to 56 aircraft.

Executive chairman Lim Kim Hai said the airline had achieved a "steady improvement" in pax numbers of 3.6% year-on-year (to 634,103), continuing the trend in financial year 2017.

Rex's charter business also rose, "indicating the worldwide economic recovery is having its effect in Australia," he said.

Lim said the airline's board forecast 2H FY18 would also see an improvement, however "not by such a spectacular amount," by about 20% year-on-year.

Regional Express directors have approved a fully franked dividend of four cents per share.

TTF board shuffle

FOUR new members have joined the Tourism & Transport Forum (TTF) Advisory Board.

The new faces include Rachel Argaman, ceo of TFE Hotels; Sture Myrmell, president of Carnival Australia; Sally Fielke, general mgr corporate affairs at Sydney Airport and Tom Walker, svp and md of Cubic Transportation Systems Asia Pacific.

"These appointments provide a wealth of additional experience and expertise to the organisation," TTF ceo Margy Osmond said.

They replace the outgoing board members Allan Vido from Toga Group, Ann Sherry from Carnival Australia and Kerrie Mather from Sydney Airport.

Another AIDA ship

CARNIVAL Corporation has inked a shipbuilding contract with Meyer Werft for a third next-gen ship for Germany-based cruise line AIDA Cruises.

The 180,000-tonne vessel will have an estimated 2,700 rooms and will be fully powered at sea & in port by liquified natural gas.

AIDA's first next-generation ship, *AIDAnova*, joins its fleet in Dec, the second in 2021 and the third is scheduled for delivery in 2023.

S Africa VAT hike

SOUTH Africa is increasing its value-added tax (VAT) by a single percentage point - the first increase of the levy in 15 years.

The country's Finance Minister Malusi Gigaba announced the move in his Budget presentation last week, which will see the VAT rise from 14% to 15% on 01 Apr.

Some travel & tourism suppliers in South Africa are advising they will be adjusting their prices.





**ADVENTURE
WORLD
TRAVEL**

TAILOR-MADE COLLECTION 2018/19







& EXCLUSIVELY REPRESENTING



STAR CLIPPERS



**exodus
travels**
global adventures since 1974



**Lionel
Expeditions**



**NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC**



**N
natural
habitat
ADVENTURES**



**GRAND
AMERICAN
ADVENTURES**



**trek
america**

ADVENTUREWORLD.COM CALL: 1300 363 055

VA to stay listed

VIRGIN Australia today confirmed it had no plans to privatise, with the company to remain listed on the Australian Stock Exchange after discussions with its major shareholders.

Chairman Elizabeth Bryan said following the VA annual general meeting in Nov the Board had been looking at whether it was appropriate to remain listed and had decided not to go private.

However she noted the small free float of shares, with more than 38,000 shareholders of whom 21,000 currently hold "unmarketable parcels of shares" worth less than \$500.

The Board has decided to offer an "unmarketable parcel buy-back facility" where they can sell up to 1,666 shares for 30c each back to the company.

Unless they opt out by Tue 06 Mar, the shares will be automatically bought back in full and cancelled, with no brokerage or handling fees to be charged.

SYD-HKG for Virgin

SLOTS at Hong Kong Airport have been secured for Virgin Australia's new Sydney-Hong Kong flights (**TD** breaking news) which will launch in mid-2018 subject to "relevant approvals".

CEO John Borghetti said expanding Virgin Australia's presence into Greater China was a key pillar of the airline's strategy, with the Sydney launch to build on the "positive momentum created since the launch of our Melbourne-Hong Kong flights".

As well as connecting into China with VA's alliance partner Hong Kong Airlines, the new service will also link into Virgin Atlantic's flights onward to London.

The daily A330-200 SYD-HKG flights are scheduled to depart Sydney at 1000 and arrive into HKG at 1740 on the same day, with the return flight leaving at 1950 and operating overnight to land in Sydney at 0710am the following morning.

Disneyland Paris €2 billion expansion

DISNEYLAND Paris is set to embark on a €2 billion expansion in one of the most extensive development projects mounted since its opening in 1992.

The park yesterday announced three new areas to be developed over coming years, involving themes based around *Marvel*, *Frozen* and *Star Wars*.

The development will roll out in phases over several years beginning in 2021, significantly expanding the Walt Disney Studios Park.

In addition to the three new areas, the creative vision includes a new lake which will be a focal point for entertainment and also connect the new park areas.

Ahead of the expansion in 2020, the resort will open Disney's Hotel New York - The Art of Marvel, showcasing the worlds of characters including Iron Man, The Avengers and Spider-Man.

Free Client Event

Limited Space available - Register early!

Plus Bonus offers available on the day

Register here

SYD - 19 Mar '18 | MEL - 20 Mar '18 | BNE - 21 Mar '18

WINDSTAR
CRUISES



Window Seat

THERE are days we all wish we could escape down an emergency slide and start over, but a US man is now in the hands of New Jersey police after doing just that on a United Airlines flight to Tampa.

Troy Fattun, 25, reportedly announced he was on the wrong plane as it prepared to depart from Newark Airport on Sun, before opening a door and making a dramatic exit via the inflatable emergency slide.

His efforts delayed the flight for several hours while a replacement aircraft was arranged, and resulted in charges for criminal mischief and trespass.

Despite the man's claims, police say his ticket showed he was on the right plane all along.




WIN the ultimate \$10,000 U.S. Itinerary

with American Airlines and Brand USA!

[ENTER NOW](#)

UNITED STATES CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
OF AMERICA

USA
IMMIGRATION
MAR 22

UNITED STATES LOUISIANA
NEW ORLEANS
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
OF AMERICA

UNITED STATES NEVADA
LAS VEGAS
MCCARRAN
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
OF AMERICA

American Airlines, Flagship and the Flight Symbol logo are marks of American Airlines, Inc. oneworld is a mark of the oneworld Alliance, LLC. Available on certain flights in Business and First Class only. © 2018 American Airlines, Inc. All rights reserved.



MAB restructure

MALAYSIA Airlines Berhad (MAB) is preparing for a corporate restructure as part of its five-year recovery plan and is considering re-listing on the Malaysian stock exchange.

The airline's ceo Izham Ismail told the *New Straits Times* a revised corporate structure was being reviewed, though "many issues" needed to be addressed before its implementation.

A decision on relisting the carrier on the stock exchange would be made after the second quarter of this year.

"We will look back whether MAB is ready for re-listing.

"We do not want to make an initial public offering if the company is not fully prepared," Ismail told the newspaper.

MAB was planning to announce two new routes this year and was considering China and India for future development, as well as extra capacity for Perth.

Rex West Aus start

THE West Australian Government has signed deals with Regional Express (Rex) and Skippers Airlines to provide air services to regional destinations including Carnarvon, Monkey Mia and the Northern Goldfields.

The five-year agreements will see Rex operate the Perth-Carnarvon-Monkey Mia route, with Carnarvon services boosted 20% to 12 flights a week and Monkey Mia flights up 50% to six per week.

The carrier will offer two different departure times from Perth and Carnarvon on weekday services, starting 02 Jul.

Skippers Aviation will continue its Northern Goldfields routes, with three weekly flights between Perth and the towns of Laverton, Leonora, Meekatharra, Mount Magnet and Wiluna.

Transport Minister Rita Saffioti said the flights would allow new tourism opportunities.

'The Deck' unveiled

CATHAY Pacific Airways will open its revitalised 'The Deck' lounge experience at Hong Kong Int'l Airport (HKIA) on 22 Mar.

The facility has been designed to emulate a "contemporary living room", has a seating capacity for 180 guests and features an open-ceiling verandah with tables, panoramic views of the apron and CX's Noodle Bar.

The Deck is located near HKG's gate 16 at Terminal 1.

CX also said it would close 'The Cabin' lounge at HKIA on 30 Apr.

Crooked brochure

INTERACTIONS with the Yolngu people of East Arnhem Land and discovering the Land of the Phoenicians in Lebanon are some of the options available to travellers in the new Crooked Compass 2018/19 brochure.

The program offers trips in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Middle East, Oceania & Europe - more [HERE](#).

DXB construction

RUNWAY works at Dubai Int'l Airport (DXB) will see the world's busiest airport for international travellers temporarily scale back operations for 45 days next year.

DXB's southern runway will be closed for extensive upgrades from 16 Apr to 30 May, "when passenger traffic historically ebbs due to a seasonal lull," Dubai Airports announced this week.

During the period, airlines will be required to scale back their flights to DXB "due to the significant capacity reduction resulting from single runway operations".

The airport operator carried out similar work on DXB's northern runway in 2014, with Dubai World Central (DWC) taking some of the overflow of scheduled flights.

MEANWHILE, Dubai Airports saw passenger numbers decrease at DXB by 1% y-o-y to 7.9m in Jan, down as a result of increased pax volumes linked to Chinese New Year falling in Jan last year.

DISCOVER *Los Angeles*

exc!te
HOLIDAYS

a million
REASONS TO BOOK

LA

OUR BIGGEST GIVEAWAY EVER

Mortimer sales soar

AURORA Expeditions says it has received an “overwhelming response” for its inaugural 2019/2020 polar season on board its new ship *Greg Mortimer*.

Early booking offers launched four weeks ago are almost fully subscribed, attributable in part to a strong trade marketing push over that time.

“We knew there would be a lot of interest in the new ship but the bookings in our first month have exceeded all of our expectations,” said Dianna Schinella, industry sales and marketing manager for Aurora Expeditions.

Rail Plus webinar

RAIL Plus is set to run a webinar discussing the benefits and costs of rail passes versus point-to-point tickets.

The online discussion will take place 02 Mar at 9:00am (AEST). Sign up to webinar [HERE](#).

&Beyond S America

&BEYOND has released two new overland small group tours of Chile and Argentina.

Options on the table include the Wine and Country Expedition or the Patagonia Lakes Expedition, both running for 11 days and focusing on off-the-beaten-path bucket list adventures.

The itineraries have three set departure dates for 2018.

For further booking information on the new tours [CLICK HERE](#).

Dengue in New Cal

DFAT has advised Australians to exercise caution when travelling to New Caledonia after the territory’s government recently declared the islands are in the midst of a dengue epidemic.

Travellers should ensure they take proper precautions to protect themselves against the mosquito-borne illness to mitigate the risk.



SMALL group touring is the fastest growing product line for Collette, with the company rolling out its new Explorations brochure (**TD 07 Feb**) featuring a host of additional tours.

The program was detailed to **Travel Daily** yesterday, with Collette vp of international business, Christian Leibl-Cote arriving in Sydney from the US to provide an update.

Key features include a small group rail journey exploring Switzerland, a Northern Lights hunt in Finland, as well as new tours in Peru, Bolivia, Iceland, Italy, Southern France and Northern Spain.

Options under Collette’s “It’s Your Choice” program have been expanded meaning many itineraries now feature a range of different experiences for guests.

Collette has also today launched a new “Sell ten, get one free” incentive for travel agents under which they will receive one of the company’s Spotlight Tours free for every ten guests booked on any Collette tour before 30 Jun.

Collette has guaranteed the departures on all its tours through until 30 Sep, Leibl-Cote confirmed.

He’s **pictured** above with the new brochure and Collette general manager Alison Mead.



Immerse yourself in Greece

Take advantage of these amazing fares and discover Greece’s beauty and splendour.

Enjoy 4-weekly flights to Thessaloniki and Mykonos, our second and third gateway in Greece.

Book by 7 March 2018 for travel until 31 December 2018*.

Fares per person from*:

		Economy	Business
Athens	from AUD	1,080	5,500
Mykonos	from AUD	1,105	5,470
Thessaloniki	from AUD	1,105	5,470



GOING PLACES TOGETHER

* Book by 7 March 2018. Fares quoted above are for departures from Perth. Economy Class fares are valid for departures between 27 September 2018 – 30 November 2018. Business Class fares are valid for departures between 27 February 2018 – 31 December 2018. Other sale fares are available from Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Canberra. Fares may vary due to currency fluctuations. Seasonal surcharges, weekend surcharges, and other blackout periods may apply. For all other terms and conditions, please review at time of booking. Thessaloniki flights start 27 March 2018, and Mykonos flights start 30 May 2018. Mykonos flights are seasonal, valid for departures between 30 May 2018 and 30 September 2018.

Saga consolidates

UK TRAVEL firm Saga Travel has unveiled a restructure of its regional sales teams, merging its regional holiday and cruise divisions.

The consolidated sales department will also soon have a newly created senior regional sales manager position overseeing the new changes.

Motivation for the rejig was fuelled by a need to simplify operations and help agents better understand Saga's sales proposition for over 50s clients.

Cunard + Rocky

LUXURY cruise company Cunard has partnered with rail operator Rocky Mountaineer to further enhance its Alaska itinerary in 2019.

The deal will see pax offered Rocky Mountaineer tours in Canada either pre- or post-voyage and includes three or five nights' stay and two full days aboard the iconic locomotive.

"(This deal) ensures our pax enjoy the...Alaskan wildlife in the utmost of luxury both by land and by sea," said Josh Leibowitz, senior vp, Cunard North America.

Italy's Year of Food

THE Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism (MIBACT) has announced 2018 will be "The Year of Food."

The "foodie" push will see Italy attempt to attract int'l tourists through culinary events like the White Night of food scheduled for 04 Aug throughout the country's squares and museums.

MIBACT says 48% of visitors select Italy due to its cuisine and so it plans to boost the number of food attractions on offer.

Tamworth chase flts

BUSINESS leaders in Tamworth have called upon aviation officials to shore up flights from Sydney to the regional NSW city in a bid to ensure further economic growth.

The Tamworth business chamber argues more "reliability" is needed on the frequency of Sydney flights and that without a concrete commitment from carriers it could be "damaging" to local business interests.

Tamworth's business community recently welcomed a move by Virgin to reinstate six flights that had been removed from its summer schedule in Nov.

Holiday Inn water park resort



SLIDING down the tunnel of history was the Holiday Inn Vana Nava Hua Hin in Thailand on Sat after it officially welcomed Asia's first Holiday Inn water park resort via a lavish opening ceremony.

More than 400 guests attended the celebratory event which featured a show from popular Thai actress Jenny Tienposuwan, an exclusive concert by Thai pop star Tata Young, followed by a fireworks display viewed from the resort's towering Sky Deck.

"We are proud to set a new quality benchmark with a fully-integrated hospitality offering extensive facilities, cutting-edge technology and breathtaking views over the Gulf of Thailand,"

said the resort's general manager Franck Rodriguez.

The 300-room resort (pictured) is located 2.5 hours' drive from Thailand's capital Bangkok.

Acclaim reminder

TRAFALGAR is reminding agents there are only 12 weeks remaining to claim a spot on its 2018 French Riviera and Provence Acclaim Achievers trip.

For every guest booked on a 2018 Trafalgar or CostSaver guided holiday between now and 19 May, agents receive one point in the sales competition.

For further details of the sales incentive **CLICK HERE**.

CANADA, ALASKA & USA

Travel Agents receive 12% COMMISSION on all new bookings deposited by 31st March 2018
Plus Cash Gift Cards up to the value of \$200 per booking when including Rocky Mountaineer*

[Find out how](#) **momento** TRAVEL SERVICES

Wendy Wu Tours.

WU DYNASTY FAMIL

HOW DO YOU SCORE A TICKET?

There are **30 tickets** to be won, and there are 2 ways to win!

TOP 10 SELLERS
GUARANTEED WIN!

20 SELLERS CHOSEN
AT RANDOM TO WIN!

MAKE A BOOKING DURING THE PERIOD 01 OCTOBER 2017 – 31 MARCH 2018 TO ENTER THE DRAW.

VISIT WENDYWUTOURS.COM.AU/AGENTS
CONDITIONS APPLY, SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

YOUR LIFE YOUR BUSINESS YOUR CHOICE

BIG ENOUGH TO COMPETE, SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE

60
MOBILE AGENTS

19
FRANCHISE STORES

5
LINK AFFILIATES

Join the
itravel
family.

Travel Daily

e info@traveldaily.com.au

t 1300 799 220

w www.traveldaily.com.au

page 6

WA puts out the welcome mat



WESTERN Australian Tourism Minister Paul Papalia yesterday hosted an event in Sydney to formally launch the state's new

"Hotel Perth" domestic tourism push (**TD** yesterday).

Papalia was introduced by radio personality Michael "Wippa" Wipfli, who revealed that his illustrious showbiz career included a key role in the annual Perth Christmas pageant as "The Prince of Perth" - making him a "true Perthonality".

The campaign complements WA's new trade engagement strategy (**TD** 11 Dec) which has seen Tourism Western Australia appoint an east coast trade representative for the first time in seven years.

Minister Papalia told **TD** that during the resources construction boom, leisure travel to the state had collapsed, and now business travel demand is evaporating meaning there is once again plenty of hotel capacity.

There has also been an upsurge in supply, with 3,000 new rooms added to Perth's stock in the last two years and a further 3,000 in the pipeline.

The hospitality sector is "really engaged" in the campaign, Papalia, said, with key opportunities including the new Qantas flights from Perth to London meaning the WA capital becomes a stopover option for travellers in both directions.

Papalia is **pictured** above at left with Julie Primmer, Helloworld; David Gendle, AAT Kings; Michael Gazal, TravelManagers and Jayson Westbury from AFTA.



#Tag your travel buddy to win

Whether you want to play tourist here in Australia or you have a holiday overseas coming up, iVenture Card is your passport to the best attractions in 14 top destinations across the globe.

The pre-paid attraction passes let you enjoy the best attractions, tours & experiences all for one low price.



This week *Travel Daily* has teamed up with iVenture Card to give you the chance to win an iVenture Card to a destination of your choice for you and your travel buddy.

For your chance to win, post a photo of you and your travel buddy on Instagram or Facebook tagging #iventure and #traveldaily and tell us where you want to go!

T&C's: Prizes must be redeemed by 31/12/2018. Packages and attractions are subject to change.

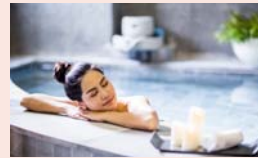


Accommodation Updates

WELCOME to Accommodation Updates, *Travel Daily's* Wed feature. If your property has undergone some recent changes you would like to make the industry aware of, send a brief description with an image to accomupdates@traveldaily.com.au.



Crown Perth has opened its first rooftop bar, HI-LINE. The venue spreads over 935m² above Crown Theatre and provides views of the Perth CBD. It offers a selection of bar bites and cocktails and Crown Perth is promoting it as "the ultimate destination for after work sunset drinks, pre-game catch-ups with friends or romantic cocktails under the stars".



A fresh offering called **YAN SPA** has made its debut at **X2 Vibe Bangkok Sukhumvit**, Thailand. The wellness concept features treatment rooms for singles and couples and a Japanese onsen. Treatments range from body scrubs, facials, waxes and masks, to massages such as traditional Thai, Swedish and Balinese techniques, aromatherapy and hot stone massages.



Aloft Hotels in the US have the "on-the-go" traveller covered, with the launch of portable breakfast pots. The new breakfast format under the rejigged Re:fuel by Aloft food & beverage program includes the creation of 13 portable breakfast pots. Designed to give guests a balanced and fresh meal on-the-go, options include poached eggs, avocado and quinoa and lemon ricotta pancakes.

JW Jaipur opening

MARRIOTT International has opened JW Marriott Jaipur Resort & Spa, marking the debut of the brand in India's "pink city".

The property features 200 guest rooms, villas and suites, including Royal Terrace Rooms, Royal Courtyard Rooms and Royal Pool Villas with private plunge pools, as well as two-bedroom Palace and Presidential Suites.

Eurail free days

INTERNATIONAL Rail is offering free rail travel days on a selection of Eurail passes purchased between 01-28 Mar.

Eurail Global Flexi Pass – available for 10 or 15 days of train journeys over two months will include two extra days of travel while the Global Saver Pass will offer two bonus days.

Call 1300 387 245 for more.

Papua New Guinea - Market Representation Tender

Papua New Guinea (PNG) has a vibrant and growing tourism sector and Australia is the major source market, accounting for over 25 percent of holiday arrivals. The Papua New Guinea Tourism Promotion Authority is now seeking proposals from Market Representative Companies (the 'Company') to provide destination representation and marketing services for PNG in the Australian and New Zealand markets.

The Company will be required to design and execute a full range of destination marketing activities for the next three years with a primary focus on the Australian market. Key activities will include designing and implementing a PR programme, social media and digital content generation and management, managing travel trade relations and managing limited advertising. The market representative company is expected to provide a full time Representative who will be dedicated to the promotion of PNG in Australia (primarily) and New Zealand as well as a range of marketing specialists to support key campaigns and activities.

The PNGTPA is currently identifying companies to shortlist for the tender process. In the first instance companies wishing to be considered for inclusion in the tender should email a company profile detailing relevant experience and contact details to rosshopkins3@bigpond.com by 2nd March 2018. Short listed companies will then be sent the full tender documents after this date.



TAHITI brings Mana to Sofitel Darling Harbour

SOUTH Pacific Management Hotels Resort & Spa recently hosted major travel agents and media for an elegant Tahitian luncheon to promote the Tikehau Beach Resort, the Manava Beach Resort and the Manava Suite Resort, and HAUMANA cruises.

In collaboration with Tahiti Tourisme, Atout France and Air Tahiti Nui, this luncheon was the opportunity to celebrate the French Polynesian islands and its culture through a typical Tahitian menu.



ABOVE: Sophie Bessou, SPM Hotels; Robert Thompson, Tahiti Tourisme and Alain Campignon, SPM Hotels.



ABOVE: Patrick Benhamou, Atout France and a model for Robert Wan Pearls.



ABOVE: Vaea Campignon, SPM Hotels.



ABOVE: Brad McDonnell, Entire Travel; Chris Hamill; DriveAway Holidays and Alan Roman, Air Tahiti Nui.



LEFT: The traditional Tahitian welcome with dancers and frangipani flowers by Atout France team, Lina Krief, Emma Louis-Tramoni and Marie Ramond.



Guests were carried away to the paradise island by the performance of traditional Tahitian musicians and dancers, then a sumptuous Tahitian pearls jewellery fashion show, designed by The Emperor of Tahitian pearls, Robert Wan.

SkyBus Auckland

SKYBUS will introduce a new direct airport service between the North Harbour region and Auckland Airport by late 2018.

The SkyBus North Harbour Airport Express will start from Civic Crescent, Albany, and travel along the Northern Busway, including stops at Smales Farm and Akoranga, before arriving at Auckland Airport.

It will include free wi-fi, kerbside drop access and luggage storage.

Darwin's Paspaley

A NEW Paspaley Flying Boat venture has launched in Darwin, offering cruise ship passengers a scenic tour in a Grumman Mallards flying boat.

The scenic coastal flights option is available on days when cruise ships are in port.

First built in 1947, the aircraft have undergone extensive upgrades and refurbishments including new Pratt and Whitney turboprop engines, improved avionics, strengthened airframes and modernised cabin fit-outs.

Airbnb has Passion

AIRBNB has declared it is "doubling down on experiences" in 2018, launching new "passion categories" and unveiling plans to expand its experiences offering to more than 1,000 destinations by the end of the year.

The new categories include Airbnb Concerts, Social Dining & Adventures, and Airbnb will grow its Social Impact Experiences, which connect travellers with local non-profit organisations.

This year the company has flagged introducing experiences to "unique places like Easter Island, Tasmania and Iceland".

SCG buys Hilton UK

STARWOOD Capital Group has acquired seven Hilton hotels throughout the United Kingdom.

The properties are located in markets including London, Edinburgh, Bath and Belfast and the group plans to refurbish a number of them.

The additions will be managed by Kew Green under franchise deals with Hilton Worldwide.



This month *Travel Daily* and Centara Hotels & Resorts are teaming up to give readers a chance to win an escape to Thailand.

The prize

Return flights to Bangkok and seven nights accommodation at Centara Grand in Bangkok and Krabi for two.

How to win

1 Head to centarahotelsresorts.com/b2b to check out all the key selling points and amazing destinations that Centara has to offer your clients.

2 Send us your 3 favourite Centara selling points along with a picture or meme of you enjoying your ultimate Centara moment. The most imaginative entry will win. Send your entries to centara@traveldaily.com.au

CENTARA
HOTELS & RESORTS

CENTARA
GRAND
HOTELS & RESORTS

COSI

Centara
BOUTIQUE COLLECTION

NZ top for lux pax

FRESH data from Luxury Lodges of New Zealand has indicated luxury travellers spent 44% more in New Zealand on premium lodge accommodation over the past year to Sep 2017.

The research showed an increase in off-peak (shoulder season) luxury travel, with off-peak and winter accommodation spend up 37% on the year prior.

Australian premium travellers account for 14% of Luxury Lodge New Zealand revenue.

MEL parking savings

THE parking price drop of up to 20% off drive-up rates at Melbourne airport (**TD** yesterday), applies to terminal parking.

It comes into effect tomorrow.

UWEA expands

ULTIMATE Winery Experiences Australia (UWEA) has added Jackalope at Willow Creek Vineyard, on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria & Mandoon Estate, in the Swan Valley, Western Australia to its collection.

The properties offer boutique accommodation in vineyards.

Park Hyatt KL

THE first Park Hyatt Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, will debut in 2020 under a deal between Hyatt Hotels Corp & PNB Merdeka Ventures Sdn. Berthed.

The 232-room hotel will occupy the top 17 floors of the Merdeka PNB 118 tower, slated to be the tallest skyscraper in Southeast Asia and third tallest in the world.

brochure time?
we've got you covered

download our credentials

em
creative/digital

THE TRAVEL AGENCY

LOOKING FOR A SPECIFIC INDUSTRY SUPPLIER?

[CLICK HERE FOR THE 2018 AFTA TRAVEL PAGES SUPPLIER DIRECTORY](#)

Travel Daily

www.traveldaily.com.au

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

Produced each weekday since 1994, *Travel Daily* is Australia's leading travel industry publication.

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
Managing Editor – Jon Murrice

Editor – Guy Dundas

Contributors – Jasmine O'Donoghue, Adam Bishop, Jenny Piper, Christian Schweitzer
info@traveldaily.com.au

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan and Lisa Martin
advertising@traveldaily.com.au

BUSINESS MANAGER

Jenny Piper
accounts@traveldaily.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Travel Daily operates by paid subscription to people within the travel industry - sign up at www.traveldaily.com.au.

CRUISE
WEEKLY
travelBulletin
business events news
Pharmacy
Daily

Travel Daily is a publication of TDaily Pty Ltd ABN 34 108 508 765. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of *Travel Daily* no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

AVAILABLE
IN MARCH



**ALBATROSS
Tours**
Come share our love of Europe

Order our
NEW 2018
European
Christmas
brochure
NOW!

Pre-registrations
are now at an
all time high

EXCITING NEW TOURS FOR 2018

An Alpine Christmas Adventure
17 Days - Milan to Munich



Spain, Portugal & The 3 Kings
18 Days - Madrid to Madrid



Are you offering your clients Australia's leading Festive program of Europe?
Contact our friendly reservation staff to find out more



Working in partnership with the Australian Travel Industry

Travel Consultant, 3-4 Days a week

North West Sydney, Great Lifestyle + Comms, Ref: 2010AJ1

A rare opportunity has just opened up in the North Western suburbs for an experienced consultant to join a great team that specialise in looking after their team members. A healthy Work-Life balance is paramount and you can therefore look forward to enjoying 3 days off a week in addition to a friendly work environment. The store is in an ideal location with plenty of foot traffic leading to the potential to exceed targets and reap the associated benefits of doing so. Get in quick!

For more information please call Antony on (02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Assistant Manager | Leisure Travel

Perth, Competitive, Ref: 3250SJ3

A fantastic opportunity to work within a leading travel company as their Assistant Manager. This team of experienced consultants are looking for a motivated & proactive leader. You will ideally have excellent experience in people and sales management as well as a passion for travel & cruise. This is a varied role involving strategy and change management. It is a great chance to focus purely on management in the travel industry. A great salary, plus bonuses, modern offices & a central location.

For more information please call Sarah on (08) 6365 4313 or click [APPLY](#) now.

VIP Consultant

Melbourne, circa \$60k-\$65k + Super, Ref: 3271HC1

A VIP Corporate Travel Consultant is required working to work for an extremely reputable & well established TMC in Melbourne. This VIP consultant will be working with the loyal clients that that company have had for many years. You will be managing all their worldwide travel bookings & building a good rapport with all clients. People enjoy working for this agency because of the friendly yet professional environment & when combined with highly competitive package - it is a fantastic career move.

For more information please call Hannah on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Senior Cruise & Travel Consultant

Brisbane, Up to \$50k base + super + Comms, Ref: 2514SZ1

My client is a fast paced award-winning online agency currently seeking a talented travel or cruise consultant selling cruise & worldwide land / air packages. You must be hungry to want to earn top dollars by doing what you love and be rewarded with famils & top commission. This role would suit someone that wants a supportive team environment, work / life balance, a relaxed & fun atmosphere, breakout area, own lockers & shower facility with full kitchenette & magnificent views at your desk.

For more information please call Serena on (07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Adventurous Travel Consultant

Central Coast, Circa \$50k OTE + Super, Ref: 3306SO1

Are you looking for a Monday to Friday travel consulting role in the Central Coast to regain a better work life balance? This company truly looks after its staff working from beautiful coastal offices where consultants are truly looked after. You will be booking travel that is a little different and you will want to provide clients the most amazing experiences. Make your life more fun by doing a job that you love and move away from the face to face selling. Change your life TODAY!

For more information please call Sasha on (02) 9119 8744 or click [APPLY](#) now.

South America Specialist

Melbourne, \$65k Package, Ref: 3109MC1

Seeking a South America travel expert to join a growing team of like-minded individuals! Come and sell all the magnificent things that this amazing destination has to offer from the adventure style trips to the high end luxury. My Client needs a savvy and experienced travel consultant who has personally travelled to South America who is keen to grow with them and get stuck into this varied role, serving clients to the highest level on a telephone, email and face to face basis.

For more information please call Meg on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Tramada Expert | Homeworking

Nationwide, \$55k-\$70k + Super, Ref: 1244CGA1

My client is seeking someone who has experience working in the travel industry and has a strong background in finance/accounting. It is mandatory to be expert in Tramada. Within your role you will be managing the day to day finances, forecasting and budgeting, liaising and managing relationships with external firms and more. Minimum 1 years' experience is required. This is a very rare homeworking opportunity, if you consider yourself a Tramada expert and proven success this is the role for you!

For more information please call Courtney on (03) 9988 0616 or click [APPLY](#) now.

Luxury Travel Product Assistant

Brisbane, \$40-45k Package + Travel Perks, Ref: 2060AW1

Are you working in the luxury travel market? Enjoy working with luxury product? Pride yourself in exceptional attention to detail? Joining this new and exciting company; you will have a wealth of administration skills and high attention to detail. And in return you can enjoy a 5 day week and the opportunity to be a part of a new and exciting team! Working closely with the Head of Destinations, you will provide research, planning and administration support. Product experts – apply now!

For more information please call Amanda on (07) 3123 6107 or click [APPLY](#) now.



Find your ideal travel job at www.TravelTradeJobs.com.au
online... on mobile... in branch