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CVFR SQ incentive

AGENTS ticketing Singapore Airlines flights through CVFR Consolidation Services between 08-28 Jan will be in with a chance to win \$10,000 in gift vouchers.

The top two sellers will win \$3K and \$2K vouchers respectively - see **page seven** for all the details.

Booking Boss acquisition

BOOKING Boss, an Australian headquartered provider of online booking, ticketing and POS (Point of Sale) solutions for the tour, activity and attractions industry in Asia Pacific has been purchased by Helix Leisure.

The acquisition by the out-of-home entertainment (OOHE) industry product and service provider was completed in Jul last year but only formally confirmed late last week.

Based in Sydney, Booking Boss offers "sophisticated & powerful cloud-based ticketing, reservation and point of sales solutions to businesses looking to modernise their business practices, retain

customers through memberships and season passes and provide 24/7 booking capabilities to global consumers," Helix Leisure said in a statement.

Since the sale, Booking Boss has been fully integrated into Helix Leisure, with international growth plans already underway.

The integration with Helix Leisure will provide Booking Boss with access to new markets and infrastructure "to rapidly scale their products around the world".

Booking Boss ceo Renee Welsh said the partnership with Helix would enable the group to expand into new industries and "drive the future of the OOHE industry".

Helix Leisure has offices in the US, UAE, Singapore & Indonesia.

Booking Boss founders Renee and Andy Welsh would remain on the board and continue to run the business to "ensure continuity for customers, partners and employees", Helix Leisure said.

New SYD ceo starts

SYDNEY Airport's recently appointed ceo Geoff Culbert has commenced in the role today and will be supported by outgoing ceo and md Kerrie Mather until the end of the month.

Culbert joins SYD after a long career with GE (**TD** 26 Sep).

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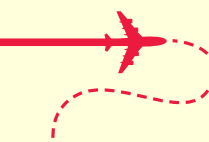
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BUSINESS REWARDS

CX Dragon to NNG

CATHAY Pacific Airways' sister-carrier Cathay Dragon last week commenced services between Hong Kong and Nanning (NNG) in China's Guangxi province.

The route operates on a four weekly basis using Airbus A320s.



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Tourism Aus leads social

THE Coalition Govt has heaped praise on Tourism Australia for its global dominance in luring potential travellers to our shores via social media platforms.

Currently, Tourism Australia is the envy of other tourism bodies around the globe due to its social media presence, which includes a whopping 7.9 million Facebook followers, 2.8 million on Instagram and 471,000 on Twitter.

Last year alone, TA's number of Facebook fans jumped by more than 900,000, soaring ahead of the likes of the USA (6.4m), Great Britain (3.3m) and New Zealand (2.8m), Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Steven Ciobo revealed yesterday.

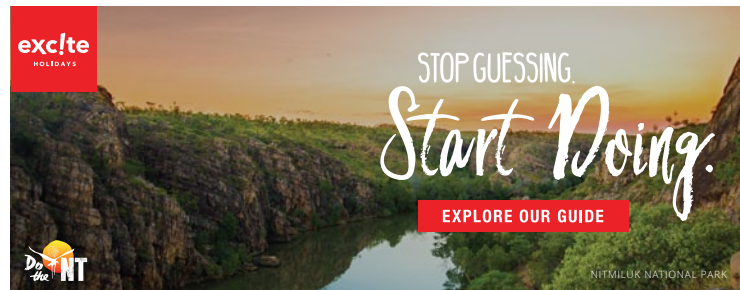
Ciobo heralded some of Tourism Australia's most engaging content including a koala climbing on a keeper at Symbio Wildlife Park in NSW which had 4.8 million views and an image of Lake Hillier in WA

Ardent ceo abroad?

ANALYSTS have predicted Ardent Leisure could appoint a US-based chief executive to run the Australian company, *The Australian* reports.

The move to appoint a US ceo has been described as logical, given most of Ardent's market value is ascribed to its American operations, which include 200 Main Event venues.

Dreamworld is Ardent's top tourism asset in Australia.



which has had an audience reach of nearly 1 million.

Ciobo said the data would likely be compounded by TA's latest youth campaign 'Aussie News Today' (TD 06 Oct) which aims to tempt more young people to Australia by capturing humorous and interesting content, shared across all digital channels.

"The youth market is critical to Australia's tourism, representing a quarter of arrivals and almost half of all int'l visitor spend.

"Young travellers and working holidaymakers travel further, spend more per trip and stay longer than other travellers," Minister Ciobo remarked.

The CLIAs sells out

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia has revealed that the 17th Cruise Industry Awards dinner has sold out in the wake of a record number of award nominations.

For the first time half of the nominations were from NZ.

Held on 24 Feb at The Star Sydney, the awards will be hosted by TV presenter Natalie Barr.

TICT conference

TOURISM Industry Council Tasmania (TICT) will hold the Tasmania Tourism Conference 2018 in Launceston on 09-10 May, themed 'Better Together'. Registrations open on 14 Feb.

CBR canx concerns

CANBERRA Airport managing director Stephen Byron has slammed the pattern of cancellations to the capital as "unacceptably high".

Byron told the *Canberra Times* "we are concerned that the pattern of cancellation rates on the Canberra to Sydney route seems to now be showing up as customers choosing to use other modes of transport".

In Nov, cancellations on the Sydney-Canberra route hit 5.1%, according to figures from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

Meanwhile Byron flagged interest in having a low-cost airline such as Jetstar flying between Sydney and Canberra.

"It's the largest route that doesn't have a low-cost carrier on it in the Australian market," he said.

Klick for TTNQ

TRAVEL and tourism agency Klick Communications has been appointed to manage Tourism Tropical North Queensland's (TTNQ) consumer marketing, public relations and visitor communication activity in the Australian market.

The agency will begin working with TTNQ and Tropical North Queensland tourism operators this month, aiming to increase awareness of the destination among Australian travellers.

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Viking will be the world's largest small ship cruise company by 2019, and with Viking Sun arriving in ANZ waters for the very first time at the end of this month, there has never been a more exciting time to join the team.

Please send a short cover letter and resume to: jobsau@vikingcruises.com
Applications close Monday 22 January 2018.

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Cairns GTH merger plan

A **PROPOSED** \$1 billion Global Tourism Hub (GTH) in Cairns (**TD** 22 Dec) could be merged with the planned upgrade of the Cairns Convention Centre.

The Government of Queensland has expressed a preference for the future development hub to be located in the Cairns City Port precinct, a location close by to the convention centre.

"A Cairns Global Tourism Hub could integrate with the state's expansion of the Cairns Convention Centre," Cairns MP, Michael Healy indicated to the *Cairns Post*.

A second casino has been

slated as part of the new tourism proposal, with the Govt hopeful the blueprint will encourage greater employment in the region, increased traffic for local restaurants and businesses and improved marine infrastructure.

Local residents are currently being consulted in order to canvass their opinions on what specific attractions should form part of the development.

Fitness tourism soars in Queensland

A **RECENT** report released by Tourism and Events Queensland suggests the state has made significant gains in the fitness tourism space.

Last year saw endurance events bring in 60,000 visitors to Qld and generate more than \$100m for the state's economy.

The survey also found 69% of fitness visitors subsequently took a post-event holiday in the state, with 80% of respondents rating the holiday very highly.

For more info on future fitness events held in Qld, **CLICK HERE**.

St Regis Hong Kong

MARRIOTT International has announced plans to open the St. Regis Hong Kong in early 2019.

The proposed 129-room property will feature French restaurants, a 320-seat banquet hall, heated swimming pool and views across Victoria Harbor and Kowloon Bay.

There are currently 40 St Regis branded hotels internationally.



Eat your way through Bangkok in the December issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



Excite NT incentive

EXCITE Holidays has launched its first campaign and incentive for 2018 in conjunction with Tourism NT.

Until 28 Jan, the drive will showcase to agents the best of the Australian Outback.

Agents will receive 500 bonus rewards points for every night booked & paid for in the Northern Territory during the period.

A destination guide featuring eight itineraries will tie in with the campaign - **CLICK** for more.



Window Seat

NORWAY'S Ministry of Foreign Affairs has playfully responded to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's claim that Aussie tourists should be careful of polar bear attacks when visiting the Scandinavian country (**TD** 12 Jan).

"We can assure you that in mainland Norway all polar bears are stuffed and pose only limited risk," the Norwegian Foreign Ministry tweeted over the weekend.

Statistically, Aussie tourists should be more afraid of Norway's notorious boiled mutton and cabbage dishes.



ibis Dubai Jumeirah

ACCORHOTELS has signed a management agreement for ibis Dubai Jumeirah Village Circle.

The 252-room hotel will span over 16 levels and is expected to open in 2021.

It marks the third collaboration in Dubai for AccorHotels and developer Nakheel.

The property is 20 minutes from Downtown Dubai.

Six Senses in the city

SINGAPORE has been named as the first city location for Six Senses to develop its hotel brand.

The boutique hotelier will open the 49-room Six Senses Duxton in Apr and the nearby 138-room Six Senses Maxwell in Jul - both located in historic Chinatown.

Hainan SZX/BRU

HAINAN Airlines will launch a non-stop service between Shenzhen & Brussels on 20 Mar.

The route will operate two times a week using B787s.

It will be the airline's third direct flight from China to Brussels, joining ops from PEK and PVG.



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For more information about the role, please click [here](#).

Lucky escape for Pegasus



PASSENGERS on a Pegasus Airlines plane are thanking their lucky stars after their aircraft pulled up just metres from the icy cold Black Sea in Turkey.

Upon landing, the plane skidded off the runway and came to a stop in a thick layer of mud (pictured) on the edge of a cliff.

The incident happened on Sat

at Trabzon Airport in the north eastern part of the country.

Some 162 passengers and six crew members were on board the Boeing 737-800, which had departed the Turkish capital Ankara on the one hour flight.

Pegasus said in a statement that none of the passengers or crew were injured in the incident.

AS single FAA cert

MARKING a further step in the integration of Alaska Airlines and Virgin America, AS has received a single operating certificate from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The news will not affect pax travelling on either airline in the short-term future.

From Apr however, Alaska Airlines will migrate all guests of Virgin America across to its own app and website services.

Grand Wailea sold

HAWAII'S 5-star Grand Wailea resort in Maui is reportedly changing ownership to the Blackstone Group for US\$1.1b.

The purchase is the most expensive single hotel transaction ever in Hawaii and the second highest in the United States.

With 776 rooms in the Grand Wailea, the price means that the Blackstone Group paid US\$1.4m per hotel room.

Hawaii false alarm

LOCALS and tourists in Hawaii were faced with an ominous warning for 38 minutes over the weekend when the island state was alerted to an impending ballistic missile threat.

Thankfully the alert turned out to be a false alarm caused by a government employee hitting the wrong button on a shift change.

The emergency notification was received via smart devices and through local TV stations, leading to a statewide panic and many cars abandoned on roadways.

HK numbers jump

THE number of Aussie travellers heading to Hong Kong increased 8.9% to nearly 51,000 arrivals in Nov compared to the corresponding month in 2016.

According to the Hong Kong Tourism Board's visitor arrival data, close to 524,000 Australians entered the city from Jan to Nov, down 2.1% on the year prior.



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* Offer valid until 16 January 2018, unless sold out prior. Fares quoted above are for departures from Perth. Fares quoted above are the lowest adult return prices per person including taxes, fees, and airport charges. Economy Class fares are valid for departures between 16 February - 5 April 2018, 18 April - 7 June 2018, and 27 September - 30 November 2018. Business Class fares are valid for departures between 9 January - 8 June 2018, and 11 September - 2 December 2018. Blackout dates in either direction may apply. All travel must be completed by 10 December 2018. Other sale fares are available from Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Canberra. 'Companion offer in premium' refers to a minimum of two (2) and maximum of nine (9) people travelling together on the same booking. Fares may vary due to currency fluctuations. Seasonal surcharges, weekend surcharges, and blackout periods may apply. For all other terms and conditions please review at time of booking. Canberra flights start 12 February 2018, subject to government approval.

Monday 15th January 2018

Madhya awareness

FIVE Star PR and Incredible Design have been appointed to boost awareness in Australia of India's Madhya Pradesh region.

Located in central India, the area is known for its tiger safaris, temples and adventure activities.



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Russia cycling tour

CAPITALISING on increased interest in Russia due to the 2018 FIFA World Cup, adventure tour operator UTracks has introduced a new guided cycling tour.

The eight-day Russia: Moscow & Beyond itinerary follows a route along the Volga River between the Golden Ring cities of Sergiev Posad, Vladimir and Tver.

The trip involves riding between 35 and 70kms each day.

Six departures are scheduled to operate between May and Aug, priced from \$2,950ppts.

Melb rates rise 2%

AVERAGE accommodation daily rates in Melbourne spiked by 2% year-on-year last month to around \$193 according to preliminary data collected by STR.

Supply rose 2.3% while demand increased 3.2%, as occupancy levels grew 0.8% to 81.8%.

Revenue per available room (RevPAR) was up 3% to \$157.80.

CUZ/PIO non-stop

LATAM Airlines is introducing a new seasonal service between Cusco and Pisco (Peru), operating from 14 Jun until the end of Nov on a twice weekly basis.

The new route complements LATAM's Cusco-Trujillo and Cusco-Iquitos services which are also set to operate from Jul to Nov which enable travellers to bypass Lima when visiting some of Peru's principal tourist landmarks.

BreakFree specials

MANTRA Group's BreakFree Hotels, Resorts & Apartments has launched its annual Gold Coast sale today, offering deals at its six locations in the region.

A seven-night package for a family of four staying in a two-bedroom oceanview apartment is priced from \$665.

The promotion is valid for stays up until 14 Dec (excluding block-out dates) when booked before 21 Jan - see breakfree.com.au.



NTL operational

A BUSHFIRE in the Williamstown/Tomago area forced the closure of Newcastle Airport to all flights on Sat afternoon.

After resuming operations on Sun morning, both Jetstar and Virgin Australia were once again forced to suspend services due to another flare up of the fire, fuelled by strong winds.

NTL said today all flights had resumed this morning, with extra services also scheduled.

Chicago visits soar

A RECORD 55.2 million people visited the US city of Chicago in 2017 according to tourism officials, up 2.5% (1.4 million) compared to the 2016 result.

The figure enabled Chicago to surpass its 55 million visitor annual target two years early.

Last year, Chicago witnessed the opening of five new hotels while another eight are scheduled to welcome guests in 2018.

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Coral & Balmoral 50th anniversary

THIS year's 50th anniversary of the Battle of Coral-Balmoral during the Vietnam War will be marked by a new departure from Mat McLachlan Battlefield Tours.

The eight-day tour will visit the battlefields of Coral and Balmoral to pay homage to those who fought and died at the sites.

It will also visit other significant war sites including Long Tan, Binh Ba and Nui Le, and will be led by author, historian and decorated veteran Gary McKay.

The tour is priced from \$2,797ppts, travelling from Ho Chi Minh City, 09 to 16 Oct.

AF Europe boost

AIR France will resume daily flights from Paris Charles de Gaulle to Bergen from 26 May.

AF's subsidiary HOP! will also launch daily services from CDG to Cork & Wroclaw on the same day.

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Travel Daily

Monday 15th January 2018

Sabre cfo retires

SABRE Corporation cfo Rick Simonson will retire by the end of the year, the firm has confirmed.

He will step down from his current position once a successor has been appointed but will remain a senior advisor.

The company has commenced a search to fill the role.



WIN THE ULTIMATE ATTRACTIONS PASS

This week **Travel Daily** has teamed up with iVenture Card to give away 2 x iVenture Card Attraction Passes to a destination of the winner's choice.

iVenture Card

is the world's fastest growing attraction pass with a range of flexible packages available across 14 cities and counting. The pre-paid attractions passes allow convenient, cash-free entry to the top attractions, tours and experiences saving visitors up to 50% on regular entry and ensuring they see the best of their destination for less.

For your chance to win, let us know which of iVenture Card's passes you would love and which attractions you would most like to visit? Send your entry to iventure@traveldaily.com.au

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

Mustang pony trek

WORLD Expeditions has released a new 17-day Upper Mustang: Hidden Tibetan Kingdom Pony Trek travelling between Nepal and Tibet.

The journey will be escorted by experienced trekker Margie Thomas, depart Kathmandu on 15 Aug 2018 and costs \$5,790 per person.

CLICK HERE for more.

Singapore e-buses

AUTONOMOUS electric buses are set to arrive into Singapore in the beginning of 2019 following a deal between Volvo Buses and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

The research and development program will see two 12m electric buses tested in Singapore.

New Blu for Vienna

RADISSON Blu has opened its second hotel in Vienna, Austria, the 233-room Radisson Blu Park Royal Palace Hotel.

Located next to the Schonbrunn Palace, the property has an all-day restaurant and lobby bar, executive lounge, gym, sauna, ballroom & nine seminar rooms.

Saudi relaxes rules

SAUDI Arabia has eased restrictions on its tourist visa, allowing women aged 25 and over to travel to the country without a chaperone, local media are reporting.

The tourist visa will be a single-entry visa valid for 30 days maximum and is under a wider decision to officially allow tourist visas for both men and women following a trial period.



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.



CIT Holidays - Switzerland 2018

CIT has released its latest Switzerland brochure with experiences including walking, cycling or travelling by train through the Alps, road-trips and mini stays in cities such as Zurich, Geneva or Lucerne. Highlights of the program include the eight-day Top Spots of Switzerland, where passengers will take a train to the medieval town of Gruyeres, visit the Cailler Chocolate factory to sample swiss chocolate and take a scenic bus ride to Lauxaux vineyards for wine tasting.



Travelmarvel - India and Sri Lanka 2019

Searching for Sri Lankan leopards in Yala National Park, cruising the Lower Ganges and viewing the Taj Mahal in Agra are some of the highlights in the India and Sri Lanka 2019 program from Travelmarvel. The company is offering a range of itineraries from India's Golden Triangle and Tiger Safari by rail; Splendours of Sri Lanka; to a Grand Tour of India and Nepal and more. New to 2019 is the 12-day Wonders of the Golden Triangle journey, which includes four rail journeys. Full portage is now included on every tour.



Nomad African Adventures - 2018

Nomad African Adventures has released a comprehensive 96-page brochure featuring 138 overland adventures ranging from two to 58 days in duration, including trips in the new 12-swivel-seat luxury vehicle featuring an onboard loo. Day-by-day descriptions are provided with pricing divided into tour and activity package costings, with detailed dossiers available listing further optional activities to suit all travellers' budgets.

Best of the West

WESTERN Sydney's Featherdale Wildlife Park in Doonside and the nearby Wet'n'Wild Sydney in Prospect have partnered to offer a "Best of the West" pass.

The passes are on sale at both venues and their websites and are valid for 12 months for Featherdale and through until the end of Apr at Wet'n'Wild Sydney.

"The Best of the West pass is a great value-for-money option to keep the family entertained and will be ideal for the school holidays," said Wet'n'Wild Sydney snr brand manager, Selena Magill. For more info, **CLICK HERE**.

Destination Food

THE World Food Travel Association has named Sydney-based food and tourism marketer Holly Galbraith as Australia's first Certified Ambassador.

The invite-only role is for individuals who demonstrate a passion and commitment to food tourism and who commit to the further development of food tourism in their region.

This year Galbraith will launch Australia's first culinary tourism conference, Destination Food, scheduled for 21 May.

The event will be held in Sydney. See destination-food.com.au.

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New Year Takeoff Sale



CVFR Consolidation Services and Singapore Airlines are giving you the opportunity to win the following great prizes simply by selling Singapore Airlines between 8 to 28 January 2018.

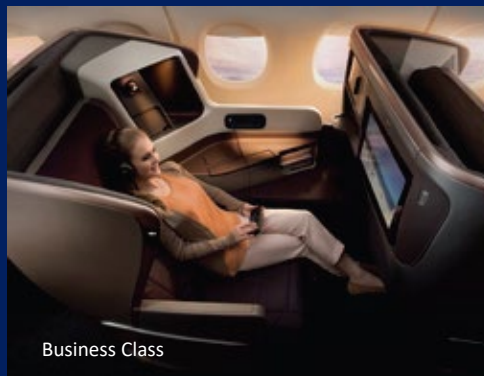
Top Selling Agents

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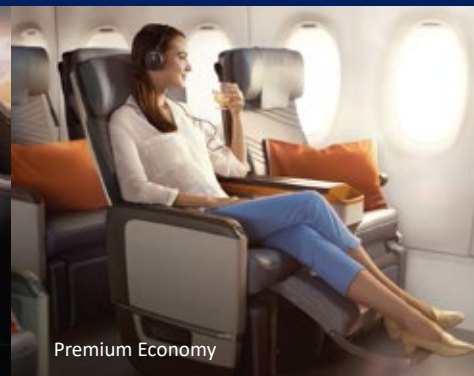
2nd prize: \$2,000 Gift Voucher

5 Most Improved Agents

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Only for Singapore Airlines Flights. Tickets must be issued via CVFR Consolidation Services between 8 January - 28 January 2018. To qualify for the top selling agent awards, over 20% revenue growth is required. To qualify for the most improved agent awards a minimum of \$20,000 in net international sales is required plus 20% year on year growth. Applicable tickets must be issued on 618 ticket stock and must be on 100% SQ flight numbers. Applicable to every adult and child OW/return international ticket ex-Australia booked on SQ. Infant, groups sales, re-issues, cancelled or refunded tickets are not eligible. Agents are responsible for any applicable FBT. CVFR Consolidation Services & Singapore Airlines reserve the right to change or withdraw this promotion at anytime without notice. CVFR Consolidation Services ABN: 80 088 894 482.

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BRISBANE – OTE \$93K PKG + BENEFITS

Are you experienced in developing relationships & have strong negotiation skills? We are looking for an experienced Product Manager to be responsible for the delivery of the product plan along with the negotiation of rates, contract management & ensuring all targets are achieved. Educate agents & build relationships with internal/external stakeholders. Strong analytical, negotiation & time management skills required.

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO STEP UP
GM -CORPORATE TRAVEL DIVISION
SYDNEY - SALARY \$130K DOE plus plus

This role will see you take ownership of your own department, lead this growing division to greater growth in 2018. You will be responsible for managing the P & L so experience in this area is essential. Look after the whole operation from Sales, Account Management to Consultants. If you are looking for a step up and have worked across different areas in a TMC this could be your next step, please call for a confidential chat.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES!
CHIEF ENGINEER

MELBOURNE – STRONG SALARY PKG + BENEFITS
Great opportunity to join this growing brand as Chief Engineer. Overseeing a team you will be responsible for the overall maintenance & appearance of the property ensuring that facilities are operating effectively, making sure policies & procedures are adhered to & planning preventative work whilst monitoring costs. Above avg. package on offer with great benefits & career progression. Experience in a similar position required. Apply today!

HUNTERS WANTED
SENIOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
SYD- BIG BASE \$100K PLUS BIG BONUSES

Join this unique corporate Travel Management Company in Sydney where you will be solely responsible for your region with a lot of potential to win new business. My client is looking for an experienced Business Development Manager who has come from a TMC with a strong track record in sales. Career growth is huge for the right candidate. This company offer a great base salary of \$100k and one of the best commission schemes out there.

DELIVER RESULTS
REGIONAL REVENUE MANAGER
PERTH – EXEC SALARY PKG

We are looking for an experienced area/regional revenue manager to join this expanding hotel group. Lead a team of Revenue Mgrs. /Analysts & work closely with hotels to design & implement revenue management processes & strategies across all hotels in your region to achieve company goals. Work closely with all key stakeholders to plan & deliver results. Exec. salary + bonus + benefits. Exp. in a similar role a must along with great leadership & analytical skills.

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

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