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80x International Economy return flights



40x Apple AirPods



40x Lounge Memberships



40xBose QuietComfort
35 II Wireless
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Find Out More





Travel Daily First with the news

Friday 7th June 2019





ETG appoints new Air GM

CLUSIVE

EXPRESS Travel Group (ETG) this morning confirmed the appointment of Vlado Ristevski to the newly created position of General Manager Air Sales and Operations.

The veteran has spent almost three decades at ETG's rival, Helloworld subsidiary Air Tickets, with extensive experience in the flights and ticketing sector since joining the business in 1990.

"We are excited to have Vlado join the ETG senior management

747 farewell tour?

QANTAS has scheduled several Boeing 747-400 domestic sectors out of Sydney later this year, with GDS indicating the jumbos will operate SYD-ADL on 23 Nov, SYD-BNE on 09 Nov and SYD-MEL on 31 Dec and 15 Feb.

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today has seven pages of news and photos, a front cover page for Virgin Australia, plus a full page from: Travel Trade Recruitment

team," said Express Chief Executive Officer Tom Manwaring.

"His extensive experience over 29 years at Air Tickets, not just in revenue flows and processes, but also considerable industry knowledge, will greatly assist us to continue our journey of growth as Australia's largest fully integrated independent travel group," Manwaring said.

In his new role, Ristevski will report to ETG Executive GM, Ari Magoutis, with responsibility for maximising air revenue and profitability from the group's agency customer base.

He will also oversee operations processes and innovation nationally, Manwaring said.

VA's big bonuses

VIRGIN Australia's Gigantic Giveaway continues until 11 Jun, with more than 600 prizes up for grabs including domestic and international flights, Apple AirPods, lounge memberships, Bose headphones and Google Home Minis - for details see the cover page of today's edition of Travel Daily.

<u>evergreen</u>

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Intrepid restructure

ADVENTURE travel specialist Intrepid Group is positioning itself for significant growth over the next five years by merging its EMEA and The Americas business divisions.

Intrepid CEO James Thornton said the restructure was part of the business' "2025 strategy", with the aim of generating revenue of \$1 billion.

The move will see Intrepid's global Chief Growth Officer Michael Edwards take on the role of Managing Director of the merged business groups, while EMEA Regional Director, Aaron Hocking is now the Commercial Director of the new region.

"This new structure will allow us to fuel that growth with purpose through collaboration, knowledge-sharing and innovation," Thornton said.

Thornton added the strategy would secure Intrepid's position as a leader in sustainable and experience-rich travel.

Driveaway acquisition

DRIVEAWAY has confirmed the purchase of rival self-drive holiday specialist, globalCARS. com.au (*TD* breaking news).

Announcing the acquisition, DriveAway MD Chris Hamill said the move would strengthen the brand's position in the Australia and New Zealand markets.

"DriveAway's acquisition provides a niche opportunity to further improve the company's position as the leading self-drive operator in Australia and New Zealand," he said.

"We continue to look for competitive advantages and opportunities and I am delighted with the purchase and the opportunity for our business." globalCARS was founded in 1999, providing car and motorhome hire, European car leasing and accommodation options for independent travellers heading overseas.

DriveAway said globalCARS

had "earnt a solid reputation for quality service and specialist advice for clients choosing a self-drive holiday over the past 20 years".

Crystal Sinclair

VETERAN explorer David Sinclair has been appointed as expedition leader of Crystal Expedition Cruises' upcoming ship, *Crystal Endeavor*, ahead of its scheduled launch in Aug 2020.

Sinclair has more than two decades' experience traversing the globe, visiting all seven continents, with an expertise in the polar regions.

He will guide guests on cruises to the farthest reaches of the planet, and aim to provide them with an understanding of the biodiversity and natural history of destinations.

Crystal Endeavor will accommodate a maximum of 200 passengers.

APT QFFF bonus

QANTAS Frequent Flyer members can earn 150,000 Qantas Points per cabin or land tour booked on a range of 2019 APT departures, with the offer available for bookings up to and including 07 Jul 2019.

The deal applies to all variations of the Magnificent Europe river cruise itinerary, Mekong River voyages 13 days or longer, the 11-day Kimberley Coast Cruise, Small Ship Cruising including the Baltics to Britannia and Mediterranean Odyssey, and the 15-day Kimberley Complete trip.

All cabin categories qualify for the offer on all departures up to 31 Dec 2019.

No TD on Mon

DUE to the Queen's Birthday long weekend in all states and territories excluding Queensland and Western Australia, *Travel Daily* will not be published on Mon, 10 Jun.









Alliance NT expansion

ALLIANCE Airlines has announced an expansion of its Darwin operations, just days after Regional Express (Rex) said it was considering setting up a base in the territory's capital (TD 04 Jun).

Alliance Airlines will grow its fleet in the NT from one aircraft to four, with additional Fokker jet aircraft to come into service between Jul and Dec.

The airline opened a Darwin base in Feb 2018.

Alliance Airlines MD Scott McMillan said "the requests for additional contractual business has grown to the point where we are confident that the Darwin operation can be significantly and viably expanded".

In addition to contract services ex Darwin, Alliance provides flights to Uluru for inbound tour operators Tauck and JTB from Melbourne, Brisbane and the Gold Coast and to Cairns, with an additional JTB service from Perth

to start later this month.

Alliance also operates two flights per week between Brisbane and Alice Springs on behalf of Virgin Australia.

The operator said the scale of ops provided by the mining and tourism work would enable it to commence scheduled services from Darwin in the future.

"There are a few routes that are of interest to Alliance, which will both tie up our national network and provide greater access to air services for the people in northern Australia," he added.

Earlier this week Rex said it was considering a Darwin expansion to seize on what it described as "concerned stakeholders" worried about the future of regional air services in the NT after Air North's parent company, The Bristow Group, filed for Chapter 11 in the US last month.

Bristow Group said Air North was not included in the filings. Want to generate enquiries? Send your clients a customised edition of *Travel* & Cruise Weekly magazine

CLICK HERE FOR INFO

MSC cancellation

MSC Cruises has been forced to cancel another voyage aboard its MSC Opera, following the recent incident where it crashed into Uniworld's River Countess in the Port of Venice (TD 03 Jun).

In an update issued today, MSC said that while the minor repair works to the ship were completed last Mon, the vessel is "currently still awaiting the completion of the investigation conducted by the authorities".

MSC said the procedures were taking a few days longer than originally expected so the ship will not be able to depart in time for its next sailing.

"We have taken the difficult but necessary decision to cancel the upcoming cruise sailing," the company said, with the affected voyage set to depart Bari 08 Jun.

MSC Opera was due to host 2,451 guests from 53 countries, who have been offered a full refund and a 50% discount on a future cruise before 31 Dec 2020.



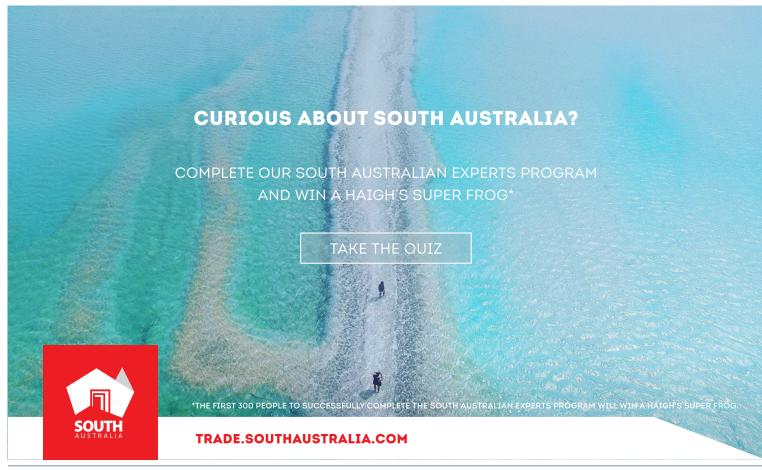
Window

A TOURIST visiting a museum in Canada has solved a 40-yearold problem, cracking a safe locked since the late 1970s.

Stephen Mills stopped by the small Vermilion Heritage Museum in Alberta and after enjoying a tour, a volunteer showed them the objects in the basement, including the safe which had belonged to the now defunct local Brunswick Hotel.

The safe had been locked when the hotel closed, and had since defied repeated attempts by locksmiths to uncover the "time capsule" of its contents.

Mills had a try - and after spinning the combination 20-40-60 the handle released - only to reveal the disappointing contents of a receipt, some old papers and a waitress' notepad.



Travel Daily

Friday 7th June 2019

MSC Cuba update

IN LINE with updated US Govt regulations, MSC Cruises has announced the modifications for all of its itineraries scheduled to visit Cuba.

Initially slated to visit Havana Sat and Sun, MSC Armonia will instead have a longer stay in Cozumel, Mexico, and will visit Key West, Florida on Sun.

On future sailings, MSC Armonia will replace its scheduled call into Havana with an extended Cozumel stay, and a stop in one of either Key West, Florida, Costa Maya, Mexico or George Town, Cayman Islands.

Naumi Queenstown

NAUMI Hotels has announced the expansion of its Australasia portfolio with the acquisition of The Dairy Private Hotel in Queenstown, New Zealand.

The addition will see Naumi's offerings in the region expand to six accommodations across New Zealand, Australia and Singapore.

"Tourism outlook in Queenstown remains very positive with govt investment in tourism infrastructure and destination marketing, fuelled by increasing demand," said Gaurang Jhunjhnuwala, CEO Naumi Australia & New Zealand.

Vegas ripples with excitement



STEVE Hill, CEO of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Bureau, kept his shirt on during an interview with *TD* at IPW in Anaheim yesterday - for some reason he didn't want to show up a couple of his colleagues from Caesars Palace.

Duo Vector (pictured) are performers in Absinthe, an "acro-cabaret variety show," and appeared alongside Hill as he announced details of next year's IPW conference, taking place in the Nevada entertainment hub.

Next year will mark the fifth time that Las Vegas has hosted IPW, with the opening event to take place at the new Caesars Forum Conference Centre which will boast the two largest pillarless ballrooms in the world.

Hill told *TD* that international travellers currently comprise about 20% of annual visitation to Las Vegas, which last year welcomed over 42 million guests.

IPW 2020 will also serve to showcase a huge amount of investment under way in Las Vegas, including the development of the new Las Vegas Stadium, Resorts World Las Vegas and the MSG Sphere at the Venetian, a gigantic interactive venue with capacity for 18,000 people.

Hill noted the importance of Australia to Las Vegas, which is one of the city's top sources of international visitation - despite not having any direct flight services.

"Las Vegas is a great cultural fit for Australia - Aussies have such a fun-loving, adventurous and outgoing attitude," he said.

"We believe a lot of growth can come from Australia," he said, noting that direct airlift would be a key driver of traffic.

Currently Las Vegas welcomes 229 direct international flights each week, from 26 cities in 10 countries - and Hill said typically when negotiating new routes the demand ends up being about 50% higher than forecast once flights start operating.

"There is a large amount of pent-up demand, and we find the direct flights also stimulate significant additional interest in visiting the destination."

Hill noted that Las Vegas was always working to develop new airline partnerships, with the city to attend the World Routes Forum in Adelaide this year, and host the event in 2021.

The development of significant new sporting facilities which will see Las Vegas hosting events like international soccer friendlies and Rugby Sevens tournaments would also appeal to Aussies, he said.

While Las Vegas was in constant discussions with airlines from around the world, in terms of direct links to Australia "we're not ready to announce anything yet".



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Royal plans to double Oz

ROYAL Caribbean Cruises (RCL) is planning to more than double its capacity out of Australia in the next five years, Head of Sales Australia/NZ Peter McCormack told *Travel Daily* this week on board *Spectrum of Seas*.

The company currently carries around 450,000 passengers per year out of Australia, and hopes to increase to one million passengers in five years, McCormack said.

The 2019/20 season will see four ships deployed out of Australia by the company, which will increase to six ships in the 2020/21 season.

The upcoming season will welcome *Voyages of the Seas*, which will go into to dry dock for "re-imagining" prior to her arrival in Sydney later in the year.

Sydney will also welcome Serenade and Ovation as well as Celebrity Solstice.

The opening of the new Brisbane Cruise Terminal in 2020 will see Royal Caribbean Int'l return to the city, with *Radiance* of the Seas to make it her new home (TD 19 Mar).

Additionally, from 2020, Celebrity Cruises will double its capacity in Australasia with the deployment of *Celebrity Eclipse* to Melbourne following a revitalisation, which will add Edge enhancements (*TD* 30 Oct 2018).

Looking forward, Royal Caribbean Cruises VP and MD Australia and New Zealand Susan Bonner told *Travel Daily* that there is a lot on the horizon for the Australian market.

She said she was confident about the growth of the region, with demand for cruising continuing to be on the rise, but emphasised capacity and infrastructure restraints in Sydney limit what "hardware" the company is able to provide.

Bonner stayed tight lipped on whether Australia could expect some new ships, noting "Royal Caribbean will continue to invest in the Australian market with new hardware" and reinforced she would personally like to see *Celebrity Edge* down under (*TD* 03 Sep 2018).

TRAVEL SPECIALS



WELCOME to Travel Specials, *Travel Daily*'s Friday feature. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of, send the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au

Savings of up to 55% are available with **Regent Seven Seas Cruises** under its "Suite Sale". The promo includes over 25 sailings remaining in the year. Phone on 1300 455 200.

UTracks is offering many of its 2020 pilgrim walks through Europe at 2019 prices until the end of Jun, including all self-guided Spanish and Portuguese Camino journeys and Italy's Francigena and St Francis Way. For more information, please visit www.utracks.com.

To celebrate its first birthday, **W Brisbane** is offering an accommodation package available for stays until the end of Aug. Those who book the deal will receive a guaranteed room upgrade to the next category. For more info, call (07) 3556 8888.

Railbookers is having a flash sale, offering travellers up to \$600 on board VIA Rail. The deal saves \$400 when upgrading to an upper/lower berth, \$500 when upgrading to a cabin for two and \$600 when upgrading to Prestige class. For more information, visit www.railbookers.com.au.

Insight Vacations Europe Preview has launched for 2020 Europe and Britain journeys, with guests booking the Country Roads of Switzerland tour before 31 Aug able to book at 2019 prices. Call 1300 727 767 for more.

New Moss Hobart

BEHRAKIS Group is set to open Moss Hobart, a 41-room converted warehouse hotel in the city's Salamanca Place precinct.

Opening in two stages - the first on 10 Jun and the next in Sep guests can choose from four room types, known as Bower, Grove, Grove Balcony & Grove Bath.

"I always knew these old warehouse buildings would lend themselves to a great hotel conversion – it was just a matter of waiting for the right moment, which is now," said Peter Behrakis, Managing Director Behrakis Group.

NCL winemaker

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's "Meet the Winemaker" experience is back for the 2019-20 season, and will feature Gerard Bertrand of Languedoc Roussillon, Juan Munoz of Columbia Crest and Bob Bertheau of Chateau Ste and Michelle and Andrea Robinson.

The seasonal program will be available on select departures of *Norwegian Joy*, as well as her sister ships *Bliss*, *Escape*, *Dawn* and soon-to-debut *Encore*.

Explore on sale

EXPLORE has launched a 12-day flash sale, with travellers able to save 15% off all group and selfguided tours.

Agents can pass on saving for their clients on over 500 trips in more than 120 countries, when booked between 06 and 17 Jun.

Highlights of the on-sale adventures include Costa Rican rainforest adventures and archeological explorations of Baalbek in Lebanon.

Next Story Chair

NEXT Story Group has named Patrick Imbardelli Chairman of its Board, effective immediately. Imbardelli succeeds Luis Miranda, who has retired from the Board after more than six years as Chairman.

Imbardelli brings more than 30 years of experience, to "steer Next Story Group's strategy and execution," with Anand Nadathur, Next Story Group Chief Executive Officer saying "I am confident we will be in a stronger position to forge ahead".

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Today's Technology Update is brought to you by Innstant Travel

Business Success: Striking the balance between Travel Technology Solutions and Customer Support



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We are proud to have developed our own proprietary technology that integrates with all segments of the travel industry including retail, wholesale, group travel agents and affiliates. Innstant is one of the few online travel groups which focuses not only on the price but also on availability, service, and technology and we incorporate business intelligence technology as part of our strategy.

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If you would like to hear more about how Innstant can become your perfect travel and technology partner, contact Katrina South, National Sales Manager, katrina@innstanttravel.com or visit b2b.innstant.travel

Darryl Ismail, CEO, Innstant Travel



CORPORATE UPDATE

Amex online bookings

ALTHOUGH 92% of travel managers say they have already adopted online booking tools, 80% say it is important all channels are integrated into one platform, a global survey of corporate travel buyers shows.

The report Booking Tools and Technologies: One Size Does Not Fit All from the Association of Corporate Travel Executives, says over fourth-fifths of respondents (81%) said they have a mandate in place when it comes to requiring travellers to book through company tools and platforms.

Of these, 5% admitted user adoption is lower than 10%, indicating there is still a need for education in this sector.

This is reinforced by low rates of

internal education on how to use the tools.

Less than half (47%) of respondents communicate regularly with employees about their booking tools, and 8% of travel managers say their organisation has never communicated with employees about booking tools at any point.

Issues arrive in the valuing of the corporate tools to begin with; 39% percent of respondents say the primary reason employees aren't booking through a company's platform is because travellers believe there is a better price to be had elsewhere.

A total of 90% of travel managers say optimising their platforms were "moderately to extremely important".

Delta's new amenity kits



DELTA'S latest updates to its amenities kits include a luxury addition to its fragrance offerings, as well as an initiative to reduce cabin waste.

High-end perfume line Le Labo will debut in new Delta One TUMI amenity kits this month, and will touch down in more than 50 Delta Sky clubs later this year.

"Delta and Le Labo share a passion for connecting people and places through personalised experiences," said Director

Onboard Product and Customer Experience Ekrem Dimbiloglu.

Delta has also updated its commitment to sustainability by removing plastic bags from its TUMI kits.

In addition to updated Delta One kits, the airline will also introduce new amenity kits across Delta Premium Select, Delta Comfort+ and Main Cabin long-haul.

Pictured: The new kit available for Delta One passengers.

CORPORATE CHATTER

with Matthew Goss

Linking brand with service

AS BUSINESSES become increasingly global, more employees are travelling for work than ever before. All means of travel and transport, from company car fleets, rail travel to aviation, have an impact on the environment.

While sustainability awareness is becoming more mainstream, corporate travel is still

disregarded in many organisations' sustainability practices. Furthermore, manv organisations are still dealing with paper-based travel bookings, receipts, invoices and employee expense claims, which is wasteful and inefficient.

First and foremost, organisations should consider if travel is required in the first place. Trips between corporate offices make up a significant portion of business travel. By using technologies such as video conferencing, organisations can motivate employees to opt for virtual meetings rather than in-person ones. Sometimes face-to-face collaboration is necessary, however businesses that get employees to think twice

> before booking travel can potentially save money and reduce

their environmental impact by minimising unnecessary travel.

If travel is unavoidable, employees should consider more sustainable travel options, many of which won't impact on speed or efficiency, and might even be more cost-effective. For example, organisations should actively encourage employees to take public transport where possible,

Promoting sustainable travel choices will boost profitability and efficiency in the long run...



saving on fuel and resulting in lesser emissions. Invoices and receipts present another potential area to save paper and costs. Modern mobile and web-based apps can

automate and accelerate expense management, with enhanced levels of control and visibility into business and travel expenses. These automated solutions can also help business travellers digitally manage and store travel documents and itineraries. They also do away with employees having to track paper receipts or invoices while travelling.

It's important for organisations to realise that promoting sustainable travel choices will boost profitability and efficiency in the long run, and make an important contribution to the wider community.

Matthew Goss is MD ANZ of SAP Concur, which provides travel and expense management services to businesses.

New GBTA ALC VP

UNITED Airlines Senior VP of Worldwide Sales, Jake Cefolia, has been named as the Vice President of the Allied Leadership Council (ALC) for the Global Business Travel Association.

He takes over the role from Dorothy Dowling, Chief Marketing Officer for Best Western Hotels & Resorts, who recently became ALC President.

The ALC represents GBTA's Allied Members, working alongside the Association to address common issues facing the travel industry.

CWT appointment

B2B4E travel management platform CWT has appointed Deanna Seiffert as VP EMEA Demand Marketing.

Seiffert will be charged with the planning, development, and implementation of CWT's EMEA marketing strategy.

She has held various Marketing & Communications leadership positions in the travel industry, including Global Marketing Director, Providers & NDC at Travelport and positions at Aegean Airlines and TUI.



Wendy Wu Five Senses



WENDY Wu Tours is currently hosting 25 travel agents from around Australia on its "Five Senses" famil.

The top-10 sellers from Australia were selected, along with 15 lucky winners, and sent to one of four mystery destinations of Cambodia, China, India and Vietnam.

The agents started their adventure in Singapore for a celebratory dinner before heading to their destinations.

Some of the highlights the agents experienced included a visit to India's Taj Mahal, exploring Cambodia's ancient capital of Angkor, cruising Vietnam's Halong Bay and beholding China's Terracotta Army.

"Our national trade famil trip is in full motion," said Group Chief Executive Officer Joe Karbo.

"The different destinations allow us to showcase a wide range of Wendy Wu products, which ultimately provides great insight into the various cultures

and tour experiences to our agents."

The Five Senses Fam India group is pictured in front of the Red Fort in Agra Delhi.

Hotel du Louvre

HYATT has announced its Hotel du Louvre has reopened following a complete renovation.

The hotel joins Hyatt's "Unbound Collection", a selection of distinct hotels, each with "its own narrative".

Hotel du Louvre sits in Paris' Palais-Royal area and is located nearby the Musee du Louvre, the Comedie-Francaise and the Palais Garnier.

Originally opened in 1885. the hotel's 164 rooms have been redesigned to reflect the property's original style, featuring high ceilings, elegant moldings, marble floors and Parisian furniture.

The lobby and dining area have also been fully redesigned.



This month Travel Daily and Singapore Airlines are teaming up to test agents' knowledge on Singapore Airlines for a chance to win two return Economy Class tickets to Singapore.

Simply enter by answering the weekly questions during the month and have the most creative response to the last question to win. Send your answers to singaporeairlines@traveldaily.com.au

1. How many destinations do Singapore Airlines, SilkAir and Scoot collectively fly to globally?

c) 110 cities a) 75 cities b) Over 130 cities d) 80 cities



AA 25 new routes

AMERICAN Airlines has launched 25 new routes ahead of school and university holidays, including the only services from the United States to Dubrovnik and Bologna.

The planned expansion will occur between 01-15 Jun, with the airline also opening new routes to Halifax in Canada from both New York (LGA) and Philadelphia (PHL).

DFAT Argentina

DFAT has advised Argentina has been declared malaria-free by the World Health Organisation.

The level of advice for the country has not changed, with Australians advised to "exercise normal safety precautions".

Peppers Parehua

PEPPERS Parehua has become the latest business in New Zealand's South Wairarapa district to be awarded Dark Sky Friendly status, marking another step towards making the area a dark sky reserve.

Peppers Parehua General Manager Nathan Maynard has signed the Martinborough Dark Sky Society's charter, requiring signees to ensure its lighting meets the rules of the International Dark Sky Association for managing nighttime light pollution.

A range of local businesses are joining the scheme, a key requirement of the International Dark Sky Association before it can approve the region's "dark sky reserve status".

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Leisure Corporate Travel Consultant

Brisbane, \$55k + Bonuses + Super, Ref: 2345MT1

Are you an experienced consultant or leader who would love to work in a corporate environment with corporate customers delivering leisure solutions? We're looking for dedicated and high-achieving consultants to deliver outstanding customer service to our key accounts and building the brand with our internal and external clients. In this role you will have minimum 3 years' experience. Potential to make a name for yourself \$\$\$\$\$\$!! If this role sounds like it's for you!! APPLY NOW!!

For more information please call Mark on (07) 3123 6107 or click APPLY now.

Travel Sales Consultant

Perth, Competitive Salary, Ref: 4071SJ1

A new position has opened in Perth for an experienced travel consultant looking to focus on high end bookings. This busy working environment with a friendly team are offering a highly competitive salary package and uncapped earnings. A loyal clientele following providing repeat bookings and supportive management makes this a sought after position. I am looking for current travel industry experience and a positive attitude. We are commencing interviews immediately so don't miss out!

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



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