

Sharing the Stories of Australia

Mini Features This will be the last edition of Mini Features for awhile as we re-focus to bring you product news following each episode of the upcoming TV One series of 'My Kind of Place' which you can read more about below. In the mean time, head to australia.com for information about Australian destinations, product and events. To book any of the suggested tours, products or events for your clients please contact your local wholesaler.

Australia Showcased on New TV Series – 'My Kind of Place'



A new TV series which showcases the diverse and exciting destinations in Australia is coming soon to TV One. Each of the ten episodes is hosted by a popular kiwi celebrity as they uncover what Australia has to offer. See sporting heroes, actors, and media stars discover what makes Australia so special for them. From houseboating on the mighty Murray River, to eco-indulgence in Tropical North Queensland and swimming with whale sharks at Ningaloo Reef 'My Kind of Place' will reveal some of the hottest product Australia has to offer. The series commences at 7.30pm on Saturday 16th July on TV One.



Sydney from the Sky

Melbourne based 'Heli Experiences' have expanded their operation to Sydney. Their exciting new scenic helicopter flights include 'Sydney Harbour Highlights' - a 25 minute scenic flight over Sydney Harbour, Bondi Beach and Manly; 'Super Saturdays', which offers the flight for up to three shared passengers on Saturdays; and a 'Harbour private flight for two'. Heli Experiences also have a range of day and overnight packages in Sydney and regional New South Wales encapsulating some of the most impressive sights and accommodation in Australia. Guests are picked up from Sydney airport and whisked away to destinations such as the Blue Mountains and The Hunter Valley. heliexperiences.com.au

Humpback Whale Season Begins at Eco Beach

Humpback whale season has begun in the North West of Western Australia. A fantastic base from which to experience these majestic creatures is Eco Beach in the Kimberly which offers whale watching tours and a range of accommodation options including 'glamping' (glamorous camping) as well as their new Beach Houses. The two self-contained beach houses each sleep 6 people making them ideal for families or small groups. The houses are located on a cliff top overlooking the Indian Ocean and Kimberly bush land and are linked by timber decks with a shared open-air living space.



There are a great number of activities for the mind, body and soul at Eco Beach including daily yoga classes, massage, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, whale or turtle watching tours and more. Eco Beach is just a 90 minute drive from Broome. ecobeach.com.au



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Lake Eyre in Flood

Lake Eyre, the usually dry and inhospitable salt flat, is filling with water making it one of Australia's most impressive destinations over the coming months. The lake is filling for the third year in a row and is expected to reach its highest levels since 1989.

It is a rare, yet rewarding sight to see Lake Eyre in flood as the usually barren outback floods with water and wildlife descends on the area. The best way to see this natural phenomenon is from the air. Air Adventure Australia offer luxury all-inclusive two or three day tours to Lake Eyre departing from Melbourne. Guests are afforded spectacular views as they fly over the floodwaters that flow into Lake Eyre then experience the lake from the ground in South Australia where they can swim in its amazingly buoyant water. After an overnight stay at the luxurious Prairie Hotel guests are then treated to a tour of the Flinders Ranges and a scenic flight over the spectacular Wilpena Pound. Air Adventure Australia has recently released new departure dates following a series of sell out Lake Eyre tours. airadventure.com.au



Calendar Down Under

Events There are many exciting events and festivals coming up in Australia that you could incorporate into your clients' holiday plans. For a more extensive list of upcoming events go to australia.com/events

Love Never Dies

The highly anticipated sequel to Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical masterpiece 'The Phantom of the Opera' has commenced its limited season in Melbourne. The scene is set in New York in 1907 as the Phantom makes a final bid to win back Christine's love. loveneverdies.com.au

Playing Now

Barossa Gourmet Weekend

A weekend of indulgence in one of the world's most famous wine regions. Each of the cellar doors taking part in this event will be serving up gourmet experiences matched with premium wines and the smooth sounds of live music. barossagourmetweekend.com.au

20-21 Aug 2011

Taste of the Tamar

Held in Launceston, Tasmania the Taste of the Tamar celebrates food and wine produced in the Tamar Valley region, bringing together products from more than 20 wine producers and 10 food producers. tasteofthetamar.com.au

27-28 Aug 2011

Just For Laughs comedy festival

Sydney Opera House will host the inaugural 'Just for Laughs' comedy festival. Over the course of the festival there will be two International Comedy Galas and five solo shows featuring comedians from around the world. John Cleese will be hosting the International Comedy Galas marking the first time he has performed in Australia. sydneyoperahouse.com

1-4 Sep 2011

Perth Fashion Festival

The festival, now in its 13th year, has established itself as one of Australia's most exciting and dynamic fashion events. The festival features more than 50 events, including designer runway shows, free fashion parades, student runway and various red carpet events. perthfashionfestival.com.au

21-27 Sep 2011

Crave Sydney International Food Festival 1-31 Oct 2011

A month long celebration of extraordinary food experiences in unique Sydney locations throughout October. The festival offers something for everyone from large scale food events to intimate dinners cooked by some of the world's leading chefs. cravesydneyfoodfestival.com.au

Melbourne Cup

It's the horse race that stops the nation. Held each year on the first Tuesday in November, the Melbourne Cup is now more than a horse race; it's a fashion-fuelled week of celebrations. melbourncup.com

1 Nov 2011

Inaugural Great Barrier Reef Marathon Festival

The inaugural Great Barrier Reef Marathon Festival, to be held in Port Douglas, is set to provide a unique running experience combining the natural elements of the iconic Four Mile Beach and ancient rainforests. The Festival includes an Ultra 74km Marathon, The Steve Monaghan Open Invitational Half Marathon, 10km and Fundy 5,000m runs. greatbarrierreefmarathon.com.au

12 Nov 2011

