

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Wednesday 03 June 2015

Issue 3086

SALE ON NOW
FLY to LAX
 From **NZD1189** Incl return
 Departures:
 01 Sep 15 - 30 Mar 16*
 Sale ends:
 08 Jun 15
 *some blackouts apply
[CLICK HERE](#)
AirTahitiNui

Select your seat for free with domestic Starter Plus fares
 Book a Jetstar Plus bundle for \$19 on all domestic flights. Standard seat selection.



LH's New GDS Fee Raises Questions

Lufthansa will introduce a new EUR16 fee for bookings made via GDS in a number of markets, including the EU, from 25 Sep.

While the so-called Distribution Cost Charge is not being rolled out here (at this stage), sources from across the industry are questioning the implications of the move—said to get agents to use LH's new on-line booking tool. TAAZ chief executive Andrew Olsen has called the action 'disappointing'. "LH justifies this new EUR16 fee as a direct consequence of the airline's increased GDS distribution costs," says Olsen. "The LH Group of airlines will offer an alternate booking channel in the form of a B2B web-based service similar to 'direct connect' models. This channel reportedly will not incur a GDS levy but has implications for agency workflow and added indirect costs."

European agent body the ECTAA is now 'considering all possible legal ramifications of the LH announcement,' says Olsen. "The additional cost is going to impede fare transparency and the neutrality of the agents' distribution. Ultimately it will also increase the total fare paid by the traveller."

... Who Owns The PNR?

Industry sources are eying the LH move with caution. In summary, some are concerned who will have ownership of the PNR; that the on-line system won't interface with the mid and back office; and that agents won't be able to bill the tickets through BSP or ARC, or handled schedule changes themselves. "In addition a lot of travel agents, and business travel agents in particular, use third party programmes and scripts as well as back office and reporting solutions that work uniquely with the GDS," says one.

... Amadeus Speaks Out

Amadeus says 'ultimately the industry overall stands to lose' from LH's new distribution model. In a statement svp distribution Holger Taubmann says the LH charge will penalise travellers based on the shopping channel they use.

"Travellers will either pay more for the same service or, in the case that travel agencies are forced to accept this new commercial strategy by modifying the way they access content just for LH, there will be extra IT costs that may ultimately be passed on to the traveller, putting the travel agent, and/or the end consumer, at a disadvantage." Taubmann says, the new LH model will make the comparison and transparency that travellers seek more difficult as they will be forced to search multiple channels for the best fares.

Wicked Complaints

Wicked Campers has again come under fire for its offensive slogans, says NZME. The Advertising Standards Authority has reportedly upheld three complaints against the company and again criticised its failure to offer any response to these and numerous previous complaints. Among the complaints was the statement: "I've often wanted to drown my troubles, but I can't get my wife to go swimming."

In-flight Confrontation

A Sydney mother has launched a formal complaint with Jetstar, alleging another passenger struck her 12-month-old child with a reclining seat, on purpose, say reports. The lady claims the other passenger used her chair to 'lash out' after becoming irritated with her young daughter. The incident reportedly resulted in the two passengers being separated for the rest of the flight.

MH 'Here For Long-haul'

Malaysia Airlines Berhad (MAB) the company managing the 'new' Malaysia Airlines from 01 Sep, has today reiterated its 'strong commitment to servicing New Zealand and Australia' as well as its commitment to rebuild the carrier.

MAB is fully owned by Khazanah (the sovereign fund of Malaysia) and says it will be 'business as usual', adding that the airline is 'here for the long-haul'.

"Customers and agents should have full confidence that all reservations and tickets are being honoured by the existing MH and the new MH after 01 Sep, the carrier says in a statement released today.

Acknowledging that the carrier is currently loss-making, new MH ceo Christoph Mueller says he will transform MH over the coming years 'with a lower cost base and a clearer focus on improving efficiency and our guest experience'.

9 Pages This Issue

News.....p1-7
 Outback Queensland.....p8-9

AKL → SEA or PDX
 From **\$1435*** pp
 *Sales to 14 Jun. For full details see your GDS.

HAWAIIAN AIRLINES

US Airport Threat

US airports are at capacity and in desperate need of improvements—which is why an increase in the passenger facilitation charge is necessary, says US Travel Association boss Roger Dow.

Air traffic is growing at a rapid rate but airports aren't keeping up, said Dow at IPW on Tue. While seven of the busiest 25 airports in the world are in the US, no US airports made the top 25 for service and efficiency, he said.

In 2014 one in four flights was delayed or cancelled, and travellers are avoiding the US because of air travel challenges, he said.

The USTA is asking congress to authorise an option for airports to 'slightly adjust' the PFC from USD4.50 per passenger to USD8.50—but only if the money can be shown to go towards an improved airport experience, such as increased capacity, enhanced competition and stronger security.

Open Skies Row Continues In The US

US Travel Association boss Roger Dow has strongly condemned the actions of the 'big three' US carriers in the ongoing Open Skies debate, saying their 'protectionist and anti-competitive' behaviour could cause irrevocable harm to the US travel industry.

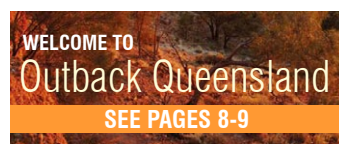
Speaking at IPW in Orlando on Tue, Dow said American, Delta and United's petition to freeze new and stop future services from UAE and Qatar threatens other Open Skies agree-

ments as well as future government negotiations such as around expanding preclearance.

"Greatly restricting travel to the US from these carriers will do great harm," he said.

Open Skies makes it easier and cheaper for travellers to visit the US, with studies showing airfares are around 32% cheaper to Open Skies destinations, and any move to break up Open Skies flies in the face of competition and choice, said Dow.

He added that with President Obama's goal to increase travel to 100 million visitors by 2021—which the US looks set to reach even earlier—there is 'more than enough to go around' for carriers operating to the US.



Brisbane Airtrain Deals

Airtrain, the premier rail link connecting Brisbane Airport to the city and its suburbs, as well as the Gold Coast, is offering a number of early bird savings. Customers can save up to 15% if they book online seven or more days before travel; 10% two to six days before travel; and 5% on the day or day before travel. Starting from AUD14.45 one-way between the airport and Brisbane city, the discounts apply to single and return e-tickets, Gold Coast Train & Transfer and Smart Pass. It is also rolling out a Passbook discount voucher program offering travellers who book online savings of up to 20% on a range of attractions. See airtrain.com.au

Free City Stay

Adventure World reminds agents that clients still have a week to receive a free city stay. Clients booking any journey to Africa, Canada, India or South America by 15 Jun will receive the offer. City stay packages include one-night in a four-star hotel, airport transfer and a sightseeing tour. See adventureworld.co.nz/freecitystays

TFE On Show

TFE Hotels is set to showcase its MICE offering at the MEETINGS expo 10-11 Jun. The company's winter package includes conference room hire, tea and coffee upon arrival, morning and afternoon tea, buffet lunch, complimentary WiFi and the option of an additional complimentary service, from \$68 per delegate. The banquet package offers catering from 60-450 guests, including venue hire, F&B, WiFi and \$1000 to be spent towards event set-up or AV needs, from \$120 per delegate.

EK Aussie Fares

Emirates has new one-way saver fares ex New Zealand to Australia. Ex Auckland to Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane is from \$189 economy; and from \$649 in business; and ex Christchurch to Sydney from \$189 economy and from \$649 business. First class fares are also available from \$899. Economy class is on sale to 06 Jun and business/first class until 22 Jun, for select travel dates. See your GDS for details.

QF Aussie Fares

Qantas has tactical one-way, inclusive, Australia fares from \$189 Economy, \$649 business and \$899 first class on sale to Sat 06 Jun, differing travel dates apply, see qantas.co.nz/agents

New To oneworld?

The oneworld airline alliance looks set to add another member, after British Airways parent company IAG has given the nod to take over Irish national carrier Aer Lingus.

MIA-LIS Sale

World Aviation advises of TAP Portugal's sale fare ex Miami to Lisbon, from \$1282, for travel 26 Aug-12 Dec and 09 Jan 2016-16 May 2016. MIA to LIS, Sun-Wed only and LIS to MIA, Mon-Thu only. On sale now.

Christmas Bookings

Air New Zealand reminds agents that for bookings made on/after 30 May to Samoa, Rarotonga, Tonga and Niue for travel 07 Dec 2015-19 Jan 2016, deposits are required within seven days of confirmation, final ticketing within 30 days of confirmation, but no later than 01 Oct.

OUT THERE STARTS HERE

YOUR GREAT SERVICE AND OUR GREAT RATES

Expedia TAAP, that's why your customers keep coming back.

Earn great commission and get your clients out there.

JOIN TODAY AT
www.expedia.co.nz/taap
Telephone
0800 623 4293
Email
expedia-nz@discovertheworld.co.nz

Expedia TAAP
TRAVEL AGENT AFFILIATE PROGRAM

Spoil your clients

with Aircalin flights to New Caledonia, where French sophistication meets South Pacific relaxation.

- Full service, every flight
- Year round fare from \$749*
- 5 flights per week
- Protected inventory
- Under 3 hours from Auckland
- Exclusive business class
- Agent fares
- Commissionable fares

Aircalin NEW CALEDONIA www.aircalin.com or (09) 977 2238

*Terms and conditions apply. Price subject to change due to currency fluctuation.

US Visa Waiver Updated

The US visa waiver programme would be renamed the secure travel partnership, and the visa process improved, under a travel act that has been re-introduced to US Congress.

The Jobs Originated through Launching Travel (JOLT) Act was passed through senate last year but the 'clock ran out' so a new version has been introduced, said US Travel Association boss Roger Dow at IPW on Tue.

The act would modernise the visa waiver programme, giving it a more politician-friendly name of secure travel partnership and updating its eligibility to allow more countries to use the programme.

JOLT also pushes for the use of secure video conferencing for visa interviews, a reduction in visa wait times to 10 business days or less in 90% of countries, and the expansion of the global entry trusted traveller programme.



New Turrets For Cinderella Castle

The iconic Cinderella Castle at Disney's Magic Kingdom Park is having new turrets added. Updates have been taking place in the Central Plaza area between the end of Main St and Cinderella Castle, including new pathways, gardens and fireworks viewing areas. The new turrets will 'extend the castle's royal look across the new expanded area', says Disney.



Thailand Short Tours

4D/3N TREASURES:
Chiang Mai-Lamphun-Sukhothai-
Ayutthaya-Kanchanaburi- Bangkok
from \$642 pp x2

6D/5N EXPERIENCE:
Bangkok-Ayutthaya-Sukhothai-
Golden Triangle-Chiang Rai-Chiang Mai
from \$897 ppx2

Fathom Asia

e-mail : info@fathomasia.com
Freephone: 0800 240915
www.fathomasia.com



Earn More With Travelport Extras

Travelport says it is providing agents with a simple way to earn new commissions by adding theatre, attraction and sightseeing worldwide to the travel bookings they make with Travelport Smartpoint.

Travelport announced recently that the Ingresso Entertainment Tickets plugin is now accessible to agents, which will allow them to find and sell tickets in just three steps. It is free to download from Travelport Marketplace and also enables agents to use eNett virtual credit cards.

Other key features of the plugin include best ticket prices across a wide selection of international events; agents can set their own pricing and commission levels with immediate payment, no invoicing required; the ability to search by airport code or general terms; immediate e-mail confirmation with no need to wait for third party bookings; and details

of purchased tickets are fully integrated into passenger name records and back-office systems. Travelport says the announcement is part of its strategy to invest in developing new technologies and ideas, all on an open platform that delivers expansive content and improves customer service.

Tahiti On Sale

GO Holidays has released 'Tahiti Treasures' packages in conjunction with Air Tahiti Nui. Flights and four nights at Tahiti Pearl Beach Resort is from \$1479pp s/t; seven-night Moorea packages from \$1989pp s/t staying five nights at Moorea Pearl Resort & Spa or upgrade to a five-night package at Intercontinental Moorea Resort & Spa from \$2139pp s/t; seven-night Bora Bora packages are from \$2779pp s/t staying five nights at Sofitel Bora Bora Marara Beach Resort or upgrade to a five-night package at Bora Bora Pearl Beach Resort and Spa from \$2999pp s/t. Plus, all Moorea and Bora Bora bookings receive a free Tahitian black pearl pendant. Add \$229pp for travel ex WLG or CHC and closeouts apply. GO has details.

Westfield Traveller Card

Westfield Travel Collection shopping centres have introduced a Traveler Privileges Card, offering shopping and dining savings at participating retailers and restaurants in Westfield Travel Collection shopping centres. As well as savings and other perks, visitors also receive gift cards starting at USD25 for every USD50 spent. The centres are found in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Clearwater, Florida and Paramus, New Jersey and at airport shopping destinations at LAX, JFK and Newark.

Visitors can present a voucher and passport or international driver's license at the centre's redemption locations to receive the discount card. Download the voucher at westfieldtravelcollection.com

Los Angeles Limo Tours

Karmel Shuttles will soon be launching a new LA Hollywood Tour by Limo as part of its Extreme Tours collection. The California company says it's constantly getting requests for such a tour, so decided to make it official. There will be a six-hour and eight-hour option available with set itineraries, although these can be customised. More information will be available very soon, adds Karmel.

Help your domestic travellers avoid change fees

Add a Jetstar Plus bundle for \$19

No change fee* for unlimited

- Date changes
- Time changes
- Name changes

* For online changes. Fare difference may apply. For full details go to Jetstar.com

jetstar.com



Self-drive Boating Deal

Self-drive canal boating specialist Eurolynx Travel reminds agents it is holding 2015 prices for all 2016 bookings. In addition the company is offering up to 15% off reservations made by 30 Aug. Discounts apply to cruising routes in France, UK, Ireland, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Germany and Poland. For example, seven nights cruising in the Burgundy region in France is less than \$95pp per night, for two people. E-mail info@eurolynx.co.nz

Alaska Rail All-Inclusive

Alaska Railroad is celebrating 10 years of its premium GoldStar Service by moving to all-inclusive dining for GoldStar guests. With the new package, guests can enjoy any of the first-class meals offered by the Alaska Railroad's onboard menu, featuring a selection of local cuisine from Alaska seafood to reindeer sausage. Beverages, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, are also included with the price of GoldStar rail travel.

ISSN 1176-5275

Travel Today (incorporating Tabs on Travel) is published by Tabs on Travel Ltd, New Zealand. Ph +64-9-415 8111. news@traveltoday.co.nz tony@traveltoday.co.nz

[Click Here to Subscribe](#)

© All contents are copyright, and must not be transmitted or copied without specific approval.

PO Box 305-167, Triton Plaza, Auckland 0757, New Zealand. Bld F, 14-22 Triton Dr, Albany, Auckland 0632, New Zealand.



preVU
trade

Where Travel Agents go for information on:

- *Destinations
- *Hotels
- *Resorts
- *Activities
- *Tours
- *Transport
- *Sightseeing
- *Restaurants
- *Shopping
- *Events
- *and much more

CLICK HERE

and be informed to earn more commission!

New Contiki Latin America Brox

Contiki has launched its 2016-2017 Latin America brochure which focuses on the 'modern millennial adventurer'.

The three golden rules for each Latin America itinerary are as follows – internal flights, great accommodation and plenty of good food, says the tour operator.

There are five different ways for travellers to experience Latin America



with Contiki. There's the Discovery Plus trips of 10-37 days, with nine itineraries to choose from; High Energy trips of six-13 days, with three itineraries; In-Depth Explorer trips of seven-14 days, with eight itineraries; Easy Pace trips of six days, with one itinerary; and Festivals & Short Stays of five days, with one itinerary.

For prices and departure dates visit contiki.com

Samoa Packages

GO Holidays has 'Samoa Sensations' packages flying Air New Zealand, for sales to 08 Jun and travel 01 Aug -31 Mar. Flights and five nights at The Samoan Outrigger is rom \$799pp s/t; flights and five nights at Insel Fehmarn from \$849pp s/t; flights and five nights at Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey's Resort from \$1299pp s/t. Plus, clients can add on Savai'i with three nights from \$349pp s/t ex Samoa. For travel from all Air New Zealand domestic points add \$169pp. Closeouts apply.

Fly Free With Viva

Viva Expeditions has released 'Discover Patagonia with Australis & Fly Free' specials. Included is the three-night Wild Patagonia itinerary with a free round-trip flight Santiago-Punta Arenas; the three-night End of the World itinerary with a free round-trip flight Buenos Aires-Ushuaia; and the seven-night Darwin's Route itinerary with a free round-trip flight Santiago-Punta Arenas. Prices are from \$2275pp. The promotion is valid for 2015 departures, on sale to 30 Jun. T&C's apply. Contact the team at Viva on 0800 131 900.

World's Best Restaurants

At least three Australian restaurants have been named in S. Pellegrino's list of the World's Best restaurants with numbers 51 to 100 announced last week.

The world renowned guide is judged by over 900 experts made up of chefs, restaurateurs and food journalists. Sydney's Quay ranked 58th, while Sepia and Birregurra's Brae debuted on the list at numbers 84 and 87. The top 50 will be announced in London on this week.

Anaheim Deals

GO Holidays has six-night Anaheim packages from \$1789pp s/t, flying Hawaiian Airlines ex Auckland to Los Angeles via Honolulu. For travel from Wellington or Christchurch, add from \$179pp. The dela is for sales to 12 Jun for select travel dates between 14 Oct-11 Nov and 23 Jan 2016-29 Feb 2016.

Roller Coaster Crash

A roller coaster carriage slammed into another this morning at Britain's Alton Towers amusement park, causing serious injury to a number of passengers and leaving others stranded in the air, say reports. The Smiler had reportedly closed earlier in the day because of technical problems, but reopened before the crash.

AIR NEW ZEALAND Tandem Travel

TANDEM TRAVEL CONSULTANT CHRISTCHURCH - 12 MONTH CONTRACT

Want to come and work at one of the most iconic companies in New Zealand?

Air New Zealand Tandem Travel, is the preferred corporate travel management provider for many of New Zealand's leading companies providing a high level of service excellence to all our customers. We have a 12 month fixed-term maternity cover, contract opportunity, for an experienced Long Haul/International Corporate Travel Consultant based at our offices in Christchurch.

This role is involved in providing professional and complete travel services to our valued corporate customers, whilst most importantly building lasting and successful relationships to generate business. From creating bookings to arriving at the airport - we take pride in ensuring that our client's experience is second to none. As a Corporate Travel Consultant, you will be adept at booking travel for businesses encompassing your experience in both long haul and short haul bookings.

Ideally you will have previous travel sales exposure, be able to demonstrate a real passion for delivering excellent service and have proven success in managing client relationships. Your can-do attitude, unwavering professionalism and excellent attention to detail will stand you in good stead for this role. Through developing robust relationships and understanding the specific needs of your portfolio, you will ensure each travel solution you create meets the business needs of our corporate customers.

It's our people who make us what we are, come and join team Tandem!

To start your journey today and join a dynamic team, please apply online. For more information, please contact Hayley Vidak on (09) 336 2456.



For further information and to apply online, please visit careers.airnz.co.nz and enter the job code 110418TT.

tandemtravel.co.nz

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Universal Hollywood's New Harry Potter Ride



Ed At Madame Tussauds

Ed Sheeran is the latest celebrity to join Madame Tussauds' lineup in New York. Sheeran worked closely with the Tussauds team in putting together the waxwork, right down to his tattoos and scars, and it's even wearing his clothes and carrying his guitar. Check out #waxEDsheeran

LA Transport Upgrade

Los Angeles is undergoing a major upgrade to its public transport system, which will soon see visitors able to take a metro from Hollywood to Santa Monica—and eventually into town from the airport.

The new metro line from downtown LA to Santa Monica is currently being tested and could be open in four or five months, Los Angeles Tourism's Ernest Wooden told reporters at IPW. It will mean visitors can take the subway from Hollywood to Santa Monica in around 45 minutes, he said.

Meanwhile an extension to the metro has been approved and is expected to be operating around 2020. The Crenshaw Line will connect the five different metro lines to a subway station at the airport, making it easier for travellers to connect to the city and their hotels through public transport.

Universal Studios Hollywood will open its new Harry Potter attraction in the northern spring of 2016 featuring a higher-tech version of the Orlando park's Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey ride, reporters at IPW were told this week. The opening of the Wizarding World of Harry Potter next year will be the culmination of a massive five-year expansion of the park, which includes the opening this year of the Springfield USA Simpsons-themed area, the first ever night-time studio tour (opening in summer), and the 2015 Fast and Furious Supercharged ride, which opens 25 Jun.

Similar to the Orlando park, visitors to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter will be able to visit locations from the books and movies, such as buying a wand at Ollivanders or tasting butterbeer.

The park will also feature the family coaster, the Flight of the Hippogriff—Universal Hollywood's first outdoor roller coaster. However it's the forbid-



den journey ride which is expected to generate the most hype. As in the ride at Orlando, guests join Harry and his friends on a journey to the quidditch pitch, battling dementors and the whomping willow on the way—but this one will be in 3D-HD.

As Universal puts it, the ride is an 'achievement in pioneering theme

park technology featuring a groundbreaking robotics ride system, fused with elaborate themed action sequences and immersive visceral effects'. When asked whether Universal Orlando's ride would receive an upgrade to match the Hollywood attraction, the Universal reps would only say 'stay tuned'.

Grand Canyon Overnight

Grand Canyon Resort Corporation is set to announce the newest river-rafting excursion from its Hualapai River Runners attraction. Details are pending final approval and will be released late in the northern summer, but the trip is said to offer a new perspective from within the Grand Canyon walls including an overnight experience. The Hualapai River Runners season runs Mar-Oct each year, and offers the only one-day white water excursion in the Grand Canyon. The new experience will be its first overnight option. See grandcanyonwest.com



New For Legoland

Legoland California has officially opened its new Lego Friends Heartlake City attraction, based on the popular toy line and television show Lego Friends. The attraction includes Mia's Riding Camp, a 62-horse and jeep carousel, Heartlake Fountain, and a stable with building activities. There's a Friends Forever Stage with entertainment, and City Park Creperie. Cost is included in park admission. See legoland.com

DO YOU KNOW Calypso?

GO HOLIDAYS!

GOnet Helpdesk Consultant needed!

Due to expansion a new opportunity exists in our wholesale team for someone to help and support our valued agents using GOnet (our on-line "Calypso" reservations tool).

As part of the GO Holidays family the successful applicant will enjoy working in a successful team with a great culture and over 35 years' experience at providing outstanding customer service.

We are looking for someone with:

- Excellent customer service skills
- "Can DO attitude"
- Knowledge of Native Calypso and/or GOnet/Calypsonet
- Self-managed and professional, able to do the job without supervision
- Broad range of product knowledge
- Past selling consultant experience
- Strong analytical skills
- Attention to detail
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Excellent problem solving and decision making skills
- This is a role that is consistently evolving, so the need to be flexible is a definite

If you are motivated, hard working and ready for this exciting challenge, please send us your application including a current CV to: Karen Raines, Operations Manager at kraines@goholidays.co.nz on or before 5pm Monday 08 June

Outrigger's Thai Expansion



Outrigger Resorts has acquired the AKARYN Koh Samui Resort and Spa, which has been rebranded as the Outrigger Koh Samui Beach Resort.

The boutique all-pool suite and villa property is open for business and is located on a 300m sandy cove called Hanuman Bay in northeast Samui, 10 mins from the island's airport. It offers

27 Garden Pool Suites, 18 Garden Pool Villas, four Ocean View Pool Suites, and three Ocean Front Pool Suites.

"The acquisition of this stunning boutique property in Koh Samui complements other recent acquisitions by Outrigger in Phuket, Mauritius, the Maldives and Fiji," said Darren Edmonstone, Outrigger managing director, Asia Pacific. "Outrigger is on a journey to become the premier beachfront resort brand in the world. Koh Samui is a wonderful addition to that absolute beachfront portfolio."

The company also plans to make enhancements to the new property's public areas, arrival experience, villas and landscaping.

Historic Hotels Re-open

Lake Yellowstone Hotel, one of the world's grandest park hotels, has now completed a two-year \$28m renovation. Canyon Lodge will also undergo a massive redevelopment that will see three new lodges open this summer, and ultimately five lodge buildings featuring wood and stone will provide 400 guest rooms replace outdated cabins and new bike and hiking paths will be added. See yellowstonenationalparklodges.com

Hammerheads In Vegas

A pair of Scalloped Hammerheads is the latest addition to the huge Shark Reef Aquarium at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. The pair was recently introduced into the 1.3-million-gallon Shipwreck exhibit. See mandalaybay.com/shark-reef/

Townsville Dining

Five restaurants have opened in City Lane, Townville's new dining precinct. Donna Bionda offers contemporary Italian and seafood dishes; Paleo Café has 100% grain, dairy protein, gluten- and sugar-free meals; Shaw & Co has meatballs, dumplings, burgers and sliders to accompany drinks at its bars; The Courtyard is a retro-styled beer garden fused with a Mexican cantina; and Sakana offers Japanese cuisine.

Ayurveda Retreats

Exotic Holidays has released a range of Ayurveda Wellness Retreats in India and Sri Lanka that can be added pre- or post- its group or FIT programmes. Packages include accommodation in an Ayurveda Beach Resort, main meals and return transfers. Treatments offered include rejuvenation therapy, body purification and weight loss, stress management, beauty care and Ayurveda anti-ageing. Seven-day packages are from \$1466pp.

Mantra Awards

Mantra on Russell Melbourne has won Apartment/Suite Accommodation of the Year at the 2015 Tourism Accommodation Australia Victoria Awards for Excellence as well as an induction to the TripAdvisor Hall of Fame, advises the company.



Agents Say Aloha In Auckland

Auckland agents braved the elements last night to get a sneak peak of the new movie Aloha, starring the picturesque Hawaiian Isles. The event, hosted by Hawaiian Airlines and Hawaii Tourism also saw Flight Centre Product's Cindy Kapea taking home two HA tickets to HNL.

1 Team Aloha: from left HA's Virginia Hales and Claire Metcalf, Megan Hornblow from Hawaii Tourism, the Walshe Group's Rhiannon Williams and HA's Lindsey Morgan.

2 Miss Aloha Lindsey Morgan (from HA) with Flight Centre Product's Cindy Kapea, who won two tickets to HNL flying HA.

3 Mondo duo Jacqui Dickson and Mandy Veale

HRG™ New Zealand

The team at our Auckland office based in Takapuna is growing! We are looking for not just one, but two Intermediate/Senior Corporate Consultants;

Intermediate/Senior Corporate Consultant – Full time

To be successful in this role you will have:

- a minimum of 4 years' relevant experience
- passion for customer service
- energy for the fast pace of corporate travel
- experience with online booking products
- ability work as part of a team and independently as required
- knowledge of Sabre/SAM an advantage

Intermediate/Senior Corporate Consultant – To cover maternity leave

- the success criteria as above will be required
- 12-month role

Both positions will be responsible for a portfolio of our current and new clients. We offer a competitive salary package within a busy, dynamic office located in the heart of Takapuna. Join us!

Please apply directly to Liz Goodall at HRG New Zealand in absolute confidence.

Email your CV to: liz.goodall@nz.hrgworldwide.com Phone: 09 550 6523

Disney's Polynesian Resort Update



Disney's Polynesian Resort in Florida has undergone a 'major re-imagination' including a return to its original 1971 opening day name, Disney's Polynesian Village Resort.

Changes at the resort include a re-designed Great Ceremonial House, new food and beverage experiences and waterside villas. When fully completed, the Polynesian-themed property will include 360 deluxe studio villas and 20 two-bedroom, over-the-water bungalows (now open) as part of the Disney's Polynesian Villas & Bungalows. There are also 484 traditional hotel rooms in a village of two- and three-story longhouses.

Guests are welcomed to the resort with a new entrance marquee, and there's a new Trader Sam's Grog Grotto, based on the Disneyland lounge. Also new is a Pineapple Lanai kiosk, a new location for Capt. Cook's quick-service restaurant, Lilo's Playhouse supervised childcare, a completely renovated feature pool area including new children's water play area.

Disney's Polynesian Village Resort connects to Magic Kingdom and Epcot via monorail, with bus transport to Disney's Hollywood Studios, Disney's Animal Kingdom and other attractions throughout Walt Disney World Resort.

Santa Barbara Concerts

Agents with clients en route to California should keep an eye on the Santa Barbara Bowl which hosts concerts from major names every year. Upcoming performances include Alt-J, Jungle, Diana Krall and Mark Knopfler. See sbbowl.com

Glamping In Montana

A choice of canvas tents—deluxe, suite, safari, tipi and tree house—can be found ten minutes from Glacier National Park in Montana, in a new glamping experience. For more information on the tents, packages and rates, visit glacierundercanvas.com

Wine & History

Santa Barbara History Happy Hour is a new tour that takes participants through a series of different tasting rooms in the region as they learn about the county heritage. See santabarbaramuseum.com for times and dates.

Exploring Architecture

The exploration of architecture and design is on display in a new building within the Palm Springs Art Museum, California.

The Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion was built especially to house the museum's growing architecture and design collections and archives, says the facility. Entry and activities are free on every second Sun of the month, see pmsmuseum.com

Industry Diary

JUNE

Scenic Information Sessions

Hamilton: Mon 15, Hotel Novotel.
Tauranga: Tue 16, Mills Reef Winery. **Auckland East/South:** Wed 17, Waipuna Hotel. **Auckland North:** Thu 18, The Spencer on Byron Hotel. **Nelson:** Mon 29, Rutherford Hotel. **Timaru:** Tue 30, Landing Services Building.

Globus Family of Brands and Rocky Mountaineer 2016 North America Launch

Hamilton: Tue 23, Jukebox Diner, 11 Railside Place, 1745.
Tauranga: Wed 24, Rye- American Kitchen, 19 Wharf Street, 1745.
Napier: Thu 25, Hogs Breath Café, 49 Marine Parade, 1745.

Globus Family of Brands 2016 North America Launch

Auckland Central: Tue 23, MetroLanes, Level 3, 291-297 Queen Street, 1800. **Auckland North:** Wed 24, Xtreme Wairau Park, 10 Target Crescent, 1800.
Auckland East: Thu 25, Xtreme Botany Park, 500a Ti Rakau Drive, North Park, 1800.

JULY

Scenic Information Sessions

Dunedin: Wed 01, Hotel St Clair.
Invercargill: Thu 02, The Kelvin Hotel.

Nepal Fundraiser In conjunction with South African Airways and Adventure World

Auckland: Wed 01, Sky City Convention Centre, 1730-1800
Drinks/Nibbles, 1800-1930 Travel Quiz.

Globus Family of Brands 2016 North America Launch

Nelson: Wed 01, Action Indoor Sports Stadium, 30 McPherson Street, Richmond, 1745.
Pukekohe: Tue 21, Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club - Ten Pin

Bowling Centre, 78 Nelson Street, 1745.

Globus Family of Brands and Rocky Mountaineer- 2016 North America Launch

Lower Hutt: Mon 06, Strikenz, 399 Hutt Road, 1745.
Palmerston North: Tue 07, Bowlarama Ten Pin Bowling Centre, 94 Cuba Street, 1745.
Christchurch: Tue 21, Tequila Mockingbird, 98 Victoria Street, 1745.

Hawaii Tourism MCI Roadshow

Mon 27, Dates and venue tba.

AUGUST

Bula Marau Fiji Roadshow – Around Viti Levu

Christchurch: Mon 3, Novotel Christchurch, 1730-2030.
Wellington: Tue 4, InterContinental, 1730-2030.
Auckland: Wed 5, Stamford Hotel, 1730-2045. **Hamilton:** Thu 6, Novotel Tainui, 1730-2030.

Anaheim Roadshow

Auckland: Mon 24, The Hilton, 1730.

OCTOBER

Adventure World and Rocky Mountaineer Breakfast

Dunedin: Fri 02, , 0730-0830.
Invercargill: Mon 05, 0730-0830.
Queenstown: Mon 06, 0730-0830. Venues TBC.

Bula Marau Fiji Roadshow – Luxury & Couples

Nelson: Mon 12, Grand Mercure Monaco Resort, 0730-0930.
Christchurch: Mon 12, Peppers Clearwater, 1730-2130.
Wellington: Tue 13, Amora Hotel, 1730-2030.
Auckland: Wed 14, Pullman Hotel, 1730-2045.
Hamilton: Thu 15, Novotel Tainui, 1730-2030.

75 YEARS

AIR NEW ZEALAND

CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY TOGETHER
1940 - 2015



We have
a great
line up
on show

Celebrate our proud history at Air New Zealand's 75th anniversary exhibition at Te Papa. Free entry.

For anniversary merchandise visit airnewzealand.co.nz



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

WELCOME TO Outback Queensland



For the past three years Outback Queensland has felt the pinch of severe drought. Despite the drought conditions in the region, Outback Queensland is open for business for 2015!

Now more than ever, they need your support. The towns have ample water and the people are ready to welcome tourists for the 2015 tourist season. Discover the reasons to sell your clients to Queensland's Outback!

Outback Queensland is OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Spot a wedge-tailed eagle
These are the largest raptors in Australia, soaring high in the thermal pockets over outback countryside. Their impressive diamond-shaped tail and lanky frame is unmistakable, making them perfect for the amateur bird-spotter.
Once you've ticked this one off the list (which you will), polish up with a good bird book and a pair of binoculars and you'll soon be donning the title of twitcher with sightings of bustards, brolgas and emus; and colourful corellas, galahs, fairy-wrens, budgerigars and red-tailed black cockatoos.

Pat a 95-million-year-old dinosaur
Don't laugh because it is possible – at a working dinosaur laboratory in Winton, of course. Or you could self-drive the famous Australian Dinosaur Trail through Winton, Richmond and Hughenden for selfies (and a sneaky pat) in front of life-size replicas and newly-discovered skeletons like Matilda, Clancy and Banjo.
If you're still feeling the urge to get even closer, you can join a guided dig and contribute to the largest collection of fossils in the world at the Australian Age of Dinosaurs.

4WD the longer route
For once in your life when time is on your side, you can afford to take the road less travelled. Put time management and multitasking aside and take your pick of untouched dirt roads spotted with roaming cattle leading to nowhere but secluded billabongs and creeks stocked with yellowbelly. (Yes, please!)
The best-kept (not often shared) secret is 'Australia's longest shortcut' via the Outback Way, or you could also take the unsealed roads of the Plenty Highway or flat desert plains of the Birdsville Track where you can see only red dirt, kangaroos and mirages for miles.

Hook a metre-long fish
This may sound impossible to a city slicker, but Outback Queensland is riddled within coolibah-lined billabongs, dams, lakes and seasonal creeks stocked with yellowbelly, murray cod, black bream and barramundi. Sounds more achievable now?
Why not set the bar high and aim to hook Mr Barramundi right into your tinny on the day that most counts most at the Lake Moondarra Fishing Classic. Or forget the pressure of a competition and make tracks into the Gulf of Carpentaria to Karumba or over to Sweets Island for some of Queensland's best seafood.

Rollout a swag under the stars
"Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong, under the shade of a coolibah tree." If you haven't experienced these words (which are practically our national anthem), then that's exactly why this now makes your must-do bucket-list.
Be sure you've packed kindling, an oiled camp oven and a lamb roast as you're about to enjoy the best Aussie meal of your life – right in the fair-dinkum great outdoors.

View a planet through a telescope
There's nothing like curling up into nana's crocheted rug on a winter's night at the Charleville Cosmos Centre & Observatory and spotting Jupiter through the lens.
Never fear, if you don't make it to the Central West, every night in Outback Queensland there's a twinkling show of millions of stars you can enjoy from practically everywhere and you don't need to rush for a seat.

Back a Winner
It doesn't matter what type of a winner, as the competitors come in all shapes and sizes in the west, from rabbits to pigs and porcelain thrones (yep, that's Winton's dunny races).
Almost every weekend you're bound to find a welcoming race meet to cheer on anything that moves including goats, horses and camels.

What will you tick off your outback bucket list this year? If you need more inspiration, check out the 2015 Outback travellers guide.

Clients looking for something adventurous? How about the Dirt N Dust road trip?

A true Queensland Outback eventure!
What is an eventure? The combination of an event and an adventure in Outback Queensland that results in an epic dusty road trip that takes in the people, places and unique Outback paradises, living Australia's story and making memories that will last forever.
Once in a lifetime, it makes sense to divert from the norm. Get your clients to step outside of their routine. Go west when they'd normally go east. Switch sand for red dust and beachscapes for colourful desert horizons and sunsets like none they have ever seen before. And the Kiwi winter is the ideal time to go!
On their next break, why not urge clients to ditch the "done that" and get to know the real Australia, Queensland's Outback.

CLICK HERE to read about our Dirt n Dust Road Trip eventure.
Learn more: **CLICK HERE**
Suggested itineraries **CLICK HERE**

Dirt n Dust Road Trip
5 days - 1,200km
1 million memories

Adel's Grove
@Garry_Norris

Gregory Downs
@Garry_Norris

MOUNT ISA
@Garry_Norris

Cloncurry
@rikerama

Julia Creek
@rikerama

@andrew_tallon

@rikerama

WELCOME TO Outback Queensland

**Outback
Queensland**
Live Australia's story

The Central West, or Matilda Country has a story that spans millions of years and its rich tapestry continues to this day.

Near the town of **Winton**, fossil discoveries are being made that were previously unknown to science, in what is being termed a 'fossil rush'. Join the Queensland Museum teams on a dig as a volunteer and learn more about the area's prehistoric roots.

If you're more into ballads than bones, **Winton** is also considered to be the home of Australian bush poetry and the iconic ballad by Banjo Paterson, 'Waltzing Matilda'. There is even an entire museum (the **Matilda**

Centre) dedicated to the poem.

The Central West allows you to walk in the footsteps of those who shaped the cultural heritage of Australia. The pastoral industry, great Australian innovations and the triumph of the human spirit over adversity are the threads that weave their way through Australian identity to this day.

Learn more about how our nation took flight at the **Qantas Founders Museum** and



explore our outback heritage at the **Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame**.

And as always, a huge part of this story is also the landscape. Bladensburg National Park, just 17km from **Winton**, offers spectacular views across vast grasslands as you stand on flat-topped mesas.

You can also hide from the heat

of the day under the shade of giant gum trees on the banks of the rivers that meander across the plains. After rain, you'll see wild flowers blossom amongst the spindly Spinifex grass.

To find out more about the top destinations in Matilda Country [CLICK HERE.](#)



Relive the age of dinosaurs



Hold fossils millions of years old. Touch skeletons that are even older. And see dinosaur footprints frozen in time. Here's a great 4 day adventure agenda for all the dinosaur experience you can handle in Outback Queensland.

DAY 1 Near Winton (2hrs – 110km)

Venture south-west of Winton to the Dinosaur Stampede at Lark Quarry Conservation Park and discover the world's first evidence of a dinosaur stampede. Stay at the North Gregory Hotel where Waltzing Matilda was first performed publicly.

DAY 2 Winton

Hit the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum where you can look out across the endless flat bed of an ancient inland sea. Take an interpretive tour at the museum, see life size dinosaur replicas and learn all about the transition from living creatures to ancient fossils.

DAY 3 Winton – Hughenden (2.5hrs – 216km)

Travel to Hughenden to visit the Flinders Discovery Centre for photos with Hughie the Muttaborrasaurus. See the fossil exhibition or head to Porcupine Gorge, known locally as Australia's little Grand Canyon. As for accommodation, Hughenden's Royal Hotel is a good place to stay.

DAY 4 Hughenden – Richmond (1.25hrs – 116km)

Check out the Kronosaurus Korner Museum and Visitor Information Centre for a fossicker's guide and dirt-map to find the best belemnites (similar to squid) and fish teeth – your very own fossil treasures.

For more information about these experiences visit
outbackqueensland.com.au

**Outback
Queensland**
Live Australia's story