

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Tuesday 14 June 2016

Issue 3328

Low fares at peak times ✈️

Jetstar 

Disney: New Parks, Rides & Win A Trip

It's a big week for Disney Destinations as the company celebrates the official launch of its new Shanghai resort, the opening of new and reimagined attractions in the US—and Mickey Mouse even arrived in Auckland.

More than 150 agents attended this morning's Disney Days trade event in Auckland for an update on what's new and what's next across the ever expanding Disney network.

Kiwi visitation to the Disney parks around the globe continues to climb and the company has also noted some Disney Cruise Line growth, albeit off a small base.

"Feedback suggests we're seeing greater numbers of Kiwis travelling to Aulani and Disneyland; and with the increased air capacity coming on line, we are expecting to see increased demand for Walt Disney World," says Disney Destinations' Michael Cas-

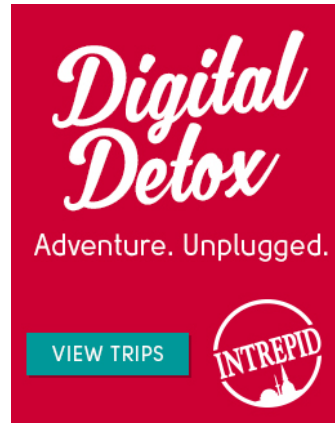
sis. "Disneyland remains our most popular resort for Kiwis, but with the repeat travellers to the US looking for something new, we think we'll see more demand for Walt Disney World. We'll be working with agents to grow awareness of the destination."

Cassis says the sheer scale of Disney's Orlando resort (with more than 100 rides across four parks and 26 on-site hotels) means it's a different proposition for agents to sell and he suggests a minimum of five-seven nights to really experience the resort.

As part of its efforts to raise awareness, Disney Destinations is offering Kiwi retail and wholesale consultants the chance to win a place on a Walt Disney World family later this year, offered in conjunction with DL and VA. See upcoming issues for more details.

... Trade Partners

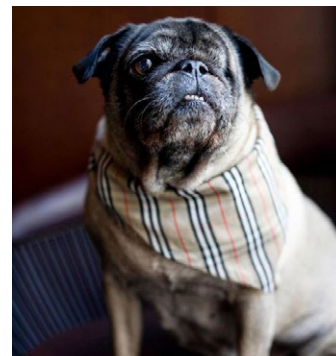
Disney Destinations has reiterated its commitment to the trade distribution. All Disney Parks collateral continues to have a call to action to agents and the company has also just refreshed its on-line training offering. New training modules for Disneyland, Walt Disney World and Aulani went live this morning on its disneytravelagents.co.nz website. "It's a great new platform and things are a bit more streamlined. As well as the on-line training it's where travel agents can access their industry discounts, so it's a resource all agents should be familiar with," adds Cassis.



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Chicago's Pug Concierge

The pet-friendly Park Hyatt Chicago has introduced its newest concierge—a one-eyed pug named Parker. The five-year-old rescue pug is now a permanent member of the hotel's family and 'enjoys a luxurious life of sleeping behind the front desk, basking in the sun in NoMI Garden and bringing joy to visitors and colleagues alike', says the hotel. Unsurprisingly, the pug has his own hashtag (#BarkHyattChicago).

The Next Graceland?

Prince's home, Paisley Park, could be turned into a museum for fans, similar to Elvis Presley's Graceland.

Prince had apparently planned for his Minnesota home and recording studios to eventually become a museum, and had started collecting tour memorabilia.



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NZ 787-9 To Samoa

Air New Zealand has moved forward its planned Dreamliner debut to Samoa, shows the GDS. NZ had scheduled 787-9 flights to Apia over Christmas, and now also 4-25 Aug.



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*Scheduling is subject to change.
 

Lonely Planet Winners

Congratulations to Stephanie Christoffersen of World Travellers Motueka, who has won a *Lonely Planet Family Travel Map*; and Rupesh Kumar of The Travel Brokers, who has won a *Lonely Planet Travel Journal*. *Travel Today* readers can access Lonely Planet titles at 20% off retail. See traveltoday.co.nz/lonely-planet/



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News & Product

Russia's Plane To Rival Boeing, Airbus?



Russia has revealed its new MC-21 passenger plane, which state media says will rival the likes of Boeing and Airbus, as it is 'superior to its Western-made counterparts in many respects'.

The twin-engine short and medium range aircraft is not made of metals, but instead composite materials, making it 'much lighter and stronger'. The plane will be built in two variants, the MC-21-300 which will have 160-211 seats and the MC-21-

200 which will have 130-165 seats. Deliveries are expected to start in 2018 and numerous contracts with both domestic and foreign carriers have reportedly already been agreed.

Cuba Airlines Approved

The US has approved flights on six US airlines to cities in Cuba, with flights set to launch as early as the northern autumn—however a decision on flights to Havana is yet to be made. American Airlines has been approved to fly from Miami; Southwest, JetBlue and Silver Airways from Fort Lauderdale; Frontier from Chicago and Philadelphia; and Sun Country from Minneapolis. Airlines have applied for almost three times as many of the 20 daily round-trips permitted to Havana, and a decision on flights to the city is due to be made this northern summer.

DXB Drone Disrupt

Dubai International Airport was closed for over an hour on Sat after a drone flew into its airspace, reports *Reuters*, causing 22 flights to be diverted. The flying of drones is prohibited within 5km of airports, helipads, landing areas or manned aircraft in the UAE.

Uber Bomb Error

An Uber driver who tried to hide his phone unwittingly caused a bomb scare at Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport last week. Two mobile phones in a clear plastic bottle were found by joggers near the airport, and they alerted the authorities who brought in bomb disposal experts. However it's now believed the phone's owner was an Uber driver who was trying to escape detection, as Uber is illegal in Thailand and authorities have been known to track drivers through the app.

IT'S ON! IN SYDNEY
See page 5

Philippines Event

Today is the last day to register for the upcoming Tourism Philippines agent events in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

"New Zealand is an emerging tourist market for the Philippines and we believe these trade events will offer a fresh perspective and unique opportunity for agents to learn about all that the Philippines has to offer and let New Zealanders know why It's More Fun in the Philippines," says Philippines tourism attaché Norjamin Delos Reyes. "If you haven't secured your spot yet, they are filling up quickly so please ensure you RSVP soon."

The events will also include the launch of the Philippine Fun Experts Program as well as details on an upcoming megafamil. For details and to RSVP [CLICK HERE](#)

EK Aussie On Sale

Emirates has flights to Australia on sale today only, with fares starting from \$195 Christchurch-Sydney, while fares ex Auckland start from \$197 to Brisbane, \$200 to Sydney and \$222 to Melbourne. See GDS for details.



THE Anaheim INSIDER

Win A Place On A Fam Trip To Anaheim

18 to 24 November flying with Air New Zealand.

Last year we were lucky enough to have several of our Visit Anaheim partners down to Auckland for a one night industry destination workshop/update.

We were disappointed they weren't able to tour the country, and so devised a plan whereby we filmed all their presentations and had made them into one so you can have the same experience as those who attended in Auckland!

The presentations are short and can be stopped at any time and resumed.

At the end of each presentation is a short quiz for you to take.

Then submit the quiz and you are in the draw!

CLICK HERE TO START

Good luck!



PO Box 25-482, St Heliers, Auckland 1740



Ritz Paris Reopens

The iconic Ritz Paris Hotel has reopened following its four-year renovation. The EUR140 million top-to-bottom makeover was aimed at 'sprucing up the ageing hotel' and has seen the number of rooms and suites decreased to 142, compared to the previous number of 159, while it now boasts a summer restaurant under a movable glass canopy, a larger ballroom and latest technology in all rooms. See ritzparis.com

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Where Travel Agents go for information on:

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- *Shopping
- *Events
- *and much more

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New Guides From Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet has introduced a new series of guidebooks covering some of the world's most popular countries, says the publisher.

The 'Best of' guides unlock each country 'in style, collecting their best sights, itineraries and local secrets into one easy-to-use package, carefully curated by Lonely Planet's independent experts'.

Lonely Planet reckons the new publications are designed to be the only toolkits travellers will need for the perfect trip to each country.

The first titles are *Best of Australia*, *Best of Germany*, *Best of Ireland*, *Best of Italy* and *Best of USA* and have full-

colour images throughout, highlights and itineraries, insider tips to save time and money and get around like a local and essential information such as hours of operation, phone numbers, websites, transit tips and prices.

Lonely Planet says there are honest reviews for all budgets—eating, sight-seeing, going out, shopping, hidden gems; cultural insights for a richer, more rewarding travel experience; and easy-to-use colour maps.

Travel Today readers can access Lonely Planet titles at 20% off retail. See traveltoday.co.nz/lonely-planet

Swiss Peaks Pass

Agents can now book and issue three new Swiss Peak coupons for their clients prior to their trip to Switzerland, says Rail Europe. From 15 Jun, the mountain railway to the peak of Schynige Platte will be included in the Swiss Travel Pass, while coupons to Grindelwald First and Harder Kulm in Interlaken can be issued locally via Rail Europe GSAs (Rail Plus and GO Holidays).

"Ticketing coupons locally will help travellers save any queue times while they are in Switzerland, especially during peak seasons," says Rail Europe manager Australasia Ingrid Kocijan.



helloworld Petone Opens

helloworld has increased its Wellington presence with the opening of a new store in Petone this week, bringing its total number of branded stores in the region to nine. The total helloworld network is now more than 60 stores (including branded, associate and affiliate stores).

"I am thrilled to be opening a new helloworld store in Petone. This offers a wonderful opportunity to be part of a fresh new travel brand and grow our extensive client base in the up and coming vibrant community of Petone," says store manager Jo Mann, pictured (left) with senior consultant Ang Clark.

Industry Diary

JUNE

Starwood Expo

Auckland: Mon 20, The Maritime Room, 1500-1930.

Tourism Philippines 'More fun in the Philippines' Roadshow

Auckland: Tue 21, The Maritime Room, Princes Wharf, 1800.

Wellington: Wed 22, Amora 1 & 3, Amora Hotel, 1800.

Christchurch: Thu 23, Rakaia/Crossings Lounge Novotel, 1800.

Globus family of brands, Rocky Mountaineer 2017 "The Americas" Season

Auckland, Central: Mon 27, Novotel Hotel, 1745.

Auckland, North: Tue 28, Takapuna Boating Club, 1745.

Wellington: Tue 28, Lone Star Café, 1745.

Nelson: Wed 29, Lone Star Café 1745.

Blenheim: Thu 30, Ten Pin Bowling, 1745.

Spain Leisure Product Update

Auckland: Mon 27, Rydges Hotel (Hobson Room), 1730-2000.

JULY

Globus family of brands, Rocky Mountaineer, 2017 "The Americas" Season

Invercargill: Mon 04, Kelvin Hotel, 1745.

Dunedin: Tue 05, Lone Star Café, 1745.

Christchurch: Wed 06, Lone Star Café, 1745.

Hamilton: Mon 18, Hamilton Gardens Café, 1745.

Tauranga: Tue 19, Macau, 1745.

Napier: The Crown Hotel, 1745.

Hong Kong Airlines "Fresh + very Hong Kong" Agent seminars

Auckland Central: Tue 05, Novotel Hotel Ellerslie, 1800.

Auckland North: Wed 06, Spencer on Bryon Takapuna, 1800.

AUGUST

SPANTO roadshow

Palmerston North: Tue 09, The Distinction Hotel. Time tba.

New Plymouth: Wed 10, The Novotel. Time tba.



Warwick Hotels Rebrand

Warwick International Hotels has announced a company-wide rebranding including a new name—Warwick Hotels & Resorts—as well as a new logo and 'revised visual language'.

The rebrand is designed to reflect its status as a major international hotel group and accentuate its focus on both its city and resort hotels, says the company.

In Asia Pacific, the key properties which will rebrand are the Warwick Le Lagon—Vanuatu and Warwick Fiji. The rebranding encompasses changes in staff uniforms, guest room collateral items, colour schemes, communication materials, staff training, façade and interior signage.

"Our company is proud of the continued investment in the Pacific resorts, a collection of hotels that reflect the natural beauty and vibrancy of Fiji, Vanuatu and Bali," says Warwick rgm Dean Swaagman. "Our mission is to ensure the highest standard of satisfaction and quality for both our new and returning guests. A focus on unrivalled facilities, well-appointed rooms and the best of local, and international cuisines has seen our hotels become award-winning properties."

Pax Escorted Off Flight

A Ryanair passenger was escorted off a plane by police upon landing after cabin crew caught him smoking in the toilet mid-flight. The incident occurred on a Manchester bound flight ex Tenerife.

Prizes Galore At Disney Days AKL

Agents attending this morning's Disney Days trade update event in Auckland were feeling the 'Disney magic' today—with all of those attending winning some Disney merchandise from soft toys and Mickey ears through to DVD collections. The in-depth training session covered selling tips for across the Disney Parks and Disney Cruise Line—as well as a sneak peek of the coming attractions and developments.

One lucky agent who's set to experience those new developments first hand is Jacqui Harvey from House of Travel who won a place on an upcoming Walt Disney World famil, in conjunction with Delta Air Lines and Virgin Australia, which includes five nights at the Orlando resort over its seasonal Halloween celebrations.





IT'S ON! IN SYDNEY

Sydney and NSW attract one of the world's most spectacular line-ups of musical productions, high adrenalin sports, exciting cultural experiences and artistic collaborations. Find out more at sydney.com or talk to your preferred wholesaler for packages.



HOLDEN STATE OF ORIGIN - GAME 3

13 July

See the NSW Blues play the QLD Maroons in this thrilling finale of the 2016 Origin series.

**ANZ Stadium,
Sydney Olympic Park**



SYDNEY SINGS

28 July – 7 August

Australia's International Festival of the Voice.

**Various locations
across Sydney**



BLEDISLOE CUP FESTIVAL

6 – 20 August

A series of rugby events builds up to the spectacle of the Bledisloe Cup.

**Various locations
across Sydney**



COLLEGE FOOTBALL SYDNEY CUP

27 August

University of California Berkley vs University of Hawaii in the opening round of the NCAA College Football Championships.

**ANZ Stadium,
Sydney Olympic Park**

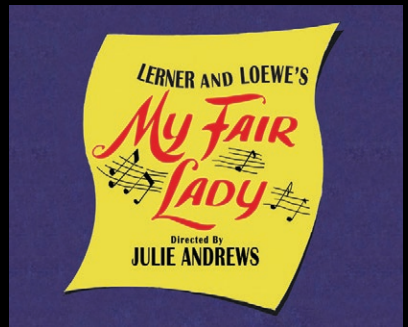


DISNEY'S ALADDIN - THE MUSICAL

From August

See the Australian Premiere of Disney's Aladdin, Broadway's new musical comedy. Discover a whole new world, in a whole new way.

Capitol Theatre, Sydney



MY FAIR LADY

From 30 August

Don't miss this 60th Anniversary production directed by Julie Andrews.

Sydney Opera House



If it's on in Sydney, it's on sydney.com



Please note that events are subject to change or cancellation (check relevant website for further details prior to the event). Destination NSW acknowledges and appreciates all photographic images supplied by each event owner for use in this advertisement. Photo credit: Disney's Aladdin, Arabian Nights Men by Deen van Meer.