

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Monday 13 March 2017

Issue 3499



JAWS PLUS 2017
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 • WLG • PMR • NPL • TRG • HLZ
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More Aviation Fatalities In 2016

There were more major jet accidents last year than in 2015 but overall safety is improving in the commercial airline industry, says IATA.

The number of accidents per one million flights last year was 1.61, an improvement on 2015's 1.79.

However the major jet accident rate (measured in hull losses per one million flights) was 0.39, the equivalent of one major accident for every 2.56 million flights. This was a setback on 2015's rate of 0.32, and was also above the five-year average (2011-2015) of 0.36.

The number of fatal accidents increased from four in 2015 to 10 in 2016, with 268 fatalities—however this is still an improvement on the five-year average of 13.4 fatal accidents and 371 fatalities.

“Last year some 3.8 billion travellers flew safely on 40.4 million flights. The number of total accidents, fatal accidents and fatalities all declined versus

the five-year average, showing that aviation continues to become safer,” says IATA boss Alexandre de Juniac.

“We did take a step back on some key parameters from the exceptional performance of 2015; however, flying is still the safest form of long distance travel. And safety remains the top priority of all involved in aviation. The goal is for every flight to depart and arrive without incident. And every accident redoubles our efforts to achieve that.”

Safety performance results were mixed across the regions, with Asia Pacific seeing an improvement in jet hull loss rates (0.38 compared to the five-year average of 0.42) and turbo-prop hull loss rates (1.88 compared to 1.98 from 2011-2015).

IATA singled out sub-Saharan Africa as having made particularly strong progress, with the region recording its best performance within the last decade—zero passenger fatalities and zero jet hull losses. The all accident rate was 2.30 per one million departures, compared to 9.73 for the previous five years; and the turbo-prop hull loss rate dropped to 1.56, (85% lower than its 2011-2015 yearly average of 10.51).

7 Pages This Issue

News..... p1, p2, p4, p5, p6, p7
 Cruising Today..... p3

Cirque Incentive

Agents can win a trip to Las Vegas to see Cirque du Soleil live, and a number of other prizes, in a new incentive launched this week. Agents who book Cirque tickets for Vegas-bound clients through preferred wholesale partners (House of Travel, GO Holidays and Infinity Holidays) from 13 Mar-15 May will be in to win. Each ticket gives an agent one point in the incentive programme. Canuckiwi will also host two Cirque training webinars on 16 and 29 Mar. For details [CLICK HERE](#)

Herald Moves On

According to industry rumours, tomorrow is Ian Herald's last day at Cathay Pacific. CX management was unavailable at presstime.

Hot's Weather Boost

House of Travel is attributing a 103% increase in enquiries on its website over the weekend to the wild weather which left Kiwis stuck inside and dreaming of sunnier skies. The increase was compared to the weekend before, with Fiji, Samoa and Queensland the top three destinations.

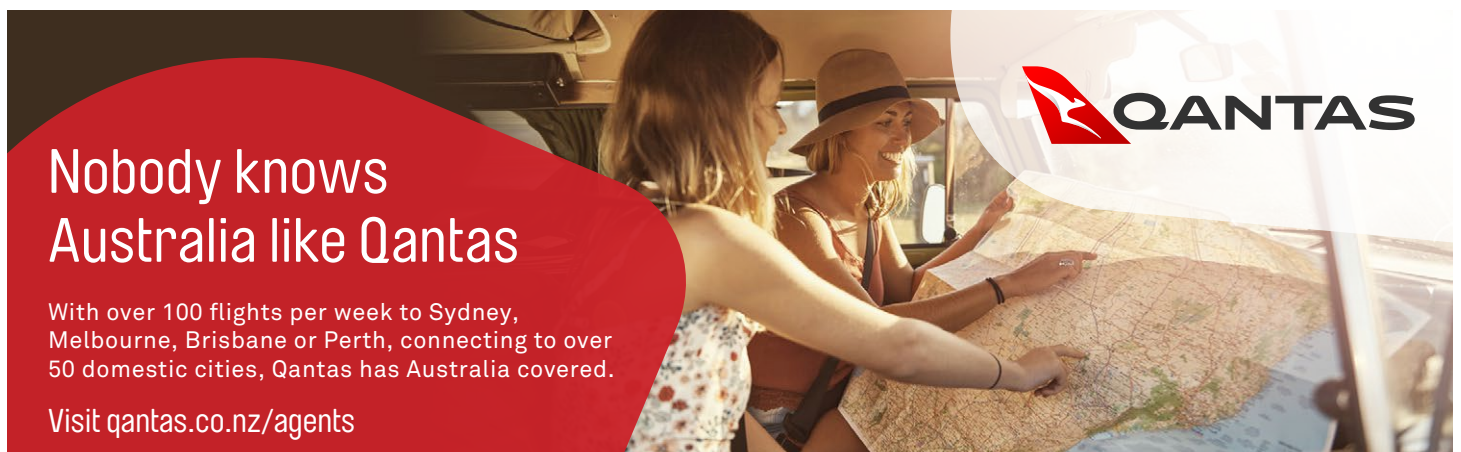
JAWS Reminder

Agents in Napier, Wellington, Palmerston North and New Plymouth are reminded that registrations close soon for the JAWS roadshow events in their town, which will take place next week. Agents will be able to meet with a range of operators, and will also be in to win prizes. For details and to register [CLICK HERE](#)



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NZ Refurbished 777s

Air New Zealand has filed the operational schedule for its refurbished 777-300ER aircraft, set to enter service on 06 Sep, according to the GDS. Using the new aircraft code 77W, the refurbished -300ER will initially enter the Auckland-Los Angeles-London route. The refurbished 777 features 10 extra seats in premium economy, the same as on the 787-9.

CHC Industry Offer

Christchurch's BreakFree on Cashel is offering industry rates for travel this winter, starting from \$99 in a city urban queen or king room. City urban premium rooms are from \$129pn, and city urban family (one-four people) are from \$159. The hotel features smart TVs, Wi-Fi and mood lighting in each room. The rates are valid for stays 01 Apr-30 Sep and must be booked directly with the hotel. Email cashel.res@breakfreeresorts.co.nz

EK Aussie On Sale

Emirates has flights to Australia on sale until 14 Mar. One-way fares are from \$199 to Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Business class flights are from \$649 one-way, and first class from \$999 one-way.

ISSN 1176-5275

Travel Today (incorporating Tabs on Travel) is published by Tabs on Travel Ltd, New Zealand. Ph +64-9-415 8111.

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Record Numbers Through AKL Airport

Auckland Airport welcomed a record number of international passengers for the second consecutive month in Jan, according to its latest traffic statistics.

The 990,250 (excluding transit passengers) in Jan was 30,000 more than the previous record set in Dec, and 10% more than in Jan 2016.

The new high was driven by a combination of higher international visitors and a record number of Kiwis travelling overseas, as well as the earlier timing of the Chinese New Year holiday, says the airport.

Auckland's Chinese visitor arrivals in Jan were up 27.5% on Jan 2016, helped by the earlier New Year holiday as well as recent growth in direct airline capacity. There's now six airlines operating 44 weekly services

between Auckland and mainland China, with Sichuan Airlines set to launch in Jun. Strong Chinese New Year traffic was also experienced from Hong Kong (+73.6%) and Taiwan (+14.1%).

Other strong performing markets in Jan included the Americas, which saw arrivals increase 18.4%.

There was double-digit arrivals growth from America (+20%), Canada (+11.4%), Argentina (+22.3%) and Brazil (+47.3%), driven by the new American Airlines Los Angeles and United Airlines San Francisco services, and capacity increases on Air New Zealand's Houston and Buenos Aires routes.

US Quiz, Famil

In celebration of its inaugural USA brochure, Adventure World has created a quiz for agents to brush up on their American knowledge.

Those who complete the quiz before 17 Mar will go in the draw to win a prize hamper and priority entry to Adventure World's upcoming Utah and Nevada famil, which travels roundtrip from Las Vegas and takes in parks like Great Basin, Bryce Canyon and Zion 07-16 May.

The discounted agent cost is still being finalised but will include return airfares flying Hawaiian Airlines, nine nights' accommodation, sight-seeing and local English speaking guides.

To complete the quiz and be in to win, [CLICK HERE](#).

To find out more about the famil, [CLICK HERE](#)

NZ Fiji On Sale

Air New Zealand has fares to Fiji on sale to 15 Mar priced from \$189 one-way ex Auckland. Wholesale fares are also available, contact wholesalers for details.

EK's New A380 Lounge

The upgraded version of Emirates' famous A380 on-board lounge was a popular attraction at the ITB show in Berlin last week, says the carrier. The lounge is part of a multi-million dollar cabin interiors upgrade programme, and introduces seating areas with a table and window view. Other highlights of the EK stand at ITB included a life-size model of a first class private suite, business class seat and first class shower spa unit with a working shower and underfloor heating. Check out a video [HERE](#)

QF Australia Deals

Qantas has flights to Australia on sale to midnight 14 Mar, with one-way fares starting from \$199 to Brisbane/Melbourne/Sydney. One-way business class flights are from \$649; and first class is from \$999.

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**HAWAIIAN
AIRLINES**

Half Price Cruising With MSC Deals

MSC Cruises is rolling out a month of offers, with new specials out weekly covering the Mediterranean, Caribbean and Cuba as well as its Grand Voyagers, allowing clients to cruise for half price.

First up is the Mediterranean—on sale tomorrow and for a week—with over 130 cruises, departing between Apr and Nov, available at half price. With prices starting at \$815pp, MSC is expecting plenty of Kiwi interest; particularly considering the ‘huge interest’ it has recently seen in its seven-night Greek Island cruises and 14-night

Grand Mediterranean itinerary. “This special will certainly be a great chance for the market to gain an amazing deal for this popular cruising area,” says the line.

Week two will showcase the Caribbean, with seven nights from \$685pp. On offer from 21 Mar, clients can choose from over 20 departures exploring either the east or west Caribbean, with departures from Miami. Available for travel from Jun through to Feb 2018, MSC recommends clients take two cruises back-to-back so they can ‘see it all’; while families can take advantage of school holiday departures.

Set to be a popular offer, Cuba is on sale from 28 Mar for the week, with MSC Opera’s itinerary taking in Havana before clients travel on to Jamaica, Mexico and the Cayman Islands or Belize and Honduras. And for the week beginning 04 Apr, 15 Grand Voyagers sailings will be available at half price.

See msccruises.com.au for details.

Sth Korea Pulled

Royal Caribbean Cruises has reportedly removed visits to South Korean ports from its China cruises in response to rising tensions between the two countries over Seoul’s deployment of a US missile defence system. The cruise line says affected clients have been notified of the changes.



What’s New For Disney In 2018

Disney Cruise Line has unveiled where its ships will be sailing in the (northern) summer of 2018, with plenty of new destinations in the mix. Highlights include first-time visits to Milan and Cork, new sailings from Rome and Barcelona and a return to Alaska. Disney Cruise Line will also host a series of cruises that include two stops at its private island in the Bahamas, Castaway Cay. For full details, [CLICK HERE](#)

Cruise With DJ Khaled

DJ Khaled is hosting a music festival, Summerfest Cruise 2017, onboard Norwegian Sky 30 Jun-03 Jul, in what will certainly not be a traditional cruise holiday. Targeting millennials, the cruise, departing Miami, will see the likes of Future, A\$AP Rocky and Lil Wayne perform; while there will also be events focusing on fashion, sports, gaming and interactive tech. See summerfestcruise.com for more.

Silver Muse’s Team

Silversea’s all-new Silver Muse will be led by Australian/Italian captain Alessandro Zanello—the youngest officer ever to be appointed captain on the Silversea fleet.

Voyager To The Med

From May this year, Regent Seven Seas Cruises’ freshly upgraded Seven Seas Voyager will once again sail the Mediterranean. Visiting perennial favourites such as Sorrento, Monte Carlo and Dubrovnik, the ship will also leave the typical tourist trail to call at the likes of Limpari and Korcula. There’s a wide range of itineraries on offer. See rssc.com for details.

HAL Inspection Wins

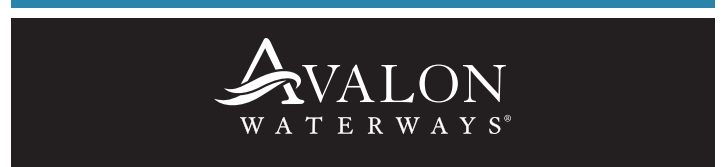
Holland America Line’s ms Oosterdam joins sister-ship ms Eurodam this year by earning a perfect score of 100 on a routine US Public Health inspection, advises Francis Travel Marketing.

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NZ Australia On Sale

Air New Zealand has flights to Australia on sale until midnight 14 Mar, with one-way Seat fares starting at \$159 to Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Business premier flights are from \$649 one-way.



Grand Disney Refurb

Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa at Disneyland Resort is set to undertake a hotel-wide refurbishment —its most extensive since its 2001 opening. The renovations, including completely redesigned guest rooms, a refreshed lobby, pool areas and the concierge-level Craftsman Club, will roll out in phases, with expected completion by the end of 2017. For updates and progress reports see disneyparksblog.com

**Whitsundays Reef
In Good Shape**

Tourism Whitsundays is assuring potential visitors that the effects of coral bleaching in the Whitsundays are minimal, after a warning from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority about continued bleaching on the reef.

Mass coral bleaching is occurring on the reef for the second consecutive year, with a survey last week finding severe bleaching in offshore reefs from north of Ingham to the northern extent of the survey near Cairns, according to the GBRMPA. This year more bleaching is being observed in this central part of the reef, which last year escaped widespread severe bleaching, the GBRMPA says.

In response to the survey, Tourism Whitsundays chief executive Craig Turner has said that the bleaching effects within the Whitsundays are minimal. "We recognise that there are areas of the reef that are experiencing bleaching events at the moment, however, the reef is over 2300kms long and there are varying degrees of effect," he says. "The Whitsundays is located in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, half-

way between Brisbane and Cairns, and the reef in the Whitsundays is in good shape—it is still going to provide visitors with an exceptional life-changing experience."

Swiss Travel Website

Swiss Travel System AG has launched a new website, mystsn.net, designed for agents to refer to when familiarising themselves with the services of the Swiss transportation provider. The site contains information on product range, prices and various services, and downloadable images, videos and maps.



Vietnam, Cambodia Cycling Famil

Adventure World is inviting agents to register their interest for its upcoming Cycle Vietnam and Cambodia famil, 13-23 May. Taking in Ho Chi Minh, the Mekong Delta, Siem Reap and Phnom Penh on a cycling journey, the famil will include return airfares with Singapore Airlines, accommodation, many meals, sighting and local English-speaking guides. The cost is yet to be confirmed. To register your interest, [CLICK HERE](#)

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27 March
2017

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MEL Zoo Renovation

An AUD9 million facility called Leopard Ridge will be the new home for Melbourne Zoo's snow leopards and Sumatran tigers by the end of this year. The zoo says the new facility will take visitors deep into the world of some of the most intriguing, mysterious and endangered predators. Reinforced glass will allow guests to get closer than before. Tasmanian devils and coatis will also have homes in the new facility, which is the final instalment of the Melbourne Zoo's Predators Precinct.

Ramada Port Vila Now Open



Wyndham Hotel Group has opened its new Vanuatu property, the Ramada Resort Port Vila, three weeks ahead of schedule.

The 80-room, AUD30 million resort is the company's first property in Vanuatu and is 15 minutes from Bauerfield International Airport. It's set on the cliffs of Erakor Lagoon,

offering views of the lagoon and the beaches of Erakor Island. The lagoon is popular for snorkelling and diving, and there's a range of reef and shipwreck sites off the coast.

The resort offers studio rooms, junior suites and two-bedroom suites, all with balconies and views of the lagoon, air conditioning, kitchenette and satellite. Facilities include a swim-up pool bar, lounge bar, sports bar, a swimming pool, gym and conference rooms, and an on-site restaurant, Akiriki.

Opening specials for bookings made by 31 Mar, and travel until 29 Dec, include 30% off bookings of three consecutive nights; 35% off four nights; and 40% off seven nights.

Busiest Air Route

The busiest air route on the planet is reportedly that between Seoul Gimpo International to Jeju International and more than 11 million passengers flew it in 2015, says IATA. UNESCO listed, Jeju is the capital of Jeju Island, which has sandy beaches, caves with enormous lava tube systems, volcanoes, waterfalls, forests and is often marketed as the Hawai'i of Korea.



Photography In Asia

World Journeys has launched new photography experiences in Asia. In Yangon clients can join a photojournalist from the major local newspaper on a photo-walking tour of the city, visiting tea houses, markets and shops, as well as the chance to hear stories from locals of their previous life under military rule—with plenty of photo stops along the way. And in Ho Chi Minh City, clients can join a locally-based American street photographer to visit markets and family eateries. World Journeys has full details.



FINANCE OFFICER

A full-time position has become available in our Auckland Finance Office.

We are looking for a highly motivated, organised individual with initiative, excellent written and oral communication skills, the ability to handle pressure with minimal supervision and to prioritise their workload.

To be able to work autonomously whilst in a team environment and a high attention to detail and accuracy is essential:

Minimum skills

- Broad understanding of BSP, AR and Payroll
- Experience with fare and ticketing audits, accounts receivable functions
- Word/Excel/SAP/BSPLink/AirConnect

Applicants must have NZL permanent residence.

Written applications, with CV should be forwarded no later than Friday 17 March 2017 to:

leena_shinmar@singaporeair.com.sg

(Only short listed candidates will be contacted)

APT Sale Reminder

APT reminds agents that its Celebration Sale is entering its last days, with deals to cease on 15 Mar—and agents are encouraged to finalise bookings now.

There's a range of offers on remaining selected 2017 departures of Magnificent Europe and France River cruises. For example, an eight-day Bordeaux return cruise is priced from \$6395pp t/s, with clients able to receive free international return flights and a cabin upgrade on one of APT's Aria river ships.

APT's executive gm global marketing and sales Debra Fox adds that the sale has been 'immensely popular', largely thanks to the response it received from agents. The Celebration Sale launched 01 Jan and kicked off a year of festivities for APT, which this year marks 90 years from running a bus line in suburban Melbourne to cruising on the Danube and beyond.

New LON Agent Module

London & Partners advises that there's a new Discover London Areas module now available on the BritAgent Training platform, hosted by VisitBritain. The module showcases the best trade products available across different outer neighbourhoods of London to assist agents in selling experiences to clients.



CALIFORNIA STAR
SEARCH

Visit California is searching for agents who will be the faces of their new digital training platform, California STAR.

A video competition has been launched and agents are invited to submit a 15 second video with their STAR tips about travel to California.

CLICK HERE
for further
information

In conjunction with
TABS ON
**TRAVEL
TODAY**

A&K Head Of Product

Abercrombie & Kent has appointed Alastair Scott as its new head of product strategy. Scott has 25 years' experience in the industry predominantly in supply chain and operational management, most recently with Insider Journeys.



Fiji Eco-tourism

With a major role in securing the conservation site of the endangered Fiji mastiff bat and involvement in the conservation work of the collared and Fiji petrel (considered Fiji's most notable seabirds), Sia Rasalato has been appointed group environmental manager for Ahura Resorts' properties Likuliku Lagoon Resort and Malolo Island Resort. Rasalato will manage a dry forest nursery that Ahura Resorts has started to support crested iguana as well as other creatures teetering on the brink such as fruit doves, Pacific doves and coconut crabs.

Euro Flights Deal With Insight



Insight Vacations is offering return Emirates flights to Europe from \$1299 for travellers who book a premium escorted journey of eight days or longer before 31 Mar.

A range of Insight's Summer 2017 departures are included in the offer, which is applicable to trips between 01 Apr and 30 Sep with an early payment discount available, although it is not combinable with the EPD. The economy class flights are available from Auckland into a variety of EK's European ports. Qualifying trips include the 18-day Romantic Britain & Ireland tour, which takes in London, Oxford, York, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin and more, with prices from \$6425pp; while the 15-day Highlights of Europe journey, which takes in Paris, Brussels, Venice, Rome, Lucerne and

more, is from \$6175pp. Clients who have already arranged their airfares can still take advantage of Insight's early payment discount to save 5% on selected tours booked and paid in full by 27 Apr. Contact your local Travel Corporation sales manager for further details.

News & Product

Hyatt Centric Expansion

Hyatt Hotels is expanding its Hyatt Centric lifestyle brand, with plans to nearly double its portfolio before the end of 2019. Following the opening of Hyatt Centric Waikiki Beach and the transitions of Hyatt Centric Arlington and Hyatt Centric Chicago Magnificent Mile, at least 12 more hotels are expected to join the brand portfolio by the end of 2019, with locations expected in France, Japan, Qatar, Senegal, Australia, China and Turkey.

"Since its launch in 2015, the Hyatt Centric brand has proven to be one of our fastest-growing lifestyle brands," says Hyatt's Steve Haggerty. "Our aggressive expansion plans for the brand were born out of a need to increase our brand presence where our guests travel the most, and the hotels in the Hyatt Centric brand pipeline will allow us to meet that need and further connect with millennial-minded guests in the upper-upscale lifestyle segment."



Siem Reap Night Tour With Active Asia

Active Asia has added a new four-hour motor scooter tour which takes clients past some of the famous sights in Siem Reap. The tour includes stops for street food tastings as well as a stop at a popular dining venue, then finishes with a cocktail and music on Pub Street before clients are dropped back to their hotel. It's priced from \$123pp, based on two people travelling.

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- some groups experience would be useful
- experience of working directly with clients via phone and email
- a proven passion & track record in customer satisfaction
- good time management, file accounting and documentation skills

sabre and travelog systems knowledge would be an advantage

if you are excited by either role, please send your CV and covering letter to recruit@atlastravel.co.nz by wed 15 mar 17



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New Dining In BKK

Siam Paragon, Bangkok's premier shopping mall, has opened a new dining experience, The Gourmet Garden, advises the Tourism Authority of Thailand. Complete with over 30 fine-dining restaurants and dessert cafes, The Gourmet Garden is also home to a series of bakeries and tea shops. It is situated in the mall's G Floor.

QF Bali Changes

Qantas has reviewed its long-term fares to North East Asia. Changes include new long-term fares to Bali for the direct Qantas-operated SYD-DPS service; while fares to DPS which included travel on the QF codeshare operated by Jetstar have now been removed. QF operates four SYD-DPS services per week, increasing to daily services from 26 May 2017. See qantas.co.nz/agents

Far Nth QLD Sees Capacity Boom

Far North Queensland is benefiting from significant growth in air capacity, with Tigerair Australia and Jetstar announcing new flights that will deliver more than 168,000 seats a year to the region, says the Tourism and Transport Forum (TTF).

TT and JQ will launch a total of 18 new flights between now and late Jun—a combination of new routes and increased capacity on existing routes. TT will add extra flights between Brisbane and Whitsunday Airport in Proserpine, and extra Brisbane-Cairns and Sydney-Proserpine services; and launch

Melbourne-Townsville flights. JQ is adding services between Sydney/Melbourne and Proserpine.

"Tourism has never been more important to Far North Queensland, which has been hit hard by the slowing of the resources industry," says TTF boss Margy Osmond. "These new services will not only increase access to some of Australia's most popular destinations, but also offer much-needed impetus to the visitor economy."

More Beds For DXB

A 550-room, beachfront resort with waterpark is being planned for Deira Islands in Dubai. As the first Centara establishment in the UAE, the resort will feature a waterpark, dining facilities, business centre, kids' club, spa and fitness centre. It's anticipated to have soft opening in 2019 and grand opening in 2020. The project is a collaboration between UAE developer Nakheel and Centara Hotels and Resorts. Last year Nakheel announced another venture for Deira Islands, an 800-room all-inclusive resort and waterpark.



Overwater Villas Now In The Caribbean

The Caribbean is now home to an overwater villa offering, thanks to the opening of Jamaica's Sandals Royal Caribbean. Located in Montego Bay, there's 12 villas on offer, complete with a private infinity pool, overwater hammocks and an outdoor shower, whilst inside, there's glass floor panels, his and hers sinks and a walk-in rain shower. Clients will also enjoy butler service, 24-hour room service and the use of a private water taxi to get to/from the mainland. See sandals.com for more.

Industry Diary

MARCH

JAWS Roadshow 2017

Whangarei: Tue 14, Forum North, 1700-2000.

Auckland North: Wed 15, Spencer on Byron, Takapuna, 1700-2000.

Napier: Mon 20, Napier Sailing Club, 1700-2000.

Wellington: Tue 21, Rydges Wellington, 1700-2000.

Palmerston North: Wed 22, Distinction Hotel, 1700-2000.

New Plymouth: Thu 23, Novotel Hotel, 1700-2000.

Tauranga: Tue 28, Tauranga Yacht Club, 1700-2000.

Hamilton: Wed 29, Novotel Tainui, 1700-2000.

Lufthansa Agent Training Days
Hamilton: Tue 14, Distinction Hotel & Conference Centre, 0830.

Tauranga: Wed 15, Trinity Wharf, 0830.

Auckland Central: Tue 21, Wintergarden Pavillion, Auckland Domain, 0830.

Auckland North: Thu 23, The Spencer on Byron Hotel, 0830.

Tourism Fiji Roadshow

Nelson: Mon 27, Grand Mercure Monaco Hotel, breakfast.

Wellington: Mon 27, Rydges Wellington, evening.

Christchurch: Tue 28, Addington Raceway & Events Centre, evening.

Auckland, CBD: Wed 29, Pullman Hotel, evening.

Hamilton: Thu 30, Ferrybank Reception & Conference Centre, evening.

Auckland, North Shore: Fri 31, QBE Stadium Albany, breakfast.

APRIL

Tourism Fiji Roadshow

Tauranga: Mon 03, Club Mt Maunganui, 1730-1930.

Rotorua: Tue 04, Novotel Rotorua, 0700-0845. **Taupo:** Tue 04, Lonestar Taupo, anytime between 1200-1400.

Napier: Tue 04, Crowne Hotel, 1730-1930.

Palmerston North: Wed 05, Distinction Hotel, 1730-1930.

Wanganui: Thu 06, Stellar Restaurant and Bar, anytime between 1200-1400.

New Plymouth: Thu 06, Novotel New Plymouth, 1730-1930.

Avalon Waterways 2018 Launch

Lower Hutt: Tue 04, The Dowse Art Museum, 1745.

Wellington: Tue 04, Lone Star, 1745.

Pukekohe: Tue 04, Townmouse Cafe, 1745.

Blenheim: Wed 05, Watery Mouth Cafe, 1730.

Whangarei: Wed 05, Dickens Inn, 1730.

Palmerston North: Thu 06, Distinction Palmerston North, 1745.

Nelson: Thu 06, Bacco Restaurant, 1730.

Hamilton: Mon 10, Hamilton Gardens Cafe, 1745.

Christchurch: Mon 10, Dux Central, 1745.

Auckland East: Mon 10, Pakuranga Golf Club, 1745.

Tauranga: Tue 11, Macau, 1745.

Auckland North: Tue 11, Takapuna Boating Club, 1745.

Timaru: Tue 11, Mocca Cafe, 1730.

Napier: Wed 12, East Pier Hotel, 1745.

Dunedin: Wed 12, Luna Bar, 1745.

Auckland West: Wed 12, The Falls, Henderson, 1745.

New Plymouth: Wed 19, Waterfront Hotel, 1745.

Celebrating Kerouac

Jack Kerouac would have been 95 this year and his home town of Lowell, Massachusetts is celebrating. On 05-09 Oct the town will hold the 2017 Lowell Celebrates Kerouac Festival which will be followed by a Kerouac Memorial Walk on 21 Oct. Three events will be celebrated at the festival: the publication of *On the Road*, the first Jazz Poetry Trio performance when Kerouac and two other poets read their poetry to music, an event that is said to be the first poetry-jazz collaboration in NYC, and *Pull My Daisy*, a short film adapted by Jack Kerouac from his play, *Beat Generation*. See lowellcelebrateskerouac.org

Queenstown: Wed 19, Mercure Hotel, 1745.

MAY

Lufthansa Agent Training Days

Wellington: Wed 03, Intercontinental Wellington, 0830.

Nelson: Thu 04, Rutherford Hotel, 0830.

Christchurch: Tue 23, Ilex Botanic Gardens, 0830.

Dunedin: Wed 24, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, 0830.

2017 Amazing Thailand Roadshow

Auckland: Mon 08, Sky City Convention Centre.

Asia Now Roadshow

Wellington: Wed 10.

Christchurch: Thu 11.

Tauranga: Mon 15.

Hamilton: Tue 16.

Auckland Central: Wed 17.

Auckland North Shore: Thu 18.

Venues, times tba.

JUNE

Lufthansa Agent Training Days

Queenstown: Thu 22, Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, 0830.