

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Wednesday 22 August 2012

Issue 2442

BKK, KUL, SGN & HKT

Ex CHC Via AKL & SIN /AKL via SIN **Now Year Round**

Intra-Asia flights operated by Jetstar Asia (3K)



Major New Nadi And Denarau Incentive

Tourism Fiji has four Fiji holidays to give away to the agents who sell the most Nadi/Denarau product by 31 Oct in a new trade incentive.

The competition, launched at the NTO's Nadi-Denarau roadshow last week, follows the success of the Mamanucas incentive earlier this year which generated over \$2 million in sales.

Prizes up for grabs include return flights for two from either Auckland or Christchurch, and four different nine-night accommodation packages which are valued from \$5400 to \$11,400.

Each booking made 13 Aug-31 Oct counts towards the incentive—and agents who were at the roadshow last week are eligible for double points. Over 200 agents and travel partners

attended the roadshow, which visited five cities and featured nine operators including Air Pacific, Sheraton, Westin, Sonaisali, Anchorage, Tanoa, the Terraces Apartment Resort and Fiji Beach Resort and Spa.

To enter the Nadi/Denarau incentive, agents need to send all details of bookings (including client's name, travelling passengers' names, travel dates, value of bookings, and the resorts, hotels and airlines booked) to Ragigia Dawai at Tourism Fiji by 1600 on 31 Oct. Email details to ragigia@tourismfijinj.com

Win 2 Tickets to Bali
See this issue for question two

No Heightened Thai Risk

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and trade is not reviewing its travel advisory for Thailand in the wake of the death of a New Zealand tourist in Pattaya. The man was reportedly killed during a bar fight. An MFAT spokesperson says the advisory will not be reviewed as a result but the New Zealand embassy continues to monitor the security situation in Thailand. The advisory currently warns of high risk in Narathiwat, Yala, Pattani, Songkhla, and along the borders with Cambodia and Burma, and some risk elsewhere.

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NZ Sale 'Doubtful'

It is 'doubtful' the government will sell any of its shares in Air New Zealand this term, reports *3 News*. It quotes sources as saying the sale is unlikely because of NZ's low share price.

Just Three Sleeps To Go

There's just three sleeps until the teams competing in Air New Zealand's inaugural Great Race Bali depart.

NZ's Andrew Harrison and Mark Freeman are already up in Bali, and are rumoured to be making some last-minute changes to the event which is best described as part *Survivor*, part *Amazing Race* and part *Fear Factor*.

The competing teams from Flight Centre, House of Travel and Stella have commenced the chest beating and trash talking ahead of the race—which officially starts on Sun.

The House of Travel team was profiled yesterday, and today the Stella team members have their say (see pg 4 for details).

TAANZ Update

TAANZ has cancelled the full membership of Hillsborough Travel Ltd, which applies to any retail outlets operated by the member. TAANZ says the move is because the member did not meet the requirements of the TAANZ Bonding Authority.

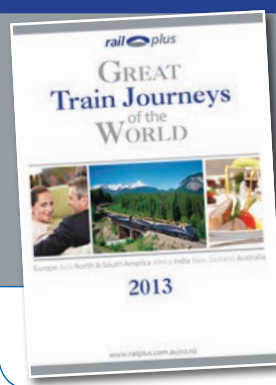
As a result the agent body says it has advised the member to remove all TAANZ references and marks with immediate effect at any of their stores. IATA has also been notified, as per TAANZ's agreement with IATA.

. . . Alternative Bonding

Hillsborough Travel trading as Travelsmart Pukekohe, told *Travel Today* that it is now aligned with the Mondo brand and has an alternative bonding agreement in place.

4 Pages This Issue

New Brochure Out Now

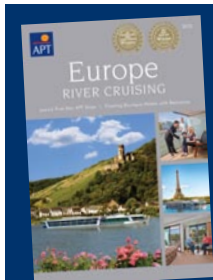


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NEW for 2013

Complimentary beverages served onboard throughout the cruise



VS's Challenge To BA

Virgin Atlantic will begin competing with British Airways on UK domestic services from next Mar, when it launches flights from London Heathrow to Manchester Airport. The route is VS' first venture into domestic flying, and the carrier promises it is 'just the start' of its new short-haul operation. VS will apply for all of the remedy slots being awarded by the European Commission following the IAG takeover of bmi.

Cash Rules For Zambia

Tourists can still pay for their visa on entry to Zambia in US dollars but will now need Zambian Kwacha to pay for airport taxes and other cash transactions past immigration, World Journeys has advised. As the USD/ZMK exchange rate is fluctuating, and has swung 14% in just two weeks, it is recommended travellers carry a little extra cash with them. It is not possible to buy kwacha outside of Zambia so clients will need to change cash at the airport or withdraw cash at the airport ATM.

TABS ON
**TRAVEL
TODAY** Instant Poll

What would you pay extra for in-flight?

CLICK HERE TO VOTE

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Air Travel Rebounds In Asia Pacific

After the challenges of 2011, airports in the Asia Pacific region are experiencing an 'encouraging' rebound in passenger traffic in the first six months of 2012, according to Airports Council International's latest Passenger and Freight Flash Report.

"Many airports in the region are undergoing expansion projects or construction of new airports, this positive half-year result proves that they are going in the right direction and gives confidence to government and private investors," says ACI Asia Pacific regional director Patti Chau.

Overall passenger traffic was up 8.5% in the six months to Jun against the

previous first half, compared to 13.2% growth in the Middle East, it says. China's Beijing airport remains the second busiest airport in the world behind Atlanta in the US, with 39.3 million passing through its gates in H1. Major hubs in the region experienced growth in passenger traffic, with Bangkok up 14.2%, Dubai up 13.7% and both Singapore and Seoul Incheon welcomed 11.6% more passengers.

ACI also noted an 'encouraging' rebound in traffic through Japanese airports after the tsunami last year, with Osaka Kansai and Tokyo Narita both recording 21% increases in passenger numbers in the first half of 2012.

Don't Kiss The Buddha

Three tourists in Sri Lanka were reportedly fined and given suspended six-month prison sentences after photographing themselves kissing a Buddha statue on the lips and imitating its pose. The tourists were nabbed after they took their photos in to be printed and an employee at the store called the police, AFP reported. Sri Lanka is known as being very sensitive about foreigners showing disrespect to Buddha images.

NZ Pacific Fares

Air New Zealand has new tactical Pacific Island fares for sales to 28 Aug. Inclusive ow Seat + Bag fares ex Auckland to Fiji/Samoa/New Caledonia/Niue are from \$254, Tonga is from \$224, Norfolk Island from \$184 and Tahiti from \$384. Travel dates vary. See airnzagent.co.nz

PG Increases BKK-RGN

Bangkok Airways has added a new daily service between Bangkok and Yangon, says local PG rep Airline Marketing. PG705 will depart BKK at 2015 daily from 15 Sep, arriving in RGN at 2130, and return flight PG706 will depart RGN at 0715, arriving 0930.

Whales In New Cal

Migrating humpback whales have returned to New Caledonia to breed and will hang around until mid-Sep, says New Caledonia Tourism. New Cal's lagoon offers warm waters and protection from killer whales. Operators which run whale-watching trips include Caledonie Charter Association, Aquanature, Dal'Ocean Charter, LHOOQ Taxi-Boat, Catamania Charter and Karede.

NZ Investigates Handler

Air New Zealand is investigating after an A320 service from ZQN to AKL was cancelled this month because a baggage handler pierced the ceiling of the cargo hold with a crowbar while trying to release baggage. The aircraft required repairs and while NZ says the outside of the hull was not compromised, it was flown to Christchurch under 'non-pressurised conditions' below 10,000 feet. NZ says its procedures have been changed to reduce the likelihood of its baggage cans sticking in the hold.

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QF Pilots Grounded

Qantas has stood two pilots down after they reportedly argued in the cockpit of an Australia-bound 747 that was delayed in Dallas waiting for bad weather to pass. The carrier says the pair have been withheld from service 'pending investigation into an administrative matter', and the flight delay was due to the weather conditions rather than their conduct.

Win 2 Tickets to Bali



Later this month, a team each from Flight Centre, House of Travel and Stella (United Travel and Harvey World Travel) will compete in the inaugural Great Race Bali — and Travel Today will be there to cover the race as it unfolds.

To celebrate, retail consultants who correctly answer the three weekly questions will go into a draw to win two Air New Zealand Works airfares to Bali, so they can experience Air NZ's new destination for themselves.

All three answers must be sent in a single e-mail to GreatRaceBali@traveltoday.co.nz. by 31AUG12.

Each entrant must also "like" our Travel Today NZ Facebook page.

Question 2

What aircraft type does NZ operate on its non-stop Bali service?

1: A320 2: 767 3: 777 4: A380



The full list of terms and conditions can be downloaded by clicking here.

AUGUST

RCL Cruises Road Show

Whangarei: Wed 22, Brantome Villa, 454 Crane Road, RD1 Kauri, 1730.

Auckland South: Thu 23, Villa Maria Estate, 118 Montgomerie Road, Mangere, 1800.

Dunedin: Tue 28, Rhubarb Wine Bar, 299 Highgate, Roslyn, 1730.

Queenstown: Wed 29, Sofitel Queenstown - Cellar Room, 8 Duke Street, 1730.

TAANZ AGM

Auckland: Tue 28, Hilton Hotel, from 1500.

SEPTEMBER

New Zealand Travel Industry Awards Gala Dinner

Auckland: Sat 08, The Langham, Auckland.

The Exotic Asia & India Roadshow

Tauranga: Mon 10, My Choice Indian Bistro, 20 Wharf Street, 1730-2030.

Auckland: Tue 11, Imperial Sichuan Restaurant, 164 Parnell Rd, 1730-2030.

Choice Metropolis AKL

Choice Hotels has added Auckland's iconic Metropolis hotel to its luxury accommodation portfolio. The Metropolis—Clarion Collection offers 60 apartment-style guest suites and a function centre located within the old baroque Magistrates Court. Cliff Morgan is the hotel's general manager.



Carrington Resort Joins Peppers

The Carrington Resort in Northland, which recently left the Heritage Hotels group, announced Mon it has joined Peppers. The golf resort on the Karikari Peninsula will be known as Peppers Carrington Resort, and is the third Kiwi property to join Peppers this year. The resort says aligning itself with Peppers will lift its profile both locally and in Australia. It is offering a Captivating Coastal Escape package from \$495pn per couple including breakfast, dinner, welcome bottle of wine and unlimited golf, valid to 31 Oct.

Singapore Hotel Rates On The Rise

Hotel room rates in Singapore are on the rise, and while supply may be squeezed in the short term, new rooms are on the way in 2013, says the latest data from STR Global.

"Looking forward, we are expecting

Intrepid's Good Deeds

Intrepid Travel's Intrepid Foundation has just celebrated its 10th birthday, and over the last decade has donated more than \$3 million to community organisations around the world. Travellers are given the opportunity to give back to communities they visit, and Intrepid matches donations dollar for dollar.

New MPM Terminal

A new domestic terminal is due to open at Maputo International Airport in Mozambique this Oct, World Journeys reports. Facilities include 14 check-in counters, offices, a main hall and commercial area, health clinic, restaurants and pharmacies.

New For Rocky

Rocky Mountaineer will next year add a stop at Lake Louise on its First Passage to the West journey, offer Silver-Leaf Service on its Journey Through the Clouds route and debut its Coastal Passage route which departs from and arrives in the US.

Stopping at Lake Louise means passengers staying at The Fairmont Lake Louise can transfer directly to the hotel, says Rocky Mountaineer.

Meanwhile the new Coastal route connects Seattle and Vancouver to the Canadian Rockies, travelling the coastal shorelines of the Pacific Northwest and renowned landscapes of BC.

to see Singapore increasing room supply by 6.1% by the end of 2013," says STR Global md Elizabeth Randall Winkle. "While occupancies may see some pressure in the short to medium term in some areas, rates in the overall market are likely to continue in an upward trend. As such, our latest *Hotel Market Forecast* indicates that RevPAR growth will continue for the remainder of the year and in 2013, mainly led by average daily rate growth," she says. Singapore ADR increased in the year to Jun to AGD296.6, and RevPAR increased 8.2%.

From The Only In NZL File

A kiwi couple at Rainbow Springs may have to be separated so they stop producing eggs. Male kiwi Tika is said to be getting carried away with the fun part of reproducing but neglecting his responsibilities elsewhere.

"It appears that because Tika isn't occupying himself incubating eggs he's busy doing other things...and we keep getting eggs. While it's wonderful for the preservation of the captive kiwi population it's quite a strain on [female kiwi] Ahi, laying such big eggs," says Rainbow Springs' Claire Travers. Ahi's father has been incubating two eggs but can't quite manage a third so it will have to be artificially incubated, says the park. The new kiwis will be on public display after they hatch.

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Have you heard the news? Cruiseabout, Flight Centre's specialist cruising brand, has taken Australia by storm! Now this award-winning travel business is operating in NZ with 6 stores currently operating, we are opening another store in Pukekohe in September!

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**Introducing Stella's
Great Race Bali Team**
one race, one team, one winner

**Steven Sievright
United Taupo**

I'm 45 years old with a background in sports. I've completed three Ironman triathlons and in multiple other outdoor events. Nothing stands in the way of victory and I go by the Nike mantra 'Just Do It'. Having travelled extensively and faced many challenges in my life, I look forward to whatever I face in Bali. Losing is not something we have considered. Our brands support us, we support each other and as our slogan says, One Race, One Team, One Winner!



**Stephanie Moss
United Whangarei**

I'm the hunting, fishing chick so I'm guessing my adventurous nature is what has got me into all this. Affectionately known as Ms Mischievous though, I like to bring my fun side along and make that part of everything I do. I live at the beach and you'll find me in, on or near the water wherever and whenever possible. I'm also known for my love of nature and I love nothing better than a campfire in the deepest darkest forest next to a river or lake full of fish. Bring it on.



**Bruce Blacklock
HWT Wellington City**

Six Million Dollar man, we can rebuild him and they have thanks to the tax payer, the old man and Mr Coffin. Second-hand kidneys, new lenses in my eyes and flash gadgets in my ears, I think I'm just over six mill. I'm here to prove you can do whatever you want when you put your mind to it. I love a challenge and taking the proverbial out of the losing teams. Strategy 'Get Under Skin' starts 25 Aug—bring it on.



**Kylie Henare
HWT Palmerston North**

Having worked for both UT and HWT who better to represent the Stella brand. I'm only in this to win, so I look forward to bringing home the goods for our Stella colleagues. From the moment we arrive you won't be able to stop me. I'll eat whatever I need to, do whatever I need to—Team Stella is unstoppable. Flighties, HoT you ain't got nothing on us! I'm more of an Indian, we can't all be chiefs. So I just get on with what I'm told like a little trooper would.



What To Do In CHC

A new interactive Christchurch map lets people get up-to-date information on what to do, see and eat in the city. It is available for mobile devices, and includes markets, places to stay, where to find free Wi-Fi, dining and shopping. See findchc.com

GO Bali J Class

GO Holidays has Bali packages on sale until 28 Aug including business class Air New Zealand flights. Prices start at \$3235pp for eight nights at the five-star Pan Pacific Nirwana Bali. The deals are valid for travel 21 Aug-14 Oct, blackouts apply.

Cinderella At CityLife

CityLife Auckland, the host hotel for the Royal New Zealand Ballet during the Cinderella season, has a Cinderella package 05-10 Sep. The deal, \$149pn, includes a bottle of bubbles, valet parking and, for bookings before 30 Aug, a Linden Leaves gift.

ZQN Heli Tours Permit

Queenstown's Heli Tours has an 18-year multi conservancy concession for helicopter landings which gives it advantages including offering multiple landing options where others might be limited by bad weather, and always being able to take clients to the snow.



Red Nose Day Photo Competition

Travel Today, in conjunction with official Cure Kids partner Accor, is asking the trade to get a little silly for Red Nose Day (24 Aug) and win!

Send us your silliest red nose picture and you'll go into the draw to win a three-day weekend car rental (C Group) with Avis and two nights at any of Accor's Novotel properties in New Zealand

Entries must be received by close of business **Tue 28 Aug**. E-mail photos to news@traveltoday.co.nz






red nose day to cure kids

Terms and Conditions
The prize comprises two nights accommodation, including buffet breakfast for two, at any of Accor's Novotel, Mercure, Ibis and All Seasons hotels in New Zealand. The prize must be taken by 31 March 2013, and is subject to availability. Redemption of the prize is via an email to Peter.Hook@accor.com, providing at least one month's notice of the request. The prize is not redeemable for cash and is not transferrable.



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