

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

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Wednesday 05 June 2013

Issue 2619

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



Flooding Impacts River Cruises

Europe river cruises have been cancelled or disrupted due to 'unprecedented high water levels' and severe flooding in Central Europe.

Higher water levels on the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers are disrupting some itineraries, says Uniworld, and the company has cancelled four upcoming cruises as it monitors the situation. The company is in contact with the Kiwis on affected cruises, as well as their agents.

Viking says it has managed to continue operating many of its itineraries by switching sister ships—and it continues to evaluate the situation as it changes, with passenger safety front of mind.

"A fair few sailings are impacted but we endeavour as far as possible to run the itineraries as most of our guests

would already be in Europe," says Viking River Cruises' Teresia Fors. "Luckily with our very large fleet size and many years of experience handling these unfortunate situations, the situation for the guests booked on the affected itineraries, under the circumstance is the best it can be," she adds. Avalon Waterways New Zealand gm Troy Ackerman says the company has been able to organise coach tours, accommodation and sightseeing for many of its affected passengers. "Wherever possible we are also offering our passengers alternate cruise and land itineraries however with the scale of disruption, this has not always been possible," he says.

Compensation, including full refunds and future cruise credits, are being offered by each company to those affected by the cancellations.

... Trafalgar OK

Meanwhile, Trafalgar reports its operations are running as scheduled, with minor route changes, and walking tours of Prague have continued. For updates, see each company's website.

High-Rise Hotel Denied

Dunedin City Council has blocked the building of a controversial 27-storey hotel on the city's waterfront. The council decision follows fierce opposition from the local community—it attracted a record number of submissions, mostly against the proposal.

JQ's 787 Big Reveal

Qantas Group's new Dreamliner, which is destined to be used by Jetstar, has been unveiled in Seattle—and *Travel Today* was there for the big reveal. See P4 for the details and photos of the brand new aircraft.

NZ, TK Codeshare

Air New Zealand and Turkish Airlines have signed a codeshare agreement which will see NZ place its code on TK services from London, Los Angeles and Hong Kong to Istanbul.

NZ will also place its code on services between Istanbul and Ankara, while TK's code will appear on NZ's flights from LHR-LAX; AKL-LAX/HKG/BNE/SYD/MEL/WLG/CHC/ZQN; WLG-SYD/MEL; and CHC-BNE/SYD/MEL.

IATA's New Chairman

Delta Air Lines chief executive Richard Anderson has taken over from Qantas boss Alan Joyce as chairman of the IATA Board of Governors, IATA announced at the conclusion of its agm yesterday. Anderson's one-year term will last until next year's IATA agm, which will be held in Doha and hosted by Qatar Airways. He will be succeeded by Air Canada president Calin Rovinescu. Top of the agenda for IATA this year is the environment, as well as moving forward with the New Distribution Capability, says IATA boss Tony Tyler.

Kiss For A Cuppa

Tell your Sydney bound couples they can pucker up for a coffee at the Metro St James café! The café's just reopened after a renovation, and according to its Facebook page, 'genuine' couples need only exchange a smooch for their cup of joe. "It has to be a real kiss, I can see if it's a fake kiss," says the café owner.

4 Pages This Issue

Families Travel Free in Paris

- Book a Eurostar (London-Paris or vice versa) or any Pass that includes France and receive a FREE Paris Metro Card per person.
- Booking must include a child and adult to receive the Free Metro Card.
- Sale Ends: 17th June 2013

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TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY **Instant Poll**

Have you seen a spike in holiday bookings due to the wintry weather?

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



The Royal Collection



Europe's most luxurious river cruises
Brochures now available from Brochure Net

Intrepid Kenya Famil

Intrepid Travel has space on a famil to Kenya this 10-17 Nov. Based on Intrepid's Kenya Wildlife Safari, agents will visit Nairobi, Lake Nakuru, Lake Naivasha, Loita Hills and the Masai Mara National Reserve, looking out for the region's famous wildlife along the way. The famil is FOC but agents need to organise their own flights. For details, e-mail leah.johnson@intrepidtravel.com by this Fri.

JQ Launches Uluru

Jetstar's first flight from Sydney to Uluru launched yesterday afternoon and to celebrate JQ has fares on sale until midnight tonight (AEST), starting at AUD129 one-way. Ayers Rock Resort is also offering special rates on sale until 1700 Fri (AEST) starting from AUD249pp t/s for two nights, children under 12 stay free. See ayersrockresort.com.au/sale

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Profits Rise, Record Loads In 2013

IATA now expects airlines to earn USD12.7 billion in profit this year as load factors look to reach record highs and fuel prices fall, the association announced at its agm in Cape Town this weekend.

The new outlook is USD2.7 billion higher than IATA had forecast in Mar of this year, and compares with last year's USD7.6 billion profit. Profit margins remain weak, at 1.8%—but this is still the third highest margin since 2001, says IATA.

The association is putting the improvement down to more efficient

use of assets by airlines, with load factors expected to average above 80% for the first time in history despite high numbers of new aircraft deliveries. Ancillary products are expected to contribute over 5% of revenue, compared to 0.5% in 2007. Meanwhile oil prices will average around USD108 a barrel, compared to last year's average of USD111.80.

... AsPac Leads

All regions are expected to report a profit in 2013, but Asia Pacific will lead in both absolute profit and earnings before interest and tax.

Airlines in the region are expected to post a combined profit of USD4.6 billion in 2013, driven by strong growth in China. Demand is expected to grow 6.3% ahead of a 5.6% growth in capacity.

LON Industry Rates

The Jumeirah Carlton Tower and Jumeirah Lowndes Hotel in London are offering the travel industry 50% off the best available rate, e-mail jctrreservations@jumeirah.com or jlhreservations@jumeirah.com for details.

SB Advance Purchase

Aircalin has removed the 21-day advance purchase rule from its year-round W class wholesale fares. Agents can now capitalise on late bookings 'particularly with the start of the winter season', and are guaranteed to find W class in their CRS all year whether clients want to book for next week or next year. W is available on all four flights between Auckland and Noumea using SB flight numbers. Agents can see and book W class itineraries, but ticketing can only be done by SB's preferred wholesale partners.

QF Tactical Asia

Qantas has tactical economy fares to Hong Kong, Jakarta, Manila and Shanghai from \$1299 and Tokyo from \$1499 return for sales to 15 Jun. Travel dates vary. See qantas.co.nz/agents

Extended Airporter Bus

Travellers heading to or from Auckland Airport from Mangere or Onehunga will have a new Airporter bus service from 09 Jun, says Auckland Airport. The extended bus service will run every 30 minutes at peak times and hourly off-peak 0500-2000, continuing from the old end-point of Manukau city through Mangere town centre and Mangere Bridge, terminating at the Onehunga Transport Centre. Fares are from \$16 ow. See at.co.nz

EY Adds Brazil

Etihad Airways has commenced thrice-weekly non-stop flights to Sao Paulo from its Abu Dhabi hub, becoming the airline's first South America destination. The service is operated by an A340 aircraft in a three-class configuration.

20% Off NZ Asia

Air New Zealand has 20% off economy and premium economy Global Saver fares to selected Asia destinations for sales to 16 Jun. Inclusive levels ex Auckland include Hong Kong from \$1486, Tokyo from \$1489, Ho Chi Minh from \$1605 (via HKG) and Phnom Penh from \$1612 (via HKG). Travel dates vary. See airnzagent.co.nz



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Rarotonga from
\$504 return
for travel June and July.

Virgin Australia has return airfares from Auckland to Rarotonga during June and July starting at an amazing \$504 return per adult, or an incredible \$349 per child!

Contact your clients now but hurry, sale ends Monday 17 June 2013

Travel is valid 05 June - 31 July 2013 and 15 October - November 2013. Sale ends Monday 17 June 2013. Child age is 2-11 years. Conditions apply.



NZ Reduces PI Fares

Air New Zealand has reduced its tactical Tonga, Samoa and Rarotonga fares by \$25 ow for sales to 30 Jun. Advertising is not permitted and all other fare conditions remain the same. See airnzagent.co.nz

CZ Receives Dreamliner

Boeing and China Southern Airlines are celebrating the delivery of the carrier's first 787 Dreamliner—the first received by a Chinese airline. The carrier is expected to operate its first 787s on domestic China routes, before introducing it on long-haul international services. It has 10 Dreamliners on order.

MH Boosts Phuket

Malaysia Airlines is increasing its frequency from Kuala Lumpur to Phuket to 26 times a week with the introduction of a new daily service from 01 Jun.

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Expedia Mobile App Extends To Agents

Expedia TAAP-registered agents can now earn commission when processing bookings through the Expedia Mobile App.

Agents will earn the same commission levels they would when booking over their desktop or laptop PC—ideal for home-based consultants, those on the road or just the odd out-of-office booking, says Expedia. Once the app is downloaded, agents just need to use the same Expedia account as they have registered for Expedia TAAP. The booking will automatically be tracked and accrued to the existing account.

“These new mobile tools enable

agents to work from anywhere with the confidence they are earning commission and are supported no matter what booking platform they use,” says Stuart Udy, head of Expedia TAAP in Australia and New Zealand. See expedia.co.nz/p/info-mobile/app.htm

VA Cook Islands Sale

Virgin Australia has return airfares to Rarotonga starting from \$504 for adults or \$349 children aged two-11, on sale until 17 Jun. The fares are valid for travel 05 Jun-31 Jul and 15 Oct-Nov.

Got News?

e-mail
news@traveltoday.co.nz



Star's New LHR Home



Star Alliance members including Air New Zealand have started counting down to the opening of their new home at Heathrow Airport in a year's time.

Terminal 2 is set to open on 04 Jun 2014, with the 23 Star members serving LHR scheduled to move in over six months.

It will be the first time they operate from a single terminal, and will lead to shorter connection times, improved service and more automated processes, says NZ. “The move will make a significant difference to the overall passenger experience for those travelling to London including better connectivity and an enhanced facilitation process,” says NZ's chief marketing and customer officer Mike Tod.

The terminal will feature 52 shops, 17 bars and restaurants and ‘family friendly’ facilities, says the airport.

GO Fiji With FJ

GO Holidays has Fiji packages with Fiji Airways fares for sales to 05 Jul. Four nights at Anchorage Beach Resort is from \$799pp s/t with flights, and clients can upgrade to the Shangri-La Fijian Resort & Spa, five nights from \$1239, or seven nights with Plantation Island from \$1379pp s/t. Kids stay and fly from \$299. Upgrades to business class are available, and all bookings will receive a free Pure Fiji gift pack. GO has details.

Kiwi Agents On All-Ages Contiki Famil

Three Kiwi agents joined a group from around the world on an all-ages Contiki famil to Europe recently. The eight-day tour travelled from London to Munich, with stops in Paris and Lucerne. Highlights included the Eiffel Tower, biking around Munich and a night at Contiki's own 16th century Chateau de Cruix in the French countryside. “Extending this famil to include agents of all ages was a way for everyone to experience the Contiki culture, whether they fall into the youth demographic or are simply young at heart,” says Contiki regional manager sales and marketing Tony Laskey. Pictured are Claire Illes, Orbit Nelson and Emma Pilkington, House of Travel Taupo, sampling local cuisine in Lucerne; and Amy Kinniburgh from Contiki's reservations team in Auckland with Melissa Cox of United Travel Feilding.

Surprising Moments

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Boeing And Qantas Group In Seattle

JQ's First Dreamliner Reaches Final Stages In Seattle

QF's 737 Milestone

Tonight Qantas celebrates the delivery of its 250th Boeing aircraft and 100th 737 with a special delivery dinner in Seattle, and *Travel Today* will be there for the historic occasion—before jumping on board QF's new 737 for the delivery flight to Australia. For details and the story, see tomorrow's *Travel Today*.

Jetstar executives travelled to Boeing's Everett factory this week to view the carrier's first 787 Dreamliner—which will be the first 787 to operate in Australia and New Zealand.

Travel Today was also at the wide body factory in Seattle to check out the new aircraft, which is in its final stages of assembly and is scheduled for delivery late Sep.

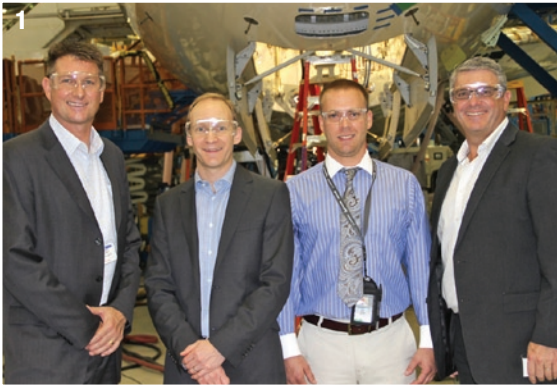
JQ will work with CASA to certify

the 787 locally before it enters commercial service in Nov, initially flying domestically in Australia before serving international routes by the end of the year. Possible domestic routes include the Gold Coast and Cairns.

Features of JQ's 787 include Panasonic entertainment eX2 systems with video on demand, games and gate-to-gate availability on every seat; 'seat chat', USB accessibility

and in-seat power in both business and economy; larger cabin windows with electronic dimmers; cleaner air and higher humidity levels; less noise; larger overhead lockers; and leather seating.

JQ will receive three 787s by the end of this year, one of which is slated to eventually operate Auckland-Singapore. The carrier will have an all 787 longhaul fleet by 2015.



**Industry
Diary**

JUNE

The Travel Corporation's Nth and Sth America 2013/14 launch

Tauranga: Wed 5, Classic Flyers - Mount Maunganui, 1730. **Christchurch:** Mon 10, Trevinos, 1730. **Wellington:** Tue 11, The Establishment, 1730. **Palmerston North:** Wed 12, Bar One7Five, 1730. **New Plymouth:** Thu 13, The Waterfront Hotel, 1730.

Emirates Agent Training

Auckland: Tue 18, The Pullman Hotel, Gallery 2, 0900-1230 or 1400-1730. **Auckland:** Wed 19, The Pullman Hotel, Gallery 2, 0900-1230 or 1400-1730. **Auckland:** Thu 20, The Pullman Hotel, Gallery 2, 0900-1230 or 1400-1730. **Wellington:** Tue 25, The Mercure Hotel, Kent Room, 0900-1230 or 1330-1700. **Christchurch:** Wed 26, The Rendezvous Hotel, 0900-1230 or 1400-1730. **Christchurch:** Thu 27, The Rendezvous Hotel, 0900-1230 or 1400-1730.

Explore Samoa and its Amazing Treasures

Auckland: Wed 19 Jun, The Floating Pavilion, 1715-1930.

AUGUST

Australian Tri-state Workshop 20-21, Melbourne Victoria.



1: JQ's lead 787 pilot Jeremy Schmidt; Mark Dal Pra, director of JQ's 787 programme; Pete Young, JQ engineer currently based in Seattle to liaise with Boeing and Steve Limbrick, QF executive manager, sales, marketing and distribution, domestic during their tour of Boeing's Dreamline production line in Washington. **2:** Pilot Jeremy Schmidt trying out a mock 787 cockpit which embodies several major innovations. **3:** JQ's Dreamliner on the assembly line. **4:** 787 line, with the JQ 787 at the back. **5:** The wing components manufactured by Boeing in Victoria, Australia, being fitted to the JQ 787. **6:** JQ's Dreamliner