

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

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Issue 2962

TRAVEL
TODAY

The Newsbreaker

TRAVEL
TODAY

Disneyland Turning 60; Agent Incentive

Disneyland is turning 60 next year and it's keen to involve New Zealand in its diamond anniversary celebrations—including with a special incentive for travel agents. The park opened its doors on 17 Jul 1955, and 60 years later it's seeing a record number of Kiwis visiting, with New Zealand one of the fastest growing international territories.

Next northern spring Disneyland will launch celebrations not just at the park but in surrounding hotels and in Anaheim, says local Walt

Disney Parks and Resorts director Lee Siefken.

"New Zealand guests have a very special connection with Disneyland, as it brings out the child in all of us and helps us to create unforgettable memories," says Siefken. "The planning is underway and our goal is to launch the festivities early 2015, so that guests can take part in the official Diamond Celebration when they visit the park from spring 2015."

Disney will also bring part of the celebrations to New Zealand, says Siefken, and while the details remain under wraps she says it will include an incentive so agents have the chance to win a trip to Disneyland to experience the 60th for themselves. Similar to the incentive launched this year, it will be based on sales and probably launch early next year.

... Trip Of A Lifetime

Disney fan Leisa Steele of Harvey World Travel, who won last year's incentive, says it was the 'trip of a lifetime' including a visit to Walt Disney World and a Disney cruise. "Every night was fantastic, they really took care of us," says Steele.

While she's been to Disneyland a couple of times, Steele says she'd love to get back to experience some of the new attractions, especially Cars Land, which is what many of her clients are booking trips for.

1855 Guns On Board

Security officers at airports in the US have discovered 1855 firearms in passenger's carry-on in the first 10 months of this year, 1471 of which were loaded, says the Department of Homeland Security. In the same time 3048 firearms, firearm components, replica firearms, stun guns and similar 'dangerous objects' have been discovered.

Looking For Lizzie

A Canadian man is on the hunt for a woman to share in his round-the-world trip from New York to Toronto—but she must be named Elizabeth Gallagher, and hold a Canadian passport. The man booked the trip with his then-girlfriend, and needs to give the ticket to someone with the same name. They'll have to pay all their other expenses and there's other requirements, including being 'sane, smart and willing to pay it forward one day.'

ZQN The Top Airport

Queenstown Airport has been named the major airport of the year at the New Zealand Airports Conference, for its work towards introducing night flights.

ZQN this year won approval from the New Zealand and Australian civil aviation authorities for the introduction of after-dark flights, and judges said they were impressed with the collaborative approach, safety-first emphasis and potential benefits to the tourism industry and local economy.

Tauranga Airport took the regional airport of the year title, which it clinched thanks to its work towards enhancing its facilities by reclaiming a former dump site.

Kaye McNabb, boss of Nelson Airport was named airport personality of the year. Judges said she's very active in the industry and was a key driver behind forming the Top of the South Aviation Cluster.

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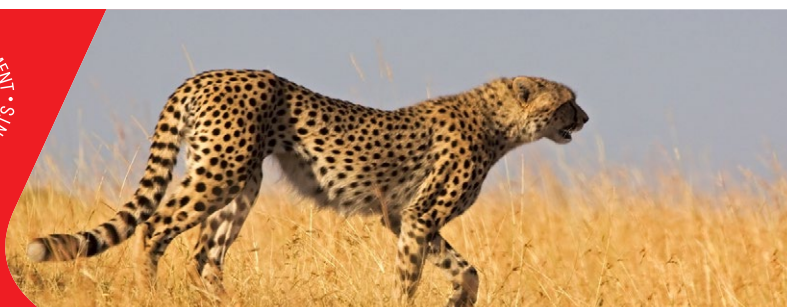


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Galactic Pilot Error?

Investigators have pointed to an error on the part of the Virgin Galactic co-pilot as contributing to the ship's crash last weekend, as the space carrier says it's going ahead with building its second SpaceShipTwo. The co-pilot, who did not survive the crash, unlocked the craft's moveable tail section too early, causing the section to swivel out, NTSB officials have said. The aircraft crashed shortly after and officials have said the move at least partly contributed. It's unknown yet why the co-pilot unlocked the handle early, and investigations could take up to a year. Meanwhile Virgin said on Twitter that it is continuing to build SpaceShipTwo and is moving forward 'deliberately and with determination'.

NZ Revises Tahiti

Air New Zealand advises that some long-term business class fares to Tahiti have reduced to \$1405 one-way for sales and travel effective immediately. A new long-term Z class level of \$1278 now has been introduced to align to Islands Smart saver fare rules, adds the carrier. All other fares and conditions remain the same. See airnzagent.co.nz

GO EK J Class LON

GO Holidays has Emirates business class companion fares with London accommodation for sales to 08 Dec and travel 20 Jan-31 Oct. Three nights with breakfast is from \$8769pp s/t. GO has details.

Salt Lake SFO/LAX

Alaska Airlines now operates Salt Lake City, Utah services, advises local rep World Aviation. Inclusive return levels ex Los Angeles are from \$254 return or from \$346 ex San Francisco. Valid for booking and travel any time.

Qantas Mulls Upgrade Auctions

Qantas is apparently exploring ways to offer on-line auctions for upgrades.

The carrier is reportedly conducting market research, including focus groups, to determine a model for the programme, in which QF would notify passengers a week before departure that upgrade seats were available. They then offer their bid in a combination of cash and frequent flyer points.

The carrier has refused to comment, saying it is 'always looking at new ways to reward our customers but we don't comment on speculation'.

The concept is similar to Air New Zealand's OneUp programme, except

that Qantas Frequent Flyer members would have their upgrade requests dealt with ahead of non-members straight away. NZ copped criticism when it introduced OneUp in 2011, for not recognising Gold Elite and other high-value customers ahead of general bidders, at least at first.

Other carriers including Virgin Australia, Cathay Pacific and Etihad Airways also use upgrade auctions.



Flighties And eNett

Flight Centre is partnering with eNett to use Virtual Account Numbers (VANs), the company announced today. The relationship between the two began in 2011 when Flight Centre chose eNett to provide automated credit and debit card payment processing, and Flight Centre will now use eNett VANs for some of its international supplier payments.

Starwood HLZ Event

Starwood is inviting Waikato agents to an event next Tue night to hear about the company's plans for 2015, including new hotels and destinations, and the new SPG Pro agent programme. There's also prizes to be won. It's on from 1730-1930 at the Arena Lounge in Hamilton, see t-mail sent today and RSVP to simon.foster@starwoodhotels.com

WCC's Green Light

It's been claimed that up to \$25 million in new annual spending could be brought to Wellington when the Wellington Convention Centre (WCC) opens in 2017. The facility, given the green light to go ahead from the Wellington City Council overnight, will potentially facilitate 57,000 additional delegate days per year to the 161,000 recorded in 2013. Business Events Wellington says it is already working to secure larger events for the city, which has been constrained by the size of existing facilities in the past.



New Connecting Corridor At San Francisco

A new corridor that allows passengers to move freely between terminals one and two has opened at San Francisco Airport. The elevated structure has windows with views across the airfield, intermittent seating, Wi-Fi, and art displays.

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AATKings

CPIT Students' Taste Of Cruise Life



A group of keen Christchurch travel industry students got their first taste of the cruise trade recently, visiting Princess Cruises' Dawn Princess in Auckland.

The Christchurch Polytechnic approached Princess with a request to view a ship—which they've been unable to do since cruise ships visiting Canterbury only visit Akaroa, and tender passengers to shore, doing away with the possibility of ship visits for locals.

The group of 18 students were on a North Island tour and incorporated the ship visit into their itinerary.

"Many of the students want to be agents, so they'll be selling cruise holidays, while some want to work onboard ships," says CPIT travel tutor and programme coordinator Tracey Coulthard.

"It was a highlight of the tour and a fantastic learning experience."

Coulthard says the travel industry has been one of the few growth industries in Christchurch, partly because many residents have decided to spend money on holidays to gain perspective on what's important in their life. Her class is completing a

one-year travel course and hope to work in the thriving industry.

Pictured onboard Dawn Princess is, back row from left: Students Danielle Mead, Katelyn Crafts, Maia Hiini, Kirtika Reddy, Rebekah Ellis, Sian McCormick, and CPIT's Jill Goodwin. Middle row from left: Shannon O'Brien, Lanessa Roberts, Rebecca Hastings, Eartha Yuen Ting Lee, Zoe Bishop, Hannah Smart, Anna Rowlands and April Joy Pollock.

Front Row: CPIT's Tracey Coulthard with students Justine Planteau de Maroussem, Dawn Princess's cruise director Marahscalh Stanton, and CPIT students Courtney Van-der-Eik and Melodie Clark.

Viking Extends Air

Viking River Cruises has extended its \$1169pp offer for return Europe flights until 15 Dec, advises GO Holidays. GO has details.

CLIA Adds Agent Tier

CLIA Australasia is adding another tier to its agent accreditation programme, between the Accredited Cruise Consultants and Master Cruise Consultants levels. The Cruise Ambassador level groups agents who have attained accredited status, accumulated 200 accreditation points, undertaken two additional elective modules and sailed for an additional three nights at least on a CLIA cruise line member's ship. CLIA Australasia gm Brett Jardine says the new tier will create extra recognition for agents. He says there are now 1725 active accredited agents in Australia and New Zealand.

P&O First Contact

P&O cruises is launching a new ad campaign in New Zealand, encouraging 'earthlings' to discover a cruise holiday and become 'cruisings'. The ad is directed by *Crocodile Dundee* director Russel Boyd, and features a soundtrack by the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra. P&O Cruises marketing and distribution director Simon Cheng said the 'Be Free Earthlings' campaign built on the cruise line's brand repositioning launched in Jul with the new 'Like No Place on Earth' messaging. "P&O Cruises is about to enter a new era of cruising with its biggest ever fleet so we really wanted an advertising campaign which would make people appreciate how a cruise holiday takes you to another world, free from the routine of life," he says. See beforeearthlings.com

Galapagos Webinar

Lindblad Expeditions is hosting a Galapagos webinar at 1300 13 Nov with its expert Lynn Fowler. Agents will learn about excursions available to passengers, and have the chance to ask Fowler questions. All Lindblad webinars are available on its website immediately after the main broadcast. Click [HERE](#) to register.



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Heritage Line Cruising On The Mekong

The Heritage Line offers boutique river cruises on the Mekong River on the luxury Jayavarman or the Jahan between Saigon and Siem Reap, says World Journeys. The journeys combine luxury accommodation with in-depth excursions and local experiences. They're priced from \$2203pp t/s for a seven-night Lost Civilisations cruise, including all meals, shore excursions, transfers and transport. Shorter three-night itineraries are also available between Phnom Penh and Siem Reap or Saigon.

Exodus 2015 Deals

Exodus has \$150 off its 2015 hiking tours for sales in Nov, advises local rep Adventure World. Options include the eight-day Mont Blanc Highlights, priced from \$1605pp including chalet accommodation and exploring the mountain town of Chamonix, or the eight-day Amalfi Coast tour, exploring the Sorrentino Peninsula, priced from \$1675pp. Details ph: 0508 496 753.



MINI In New Zealand

Europcar advises that the Mini Hatch Cooper is now available for hire in New Zealand. The company's North Island locations already have the vehicle, and the South Island will have it from Dec, says local rep Alka Thapar. The vehicle, described as 'zippy', is a three-door hatch which seats four people, with MP3/CD player, Bluetooth, rear parking sensors and dynamic traction control. Launch rates are from \$89 per day.

Industry Diary

NOVEMBER 2014

Innovative's 2015 Product Launch

Auckland: Mon 10, La Cigale, 1730.

Tauranga: Tue 11, Macau, 1730.

Wellington: Tue 18, The Wellington Club, 1730. **Christchurch:** Wed 19,

Ilam Homestead, 1730.

Korea Movie Night

Auckland: Tue 18 Nov, 1800-2100, Event Cinemas Broadway.

Oman: Best Kept Secret of Arabia

Auckland: Tue 18, Floating Pavillion, 1800-2100.

Ireland Travel Trade Workshop

Auckland: Mon 24, the Pullman Hotel, 1730.

FEBRUARY 2015

Queensland on Tour

Auckland: Tue 03, afternoon and evening workshops, details tba.

Remaining RWC Tickets Sale Details

Around 300,000 tickets for the Rugby World Cup 2015 which weren't sold in the ballot will go on sale at the end of Nov.

The tickets span 25 matches in three stages, and include All Blacks matches against Georgia, Namibia and Tonga. On 24 and 25 Nov, there's a pre-sale for applicants who were unsuccessful in the ballot, followed

by one for those who didn't get all the tickets they applied for in the ballot, and the remainder of the tickets are open to sale for everyone from 28 Nov. Prices range from GBP15. Organisers say there was record demand for tickets in the Sep sale, which exceeded supply for many matches. See rugbyworldcup.com/ticketing All Blacks Tours is the official RWC agent for New Zealand. See allblackstours.com

One Million To Moher

The Cliffs of Moher has welcomed one million visitors in a year for the first time—and agents can hear firsthand about the attraction's growth from its director at the Irish Trade Mission in Nov. The attraction has seen a 12% increase in visitor numbers so far this year, and its visitor centre has seen substantial investment in product and facilities. For details on the Irish Trade Mission, heading to Auckland on 24 Nov, see t-mail sent today or [CLICK HERE](#)

New CHC Hotel

A new luxury boutique hotel has opened in the middle of Christchurch. Hotel Montreal offers 25 rooms and a three-bedroom penthouse, all with balconies, iPads and free Wi-Fi, and the hotel also offers an on-site gym and Polo Bar. See hotelmontreal.co.nz

Transfer Co's Award

Sunshine Coast airport transfer and tour operator Con-X-ion Transport Services has won the Gold Coast Business Excellence Award for Tourism, Hospitality and Events in Oct, advises Sunshine Coast Destination. The company will be considered for the GCBEA supreme award this month.

LINQ Opens In Vegas

The LINQ Hotel and Casino has officially opened its doors on the Las Vegas Strip, advises Discover the World. The hotel is a 'complete re-imagining' for the Quad Resort and Casino, and features high-tech options like customised Spotify playlists and an interactive room service system that can be accessed by smartphone. As well as standard rooms, there are five different kinds of suites. The hotel is the result of the industry's shift from a focus on gaming to a more multi-dimensional hospitality and entertainment business, says Caesars Entertainment. Contact wholesalers for details of special opening rates.

Paddington Tea AKL

The Langham Auckland is tapping in to Paddington bear movie fever with a Paddington Christmas Afternoon Tea event on 14 Dec. Of course there'll be a marmalade twist, with marmalade cocktails on arrival plus 'bear honey milkshakes', chocolate bear prints, gingerbread scones and an interactive cookie station for the kids. Tickets are \$75 for adults and \$55 for kids, and \$5 from each ticket will go to its official charity, Garden to Table. Bookings by 21 Nov go in the draw to win a family pass to the New Zealand premiere of *Paddington*, or five family passes to a general screening.



Agents Check Out Mana's New Club

A group of 48 Kiwi agents are experiencing the delights of Fiji this week, across the Mamanucas, Yasawas, the Sun Coast and Suva, Coral Coast and the Pacific Harbour, and Fiji's North. The goal of the fam is to expose agents to destinations and products 'showcasing a wider Fiji experience than what they may already be familiar with', says Tourism Fiji. "The aim is to broaden agents' knowledge of Fiji so they can ultimately tailor the best itineraries for Kiwis looking to travel further afield in Fiji," says the NTO. Pictured enjoying sunset drinks at Mana Island's new Kasai Beachclub is Heather Blackburn, Travelsmart; Christina Brockie, Vince George Travel; Stacey Botham, Flight Centre; Jessica Hansen, House of Travel; Makaia Ingham, Harvey World Travel; and Susan Mooyman, Maher Travel.

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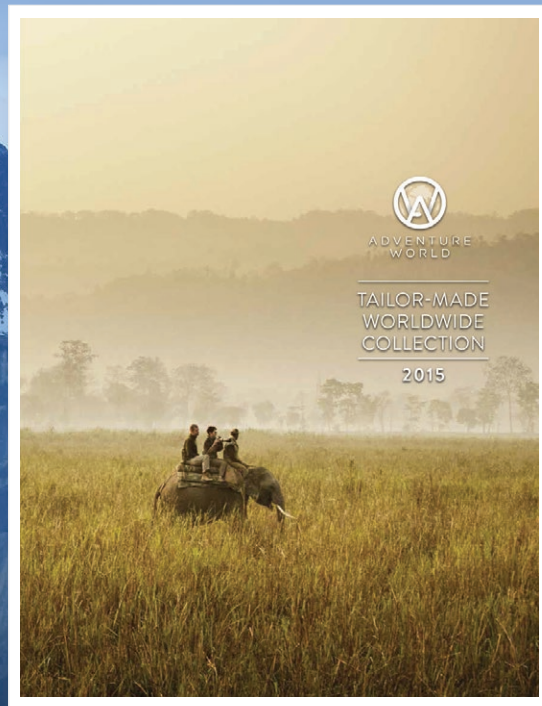
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