

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Tuesday 21 July 2015

Issue 3120

Get 20kg of checked baggage with a Jetstar domestic Plus fare

Book a Jetstar Plus bundle for \$26 on all domestic flights.

Jetstar

More Trips In Jun, Traditional Patterns

New Zealand residents departed on a total of 2.34 million overseas trips in the year ended Jun 2015—while Jun travel realised continued growth, show the latest Statistics New Zealand figures.

Kiwis took 220,800 overseas trips for

the month under review—the second highest Jun total since the record 221,100 trips in Jun 2012, when the mid-year school holidays started earlier, notes Statistics New Zealand.

Jun travel, year-on-year, was up 7% (or 14,200 trips). Travel by country of main destination continued to be dominated by Australia, the US and Fiji.

Jun Kiwi travel to Australia was up 8300 trips year-on-year to 89,380; to the US up 1600 trips to 18,440; and to Fiji, up 1500 to 14,860 trips.

Other notable growth included a 21.5% spike in Jun Kiwi travel to Thailand; and up 25% to Taiwan (albeit off a small base). Jun travel to Japan was up 22.8%, to China, up 9% (to 6520 trips) and to the Cooks up 10.2% (to 8660 trips).

Some South Pacific destinations showed a drop in year-on-year figures, with Kiwi Jun travel to Vanuatu down 34%; to New Caledonia, down 32.7% and to French Polynesia, down 7.5%.

... The Jun Year

Departures for the year to Jun 2015 year, reached 2.43 million trips—up 98,700 trips, or 4%, compared with the Jun 2014 year. Around half of all trips by Kiwi residents were to Australia (1.11 million), an increase of 46,600 from the Jun 2014 year. Residents also took more trips to the US (up 20,600), Fiji (up 15,800) and Indonesia (up 10,100).


Uber From Airport

Los Angeles has reportedly moved toward becoming the biggest US city to allow ride-hailing services like Uber to pick up passengers from the airport. Officials from LAX voted in favour of the change, despite protests from taxi drivers. The services could begin as early as Aug.

Bledisloe Competition

Qantas is getting into the Bledisloe Cup Spirit by offering flights, two nights' accommodation and tickets to the game, for two. To enter, agents need to get dressed up in their supporters gear, snap a picture of themselves at their desk and, in 25 words or less tell QF why you think you're their biggest supporter. Plus, make sure the QF logo features somewhere in your photo. The economy class tickets ex AKL/WLG/CHC to SYD are for a morning departure on 08 Aug, and a return flight on 10 Aug. To enter, email flyqf@qantas.com.au by 01 Aug. The winner will be drawn on 03 Aug and will be announced in *Travel Today*.

"You can book through them with confidence"



Bruce Forsyth
Silverstream
Cruise & Holiday

roomsXML.com JOIN NOW

CATHAY PACIFIC

Christmas Fares to Africa/India OUT NOW

Click Here

OzFocus On In AKL Thu

Tourism and Events Queensland reminds agents that there are still some places left for the OzFocus event on in Auckland this Thu.

The product showcase is designed to ensure agents get their share of the commission on the 1.25 million Kiwis who head to Australia every year. The STO says the event is a one-stop-shop to learn more about Australia with partners including Australia's state and regional tourist boards, Air New Zealand and Virgin Australia, AAT Kings, Excite Holidays, Drive-Away, Sealink and Railplus.

Food and drink will be supplied, plus a trip to Australia will be up for grabs for those attending. E-mails RSVPs to ozfocusnz@gmail.com

Next Oz Famil Launched

Air New Zealand and Virgin Australia have announced their next Great Aussie Experience itinerary. For details see page 5.

Robotic Greeting

The world's first robot hotel has opened its doors, reports CNN. The five-star Japanese Henn-na Hotel, located at Huis Ten Bosch, a theme park in Nagasaki Prefecture, is home to humanoid robots which greet Japanese-speaking guests at reception, while English-speaking guests are met by a robotic dinosaur. More functional droids are on hand to cart luggage to the hotel's 72 rooms. When the hotel was first announced, the president was quoted as saying he hoped robots would eventually run 90% of the property, and that he hoped to build a further 1000 similar hotels around the world.

8 Pages This Issue

News.....	p1,p2, p4, p5, p7
Cruising Today.....	p3
Qantas.....	p6
World of Accor.....	p8

China Airlines – 6 x weekly flights from CHC this summer!

- 3 x weekly flights to both SYD & MEL from 26Oct15
- Full service experience for all customers
- Convenient evening departures
- Launch fares on sale now via GDS

Tollfree agent hotline 0800 359 330



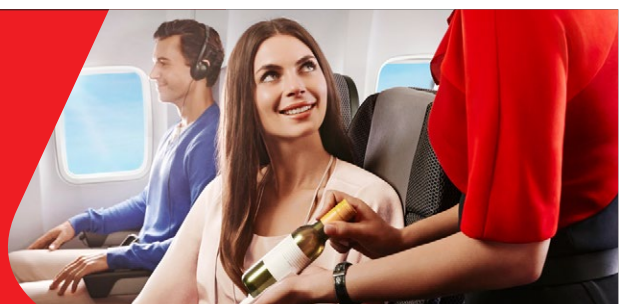
CHINA AIRLINES



Sydney on sale.

Flights to Sydney from \$199* economy one way. Your clients' seats come with food, drinks, entertainment, luggage allowance and Qantas Points. Visit qantas.co.nz/agents for details.

*Sale ends 11:59pm 22nd July 2015, unless sold out prior. Selected destinations, departure dates, days and conditions apply.



SQ Agent Winners

Singapore Airlines has announced the first three agent winners in its sell one win two premium economy sales incentive. Rebecca Noble from Harbour City Travel; Nicola Mitchell from The Travel Brokers; and Sen Hoang from Vietnam Lotus Travel have each won two return SQ premium economy tickets to Singapore. There are still six pairs of tickets up for grabs on the incentive, reminds SQ.

Agents who have entered the draw, are also eligible for the \$1000pp AKL-SIN return premium economy fare for the consultant and a companion. See krisport.com

EK SE Asia Change

Emirates advises of changes to L and Q class fares to South East Asia, for sales and ticketing from Fri. Domestic Thailand locations have increased \$50-\$150 round trip; new destinations LPQ, VTE, PNH, REP, RGN, MDL and NYT are available using PG from/to BKK; travel is extended to 31 May 2016; and sales extended to 03 Aug. Bookings created by 17 Jul affected by the increases must be ticketed by COB Tue.

US-Cuba Milestone

Yesterday marked the opening of the US Embassy in Havana and the Cuban Embassy in Washington, after 54 years; and it has been welcomed by American Airlines and United Airlines. AA chief executive Doug Parker says this is 'an important step toward building new commercial relationships and re-establishing scheduled air service between the US and Cuba'. 'AA has operated charter flights to Cuba for nearly 25 years and we stand ready to begin scheduled service when it's allowed.' Of the 'historic reopening' of the embassies, UA says it looks forward to 'continuing our constructive dialogue with both governments about providing our customers service between our two nations, subject to government approval'.

USTA: Competition Needed On US Routes

The US Travel Association is blasting reports that US carriers are planning to slow capacity growth over the coming summer, when travellers would already 'almost rather have a root canal than fly commercial'.

"It's depressing that actions that show disdain for travellers are the ones deemed to be the best business practices," says USTA boss Roger Dow. "The real irony is that American [Airlines] says it's cutting seats because of softening demand—which we've been worried was inevitable all along because surveys show US travellers would almost rather have a root canal than fly commercial."

Dow blames inaction from the government, saying major carriers are 'allowed to dominate routes and individual markets, keeping competitors out and enabling them to set prices with little or no downward pressure'.

"We need an airport financing model that allows airports to expand and let new carriers bid for service."

Congress could get us there if it would just listen to common sense: a cut in airline ticket taxes coupled with a boost in the cap on the Passenger Facility Charge user fee would pave the way for the terminal upgrades that airlines have lobbied hard against expressly because they would help bring new competition," he says. "Until Washington creates the circumstances in which 'capacity discipline' is not the profit-making virtue for airlines that it currently is, speculators will continue to reward them for it, which is harmful to an American economy and way of life that is deeply intertwined with travel."

EK To Taiwan

Emirates yesterday operated a one-off service of its flagship A380 aircraft to Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport. The arrival of the A380 follows the recent completion of enhancements at the airport to make it compatible with the double-decker aircraft.

QF International Sale

Qantas has economy, premium economy and business class flights to Asia, North America, South America, South Africa and UK/Europe on sale to 03 Aug. They include SIN/KUL from \$999 economy/\$3499 business; BKK from \$999/\$3499; NRT from \$999/\$4299; SHA from \$999/\$3999; JKT from \$999/\$3299; MNL from \$1069/\$3499; LAX from \$1199/\$5999; DFW from \$1499/\$6099; SCL from \$1599/\$4999; JNB from \$1899/\$5199; and LON from \$2025/\$9849.



You and a guest could win 2 tickets to the Bledisloe Cup
 **SEE PAGE 6**

APX And Amadeus

APX and Amadeus have announced that they have entered a new long-term partnership.

APX chief executive Andrew Dale, says partnering with Amadeus will support the growth of the TMC and will enable it 'to take its customer experience to new heights', through a customised technology platform. "With Amadeus technology, our customers will experience improved efficiencies, a greater focus on online and mobile capability, greater automation and a more robust solution for managing duty-of-care responsibilities for business travel," says Dale.

Meet V8 Supercars driver Fabian Coulthard
4 NIGHTS FROM \$825

PER PERSON, DOUBLE SHARE (FLIGHTS ADDITIONAL)

PACKAGE ON SALE NOW!  [CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

PREMIUM ECONOMY CLASS 

Sell One, Win Two

CLICK HERE for details

Sell one Premium Economy Class ticket and go into the draw to win 1 of 9 pairs of Premium Economy Class Tickets!



Low Water Impacts Euro River Cruises

Low water levels on a number of European rivers have caused multiple cruise lines to cancel or adjust their itineraries, whilst others are closely monitoring the situation.

Globus family of brands' Troy Ackerman says Avalon Waterways' operations team in Europe are continually monitoring the situation.

In a statement on its Facebook page today, Avalon Waterways says due to the low water levels between Regensburg and Passau, Avalon Vista and Avalon Impression are currently operating under contingency plans. However, Avalon Expression, who arrived in the region today, was able to traverse the low waters. It also says

it has contingency plans in place for the upcoming Avalon Illumination cruise.

Viking River Cruises says on its website that it has had to make adjustments to a number of its Danube River cruise schedules. A host of itineraries from the past week required a 'ship swap' whilst its 24 Jul Elegant Elbe Berlin to Prague and 24 Jul Elegant Elbe Prague to Berlin itineraries have both been cancelled. It says clients whose cruise has been adjusted will be contacted directly by e-mail whilst clients who are currently travelling and in need of assistance are advised to call their vessel's telephone number.

Uniworld is monitoring the situation and New Zealand sales manager Greg Marett says it has robust systems in place for when these situations arise. "Guests are currently being kept very well informed by our onboard staff and are continuing to enjoy their Uniworld holiday experience." Scenic is monitoring the water closely for each departure.

MSC Best in Europe

MSC Cruises has been named the number one cruise line in Europe in the recently published 2015-2016 Cruise Industry News Annual Report. The report stated that MSC Cruises 'conquered the leading rank in the industry thanks to a deployed capacity across the Continent of about 1.1 million passengers'.

Silversea Ballet

Silversea Cruises will welcome two ballet solo performers of the State Academic Bolshoi Theatre of Russia, Daria Khokhlova and Artemy Belyakov, for an exclusive engagement aboard Silver Spirit's Mediterranean cruise, roundtrip from Istanbul, departing 19 Aug. The dance stars will appear on stage in the ship's Show Lounge for three performances during the nine-day voyage. As part of Silversea's Silver Select promotion, guests on this voyage are able to take advantage of their choice of a two-category suite upgrade, USD1000 shipboard credit or 50% off the second suite. Silver Privilege fares start from USD5150pp. See silversea.com

Air-Cruise Sale

Chimu Adventures has launched two new promotions, in conjunction with its 2015-16 Antarctica Express Air-Cruises. The Torres del Paine and Antarctica Express promotion is available for bookings 09 Jul-31 Aug on the Antarctica Express Voyage 05-11 Jan 2016, ex Punta Arenas, priced from \$6595pp, including a three-night pre-expedition program at The Singular Patagonia. Meanwhile, the Tierra del Fuego and Antarctica Express promotion is offered with three departures starting in Ushuaia—29 Nov-04 Dec, 18-23 Dec or 14-19 Jan 2016—and priced from \$6595, including a three-night pre-expedition package at Arakur Ushuaia.

Sri Lanka Cruise Focus

A cruise terminal is reportedly going to be set up at Sri Lanka's Colombo port. According to the Sri Lanka Ports Authority there are plans to convert the port into a 'fully fledged international cruise terminal' as the number of cruise vessels calling at the island's ports is increasing, but the lack of a dedicated cruise ship terminal is seen as a drawback.

Cruise Week On-line

Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia has announced it's taking this year's Cruise Week to a new platform, with the consumer event to be promoted through a new interactive on-line magazine.

The e-zine will be supported by a dedicated marketing campaign, featuring a mixture of EDMs and social media, among others, however, agents are encouraged to undertake traditional promotional activity such as film nights and window displays. The e-zine's content will include interviews with cruisers and celebrities about the appeal of cruising, coverage of different styles of cruising and destinations, as well as an overview of onboard product. The e-zine will be located on the Cruise Week website cruiseweek.org

Disney Caribbean Cruise

GO Holidays advises of Disney Cruise Line's seven-night Southern Caribbean cruise onboard Disney Wonder. Departing 17 Jan 2016, it is priced from \$1869. On sale to 30 Sep. GO has full details.

WORLD OF ACCOR HOTELS
Auckland 2015
See page 8

preVU
trade
Where Travel Agents go for information on:
* Destinations * Sightseeing
* Hotels * Restaurants
* Resorts * Shopping
* Activities * Events
* Tours * and much more
* Transport
CLICK HERE
and be informed to earn more commission!

Currency Surcharges Likely to Return
PROTECT YOURSELF
Prices in this brochure may be affected by currency surcharge/s. Please check.
Only \$50 per 500 plus p&p and GST. Actual size (30mm dia).
E-mail tony@tabsontravel.co.nz



175th Anniversary
Cunard's Queen Mary 2 sailed into its US home port of New York late last week, escorted by a fleet of historic ships and Coastguard vessels to mark the end of its 175th anniversary commemorative Transatlantic Crossing. The voyage paid tribute to the original transatlantic voyage made by Cunard's first flagship Britannia, as the company inaugurated the first scheduled mail and passenger service across the Atlantic on 04 Jul 1840. Queen Mary 2 recreated history when she sailed from Liverpool on 04 Jul, following the wake of Britannia which left the city 175 years earlier to the day.

lonely planet
Now so much easier to order
CLICK HERE

Phuket Group Deal

The Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort is offering one complimentary room for every 25 paying rooms for group check-ins to 15 Dec.

Resort general manager Tony Pedroni says dedicated technical support, some of the best AV equipment in Phuket, conference amenities and event and catering teams are on hand to assist organisers.

Group activity and other programs include The Amazing Race Laguna, Outrigger Dragon Boat Regatta, Phuket Iron Chef, Coral Reef Conservation Project and School Restoration. There is a maximum of three complimentary rooms per event and two complimentary room upgrades to the exclusive club rooms with club benefits for VIP guests.

There is also a choice between a complimentary hour-long pre-dinner cocktail reception inclusive of soft drinks and local beers or a 20% discount on full-day delegate packages. Visit outriggerthailand.com for further information.

Cradle Mountain Tour

Park Trek Walking Holidays has launched a new four-day guided tour at Cradle Mountain. Over the four days guests will walk parts of the Overland Track, explore the Maryland Track, walk up to the Cradle Mountain Plateau and more.

The trip includes three nights cabin-style accommodation in Cradle Mountain Village, most meals and snacks, all transport and guiding by professional and knowledgeable guides, from AUD1480. Visit parktrek.com.au

ISSN 1176-5275

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

news@traveltoday.co.nz
tony@traveltoday.co.nz

[Click Here to Subscribe](#)

© All contents are copyright, and must not be transmitted or copied without specific approval.

PO Box 305-167, Triton Plaza, Auckland 0757, New Zealand.
Bld F, 14-22 Triton Dr, Albany, Auckland 0632, New Zealand.



How Do Connected Travellers Book?

Mobile usage is on the rise, there's no question about that, but it is also having an impact on how travellers book their holidays.

A report recently released by TripAdvisor reveals the habits and behaviours of 'Connected Travellers', those who have used a smartphone to plan or book a trip. Key amongst the findings is that 45% of Connected Travellers usually use their smartphones to book activities for a trip, almost three quarters (72%) use their smartphones to look for restaurants while on vacation and a third (34%) want their accommodation to offer mobile check-in. Plus, Connected Travellers are more likely to want their smartphones with them on vacation to organise their trip more efficiently (44%) and book accommodation on the go (37%). They are also more likely to use their smartphone for travel research while in their destination,

such as to look for restaurants (72%), find things to do (67%) and to read reviews (64%). The report also found that mobile apps are becoming more popular as a booking channel, with use doubling year-over-year; one in five Connected Travellers say they booked via a mobile app because it was easier or faster to access, and 29% felt they got a better price.

Go the 49ers!

The just over 16,000m² Great America Pavilion is now open at California's Great America theme park in Santa Clara, San Francisco. The multi-purpose facility will host the Red Zone Rally pre-game event for the San Francisco 49ers home games, three hours before kick-off with live entertainment, cheerleaders, interactive activities and dining options. The Pavilion is also available for corporate meetings, events and product launches. Details, cagreatamerica.com



Guinness In Spotlight

The Guinness Storehouse has been shortlisted as a finalist in the 'Europe's leading tourist attraction' category in the World Travel Awards, advises Tourism Ireland. Hailed as the Oscars of the travel industry, the Guinness Storehouse is Ireland's first attraction to be shortlisted for the award. Other attractions on the shortlist include the Acropolis, Buckingham Palace, La Sagrada Familia, Ribeira do Porto, the Roman Coliseum and the Eiffel Tower. For more information and to vote see worldtravelawards.com

#Vote4us @homeofguinness

Tropical Treats

GO Holidays has released a Tropical Treats sale, flying Virgin Australia ex Auckland. Tonga with flights, four nights and late checkout is from \$689pp s/t staying at Heilala Holiday Lodge; Samoa with flights, four nights and late checkout is from \$729pp s/t staying at Insel Fehmarn Hotel; Rarotonga with flights, four nights and late checkout is from \$869pp s/t staying at Club Raro Resort; and Bali with flights, seven nights and breakfast is priced from \$1159pp s/t staying at Dewi Sri Hotel, ex AKL/WLG/CHC. The deals are for sales to 07 Aug for travel 06 Aug to 29 Mar 2016. Closeouts apply.

New Eateries At Tahoe

Two new restaurants will open at Lake Tahoe in the Fall; the Azul Latin Kitchen (Mexican) and the Cold Water Brewery, while further along the lakefront the Beach Retreat & Lodge is undergoing renovations to add a new on-site restaurant.

Miho Museum Tour

Active Asia has a new four-hour tour ex-Kyoto of the Miho Museum, which is set in a forested area and was designed by the man behind the Louvre. The tour includes a private guide of the museum, 80% of which is underground and is 'well worth visiting for both its exhibitions as well as its architecture and setting', says Active Asia. The tour is from \$192pp.

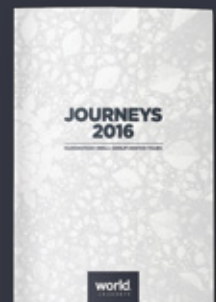


JOURNEYS 2016

- Small group hosted travel
- Guaranteed departures
- Diverse destinations
- Early booking savings!

0800 11 73 11

www.worldjourneys.co.nz



Gourmet Food Event

Margaret River Gourmet Escape 20-22 Nov presented by Audi 2015 is set to be bigger than ever before, with the announcement of international headline chef, the 'Godfather of modern cooking', Marco Pierre White. White will take part in the three-day culinary event, with a full program of events hosted by over 40 of the world's leading food and wine personalities, showcasing the best of Western Australia and the Margaret River Wine region. Tickets go on sale 28 Jul. See gourmetescape.com.au

New At Exotic

Exotic Holidays has a new India brochure, featuring suggestions for upgrades and add on options, more inclusions, flexible customising of almost all packages and the ability to piece several trips together. Itineraries include India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives. E-mail info@exoticholidays.co.nz

Aboriginal Arts

Wintjiri Arts & Museum, a new arts museum showcasing and supporting the work of local Indigenous artists from the Pitjantjatjara and Ngaanyatjarra lands has opened at Ayers Rock Resort. Guests of the resort can enhance their understanding of Indigenous culture by interacting with and watching local artists at work. The retail area of Wintjiri offers Anangu art-inspired gifts together with bush medicine, soaps and cosmetics. See ayersrockresort.com.au

Hilton Darwin

Hilton Darwin now features a cutting-edge fitness centre, renovated 10th floor pool and an exclusive executive lounge offering a range of privileges, due to its recent refurbishment. The centrally-located property is ideal for corporate guests, a stylish getaway for luxury travellers and venue for special events. See hilton.com

Epicurean Experience On Offer In Victoria



From houseboating on the Murray River to meandering through Melbourne's famed laneways—the upcoming Air New Zealand/Virgin Australia agent family to Victoria offers a range of experiences outside the square.

Highlights on the diverse itinerary (09 - 13 Sep) include a VIP tour of the 'groundbreaking' David Bowie exhibition at Melbourne's AMCI, a progressive dinner taking in some of Melbourne's famed dining venues as

View From The Sky

The Eureka Skydeck in Melbourne says Kiwi travellers heading to the city for events will often head up to the observation deck for a unique point of view, whether it be the Grand Prix track, tennis courts or Flemington Race Course. New Zealand is one of the top five markets for the Skydeck, which is the highest observation deck in the southern hemisphere. Thrill-seekers have also been quick to try out the Edge attraction, which sees groups sent out over the edge of the building in an opaque glass box that suddenly turns clear, giving a terrifying view of the city below their feet. The tower is open every day from 1000-2200, and while opinions are divided over whether the day or night view is best, there are passes available that allow travellers to take in both views.

well as a Hidden Secrets tour of the city's arcades and laneways.

On the flipside there's also three nights houseboating on the Murray, including a tour taking in Mildura's food, wine and produce, lunch at Trentham Estate Winery, a visit to Mungo National park and sandboarding in the Perry Sandhills

To be eligible for one of the NZ/VA Great Aussie Experience famils, agents must complete the NZ/VA on-line training module to be eligible to apply for the trips. For details, see training.airnzagent.co.nz/login/ There are six more itineraries to be announced, offered in conjunction with the Australian state and territory partners.

UNWTO, Amadeus

UNWTO and Amadeus have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to consolidate their partnership in several areas. This includes the development of a UNWTO Prototype on multi-modality – the door-to-door planning and ticketing of trips involving all possible transport options. They will also collaborate on issues of sustainability, corporate social responsibility and education through the participation of Amadeus in the UNWTO Talent Development in Tourism pilot program and in various UNWTO capacity building initiatives.

Africa Culinary Safari

Adventure World has a new 12-day Cape & Kruger Culinary Safari which focuses on the food and wine on offer in the Cape region of South Africa. Clients will travel in style on the luxurious Blue Train from Cape Town to Pretoria while enjoying a fine-dining experience on board, then finish up at the Greater Kruger National Park where they will get close to wildlife and enjoy contemporary African cuisine.

The private journey is priced from \$7740pp t/s including accommodation, many meals, house beverages, sightseeing, entrance fees, scheduled game activities, transfers and internal flights.

NZ Raro Wholesale

Air New Zealand has released new wholesale fare levels to Rarotonga, for sales to 27 Jul. Wholesalers have details and packages.

Malaysia Royalty

Clients travelling to Malaysia can now gain a rare glimpse into Malaysia's royal family thanks to a new museum in Seremban.

The Tuanku Ja'afar Royal Gallery is a special museum that celebrates the life of His Royal Highness Tuanku Ja'afar ibni Tuanku Abdul Rahman. Visitors will see exhibits of his personal and public life, from childhood to his years as a ruler.

The gallery is situated near the Lake Gardens of Seremban, about an hour's drive south of Kuala Lumpur. For more information see tourism.gov.my/en/intl.

New Perth Bakehouse

Clients travelling between Perth and WA's South West will have a good reason to stop during their travels with the launch of a new Miami Bakehouse at Myalup, scheduled to open in Sep, says Tourism WA.

The new property will be located 30 minutes south of its current West Pinjarra site, and to celebrate the opening, life-sized fibreglass kangaroos will be installed at the front, so you won't miss it!

THE GREAT AUSSIE EXPERIENCE

TOURISM VICTORIA

Do Victoria including Melbourne, Mildura and the Murray river.

find out more | visit airnzagent.co.nz to register



Win with Qantas & Travel Today

You and a guest could win 2 tickets to the Bledisloe Cup next month on Qantas.

You could win Economy Class tickets for two ex AKL/WLG/CHC to SYD on the morning of Saturday 08 Aug, together with two nights' accommodation and match tickets to the game.

Returning flight SYD to AKL/WLG/CHC, Mon 10 Aug.

Simply send us a photo of yourself at your desk dressed in your favourite supporter's gear, and in 25 words or less, tell us why you think you are our biggest supporter!

Entries to be emailed to: flyqf@qantas.com.au by 01 Aug, and prize will be drawn on Monday, 03 Aug.

Note: A Qantas logo must be somewhere in the photo.

The winning entry will be advised on the Qantas Industry Sales Site and Qantas Facebook page and in Travel Today.



TABS ON
**TRAVEL
TODAY**

Aloft Texas Expansion

Starwood Hotels & Resorts plans to more than double its Aloft brand portfolio in Texas during the next three years—to 16 hotels in the Lone Star State by 2018. It will add two more hotels in Houston, two more in Austin, three more in Dallas-Fort Worth, and debuts in other cities including Shenandoah and College Station. The new hotels are Aloft College Station, opening Aug; Aloft Houston Downtown, opening 2016; Aloft Austin Northwest, opening 2016; Aloft Richardson, opening 2016; Aloft Dallas Love Field, opening 2016; Aloft Houston West, opening 2017; Aloft Austin Downtown, opening 2017; Aloft Arlington Entertainment District, opening 2017; and Aloft Shenandoah – Near the Woodlands, opening 2018. See starwoodhotels.com for more information.

Japan ‘Unrivalled’

Contiki sales executive Bridget Upton recently returned from the new 13-day Japan Unrivalled trip, taking in Tokyo, Hakone, Takayama, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Wakayama and Osaka.

Bridget says while she enjoyed every stop on the trip, she did have a number of highlights. “I loved our time in Hiroshima (day eight) where we had a trip to Miyajima Island to see the Itsukushima Shrine. We then visited the Hiroshima Memorial Park which included entrance to the Museum. This day showed so many sides of the Japanese history and culture and was a massive eye opener,” she says. Bridget recommends visiting Japan with Contiki as it can be a difficult country to navigate on your own. “The culture and history is complex and detailed and by doing this trip I feel I got to take in so much more,” she says. “Our local guide would point out things on the street I usually wouldn’t have noticed and tell us a great story to



go with it. To have it all explained and organised for me to such a high standard was incredible.” The 13-day Japan Unrivalled tour is priced from \$5049pp and includes hotel accommodation, many meals, sight-seeing tours of all major cities and orientations in all others and many exclusive inclusions.

Solar Flight Delay

Irreversible damage to overheated batteries in the Solar Impulse airplane has pushed the second half of round-the-world solar flight to Apr 2016. Solar Impulse will undergo maintenance repairs on the batteries in which damage occurred on the flight from Nagoya to Hawaii. The airplane will be hosted in its hangar at Kalaeloa airport and post maintenance check flights will start in early 2016 to test the new battery heating and cooling systems. The round-the-world mission will resume early Apr from Hawaii to the USA West Coast. From there it will cross the US to JFK in New York before making the Atlantic crossing to Europe and will then return to the point of departure in Abu Dhabi.

New MGM Theatre

MGM Resorts International is planning to build a 5000-seat theatre at Monte Carlo Resort and Casino. The new concert venue will offer a robust calendar featuring many of the music industry’s most-celebrated performers, it says.

Industry Diary

JULY

Globus Family of Brands 2016 North America Launch

Pukekohe: Tue 21, Pukekohe Cosmopolitan Club - Ten Pin Bowling Centre, 78 Nelson Street, 1745.

Globus Family of Brands and Rocky Mountaineer- 2016 North America Launch

Christchurch: Tue 21, Tequila Mockingbird, 98 Victoria Street, 1745.
Invercargill: Thu 23, Super Bowl, 105 Kelvin Street, 1745.

South Pacific Association of National Tourism Offices

Nelson: Tue 21, the Suburban Club, 1730.

OzFocus Auckland

Auckland: Thu 23, Travel Corporation offices 131 New North Rd, Eden Terrace from 1800.

AUGUST

Bula Marau Fiji Roadshow – Around Viti Levu

Christchurch: Mon 3, Novotel Christchurch, 1730-2030.
Wellington: Tue 4, InterContinental, 1730-2030. **Auckland:** Wed 5, Stamford Hotel, 1730-2045.
Hamilton: Thu 6, Novotel Tainui, 1730-2030.

ServiceIQ Business Breakfast Series 2015

Rotorua: Thu 06, Novotel Rotorua,
Hamilton: Fri 07, Novotel Hamilton.
Nelson: Tue 11, Grand Mercure Nelson.
Wellington: Thu 13, Rydges

Wellington. Christchurch: Thu 20, Novotel Christchurch.

Queenstown: Fri 21, Novotel Queenstown. **Auckland:** Thu 27, Novotel Ellerslie. **Dunedin:** Fri 28, Mercure Dunedin.

All timings are from 0700, with presentations at 0730.

World of Accor

Auckland: Thu 06, the Pullman hotel, 1600-2000.

Philippine Department of Tourism & Philippine Airlines

Auckland: Thu 20, Date and time tba.

Anaheim Roadshow

Auckland: Mon 24, The Hilton, 1730.

South Pacific Association of National Tourism Offices

Napier: Tue 25, the Crown Hotel, 1730.

Cruise WA

Auckland: Wed 26, the CICC building, 100 Beaumont Street, 2 sessions - 1430 and 1800.

TAANZ National Travel Industry Awards 2015

Auckland: Fri 28, the Aviation Hall, MOTAT, from 1800.

SEPTEMBER

Insight Vacations Launch Breakfast with CEO John Boulding

Christchurch: Mon 07, Function Room, Ilex Botanic Gardens, Hagley Park, AM (TBA).

TAANZ AGM

Auckland: Wed 09, Heritage Hotel, from 1500.

A Day in WA, with ATEC and Tourism Western Australia

Auckland: Thu 10, the CICC building, 100 Beaumont Street.

Royal Caribbean – New Zealand’s Travel Has Talent Grand Final

Auckland: Fri 11, the Pullman hotel.

Globus/Cosmos Europe 2016 Launch

Hamilton: Tue 15, pm.
Christchurch: Tue 15, pm. **Auckland Nth Shore:** Wed 16, am.

Tauranga: Wed 16, pm. **Dunedin:** Wed 16, pm. **Napier:** Thu 17, pm.

Invercargill: Thu 17, pm. **Auckland East:** Thu 17, am. **Lower Hutt:** Tue 22, pm. **Wellington:** Tue 22, am.

Whangarei: Tue 22, am. **Nelson:** Wed 23, pm. **Palmerston North:** Wed 23, pm. **Kerikeri:** Wed 23, am. **Queenstown:** Wed 23, am.

Wanganui: Thu 24, am. **New Plymouth:** Thu 24, pm. **Blenheim:** Thu 24, pm. **Pukekohe:** Tue 29, pm.

Timaru: Wed 30, am. Venues tba.

The Travel Corporation 2016 Launch

Hamilton: Mon 21, PM.
Tauranga: Tue 22, AM.

Auckland: Tue 22, PM.
Christchurch: Wed 23, PM.

Dunedin: Thu 24, PM.
Nelson: Mon 28, AM.

Wellington: Mon 28, PM.
Hawkes Bay: Tue 29, PM

Palmerston North: Wed 30, PM. Venues tba.

OCTOBER

The Travel Corporation 2016 Launch

New Plymouth: Thu 01, PM Venues tba.

Adventure World, Rocky Mountaineer and Holland America Line North America Breakfast

Invercargill: Mon 05, Kelvin Hotel, 0730-0830. **Queenstown:** Tue 06, The Exchange Cafe, 0730-0830.

Bula Marau Fiji Roadshow – Luxury & Couples

Nelson: Mon 12, Grand Mercure Monaco Resort, 0730-0930.

Christchurch: Mon 12, Peppers Clearwater, 1730-2130. **Wellington:** Tue 13, Amora Hotel, 1730-2030.

Auckland: Wed 14, Pullman Hotel, 1730-2045. **Hamilton:** Thu 15, Novotel Tainui, 1730-2030.

Small Group Journeys Breakfast – Update on Trek America, Grand American Adventures and Exodus with Adventure World

Wellington: Tue 13. **Palmerston North:** Wed 14. **New Plymouth:** Thu 15. Venues & times TBC.

South Pacific Association of National Tourism Offices

Tauranga: Tue 20, 1730. **Rotorua:** Wed 21, 1730. Venues tbc.

Sunshine Coast Roadshow

Auckland, Tue 27, 1730-1930
Hamilton, Wed 28, 1730-1930
Christchurch, Thu 29, 1730-1930
Venues TBC

WORLD OF ACCORHOTELS
Auckland 2015



YOUR CHANCE TO **WIN**
ONE OF THREE NEW PEUGEOT SCOOTERS

WORLD OF ACCORHOTELS

THURSDAY, 6TH AUGUST 2015
4PM - 8PM

You are invited to attend **World of AccorHotels Auckland** – the largest and most respected hotel exhibition in Asia Pacific. Meet representatives from our AccorHotels and resorts around the world, including – Germany, The Americas, Vietnam, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

Experience world class hospitality, unique networking opportunities and a chance to **win one of three new white Krisbee Peugeot Scooters**. With **MCs Jesse Mulligan and Samantha Hayes** and **great travel prizes up for grabs**, this event is not to be missed!

WORLD OF ACCORHOTELS AUCKLAND

Pullman Auckland
Princes Ballroom
Cnr Waterloo Quadrant & Princes Street, Auckland

REGISTER ONLINE > or phone **+64 9 365 0000**

