

TABS ON

TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Monday 23 January 2017

Issue 3466

7am every weekday Wellington to Auckland ✈

Jetstar

Dealing With Rapid Air Travel Growth

With air travel to and within New Zealand growing at a rapid pace of knots, the tourism industry is looking at how infrastructure can keep up with the ever-increasing visitor numbers—both domestic and international.

Air New Zealand said on Fri that it had carried one million domestic passengers to and from Queenstown last year, a new milestone that represents 20% or 163,000 more passengers than in 2015.

“Queenstown’s popularity continues to go from strength to strength. A decade ago we were carrying around 375,000 people a year on our Queenstown routes so to break the 1,000,000 barrier is phenomenal and represents a huge economic benefit for the region,” says NZ chief revenue officer Cam Wallace.

The figures come after Airways revealed the massive growth in flights to and within New Zealand, with air traffic volumes up 11% year-on-year over summer (see *Travel Today* 17 Jan).

... Where To Stay?

Airways said the aviation industry is responding well to the extra air traffic, much of which comes from Asia.

However while the increasing tourist numbers are great for the economy, they’re also prompting questions of where all the extra visitors are going to stay. These include Lions fans heading to New Zealand for the tour this year who are struggling to find rooms, according to reports over the weekend. New Zealand welcomed a record 3.5 million international visitors last year, contributing some \$14.5 billion to the economy, says Tourism Industry Aotearoa chief executive Chris Roberts.

“The additional air services are facilitating significant economic growth for New Zealand. But the growth does bring with it some challenges, putting pressure on tourism infrastructure in some areas and highlighting capacity issues during some parts of the year in places like Auckland and Queenstown,” he says.

“The industry is addressing these, with TIA working on a major infrastructure assessment that will identify priorities for investment to ensure we have the infrastructure we need to support our soaring visitor numbers.” The results of the project should be released in the early part of this year, says Roberts.

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2017

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UA’s Incentive Winners

United Airlines, Travel Oregon and Discover New England have announced the agents who will be heading off on famils after winning the training incentive held in Nov/Dec.

Representing Team New Zealand on the Great Oregon Road Rally in Mar are Alexandra Lord, House of Travel Featherston St; Sarah Guarch, STA WLG; Yvonne Wilson, NZ Travel Brokers Whangarei; and Stephanie Daji, Travelsmart Meadowbank.

Travelling to New England in Jun is Bruce Williams, Dive Fish Snow; Courtney Cairns, House of Travel Product; Trish Little, Flight Centre High Street; Caroline Edwards, You Travel Birkenhead; and Erin Nimon, helloworld Havelock North.

Floating Cities?

French Polynesia has signed a memorandum of understanding with a US group to build a floating city in the territory, reports *Radio New Zealand*.

The idea for a floating city has reportedly come about in a bid to combat the threat of rising sea levels. The MoU clears the way for feasibility studies to create a legal structure for sea zones with a special governing framework, reports RNZ.

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FREQUENT FLYER



SAA Child Update

South African Airways would like to clarify the regulations regarding child documentation requirements for South African passport holders travelling to South Africa. Reference from the South African Home Affairs office announcement around the 'status quo remaining in respect to South African citizens departing from South Africa on South African passports' effectively means these passengers will still require an unabridged birth certificate to be presented to exit South Africa, says SAA. Therefore any child under 18 years of age with a return ticket from New Zealand will require a birth certificate when departing/exiting South Africa.

EK UK/Euro Fares

Emirates has selected UK/Europe fares on sale from \$1609 for sale to 26 Jan. Auckland to Amsterdam is from \$1609; London (LGW/LHR) is from \$1769; Manchester is from \$1719; and Paris is from \$1709. There's also fares available to Frankfurt, Rome, Barcelona, Madrid, Zurich, Munich, Vienna, Copenhagen and Milan. Select travel dates apply. See your GDS for further details.

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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Most Punctual Airlines, Airports

Hawaiian Airlines was the most punctual airline last year, with an average on-time performance of 89.87% throughout 2016, according to OAG's Punctuality League 2016. HA's improvement was a notable improvement from ninth place in

2015. It was followed by Copa, KLM, Qantas, Japan Airlines, Flybe, Alaska Airlines, Iberia, Monarch and Singapore Airlines.

In Asia Pacific, Qantas topped the table with an average OTP of 87.56%. The top 10 was rounded out by Japan Airlines, Singapore Airlines, All Nippon Airways, Virgin Australia, Fiji Airways, SilkAir, Air New Zealand, Thai AirAsia and Skymark.

NZ H1 Results

Air New Zealand advises that it will release its 2017 half year financial results for the six months ended 31 Dec on 23 Feb.

QF Bali Fares

Qantas has tactical fares to Bali (Denpasar) from Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington or Queenstown from \$862 for sales until 12 Feb. Select travel dates apply. See your GDS for full details.

AC Fee Reminder

Air Canada reminds agents that advanced seat selection on all Canadian domestic and trans-border flights requires a fee for lower booking classes (Tango Fares). All advanced seat selection options are available up to 24 hours prior to flight departure via the AC website only, under Manage Bookings.

Trump Airport Plan

The US Travel Association (USTA) has welcomed President Donald Trump to the role, saying many of his priorities align with the association's own—particularly around infrastructure, domestic jobs and US trade balance.

"The president clearly understands the economic centrality of a modern and thriving infrastructure. He has specifically mentioned the state of our airports as cause for alarm—a belief that we share," says USTA boss Roger Dow. "We look forward to discussing with him our plan to finally make our airports competitive once again with those in the rest of the developed world."

QF Perth On Sale

Qantas has economy and business class flights from Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington to Perth on sale to 30 Jan. One-way fares start from \$349 ex AKL, and \$1199 in business class. See GDS or qantas.co.nz/agents

AUH Tourist Court

Abu Dhabi is reportedly planning to set up a special 'Tourist Court' to deal with minor offences committed by tourists—which can include swearing, public drunkenness or taking photos of prohibited sites or members of the public.

Contiki Savings

Clients who book a Contiki trip by 23 Feb will save up to \$670pp on 2017 departures. See contiki.com/nz/en/2017-travel-deals

... Airports

Birmingham Airport in the UK topped the list of most punctual airlines, with average OTP of 91.28% through 2016.



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HAWAIIAN
AIRLINES

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Magic Mike And More: 2017 In Vegas

Las Vegas will once again host plenty of new, only-in-Vegas entertainment offerings this year, says the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority.

They include the Backstreet Boys, which kicks off its residency, *Backstreet Boys: Larger Than Life*, from 01 Mar at the AXIS inside Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino.

The recently opened Park Theater at Monte Carlo Resort and Casino will be home to numerous limited engagements and residencies by internationally known stars, including Bruno Mars (11-12 Mar and 02-03 Sep); Cher (in residency from 08 Feb); and Ricky Martin (in residency from 05 Apr).

Inspired by the *Magic Mike* movies, the new *Magic Mike Las Vegas* production is a male revue conceived and directed by Channing Tatum, and promising an 'immersive, first-



class entertainment experience complete with sexy and daring themed dance routines and one-of-a-kind acts'. It's on from 30 Mar at Club Domina.

Country music star George Strait will extend *Strait to Vegas*, his exclusive concert series at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas, for eight extra dates, returning 17-18 Feb, 07-08 Apr, 28-29 July, 01-02 Sep and 08-09 Dec. For more, see lasvegas.com

New Mantra Gold Coast

Mantra has joined forces with the Southport Sharks to develop a new hotel on the Gold Coast. Construction on the Mantra at Sharks started last week, and the AUD25 million development is expected to open in early 2018. Featuring 120 rooms, it will be a 'premier corporate, meetings and leisure hotel', and will open in time for the 2018 Commonwealth Games, says Mantra. Guests will be inspired by and become part of the club during their visit, the developers add.

... GC Roadshow

For more updates on the Gold Coast, head along to the upcoming Gold Coast Tourism roadshow, taking place in Feb. See industry diary for details and to register, click [HERE](#) for Auckland, [HERE](#) for Wellington or [HERE](#) for Christchurch



Nth American Demand

Adventure World is reporting a strong start to the year for North America enquiries with Rocky Mountaineer, UnCruise small ship cruises and Alaska itineraries all in high demand. In line with the demand, Adventure World is offering savings on Rocky Mountaineer holidays when booked before 03 Mar. For example, clients will receive up to \$600 per couple in added value for new bookings on the eight-day Journey Through The Clouds trip, travelling between Vancouver and Jasper, for travel between 15 Apr and 12 Oct. It is priced from \$3293pp t/s.

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Scenic Awards Night, Local Appt



Scenic held its annual Night of Stars awards on Sat in Sydney, recognising the 'ongoing hard work and commitment' from its top agents in both New Zealand and Australia.

Over 240 agents attended the event which Channel 9's Steve Jacobs hosted in the role of MC for the fourth year running.

From New Zealand, helloworld Hobsonville's Lesley Johns (middle) took home the Top Consultant National

Award—New Zealand; while YOU Travel Westgate received the Top Office NZ Award.

Scenic's new regional sales and marketing manager for New Zealand, Karyn Blenkiron (pictured second from right), also attended the event in her first official role for the company. Blenkiron joined the team last week after spending eight months at QBE Travel Insurance, and brings with her over 10 years of travel experience.

Carnival Changes

Carnival Cruise Line will reposition three of its newest ships to new home-ports in 2018—Carnival Vista to Galveston, Carnival Breeze to Port Canaveral and Carnival Magic to Miami, advises Francis Travel Marketing. Beginning 23 Sep 2018, Carnival Vista will offer two different seven-day western Caribbean itineraries departing every Sun and visiting the region's most popular destinations. Carnival Breeze will kick off its new Port Canaveral-based program with a one-time six-day cruise to Nassau, Amber Cove and Grand Turk on 30 Sep, followed by the start of year-round alternating eastern and western Caribbean cruises beginning 06 Oct. Carnival Magic will launch a year-round schedule of seven-day alternating eastern and western Caribbean cruises departing Suns from Port Miami beginning 30 Sep.

France, Ireland Savings

Clients who book Le Boat's self-drive boats in France and Ireland between 30 Jan and 02 Feb, for travel in 2017, will save up to 20% on bookings seven nights or more, advises Eurolynx.



P&O's \$1 Promo

P&O Cruises kicked off the start of the cruise season with a series of promotional Wave roadshows across New Zealand, and Australia, last week. Cruise line staff handed out hundreds of gold coins and flyers to agents to celebrate its new \$1 deposit sale. The offer is just one of the packages available this Wave period, which also includes a new premium beverage package on cruises of seven nights or more and a soft drinks package on cruises six nights or less.

Pictured at Cruiseabout The Base during the promotional roadshow is Charlotte Baigent and P&O's bdm New Zealand Andy Bruce.

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New G Marine Adventures In 2017

G Adventures' 2017 Marine brochures will hit stores this month, with new sailing adventures in Montenegro and Indonesia along with favourites such as river and expedition cruising.

The new trips include the seven-day Sailing Indonesia (from \$2339), with departures available from Jul. It explores the coastlines of



Bali and Lombok, visiting the Gili Islands, Lembongan, Nusa Penida and Gili Gede and includes snorkelling excursions, kayaking tours, beachfront bars and yoga sessions along with three meals a day.

Meanwhile the eight-day tour of Montenegro, which launches from May, begins in Croatia and sails along the Dalmatian Coast on the way to the Bay of Kotor, checking out beaches, ancient fishing villages and a UNESCO World Heritage site. It's priced from \$1929, with a maximum of eight people per trip and the chance to eat on shore each night.

2m Coffees On NZ

Air New Zealand clocked up the one millionth user download of its mobile app this week—and the app's coffee ordering function has just registered its two millionth coffee order.

New At Duty Free

Elena Baker has been appointed head of operations for ARI Auckland, trading as The Loop Duty Free. Baker was one of the first team members to join the company when it arrived in Auckland in 2015, and brings proven leadership experience in domestic and travel retail, says the company.



Valentine's At Nanuku

Fiji's Nanuku Auberge Resort is offering couples the chance to celebrate Valentine's Day until the end of Jun with the release of a new five-night special offer. On all five-night bookings made before 10 Feb for travel up to 30 Jun, the resort is offering a 20% discount plus free private return land transfers. The offer is complete with all gourmet meals, select non-alcoholic beverages, WIFI and IPTV and in-villa movies, use of non-motorised sporting activities, access to the resort's gym and scheduled yoga sessions. Valid across all room types, the offer also includes a free upgrade to the next category, subject to availability at check-in. For further information see nanuku.aubergeresorts.com

Industry Diary

FEBRUARY

2017 Adventure World USA

Roadshow

Auckland: Tue 07, Grid AKL, 17.30.

Wellington: Wed 08, Macs Brew Bar – Cable Room, 1730.

Christchurch: Thu 09, Christchurch RSA, 1730.

Gold Coast Tourism Roadshow

Auckland: Tue 07, The Roxy, 1730.

Wellington: Wed 08, Macs Function Centre, 1730.

Christchurch: Thu 09, Dux Central, 1730.

Wendy Wu Tours Movie Night

Christchurch: Thu 16, Hoyts Northlands, 1815.

Wellington: Thu 23, Embassy Cinemas, 1800.

Canada Roadshow 2016:

Adventure World, Rocky Mountaineer, Air New Zealand & Francis Travel Marketing

Auckland, North Shore: Mon 20, The Postman's Leg, Glenfield, 1800.

Tauranga: Wed 22, Alimento Café, 0730.

Hamilton: Wed 22 Feb, Joe's Garage, 1600.

Palmerston North: Thu 23, Joe's Garage, 1800.

MARCH

2017 Adventure World Roadshow

Auckland: Mon 06.

Bay of Plenty: Tue 07.

Wellington: Wed 08.

Christchurch: Thu 09. Venues, times tba.

JAWS Roadshow 2017

Dunedin: Mon 06, Kingsgate Hotel, 1700-2000.

Christchurch: Tue 07, Rydges Latimer Hotel, 1700-2000.

Nelson: Wed 08, Rutherford Hotel, 1700-2000.

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.

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.

MAY

2017 Amazing Thailand Roadshow

Auckland: Mon 08, Sky City Convention Centre.

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