

TABS ON TRAVEL TODAY

Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Tuesday 05 July 2016

Issue 3343

7am every weekday Wellington to Auckland ✈

Jetstar

Airport Strikes Set Over Holiday Peak

Proposed strikes by New Zealand aviation security workers are expected to cause widespread delays at Auckland and Wellington airports over the school holiday peak.

The Public Service Association, representing Aviation Security workers last night announced that AvSec staff had voted for three-hour strikes at Auckland and Wellington airports; and to enforce a ban on overtime and extra hours at Wellington and Christchurch airports later this month.

Today aviation industry stakeholders including Auckland Airport and the New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority were evaluating the impact of the proposed industrial action.

The PSA says its members are very reluctant to strike, but that they feel they have no choice after pay negotiations stalled earlier this month, as passenger numbers (and the government agency's budget surplus) rise.

An Auckland Airport spokesman says that it is in discussions on the potential impact of the strikes, if they go ahead, and how it could best manage operations on those days to minimise the disruption to travellers.

At the same time Prime Minister John Key has said that the government may potentially look to intervene if the strikes are not averted. However, the Police Association has reportedly dismissed the possibility of its officers stepping in to help at airports over the strikes as 'ludicrous'.

The Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand was due to make a statement on the situation this afternoon.

... TAANZ

TAANZ boss Andrew Olsen says the proposed industrial action is 'a very intentional consequence which will affect people who are not involved and once again travellers are paying the price'. Olsen says the move is a bad look for New Zealand and its capability to handle national issues, in this case pay disputes, that affect our very good air networks. "Again TAANZ emphasises the need to leave the traveller alone whether it be levies or industrial action," he says.

... Strike Dates

The AvSec airport worker strikes are proposed in AKL: 20 Jul 1000-1330; 25 Jul, 1530-1830; and 27 Jul, 0530-0830. In WLG: 20 Jul, 1000-1330; 22 Jul, 1530-1830; and 26 Jul, 0530-0830. An overtime and extra hours ban is also in place all day over the strike dates. CHC workers will also enforce overtime/extra hours ban all day 20 Jul, 25 Jul and 27 Jul.

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Destination NSW p6



Cow Tooth Trouble

A traveller has been fined \$400 at Queenstown Airport after failing to declare her 'lucky charm', a large cow tooth. The *New Zealand Herald* reports that after a biosecurity dog sniffed out the tooth, the woman's friend claimed the tooth was actually from a dog, and that she used it as a good luck charm when flying; however, MPI staff quickly recognized this was not the case, and that it was in fact from a cow—meaning it could carry the likes of rabies or foot and mouth disease.

CHC Industry Rates

Christchurch's BreakFree on Cashel hotel has today launched a new industry deal offering room rates from \$99 per night, in a city urban king room.

The deal is valid for travel to 30 Sep, and subject to availability. To book e-mail cashel.res@breakfree.com.au

Serko, HLO Partnership

helloworld and Serko have today announced a partnership that will see the pair offer Travel Expert services, using the serko.travel solution (launched last month) to small to medium enterprises (SMEs) in New Zealand and Australia. See tomorrow's issue for more details.



She's back! Colour in Dory and her friends to win.

Visit qantas.co.nz/agents for details



Air NZ Oz RGM

Air New Zealand has appointed Kathryn Robertson to its newly-created role of regional general manager Australia, effective late Jul.

Robertson is currently NZ's London-based gm UK/Europe and has had extensive airline experience in the UK and US, and her appointment follows an external personnel search for the new position.

"[Robertson] has a strong commercial track record with NZ and is now looking forward to leading our Australian growth strategy..." says NZ chief sales and commercial officer Cam Wallace.

Less To Sth Africa

Qantas has reduced its tactical fares to South Africa. Levels to Johannesburg are now from \$2157 return for sales to 15 Jul. Conditions apply.

Ad World Appt

Adventure World has appointed Tom Wardell to its new sales executive position, working on the road alongside sales manager Kevin Dennerly-Minturn. Wardell previously worked within the company's groups department.



MFAT's Syria Advisory

MFAT has reviewed its Syria travel advice and continues to advise against all travel due to the ongoing civil war and 'extremely dangerous security situation'. See safetravel.govt.nz/syria

AAT Aussie, NZ Discount

AAT Kings has a 10% discount on its Guided Holidays and Inspiring Journeys in Australia for travel to 31 Mar and New Zealand for travel to 30 Sep 2017. Highlights include a 15-day Western Wonderland trip to/from Perth, from \$5950pp t/s and a 10-day Tasmanian Wonders to/from Hobart from \$3525pp t/s. See aatkings.com

East Coast USA Trade Show In AKL

An East Coast tourism delegation is staging a trade roadshow in Auckland 18 Jul, on the back of increased traffic from the Kiwi market—and agents attending will go into a draw to win prizes including places on a famil later this year.

Some 25 individual East Coast US suppliers from New York City, New York State, New England, Philadelphia and Washington, DC are coming down for the event and Brand USA New Zealand manager Wayne Mitcham is encouraging Kiwi agents to make the most of the opportunity to upskill on the product, experiences and hotels on offer.

The East Coast region is a diverse area from the bright lights of New York City, and the coast and country of New York State (wines, lakes and Niagara Falls), to the six states which make up the New England region which includes cities like Boston, down to Philadelphia and Washington, DC.

"Given the huge increase in airlift to the US and improved connections agents are going to see an increased number of inquiries for the East Coast of the US—so it's really an opportunity for agents to make more money out of selling the USA," adds Mitcham. Door prizes will be up for grabs at the event and agents will be entered into a draw to win a place on an East Coast famil being held later this year in conjunction with American Airlines.

"We love Australians and New Zealanders because they enjoy extended stays and are intrepid travellers, seeking out our lesser known neighbourhoods and boroughs for truly authentic experiences," says Fred Dixon, chief executive of NYC & Company. "New York City remains in the top three international destinations for [Australasians] because of the city's continual evolution—new hotels, attractions, exhibitions and tourism development."

IT'S ON! IN SYDNEY
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At the same time Discover New England, which is bringing eight operators down for the show, has reported a 15.7% year-on-year increase in visitors from Australia and New Zealand which it says are exploring beyond the gateways of Boston, New York City and Montreal Canada.

"New England resonates extremely well with the intrepid Oceania traveller due to the diverse product offering inclusive of rich history and architecture, stunning vistas throughout the year including the amazing Fall Foliage," says the RTO.

Spaces are limited, and to register or for more information, e-mail Svet@gate7.com.au

Sri Lanka Famil

Adventure World has released a new Sri Lanka famil opportunity, running 09-18 Sep and priced at \$1800 per agent. Highlights include a Colombo city tour, climbing the Sigiriya rock fortress and visiting the Elephant Transit home in Udawalawe. The price includes return airfares ex Auckland with Singapore Airlines, twin share hotel accommodation with breakfast, all sightseeing and entrance fees as specified, a local guide and tips. Agents must register interest by Fri, with those selected announced shortly after. To register, [CLICK HERE](#)

QF \$939 To LAX

Qantas has released \$939 return, inclusive fares ex New Zealand to Los Angeles for sales to 06 Jul. For more see the GDS or qantas.co.nz/agents

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Gold Coast, Australia
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IT'S BACK

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Agents Sample Ovation Cruise

As the countdown to Royal Caribbean's all-new Ovation of the Seas arrives in New Zealand for its maiden season continues, the line, in conjunction with Singapore Airlines, recently hosted Kiwi agents on a famil to experience the product.

The agents experienced the sights of Singapore, including the Lilytopia exhibition at Gardens by the Bay, the famous Lau Pa Sat Hawkers Centre and of course a number of shopping malls, before boarding Ovation for a three-night circle cruise ex Singapore to Kuala Lumpur and back.

Hosted by Royal Caribbean's New Zealand manager Mark Kinchley, the group experienced a range of the ship's offerings, including the iFly, Dodgems, The North Star, the Solarium and specialty restaurants such as Jamie's Italian and Wonderland.

1 Pictured in Singapore is (back row) Cruiseabout Merivale's Tasha Wilson; helloworld Mt Maunganui's Jen Tallbot; HoT Mt Eden's Hemal Jani; helloworld's Debbie Natoli; Bon Voy-



age Cruises' Gerard Murphy; and Lets Cruise's Helen Mahoney. Pictured in the front row is Cruiseabout Pukekohe's Nigel Smith; SQ's Sheree Myers; HoT Takapuna's Andy Thompson; HoT Dunedin's Steph McNeil; and You Travel Mairangi Bay's Cindy Farrow. **2** helloworld competition

winner Zoe Fowler, pictured with her partner, is enjoying a drink at Michael's Pub. **3** You Travel Mairangi Bay's Cindy Farrow is pictured with Shrek. **4** House of Travel's Steph McNeil and helloworld Miramar's Debbie Natoli getting ready to test their Dodgem skills.



Win With Peregrine

Along with its 2017/18 Antarctic earlybird offer for clients, Peregrine Adventures has launched an incentive that will see one store win back the entire cost of a Polar berth. The Big Polar Payout is available to any store in New Zealand or Australia that books and deposits for a Peregrine or Intrepid polar trip before 31 Aug, while there are also weekly prizes of Fri drinks up for grabs. Meanwhile, clients can save up to \$8300 on select Antarctic voyages, valid until 30 Sep. For more, [CLICK HERE](#) or to go in the draw to win the Big Polar Payout and weekly drinks, you can complete the Intrepid Group's online polar sales training [HERE](#)

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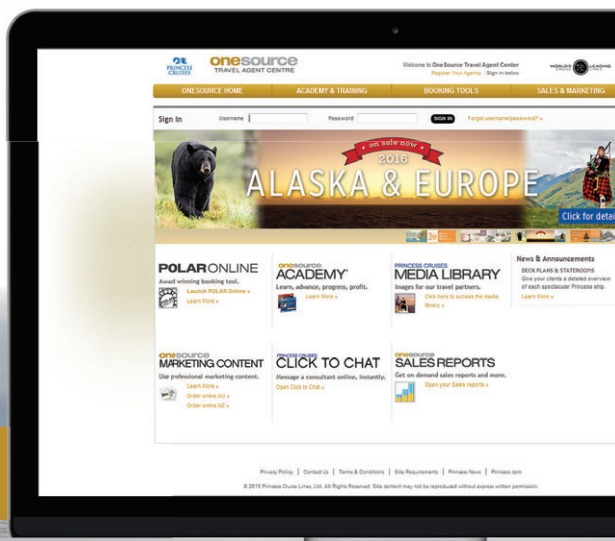
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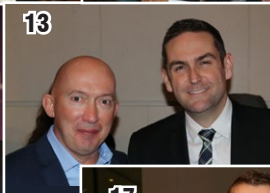
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Trade Celebrates 04 July

United Airlines last night celebrated the US national 4th of July holiday at a function in Auckland. The event was well-attended by industry partners as well as frequent flyer clients, UA flight and cabin crew, and other dignitaries. The function also doubled as something of a launch event for UA's new alliance with Air New Zealand which commenced on the Auckland-San Francisco route on Sun.

1 Million-mile United Airlines' passenger Tudor Clee with partner and UA's New Zealand rep Leanne Cheesman. **2** House of Travel's Tim Allen and Thomas Gentz from Air New Zealand. **3** helloworld's Kate Porter with Cullam Murchison from House of Travel, visiting Air NZ gm the Americas Nick Judd, Travel Crop's Tony Laskey and Scott Tasker from Auckland Airport. **4** The UA cabin crew from the inaugural SFO-AKL flight. **5** A couple of "old pharts", aka James Langton and Mike Coleman. **6** UA's Leanne Cheesman with the US Ambassador to New Zealand Mark Gilbert, Cam Wallace, chief sales and commercial officer, Air NZ; UA's senior vice-president worldwide sales Dave Hilfman and son Marshall Hilfman. **7** David Libeau from helloworld with Voyage Affaires' Sue Johnson and Malcolm MacLeod from First Travel Group. **8** Tony Laskey from the Travel Corp with GO Holidays' Cath McLeod. **9** UA's Leanne Cheesman, with Julie Reid, UA's general manager, Australia and New Zealand. **10** The captain on the inaugural flight was

Capt Craig Brownrigg, a Kiwi living in Auckland. **11** helloworld duo Jason Buckley (on left) and Simon McKearney with Flight Centre's Jodie Burnard. **12** The US Ambassador to New Zealand, and selfie king, Mr Mark Gilbert. **13** Andrew Harrison from helloworld with Air NZ's Karl Bradford. **14** Wendy van Lieshout from helloworld with First Travel Group's John Willson. **15** Visiting UA senior

executive Dave Hilfman and Air NZ's Cam Wallace with Kathy Burch, who was a cabin crew member on the last CO flight to New Zealand in Oct 1993. **16** Flight Centre New Zealand boss Dave Coombes with Scott Tasker from Auckland Airport. **17** 'Queen of Anaheim' Pip Ashford with NZ's Thomas Gentz, Janet Coulthart from the US embassy and Brand USA's Wayne Mitcham.

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Industry Diary

JULY

Globus family of brands, Rocky Mountaineer, 2017 "The Americas" Season

Dunedin: Tue 05, Lone Star Café, 1745.

Christchurch: Wed 06, Lone Star Café, 1745. **Hamilton:** Mon 18, Hamilton Gardens Café, 1745.

Tauranga: Tue 19, Macau, 1745. **Napier:** The Crown Hotel, 1745.

Hong Kong Airlines "Fresh + very Hong Kong" Agent seminars

Auckland Central: Tue 05 Novotel Hotel Ellerslie, 1800.

Auckland North: Wed 06, Spencer on Byron Takapuna, 1800.

AUGUST

SPANTO roadshow

Palmerston North: Tue 09, The Distinction Hotel. Time tba.

New Plymouth: Wed 10, The Novotel. Time tba.

SEPTEMBER

Bula Marau Fiji Roadshow - Couples & Luxury

Tauranga: Mon 05, Mills Reef Winery, 0700-0930.

Hamilton: Mon 05, Ferrybank Reception Centre, 1730-2015.

Christchurch: Tue 06, Peppers Clearwater Resort, 1730-2015.

Wellington: Wed 07, InterContinental Hotel, 1730-2015.

Auckland: Thu 08, Pullman Hotel, 1730-2015.

Auckland North Shore: Fri 09, QBE Stadium, 0700-0930.

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Exploring SFO With UA/NZ

SFO Ready For Spike In Kiwi Arrivals



San Francisco is gearing up for an influx of Kiwis following the introduction of new flights to the city including United Airlines' inaugural flight from Auckland, which launched on Sun.

San Francisco Travel is hopeful the flights will bring both first and repeat visitors from New Zealand to the city, and says it will be promoting the opportunities the new flights offer through upcoming trade missions as well as working with airlines on promotional content, events and famils. With Air New Zealand seeing high loads when the America's Cup was held in the city, the city's tourism board is hoping for similar load factors when the city hosts the Rugby Sevens at the AT&T Park in San Francisco and Avaya Stadium in San Jose in 2018.

... Airport Welcome

San Francisco Airport too is thrilled with the additional capacity to Auckland, says director of international marketing and aviation development Melissa Andretta.

"The Auckland-San Francisco market has been growing steadily for years," she says. NZ started the route in 2004 with three flights a week, and this has increased to 10 a week during peak times. With UA the pair will each offer seven flights a week, she says.

Andretta says SFO offers an attractive gateway to the US for a variety of reasons, including its size, connections and quirky extras like yoga rooms and welcome dogs.

"SFO is an ideal airport for Kiwis to use when connecting to various destinations in the US and Canada," says Andretta. "Our manageable size, amenities to enjoy while waiting and large number of non-stop flights

makes it a refreshing place to transfer. In addition, for those who have longer stopovers it is very easy to get in and out of the city for a short visit via public transportation with the BART train system located directly in the airport."

SFO offers non-stop flights to more than 44 international cities on 38 international carriers, and 78 US cities on 13 domestic airlines.

In-flight Wi-Fi

Satellite-based Wi-Fi is offered on all United Airlines long-haul international aircraft. It costs USD16.99 for the entire AKL-SFO flight.

New SFO Airport Hotel

Hyatt Hotels has entered into an agreement with San Francisco International Airport to manage a 350-room Grand Hyatt hotel on the airport grounds.

Grand Hyatt San Francisco International Airport is expected to open in mid-2019, and will sit on a 4.7 acre site close to terminal buildings with direct accessibility via an AirTrain station to the terminals. The hotel will also offer flexible meeting space, a 24/7 business centre, health club and spa, indoor heated pool, whirlpool, and sauna, and food and beverage offerings including both full-service and casual restaurants, wine and sushi bar, and a rooftop cocktail lounge.



Gold Medal Amenities

United's latest amenity kits have been created to celebrate the upcoming 2016 Olympics. They feature Team USA inspired amenities like socks and an eye mask, in a tin designed to resemble an aircraft fuselage.



Escape To Alcatraz, But Book In Advance

A must for first-time visitors to San Francisco is the famous prison of Alcatraz, which sits on an island in the middle of the bay and can be reached by regular ferry services.

Alcatraz may have been an unforgiving and unwelcoming home to prisoners but catch the landmark on a sunny day and it's a surprisingly pretty rock to wander (but urge clients to wrap up warm, even in the middle of summer). It also offers stunning views of San Francisco.

Once visitors catch the ferry to the former prison, they can wander the grounds or take a self-guided audio tour which tells the stories of famous prisoners and escape attempts.

The tours book out in advance so clients should book ahead, particularly in summer. In Jan-Mar, it's quieter and easier to secure last-minute tickets. See alcatrazcruises.com



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Sydney Opera House Forecourt



EMIRATES AUSTRALIAN OPEN GOLF

17 – 20 November

The world's best will compete to claim Australian golf's most prized trophy.

**Royal Sydney Golf Club,
Rose Bay**



MOTORWORLD SYDNEY

1 - 4 December

Check out the latest cars and motorbikes on track, street and off-road circuits at this brand new family festival.

**Sydney Motorsport Park,
Eastern Creek**



If it's on in Sydney, it's on sydney.com



Please note that events are subject to change or cancellation (check relevant website for further details prior to the event).
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