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1195



## Kristin Edgeworth Travel reveals new brand

360edge was unveiled to clients and industry guests last night at a rebrand event in Auckland.

**360°edge**  
your travel & cruise experts

Formally known as Kristin Edgeworth Travel, the new brand signifies the next stage of evolution for Edgeworth, a long-time Travel Managers Group broker who has steadily expanded her team as the business has continued to develop.

'We cover 360 degrees of the world, we're on the cutting edge of travel. We ensure our clients do the full circle from home and back with us, so we wanted branding that captured that,' says Edgeworth.

'We feel the new look marries what we have always been, with a fresh new brand and feel that is better representative of the business's growth and where we see our future direction,' she went on to say.

Travel Managers Group general manager Cath McLeod says the rebrand is a great example of how flexible the broker model is.

'There is so much opportunity as a broker to create a business that you can scale up or down, or transform, at a rate

Continued on page 2

**Viva! EXPEDITIONS** **ALL BLACKS TOURS** SALES AGENT

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## News



The 360edge team of Lee Smyth, Sally Brasell, Kristin Edgeworth, Jemma Vinsen, Kirsty Wairepo

## Kristin Edgeworth Travel reveals new brand

*Continued from page 1*

that suits you as the business owner, which is certainly something Kristin

has embraced,' adds McLeod.

The new brand is effective from today.

## World Travellers partners with Ensemble Travel

World Travellers is partnering with North America-based Ensemble Travel® Group, a global provider of luxury and experiential travel products and services.

Led by the Ensemble Asia Pacific management team, the partnership unleashes the power of Ensemble's amenity program and holiday portfolio as well as special benefits and savings for World Travellers' clients in New Zealand.

General manager Kayt Muyt says an expanding presence in New Zealand has been a strong focus for the Ensemble Travel Asia Pacific team over the past two years and this partnership highlights our successful growth in the region.

'Both Ensemble Travel Group and World Travellers will benefit from our existing relationships with suppliers across the globe as well as a suite of leading technology,

marketing and luxury products.'

Dave Nicholson, World Travellers' director of sales, says this partnership will unlock significant market advantages for World Travellers, its members and customers in New Zealand.

'Since its launch in 2010 World Travellers has established itself as a trusted group of travel agencies renowned for delivering professional and tailored travel solutions. Our network is a 100% locally owned cooperative company made up of highly successful like minded travel agency owner-operators, each with decades of experience,' says Nicholson.

'Our 30 plus retail and mobile travel businesses located across New Zealand will now have access to the technology and added value that Ensemble Travel can provide. This gives us a real point of difference in the market.'

The partnership officially commences on 1 May.

EXPERIENCE THE

# Hawaiian Islands

HAWAII TOURISM

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## News

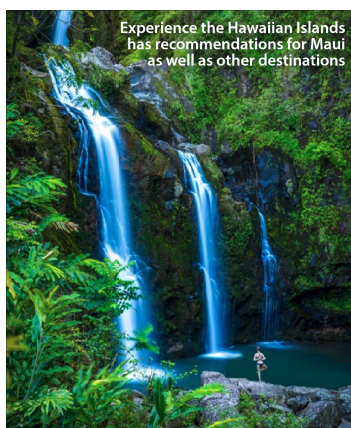
## Excite's guide to Hawaiian experiences

Excite Holidays is following up its successful Hawaii: Spirit of Aloha campaign with the launch of its latest guide Experience the Hawaiian Islands.

Designed to encourage the pursuit of experiences, this new eight-page guide showcases the best of the Hawaiian Islands to travellers.

From hidden hikes to cultural customs, outdoor adventures to dining, Experience the Hawaiian Islands has recommendations across O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, Island of Hawai'i, Moloka'i and Lana'i.

[engage.exciteholidays.com/hawaii](http://engage.exciteholidays.com/hawaii)



Experience the Hawaiian Islands has recommendations for Maui as well as other destinations

## Agents can win trip to Hawaii

Excite Holidays and Hawaii Tourism are also sending two winning agents to Hawaii. The two agents that demonstrate the highest growth in paid room nights from booking the Hawaiian Islands with Excite Holidays between now and Sunday 12 May 2019, will win.

The grand prize includes one return economy class ticket to Honolulu

from the winner's nearest capital city and airport transfer from Honolulu to Waikiki. The week one winner will receive five nights' accommodation at Waikiki Beachcomber by Outrigger and week two winner will receive five nights' accommodation at The Kahala Hotel and Resort.

**CLICK HERE** for details.

## Big prize at Aurora event in Auckland

Aurora Expeditions says places are filling fast at its 20/21 season launch event in Auckland next Tuesday, 7 May.

The function, at Seafarers Building in Britomart, will be held from 6pm to 8.30pm and will focus on exclusive offers, plus new itineraries and destinations.

Attendees will go into a draw to win a voyage on the Greg Mortimer valued at up to US\$14,000.

As well as this, agents who dress as their favourite animal (specific to Aurora's voyages) on the night will win a prize instantly.

**CLICK HERE** for details.

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[www.marriott.com/business](http://www.marriott.com/business)



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## News

Chris Schoffer



## Travel Managers Group names new BDM

Chris Schoffer will join Travel Managers Group in the newly created role of business development manager.

Schoffer has an extensive airline background with roles working for Air New Zealand, and more recently Walshes World as Sales and marketing manager for China Airlines and Etihad Airlines.

Based out of TMG's head office in Auckland, but travelling to the regions regularly, Schoffer will provide further business support to the group's brokers and stores.

'Chris has an excellent understanding of small business and business planning, and valuable industry experience and knowledge,' says Travel Managers Group general manager Cath McLeod.

Schoffer commences his new role on Monday 20 May.

## Accredited Travel Advisor – TAANZ's consumer facing brand

The Travel Agents' Association of New Zealand (TAANZ) has launched a new consumer facing 'brand' for its members.

The Accredited Travel Advisor (ATA) branding includes a suite of logos and posters that can be deployed in digital media, print and store, and will be made available to members through the TAANZ website.

TAANZ chief executive Andrew Olsen says the word 'accredited' reinforces formal recognition by the authoritative body and members' professional standing.

The word 'travel' naturally remained, while the word 'advisor' emphasises the speciality and knowledge of the travel profession more than the label

'agent', which tends to suggest a third party relationship.

'However technically correct the agent role may be, an advisor provides a professional, consultative and trusted service.'

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## Art in air at Auckland fair

Auckland Art Fair is now an annual event, based on its success in 2018, and the city is using the waterfront showcase of New Zealand and Pacific art to stake its claim as a world-class arts destination.

This year's event will be held at The Cloud on Auckland's Queens Wharf, from 1 to 5 May 2019.

Art is a fast-growing tourism market. A recent report from Australia Council for the Arts found that visitors to Australia were more likely to go to an arts event or activity (43%) than to visit wineries (13%), casinos (12%) or organised sporting events (6%).

The findings of this report are useful to Auckland also, says Stuart Turner, head of major events at Auckland Tourism, Events & Economic Development (ATEED).

At this year's event, some of the best galleries from the Pacific will show off the work of more than 150 artists, both local and international talent.

## Registrations open for Asia Now

The event kicks off on 14 May at Yamagen Japanese in Christchurch and then heads to Wellington, Palmerston North, Tauranga,

Hamilton, Auckland North Shore and Auckland Central.

A full sit down dinner is included. **CLICK HERE** to register.

## Marriott reveals prizes

A number of prizes have been confirmed with airline partners, Virgin Australia, Fiji Airways and Air New Zealand for agents attending the Marriott International trade show and cocktail reception on 13 May.

The prizes include return flights on Air New Zealand to Fiji with accommodation for two in Marriott properties.

Air New Zealand is also offering return flights to Waikiki with accommodation for two in Marriott's Waikiki, Honolulu properties.

Return flights on Fiji Airways to Fiji with accommodation for two in Marriott properties plus return flights on Virgin Australia to Brisbane with accommodation for two at the new Westin are also up for grabs.

The event is being held at Four Points by Sheraton, Auckland from 3pm.

**CLICK HERE** for details.

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## Asia

## Accolades for The Philippines' sustainability efforts

The Philippines has received a number of awards for its conservation and sustainability efforts.

The Southeast Asia destination is now among the fastest growing economies in the region, making protection and sustainability a priority for future visitors.

Norjamin Delos Reyes, tourism attaché at Philippine Department of Tourism Australia and New Zealand says travellers are becoming increasingly aware of the beauty of the Philippines.

'It is important to the future of our tourism industry that our beaches, rainforests and wildlife are protected and we are pleased to be recognised in a number of awards for conservation and sustainability efforts.

'Ecotourism plays a vital part in



conservation, with more and more travellers choosing to visit the Philippines to experience its flora and fauna in an environmentally responsible way. This has meant great success for areas like the Masungi Geo-reserve, and

the Palina Greenbelt Eco-park.'

Tourism products that are among the award winners include the Masungi Georeserve and the Palina Greenbelt River Cruise.

[www.tourismphilippines.com.au/](http://www.tourismphilippines.com.au/)

## Exotic Holidays' advice on Sri Lanka

Exotic Holidays advises trade that public and private sectors in Sri Lanka are functioning as before and places to visit are also open for business. Social media however is still not available. 'All our clients in Sri Lanka are doing well and our local operators are in regular touch with them. Except for heightened security and additional checks at key places, the tours are continuing.

'However, for any new travel, we request you to please do review travel advisory and insurance coverage before clients depart from NZ. If clients are thinking of revising their travel plans, looking at South India or Kerala can be an option. Do not hesitate to contact us.'

[info@exoticholidays.co.nz](mailto:info@exoticholidays.co.nz)

## Marriott expands Asia-Pacific portfolio

Marriott International has announced it will open its first Ritz-Carlton hotel in Bangkok.

The hotel is expected to occupy a planned 50-storey tower in the One Bangkok lifestyle development, now rising in the city's commercial centre.

One Bangkok is the global landmark destination in the city's central business district expected to open in 2022 with a combination of commercial offices, lodging, residences, retail, year-round art and cultural events.

Taking up the first 25 floors of the building, the hotel's guest rooms will feature panoramic views of adjacent Lumpini Park.

The Ritz-Carlton, Bangkok is expected to open in 2023, and is planned to feature 259 guest rooms including 32 suites and one Ritz-Carlton suite; four restaurants and bars;

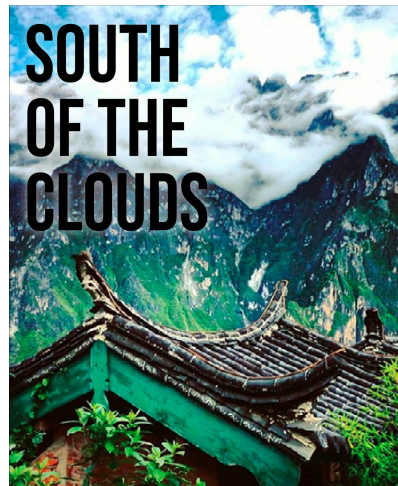


Marriott expands to Bangkok

and fitness facilities.

Plans also include a Ritz-Carlton Spa with six treatment rooms, wet lounges, whirlpools, saunas and steam rooms.

The hotel is also slated to include function facilities, as well as a ballroom that would be the largest of its kind in Thailand.



## SOUTH OF THE CLOUDS

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## Airlines

## New Emirates fares unleashed

Emirates has released competitive business and economy class fares for sale now to 15 May, for select travel periods between May and November 2019.

Fares start from \$1479 to Dubai, \$1529 to Delhi, \$1619 to Johannesburg, \$1649 to Porto, \$1729 to London Gatwick, \$1749 to Barcelona, \$1899 to Edinburgh and \$1979 to Venice.

Business class fares start from \$7399 to Dubai, \$6109 to Delhi, \$7999 to Johannesburg, \$7249 to Porto, \$7499 to London Gatwick, \$7899 to Barcelona, \$7849 to Edinburgh and \$8399 to Venice.

New Zealanders travelling to and through Dubai before 31 August 2019



can take advantage of the My Emirates Pass, an offer that turns an Emirates boarding pass into an exclusive membership card providing travellers with benefits and discounts.

This includes up to 50% discount in more than 600 leisure and retail outlet locations across the UAE.

New Zealanders travelling to Dubai before 18 June 2019 can also take advantage of a free or discounted Uber ride from and to Dubai International Airport. [emirates.com/nz](https://www.emirates.com/nz)

## Salzburg Airport closure: OS expands rail options

The runway at Salzburg Airport will be under renovation until the end of May 2019.

All flight services to and from the airport will be suspended during this period. Austrian Airlines is offering expanded travel options by train between Salzburg's Central Station and Vienna Airport.

The existing AIRail offering in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB) will be increased tenfold from three to up to 30 daily train connections until one week after the shutdown of the runway. Accordingly, a Railjet with an Austrian Airlines flight number linking Salzburg and Vienna will be available to passengers every hour between 5am and 8:30pm. Austrian Airlines customers will have

a guaranteed connection, regardless of whether their journey continues by plane or train.

In the case of an unexpected delay of the train or flight, passengers will be automatically booked on an alternative connecting service if they do not reach their train or flight on time.

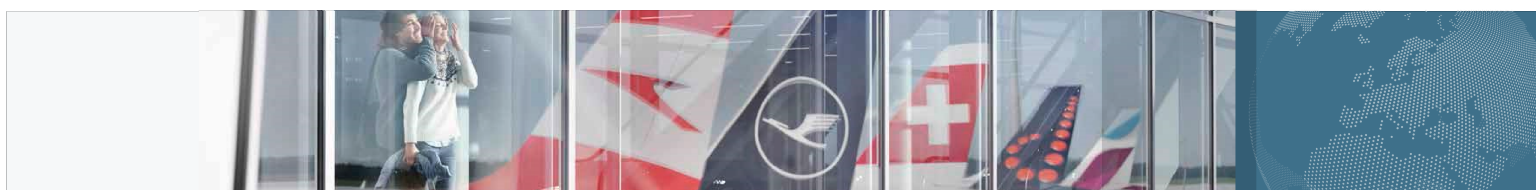
Business class passengers travel in first class on the train and are also given free access to the ÖBB lounge before departure. Moreover, passengers can collect miles on AIRail route within the context of the Miles & More programme.

There is also a catering voucher, which can be used in the ÖBB dining car. Travel time between Salzburg Central Station and Vienna Airport amounts to two hours 49 minutes.

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## Cruising

## Silversea's Australasian summer

Silversea Cruises has announced 54 new summer 2020 – 21 voyages.

They include a full programme to a total of 49 destinations in eight countries in and around Australia and New Zealand between October 2020 and March 2021.

By combining three voyages, with the first starting from Sydney on 31 October, guests will be able to complete a 50 day circumnavigation of Australia aboard Silver Muse. They will visit the countries highlights take in Wellington, Akaroa and Milford and Doubtful Sounds, as well as (on the second sector) taking in the Indonesia destinations of Ende, Flores and Pink Beach, Komodo.

The final sector departs Bali on 3 December 2020, sailing down the east coast of Australia and arriving into Sydney on 20 December 2020.

## Crystal's Grand Journeys

Crystal Cruises has launched Grand Journeys that combine existing worldwide itineraries aboard the Crystal Symphony and Crystal Serenity, allowing guests to extend their exploration. Meantime, Crystal Getaways offer abbreviated segments of longer sailings that accommodate busy luxury travellers.

In 2019 and 2020 Crystal Grand Journeys sail the Mediterranean and Western Europe, Caribbean, Central America, Southeast Asia and the South Pacific. Multiple overnights are offered on these extended voyages with nearly no repeating ports, ranging from 14 to 27 days. The Greek Isles, Holy Land and Italian countryside are all featured on one expanded itinerary, while another explores Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica and New Orleans along a Gulf Coast route.

Nearly every voyage offers specialised programming of at least one of Crystal's acclaimed Experiences of Discovery



Crystal Symphony

theme cruises. These include interests like Broadway hits and jazz, wine and food, golf, ballroom dance and more.

For 2020, Crystal is offering travellers three new Crystal Getaways, sailing through the islands of Hawaii and the South Pacific and Southeast Asia, ranging from seven to 14 days.

## Say aloha to prizes

Norwegian Cruise Line has launched a competition giving New Zealand travel agents the opportunity to win weekly prizes by increasing Hawai'i product knowledge.

Each week the competition will focus on one of the four islands visited by Pride of America - O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i and Kaua'i.

There will be one major and one runner up prize to win each week, with a total prize pool value of nearly \$5000.

Prizes include a Samsung Galaxy S10e mobile phone, an Apple Watch Series 4 and an Apple 12.9 inch iPad Pro.

To go into the draw to win, agents need to head to [nclpromo.com.au](http://nclpromo.com.au) and answer two questions on Norwegian's Hawai'i cruise experience.

Agents can find all the answers in the latest Hawai'i brochure and flyer, both housed on the competition website.

The competition will run until 27 May, 2019. Prize winners will be drawn each Sunday and announced weekly on the competition website every Monday.

[www.ncl.com](http://www.ncl.com)

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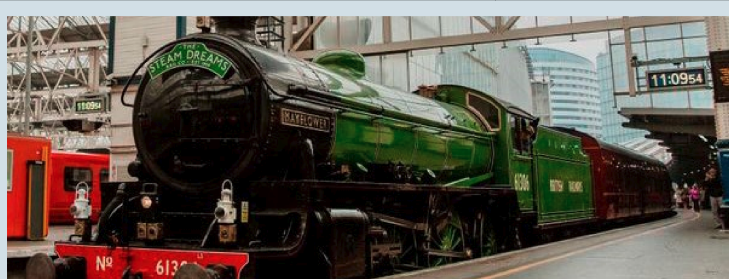
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## Europe



The Royal Windsor Steam Express

### Steaming from Waterloo to Windsor

The Steam Dreams Rail Co. is launching The Royal Windsor Steam Express, the first regular steam train service in modern history from London Waterloo to Windsor.

The company is also launching the The Sunset Steam Express. Both trips will run from 4 June to 3 September 2019.

The Royal Windsor Steam Express will leave Waterloo at 08.02, 11.10 and 14.10 each Tuesday. There will be three classes of travel including 1950's Pullman Style Dining carriages and First Class Restaurant Cars.

The journey will follow the same route of the earlier Royal Trains that would transport members of the Royal Family from London to their castle in Windsor. First built in the 11th century, it is the largest continuously occupied castle in the world and home to English Kings and Queens from William the Conqueror to the present Elizabeth II.

Tickets start at £35 (approx. \$68) up to £85 (approx. \$166) per person for the Pullman Style Dining experience with Champagne brunch. Table service for snacks and drinks will be available throughout the rest of the train and picnics welcome.

The Sunset Steam Express will leave London's Waterloo Station at 18:00 for a four hour round trip through the Surrey Hills. Dinner will be served en route in the Pullman Style Dining carriages.

The train will head south across the suburbs of London, pass through the Cathedral town of Guildford and climb through the Surrey Hills before descending the Vale of Holmesdale and back to Waterloo via the market towns of Dorking and Reigate.

Prices are from £99.

[www.royalwindsorsteamexpress.co.uk](http://www.royalwindsorsteamexpress.co.uk)

### Limerick Strand refurbishment

The Limerick Strand Hotel has completed a large refurbishment programme.

All 184 bedrooms have been upgraded at a cost of 1.6 million euros.

The hotel is an ideal base for touring the Wild Atlantic Way and is 20 minutes from Shannon International Airport.

[www.strandhotellimerick.ie](http://www.strandhotellimerick.ie)



The Limerick Strand Hotel

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## Pacific Islands



Melanie Nicol

## NZ sales manager for Matamanoa

Melanie Nicol has been appointed sales manager New Zealand for Matamanoa Island, Fiji commencing in May.

Nicol is based in Auckland so will have easy access to Matamanoa's key NZ partners.

Nicol's portfolio includes working for Budget Travel, talpacific Holidays, Blue Lagoon Cruises, WRD, GO Holidays and Sunseeker Travel Marketing.

**melanie@matamanoa.com**  
(active 9 May).



GO Holidays has deals to Fiji flying Fiji Airways valid for sale until 5 May 2019 flying return economy class from Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington to Nadi.

The deals include flights plus four nights at either First Landing Beach Resort; The Westin Denarau Island Resort; Outrigger Fiji Beach Resort or

Mana Island Resort.

Bonus deals are available at different properties including free return airport transfers, massage vouchers, and free upgrades. Kids fly, stay, play and eat from \$359.

**[goflyersstaging.gogogo.co.nz/classic/goflyerpopupmvc.asp?ID=18605&enc=349715030461774PNA](http://goflyersstaging.gogogo.co.nz/classic/goflyerpopupmvc.asp?ID=18605&enc=349715030461774PNA)**

## Strong arrivals

Arrivals into Pacific Island countries were on the up in the last quarter of 2018.

The Quarterly Review of Tourist Arrivals published by The Research and Statistics Division of SPTO (South Pacific Tourism Offices) show global visitor arrivals for quarter four last year had a positive growth of 4.4%.

This was driven by favourable performances from all regions, led by Africa at 8%, Europe 4.9% and Asia / Pacific 4.4%.

## New lounge bar

The Pearl Resort, Spa & Golf Course in Fiji recently opened a new resort outlet themed 'Hydrate for the day'. This lounge bar 'Maleka Dina' offers freshly made beverages and pastries daily from 10am to 6.30pm as well as branded souvenirs for all guests.

Alongside the existing restaurant outlets ranging from pool side snacks to signature dining with ocean views, 'Maleka Dina' is perfect for easy going light eaters and in between meals snacks.

## Samoa's big trade event is this week

Samoa is gearing up for its major business to business travel trade event this week.

The opening ceremony of Samoa Tourism Exchange (STE) 2019 will be held tomorrow (1 May) at Saletoga Sands Resort.

The programme continues on Thursday and Friday with buyer and seller appointments at Sheraton Samoa Aggie Greys, Apia and the official closing at Tanoa Tusitala Hotel.

This year's STE has a strong contingent of New Zealand product managers and media, who will join delegates from Australia, American Samoa, China, South Korea, USA, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom and other parts of Europe.

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## Australia

### Hotel to round up Oval offerings

A hotel integrated into the eastern side of the Adelaide Oval is on track to open by August 2020, in time for the ICC World T20 cricket tournament.

The 138 room Adelaide Oval Hotel (working title at this stage) will be contained within the oval area and will not impact the parklands or the existing plaza.

Adelaide Oval Stadium Management Authority (AOSMA) chair, Kevin Scarce, says the hotel will not only help offset ongoing costs associated with operating and maintaining the stadium, but will



Artist's impression of the hotel planned at Adelaide Oval

also ensure the venue 'stays at the forefront of innovation in what is an extremely competitive international event market.'

### Luxury eco-lodge joins Baillie

Baillie Lodges has added Silky Oaks Lodge to its portfolio of luxury lodges. Set among the World Heritage-listed wilderness of the Daintree National Park on the banks of the Mossman River, the lodge offers river snorkelling, driving safaris, Indigenous guided walks and the Healing Waters Spa. [www.silkyoakslodge.com.au](http://www.silkyoakslodge.com.au)



Silky Oaks Lodge

### WA's record number of visitors

Western Australia attracted record numbers of interstate and international visitors in 2018 according to results from Tourism Research Australia.

The state attracted 2.58 million visitors from out of state (international and interstate visitors) in 2018, the highest amount in the past four years and an increase of 11.4% on 2017.

Results have also shown spending by out of

state visitors is on the rise, up 6.5% to A\$3.8 billion.

The figures are from the latest National Visitor Survey (NVS) for 2018, combined with the International Visitor Survey (IVS) for 2018 released last month.

The NVS results also show more Western Australians are choosing to holiday at home, with the number of intrastate visitors at a four-year high.

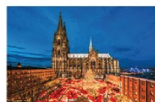


### CHRISTMAS WITH MAHER

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#### European Christmas Markets

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Departing in December  
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#### Christmas Cruise Pacific & Sydney

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Departing in December  
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Departing in July  
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#### Queensland Winter Retreat

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Departing in August  
Home to some of the world's most treasured natural wonders and a winterless holiday destination which offers a diverse range of scenery bathed in the sun.

#### Western Australia & The Indian Pacific

Perth | The Nullabor | Ballarat



Departing in August  
Showcasing what has made Western Australia famous - national parks, wineries and rugged coastlines.

#### India & Sri Lanka

New Delhi | Agra | Kovalam | Taj Mahal



Departing in October  
Enter lands of colour, excitement, mystery, contrasts and surprises. The historic north and tropical south of India and the diverse island nation of Sri Lanka.

## Americas

## Viva: Last chance for All Blacks Tours in South America

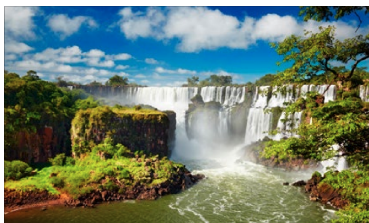
Final tickets for All Blacks vs Argentina rugby need to be finalised soon. Viva Expeditions is urging agents who have clients who are interested in combining a holiday to South America with an All Blacks vs Argentina rugby match, to book now. The company says New Zealand Rugby could request the final numbers by the end of this week.

Viva Expeditions has four tailor-made tours, from a five day city break 'basics' package in Buenos Aires to a 22-day adventure across the South American continent. Guests will have the chance to ride horses with Gaucho's and experience a typical Argentine country style asado (BBQ). Alternatively, they can visit the Iguazu Falls, the largest waterfall in the world.

On the 22-day adventure, clients will explore the ancient streets of Machu Picchu, venture out into the Amazon by canoe or catamaran and speedboat across Lake Titicaca. The tour has city breaks in Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Lima, Cusco and Santiago.

Tours start at \$1350, including match tickets. The All Blacks vs Argentina game kicks off on the 20 July 2019.

[vivaexpeditions.com/styles/rugby](http://vivaexpeditions.com/styles/rugby)



Clients can combine the sights of South America, such as the Iguazu Falls, with an All Blacks – Argentina match

© Dmitry Pichugin



Arti Patel from Infinity Holidays, Emily Rayner from Flight Centre Palmerston North, and Julia Hindman from Flight Centre Product

## Kiwi agents on Rocky Mountaineer journey

New Zealand travel agents were among a big group that also included Australians, British and Americans on the first Learning Journey for the season with Rocky Mountaineer.

The group was hosted by Rocky's Helen Hersom.

The itinerary took in sightseeing in Vancouver, Banff and Calgary, a



On the Athabasca Glacier... Leigh Refugia, House of Travel Product; Kelly Gainsford House of Travel; Kristin Black, ATP; Arti Patel, Infinity Holidays; Emily Rayner, Flight Centre; Julia Hindman, Flight Centre; Jeanette Wiltshire, Globus family of brands

two day First Passage to the West rail journey (where agents had a day in each SilverLeaf service and GoldLeaf service) and a day exploring the Icefields Parkway.

'We were treated to Rocky Mountaineer's amazing service and cuisine, and enjoyed spotting wildlife along the way,' says Julia Hindman, Flight Centre Product.

## Los Angeles to Auckland fly/cruise

GO Cruising has back-to-back Azamara cruises from Los Angeles to Papeete and Papeete to Auckland on sale now.

The 35-night fly-cruise package is priced from \$15,369 per person twin share, and departs Los Angeles on 05 January 2020.

The package includes a one way economy class airfare to Los Angeles flying Air New Zealand, transfers throughout, two nights pre-cruise accommodation in Santa Monica, main meals on board, entertainment and beverages onboard, including selected beer, wine and

spirits, one AzAmazing Evenings event in a selected port, and port charges, government fees and gratuities.

The cruise visits Hilo, Maui (Lahaina), Honolulu, Kauai (Nawiliwili), Bora Bora, Moorea and Papeete before cruising to Rarotonga and New Zealand, visiting Gisborne, Wellington, Picton, Nelson and New Plymouth before ending with an overnight stay in Auckland.

There is a bonus \$500 onboard credit per stateroom, per cruise. Terms and conditions apply. [cruising@goholidays.co.nz](mailto:cruising@goholidays.co.nz)

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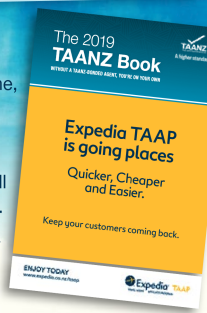
Contact [stu@promag.co.nz](mailto:stu@promag.co.nz) for further details.

## All the contacts you need for 2019

The 2019 TAANZ Book is out now...

If you haven't received a copy, and you'd like one, email [patrea@promag.co.nz](mailto:patrea@promag.co.nz) with your postal address and we'll send you a copy.

Or, you can refer to the online version **HERE**.





## Africa

## AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA

## KwaZulu-Natal kicks in with full range of African choices

Part 1 in a series on South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal province

By Trish Freeman

Accessing a full gambit of African experiences does not necessarily mean flying huge distances between game reserves and other attractions.

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) province offers 'Big 5' safari experiences, culture, historic battlefields, beaches, mountains, hiking and monuments to the freedom movement – all within two to five hours' drive of each other.

The province's largest city, Durban, is easy to reach from South Africa's main international gateway airport in Johannesburg and has developed into an edgy cosmopolitan destination with an award-winning food scene.

KZN is being showcased to Australian and Kiwi travel buyers this week in the lead up to Africa's Travel Indaba travel trade expo on 3-5 May.

Mosilo Sofonia, hub head: Australasia for South African Tourism, says as well as having the wildlife viewing South

Africa is renowned for, the province offers top historic and cultural experiences. 'KZN is home to the largest tribe in the country – the Zulus. What happened in Zululand impacted and shaped today's South Africa.

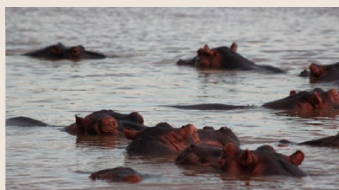
'KZN also offers real value for money,' she adds.

The general feeling among KZN's tourism operators is the province is on the cusp of growth, as the country's popular game parks get busier.

'People are realising that KZN's game

reserves are just as good as the well known parks in terms of lodges, wildlife and guiding, but without the crowds,' says Doug Rattray, of Fugitives' Drift Lodge and Guest House.

He's seeing more guests from the UK as a result of the new British Airways direct flight to Durban. 'South Africa (and KZN) is becoming an attractive prospect as people realise the value for money offered by the rand compared to paying US dollars in East Africa.'



Hippos are the big drawcard in St Lucia



Angel Mlungwana is a 'sangoma' (medium) who practices traditional spiritual healing in Khulu village

## Hippo happiness at St Lucia

A big wildlife drawcard in KwaZulu Natal is St Lucia, around two hours' drive north of Durban and home to around 900 hippos and 1200 crocodiles.

A handful of operators run sunset cruises on St Lucia Estuary where guests are guaranteed to see pods of hippos and, most often, crocs.

Shakabarker Tours also has night-time land excursions from 9pm to midnight. Travelling on German unimogs, the tour heads into St Lucia Wetlands Park where guests see hippos out of the water as well as animals such as porcupines and chameleons.

St Lucia's accommodation ranges from guest houses to lodges, and its only hotel, the three-star Elephant Lake Hotel, is where the pre-Indaba famil group spent the night. Jill

Grant from A Walker's World says the property offers good value. 'It's clean and tidy, the staff are friendly and helpful and the rooms have tea and coffee making facilities,' she says. 'An added bonus for us were the hippos on the lawn the evening we were there and they've also been known to drink from the swimming pool.'

Elephant Lake also has some 'resident' monkeys so it is wise to keep guest room doors and windows closed.

The drive from Durban is on a well-maintained toll road that can be broken up some 25kms before St Lucia at The Cheese Farm.

Its handmade cheeses and condiments are served on platters, in pizzas and in toasted sandwiches.

Six kilometres before St Lucia is the



Thoko Jili, Jikeleza Tours, shares a local take-away food – vet koek, or fat donut – in Khulu village with Jill Grant, A Walker's World

contemporary Zulu village of Khulu where visitors can take guided walking or bicycle tours.

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## News

## MYSTERY SPOT



## Can you solve the latest mystery?

This week's Mystery Spot is believed to have been built over a period of around 200 years.

If you think you know the answer, send it to [competitions@promag.co.nz](mailto:competitions@promag.co.nz) with Mystery Spot in the subject line.

And congratulations to last week's Mystery Spot winner Poppy Waye, Manase Travel Studio who correctly guessed Angkor Wat, Cambodia.

A great prize courtesy of Tourism Memphis and Lonely Planet will be sent out to you.



## Exotic Holidays' beautiful Oman

Exotic Holidays has a nine day Beautiful Oman tour priced from \$4645 per person twin share. The itinerary travels Muscat, Al Hamra, Jabal Akhdar, Wahiba Sands, Ras Al Hadd, Sur and Muscat.

Accommodation in Muscat is at The Mysk, including breakfast, and day two includes a morning tour of the city.

The programme then takes clients on a 4WD journey through the mountains, stopping at

the hot springs in Nakhl and arriving at Nizwa.

The tour heads to Jabal Akhdar for two nights, including a day at leisure, then onto Wahiba Sands to witness a sunset over the dunes.

A day seven highlight is the Ras Al Junayz turtle breeding site, before heading back to Muscat (via the seafaring town of Sur and Sineslah Fort) on day eight.

[info@exoticholidays.co.nz](mailto:info@exoticholidays.co.nz)

## Thailand to amaze in Auckland

The Amazing Thailand Roadshow will be held at the Crowne Plaza Auckland on Monday 13 May.

Agents who are selling, or interested in selling, Thailand can meet with the Tourism Authority of Thailand and 50 plus Thailand suppliers and representatives.

The event will be held from 5pm to 9pm.

**CLICK HERE** to register.

## TRAVELinc MEMO

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## Tuku Iho | Living Legacy opens in Japan

A significant Māori exhibition has officially opened in Japan ahead of the Rugby World Cup.

Tuku Iho | Living Legacy will be hosted at Hokkaido Museum through to 14 May, before moving to the 21\_21 Gallery in the Roppongi District of Tokyo in August 2019.

The exhibition was developed and curated by the New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute, based at Te Puia in Rotorua. To date it has exhibited in three different continents and in more than six countries, including the United States, China and Brazil.

In Hokkaido, the scope of Tuku Iho will once again stretch beyond the walls of the Museum, reaching into the community with events focused on education, economic trade and tourism, and a focus on forging relationships with the indigenous Ainu people of Hokkaido.

In particular, the Hokkaido outing is accompanied by an embroidery exhibition from contemporary Ainu artists.

## TODAY'S PEARLER

'The purpose of our lives is to be happy.'  
Dalai Lama

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