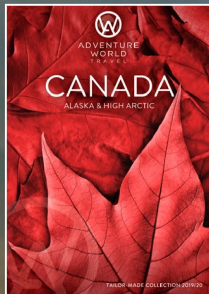


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On the rails, but off beaten track as trains get night in spotlight

New Zealanders are proving true to their reputation as travellers who look to get off the beaten track when it comes to rail travel, according to Richard Leonard, Rail Europe's commercial director, Australasia.

A big turn out from the trade is expected at The Great Train Journeys Showcase in the Pullman Auckland starting 6pm tonight and some of the world's longer, luxury journeys will be among the products highlighted.

'New Zealand is home to some of the world's most beautiful rail journeys, so that has given Kiwis a good introduction to other such journeys around the world. They are embracing this sort of travel experience without doubt.'

'Our Great Train Journeys portfolio continues to grow in size and popularity among Kiwis.'

He says these trips are like cruising on wheels. 'You unpack once and enjoy the experience – the scenery, fine dining, great off-train tours and the social aspect of the travel.'



Richard Leonard

Continued on page 3

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News

Tauranga agents have their say

Recruitment, 'pop up' agents, and focusing on the positives were all discussion points when the Travel Agents Association of New Zealand (TAANZ) visited Tauranga trade recently.

TAANZ chief executive Andrew Olsen says the association's staff and board members spent a couple of hours with local agents and brokers.

'We talked about access to qualifications and our accreditation scheme – generally viewed as achievable. The consensus was that trained people add value to a business.'

Olsen says in terms of recruitment, attendees at the meeting felt that the local talent pool wasn't deep. 'So agents need agile solutions to find people who are qualified to sell travel – even if that means they love travel and can sell it but had not (previously) been in the industry.'

'Whilst we can't quickly solve the talent



Tauranga agents and TAANZ Board members got together on a 'delightful' Tauranga evening recently

pool we can and have addressed access to qualifications through the Service IQ AMS (the earn as you learn model).'

Olsen says 'pop up' agents were also discussed. 'The general consensus was they were an irritant more than a significant business threat and the customers were

not mutual. The industry is not licensed so 'popping up' isn't against the law.

'Overwhelmingly, agents wanted to focus on positive messaging and the good relationships they have with customers – and not spend energy worrying about this fringe activity.'

TAANZ is next in Nelson on 22 May.



SALES & MARKETING SUPPORT COORDINATOR

South Sea Cruises is based in Denarau, Fiji. We operate a broad range of tourism products including; Blue Lagoon Cruises, Resort Connections, Malalimala Beach Club & Vinaka Fiji Volunteering.

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News



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Extensive Indochina knowledge and the passion to continually stay on top of what's hot and what's not in Asia is a must in order to ensure we are offering our clients genuinely cutting – edge advice.

We love, love, love creative people with open minds and ideas that will contribute to both your own team and the wider business.

For full details, head to:
<https://activeasia.co.nz/news/>

Application close Friday 22nd March 2019

TAANZ Awards gearing up for nominations

The 'best show in the travel industry calendar', the TAANZ National Travel Industry Awards 2019, starts on Monday 18 March with the opening of nominations for agency and supplier categories.

'Those in the industry can self-nominate or can be nominated by another party and that applies to the business and individual awards and all supplier categories,' says TAANZ chief executive Andrew Olsen.

He says both nomination pathways are open through to 5 April.

'NTIA is open to all agents and suppliers operating in the New Zealand market place. We encourage everyone to

have a look at our categories as we start the process which culminates in the gala dinner on 7 September. Our Nominations Open release next Monday will contain the active link to the site.

'We've added one new category this year focusing on another important piece of the distribution 'the group travel arrangement'. This is a judged category and finalists in this and all other judged categories will be required to put their best foot forward in judging week from Monday 29 July to Friday 2 August,' Olsen adds. 'We recommend you keep that week clear to be available for the slot we allocate to finalists.'

• For a full list of categories see page 17

On the rails, but off beaten track

Continued from page 1

'New Zealanders are experienced and curious travellers – we are getting more enquiries and bookings on lesser known journeys such as the Deccan Odyssey in India, Alaskan Rail in the United States and the Caspian Odyssey in the Caspian region.

'At the same time, New Zealand bookings on The Ghan and Indian Pacific in Australia are at an all time high and continuing to surge.'

Agents attending tonight will meet key suppliers from train journeys around Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Europe and the Americas, as well as

hearing the latest news and product updates and gaining important sales tips.

Representatives from Belmond, Via Rail, Rocky Mountaineer, Great Southern Rail (GSR), Great Journeys of NZ, Great Train Tour of Switzerland, Golden Eagle, Blue Train, PeruRail and Switzerland Tourism will be among the suppliers on hand.

The grand prize tonight will be a 13-day, 12-night holiday on the Ultimate Grand Train Tour of Switzerland. There will also be lucky draw prizes from The Blue Train, Journey Beyond and Golden Eagle.



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World Journeys recommends Alaska's Glacier Country, where clients seek

out Alaskan wildlife and embark on a wilderness exploration in the Tongass National Forest, Ford's Terror Wilderness Area and Glacier Bay National Park.

info@worldjourneys.co.nz

Free flights to Galapagos from mainland

World Journeys is offering free return flights, a saving of \$740 per person, from mainland Ecuador to the Galapagos Islands, on select 2019 Galapagos cruises.

The offer is valid for seven-day Eastern Islands cruises aboard the Santa Cruz II in 2019, when booked and deposited by 29 March. It's for new bookings only, is subject to availability, and excludes peak season sailings (23 December 2019 – 4 January 2020).

A seven-day cruise is priced from US\$5720 including transfers and transport, all onboard meals, a Galapagos Transit Control Card, and daily island excursions in small groups.

The Santa Cruz II is a state of the art expedition vessel, with 50 air-conditioned cabins. Guests explore landscapes, view wildlife including the



Giant Tortoise

giant tortoise, Galapagos iguana, blue-footed booby, flightless cormorant, Galapagos penguin and waved albatross.

www.worldjourneys.co.nz/Ecuador



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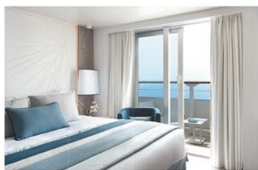


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MAYA TREASURE OF THE YUCATÁN: Nov. 2019 to Jan. 2020. 7 nights **from A\$4,240 pp⁽⁴⁾**

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Cruising

Bookings open for 'stretched' ships

Windstar has opened bookings for its 'stretched' Star Breeze and Star Legend ships when they re-launch in 2020.

The Star Breeze Star Plus Inaugural voyage from Miami to Colón, Panama sails on 20 March 2020 followed by three back-to-back Costa Rica and Panama Canal journeys.

The ship will then sail from Costa Rica to Southern Mexico before making its West Coast debut in San Diego.

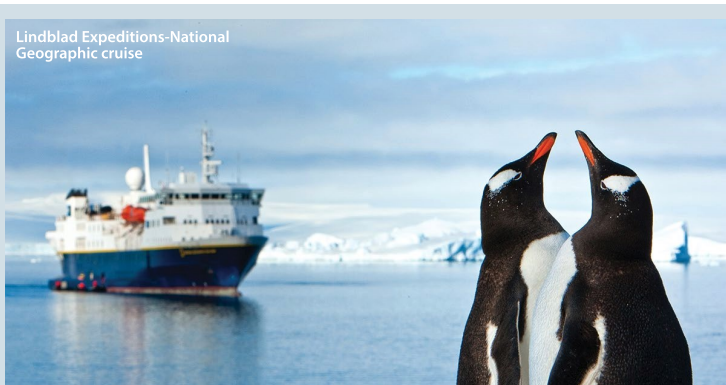
Breeze then heads north on a culinary themed cruise disembarking in Vancouver. From Vancouver she has 10 sailing departures in Alaska from May 2020 for the summer season.

In the northern fall through to early December 2020 Star Breeze will be based Asia, sailing to China, Korea, Japan, and Southeast Asia.

Meanwhile, the new Star Legend debuts on 2 July 2020 with a course from Barcelona to Lisbon and up Europe's Atlantic Coast. She will cruise Northern Europe, including five Around Iceland departures and an Iceland-Ireland cruise.

www.francistravelmarketing.co.nz

Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic cruise



New availability on highly sought cruise

Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic have last-minute availability on the Antarctica, South Georgia & Falklands expedition, departing 20 November 2019.

The 24-day South Georgia expedition voyage – usually sold out two years in advance – takes clients into the

wildness of three distinct regions.

Now priced from \$36,660 per person, including a savings of \$1110pp, the cruise includes the charter flight from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia and return to Buenos Aires.

Phone Adventure World Travel on 0508 496 753.

No solo supplement on new Ganges cruise

Pandaw's new 'all Ganges' voyage departing in late 2019 has no additional charge for solo cabin use.

Departing from the Raj-influenced city of Kolkata, it cruises to the sacred city of Hinduism, Varanasi, with its cremation ghats. Between the cities are important Buddhist sites including Sarnath, Nalanda and Bodhi Gaya; pilgrim sites, abundant bird life and the Ganges dolphin.

The Ganges voyage is on board Katha Pandaw. Built in Vietnam in 2008, it has been refitted for expedition sailings in India. The number of staterooms reduced from sixteen to fourteen to create an enlarged indoor saloon / dining area as winter cruising in India can be chilly in the early part of the day.

Pandaw has tailored several of its expeditions for solo travellers. Many of its river cruises on the Ganges, Irrawaddy, Chindwin and Mekong have no additional charge for single use cabins.

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Asia

Another side of Vietnam



Vietnam away from the usual is visited in a nine-day Exotic itinerary

A tour for clients who want to experience Vietnam with a difference is being offered by Exotic Holidays.

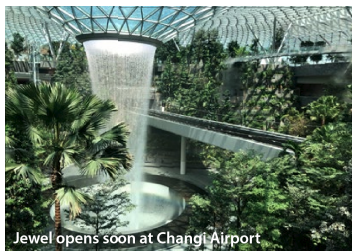
The nine-day Off the Beaten Track Northeast Loop by 4WD tour travels Hanoi to Hanoi and takes in Tuyen Quang, Ba Be, Cao Bang, Ban Gioc, Bac Me and Ha Giang.

Highlights include culture trips and village visits, the Nguom Ngao Cave, the freshwater lake at Ba Be National Park, and Hanoi attractions such as Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the vendors on Tin and Bamboo Streets and the Museum of Ethnology.

Changi's Jewel opens soon

A new dining and shopping complex, Jewel, will open at Singapore's Changi Airport on 17 April 2019. Located landside and attached to Changi Terminal 1 with easy access from Terminals 2 and 3, Jewel will offer an options to dine, shop and play.

Jewel attractions include the Forest Valley – four storeys of landscaping, shopping and dining stops and the 40-metre tall Rain Vortex. Opening in June 2019, Canopy Park – located on the topmost level of Jewel – will have play attractions, gardens and walking trails. Play attractions include



Jewel opens soon at Changi Airport

Canopy Mazes, a Bouncing Net and Walking Net, a 50m-long Canopy Bridge and Discovery Slides – a four-slides-in-one sculptural playground that children and the young at heart can enjoy.

New with Virtuoso

Addicted to Maldives has been accepted into Virtuoso's portfolio of luxury travel partners. Addicted to Maldives is a luxury travel concierge, exclusively for the Maldives. Co-founders Di and Paul Lechner, self confessed Maldives addicts, had their first fix back in 2008 when they both travelled to the Maldives for their honeymoon.



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To highlight the joys of shopping in Malaysia, Exotic Holidays has put together a private tour priced from \$2,620 per person taking you from Kuala Lumpur - Penang - Langkawi.

[SEE THE FULL ITINERARY HERE.](#)

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Malaysia Year End Sale – 01Oct – 31Dec 2019

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Airlines

Macao mascot takes to air

Macao's mascot, Mak Mak, has taken to the skies with her image painted on the livery of one of Air Macau's new aircraft.

Air Macau, in cooperation with the Macao Government Tourism Office, painted the mascot, a black-faced spoonbill, on 'Cidade de Macau', the latest aircraft in the expanding fleet.



Mascot Mak Mak on one of Air Macau's new aircraft

Earn miles with KrisPay app

Kiwi KrisFlyer members can earn KrisPay miles when they spend at various partner outlets when in Singapore, with the latest enhancement to the KrisPay app.

After making a purchase, members launch the KrisPay app and key in the amount spent under the new 'Earn' tab, and a QR code will be generated. The partner's cashier will then scan the QR

code, resulting in an instant reward of KrisPay miles. Members can convert KrisPay miles earned to KrisFlyer miles (one KrisPay mile is equivalent to one KrisFlyer mile) within seven days of accrual.

KrisPay currently has 33 partners with more than 260 outlets island-wide, across several categories.

www.krispay.com

QR: New economy class, extra destinations

Qatar Airways utilised the opening day of ITB Berlin, the world's largest international travel and tourism trade show, to reveal the airline's new economy class experience and announce seven upcoming additions to its network.

The new economy class features a seat with a 19-degree recline system, additional legroom, dual trays, 13.3-inch 4K widescreens and type 'C' fast charging USB port. The airline's new in-flight dining experience, Quisine, has new tableware, a menu offering more choices,

25% larger main courses, 20% larger appetisers, and 50% larger desserts.

It sees a significant increase in rotatable, recyclable and biodegradable products and reduction in single-use plastic.

At a press conference attended by nearly 200 media, the airline's group chief executive, Akbar Al Baker, also revealed destinations the airline will launch in 2019, including Lisbon, Portugal; Malta; Rabat, Morocco; Langkawi, Malaysia; Davao, Philippines; Izmir, Turkey; and Mogadishu, Somalia.

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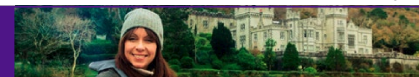
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Europe

Excite Holidays launches new Med ferries booking system

Excite Holidays has launched its redesigned booking system for Mediterranean ferries.

For the first time, travel agents booking with Excite Holidays will be able to receive instant confirmation for their ferry booking, and have an option for a printed ticket to be mailed, or an e-voucher that can be presented for redemption at the relevant port.

Excite Holidays is able to provide instant confirmation for Mediterranean ferries, with more than 1250 routes on offer in Greece, Italy and Turkey.

In addition, the new system offers a more streamlined process for booking, with detailed maps of the ferry routes selected and the ability to book a round-trip within a single search.

The company says this new iteration of the booking system is a huge step forward, allowing agents to self-serve their ferry bookings and offer further peace of mind to their clients who are travelling throughout the Mediterranean.

www.exciteholidays.com/ferries

FEZ ANZAC Day specials

Exotic Holidays has sharp deals available from FEZ right now, ideal for clients making a late decision to visit Turkey around ANZAC Day.

The eight-day Anzac The Captain is priced from \$1699 for the first person and 50% off for the second:

CLICK HERE for details.

The 10-day Anzac The Major is priced from \$2079 for the first person and 50% off for the second:

CLICK HERE for details.



Tourism's big impact on Spain's economy

Madrid, Spain



The travel and tourism sector contributed one in every seven euros to the Spanish economy last year, demonstrating the importance of the sector to the country.


These figures come from the World Travel & Tourism Council's (WTTC) annual review of the economic impact and social importance of the sector. The research has been conducted for almost 30 years by WTTC.


The latest results come in a year in which Spain overtook the USA as the country with the second largest number of international visitor arrivals in a year (behind France).

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Pacific Islands

Chris Bain joins South Sea Cruises



Chris Bain

South Sea Cruises has appointed Chris Bain as business development executive to its Australian-based team.

Bain has a long history of experience in the travel industry,

most recently as sales manager for the Haka Tourism Group from his home base of Brisbane. Prior to that he was business development manager for Coconuts Travel Marketing where he was responsible for a range of South Pacific resorts in the New Zealand and Australian markets.

chris@ssc.com.fj

New Tanna tour

Vanuatu Ecotours has launched a three-day, two-night adventure to Tanna.

'As per all our tours, we are choosing to work closely with local communities to offer the perfect outer island experience,' says manager Marc Giraud. 'Two amazing treks are included in this trip: one to the Big Nabanga, the biggest banyan tree in the world, and a unique trek from the ash plain all the way to the top of Mt Yasur volcano.'

The tour, priced at VT\$90,000 per person for a minimum of four people, includes transfers from Port Vila hotels and flights to Tanna.

On arrival in Tanna, a 'warm up half-day bush walk' takes guests through authentic villages, schools and gardens to the Big Nabanga. Accommodation overnight, is in a beachside bungalow. On day two, guests are transferred by 4WD



Trek Tanna is a new tour by Vanuatu Ecotours

to a custom village before the half-day trek to Mt Yasur and the John Frum cult village. Accommodation is in a traditional bungalow built on top of a banyan tree and overlooking the volcano.

The final morning is spent at the black sand beach of Port Resolution and some natural hot springs. Guests can also choose to do an optional one-hour walk. www.vanuatu ecotours.com

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Rumours Luxury Resort & Spa

New Zealand strong for Rumours

Kiwi visitation numbers are holding well for Rumours Luxury Villas & Spa, says the resort's New Zealand representative Mike Geary from Eye 4 Travel.

'This market is good for us and we're seeing strong numbers of couples heading to our seven-villa boutique retreat. This is a great option if clients are

wanting Rarotonga luxury combined with guaranteed privacy.'

He says the villas include private courtyard pools and there's an onsite Waterfall Spa.

Muri Village with its lagoon cruises, aqua and vehicle hire and night food markets is an easy stroll away.

Air Vanuatu



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Australia

Catering 2 Go from Stamford
Plaza Adelaide

Catering 2 Go

Stamford Plaza Adelaide has collaborated with Uber Eats to launch a new catering initiative.

Catering 2 Go from Stamford offers external catering options for corporate and private bookings in Adelaide.

VICTORIA

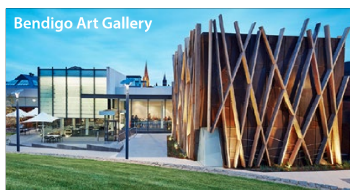
From cops to hops

The multi-million dollar Nagambie Brewery and Distillery is now open on the edge of Lake Nagambie in the regional town of Nagambie, 90 minutes from Melbourne.

The former police camp has been transformed into a modern brewery and distillery featuring water views, sleek architecture, craft beverage and wood-fired eats. A concrete, steel and brass bar and paneled doors open to an expansive deck space with its sweeping lakeside views.

Inside, the space is flanked by two closed combustion fireplaces, offering a homely feel in the cooler months.

Bendigo Art Gallery



Royal portraits

Bendigo Art Gallery will host the Tudors to Windsors exhibition from 16 March to 14 July 2019. Tracing the history of the British monarchy through the collection of the National Portrait Gallery, London, it sheds light on key figures and important historical moments across five royal dynasties: the Tudors, the Stuarts, the Georgians, the Victorians and the Windsors.

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AIR NEW ZEALAND 



New Zealand

Corporate agents, inbounders invited to B2B event in April

Corporate travel agents and inbound tour operators, from greater Auckland and beyond, are among those being encouraged to register now for Convene North. The free event is being held on Monday 9 April, 9am-4pm at the Aotea Centre, Auckland.

Convene North is a business to business tradeshow to research information about the North Island's regional destinations, products and services.

Suitable to anyone who is planning a corporate event, Convene North has also gained traction with operators seeking new options in the leisure groups sector or for weddings, special occasions and domestic incentive travel.

Ally Eastaugh, organiser of Convene North 2019, says there's a fresh line-up of exhibitors including Wellington, Peppers on the Point (Rotorua), Napier Conference Centre, Destination Great Lake Taupo, Plume Villa's (Matakana), Four Points Sheraton Auckland, Destination Waikato and the Auckland Zoo.

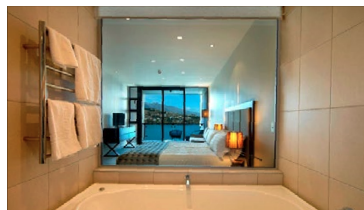
The Convene North programme kicks off with a pre-event famil exploring Auckland's newest venue offerings and a Welcome Function at the Auckland Zoo's soon to be launched The Domes venue. **CLICK HERE** for details.

Rees releases packages

The Rees Hotel Queenstown has released 2019 Autumn and Winter packages.

Among these are The Rees' Bespoke Birdie, a golf package with a two-night stay in a lake view one bedroom apartment, breakfast daily, fruit bowl in arrival, late check out, green fees at Jack's Point for one, and luxury return transfers.

There is also a Grape Escape hosted by the Rees' wine director, a Rees SnoPro,



The Rees Hotel has new Autumn and Winter packages

the Rees Adventure Heli-Ski, and The Rees Soho Basin Cat Skiing. **reservations@therees.co.nz**

Kirra Tours 'set to evolve' under joint venture

ANZCRO and Stray Limited are creating a joint venture to manage the coach touring brand, Kirra Tours. Under the new arrangement, effective 1 April 2019, Stray will manage operations with ANZCRO marketing through its domestic and international trade relationships.

Nick Guthrey, ANZCRO CEO, says the company sees an opportunity for progression of the brand and touring product. 'To help get there we wanted to find the right partner to manage the operations and help shape the product side of the business. We have

a close relationship with Stray so there is good compatibility. We are positive about the future of coach as an exceptional way to journey through New Zealand.'

Kirra Tours will be Auckland based and led by Brett 'Taxi' Hudson, Stray Travel CEO.

Trade partners should note there is no change to the current Kirra touring programme comprising its affordable Classic series and luxury Platinum small group series. Season 2019/20 departures are currently in market and are seeing good uptake.

All Blacks Tours awarded

All Blacks Tours took home the top award in the travel category at the recent NZ Direct Marketing Awards 2019 at a gala dinner at Cordis Hotel recently. The team also picked up two silver awards in the direct response and excellence in

strategy categories.

The NZ Direct Marketing Awards recognise companies that have exhibited excellence in marketing projects and campaigns that have generated outstanding business results.

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Africa



Zonja Beretta, South African Airways; Rhiannon Grieve, helloworld Travel; Sierra Valente, SA



Tim Clyde-Smith, South African Airways with Angela Mount and Caryn Young, both Adventure World

SA: Challenges from NZ, but year to be steady

The number of New Zealanders travelling to South Africa has held up better than may have been expected with the visa woes and difficulties in the past year, according to Tim Clyde-Smith, country manager Australasia with South African Airways.

'That said, we are looking forward to the introduction of electronic visas and we are glad New Zealand will be one of the trial markets. The pain that people have gone through (to get a visa) has certainly not helped but the numbers have not been affected that badly.'

He says challenges that have been just as significant have included being up against sharp specials and capacity across the Pacific and to Europe as well as Asia.

'Basically the world is on sale. So when it comes to South Africa I think there has had to be a real driver while things have not been so easy – perhaps it has had to be a real bucket list desire or it is VFR (visiting friends and relatives).'

Clyde-Smith was in New Zealand last

week and attended a trade function on Friday – held to touch base and thank key members of the trade.

'The transit time in Perth is an issue for us. We would like to see an improvement and we are working with Perth Airport.'

Clyde-Smith says messages to the trade include SA's strong footprint in southern Africa and the ease of using Johannesburg as a hub to other parts of the continent.

'We also remind people of the value of South Africa as a destination. The accommodation and meals are so affordable and it is a delight to travel around – the people are friendly and there is a great level of service.'

He says he always emphasises that South Africa and other destinations nearby are relatively safe for travellers – including those who wish to self drive.

'Of course safety is something one needs to be aware of anywhere in the world. But it shouldn't be considered an inhibitor to visiting Africa.'



Pettine Holland, Carolyn Mackay, GTN; Lisa McDonald, Vanessa Parker, House of Travel



Royden Milo, Sandi-Lee Titus, helloworld; Siwan Nadan, Air Tickets



CURRENT PROMOTIONS

As an incentive to our agents, we are currently offering the following one-off promotions

- Book your client/s on one of our selected tours and receive a generous 20% commission!

- Book your client/s on any other tour for 2019 and receive the usual commission of 10% PLUS a \$100.00 Visa Prezzy Card!

Terms & Conditions:

- Promotion ends 31 March 2019.
- All commission is paid based on the lead in, twin share tour cost. No commission applies to single supplements or any tour upgrades/additional arrangements.
- 20% commission level applies to the following tours only (Mexico & Cuba / Austria & Switzerland / Canadian Rockies & Alaska / Vietnam & Cambodia / European Capitals / Away for the Winter / Western Australia / India & Sri Lanka)
- 10% commission level + \$100.00 Visa Prezzy Card applies to all other tours, as advertised on our website, www.mahertours.co.nz, or in our 2019 Tour Programme.
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remote locations on the
planet - little known
and rarely visited on this
cruise of a lifetime.

News

NZ agents win with Aussie promo

The winners of the recent Self-Drive Australia module promotion as part of the Aussie Specialist Program have been announced.

Selese Rowe from Travel Managers Group based in Timaru, Tom Pullan at Flight Centre Chews Lane in Wellington plus Richelle Hewitt from Sounds Travel in Auckland all receive a gift card of their choice valued at \$150.

Further new module releases and giveaways will be announced later this year. There's currently eleven special interest modules available ranging from luxury and youth travel to food and wine, aquatic and coastal experiences plus cruising, walks, golf and much more.

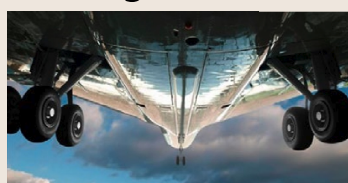
www.aussiespecialist.com

IATA: Strong start but 'mixed signals' for 2019

January 2019 showing traffic (revenue passenger kilometers or RPKs) rose 6.5% compared to January 2018, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA) just released global passenger traffic results.

This was the fastest growth in six months. January capacity (available seat kilometers or ASKs) rose 6.4%, and load factor inched up 0.1 percentage point to 79.6%.

'2019 has started on a positive note, with healthy passenger demand in line with the 10-year trend line. However, market signals are mixed, with indications of weakening business confidence in developed economies and a more nuanced picture across the developing world,' says Alexandre de



Juniac, IATA's director general and CEO.

Asia-Pacific carriers recorded a demand increase of 7.1% compared to January 2018, solidly above the 5% growth in December. Capacity rose 5.1%, and load factor surged 1.5 percentage points to 81.7%, second highest among the regions. Healthy regional growth is being underpinned by rising incomes and an increase in the number of airport pairs.

Prize up for grabs in DUD on 9 April

SPANTO will give away a trip to Noumea at its event in Dunedin on 9 April.

One agent will win return economy class flights to Noumea courtesy of Air New Zealand, return airport transfers and three nights in a one bedroom apartment at Ramada Hotel and Suites with breakfast. The Dunedin event will be held at Otago Museum.

Agents can register by emailing info@spanto.org.nz



A trip to Noumea is up for grabs



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SINGAPORE AIRLINES



News



Maria Stephens, HOT; Wendy Collins, Norwegian Cruise Lines (NCL); Vaughan Kitchener, HOT; CJ McCarthy, Air New Zealand; Chris D'Anvers, NCL

HOT heats up for 2019

House of Travel says its latest campaign is beneficial to the whole industry and it invited suppliers, media and other trade partners to celebrate



Gaye Wood, Regency Tourism Marketing; Gabrielle Brown, House of Travel Product; Chris Ingram, Memphis Tourism; Sid Sharma, Malaysia Airlines



Joanna Garrie, Visit Victoria; Winston Aldsworth, NZ Herald Travel; Mandy Veale, Tourism & Events Queensland; Sam Cameron, Destination NSW



Look who won Champagne in the lucky draw... Therese Brooking and Jill Grant, A Walker's World; Jacquie Carson, Tourism Vanuatu

its success at a function in Auckland last week.

• See earlier coverage *One Minute Memo Friday 8 March*



Michelle Sorensen, Virgin Australia; Sarah Hannah, Olivia Harvey, both House of Travel; Nicky Melville, Virgin Australia



Mark O'Donnell, House of Travel (third from left), with Richard Baker, Kenny Teo, Paula Kerr, and Preeya Prakash, all Singapore Airlines

National park restrictions in Costa Rica

Viva Expeditions advises agents to be aware of restrictions at Manuel Antonio National Park, Costa Rica to help reduce pollution. Manuel Antonio National Park will restrict tourism numbers in March and April – only 600 people will be allowed in to the park at any one time during the week; 800 on weekends; and the maximum daily limit has been set at 1700 visitors.

The measure will continue to the end of April while authorities work on reducing wastewater pollution at the most visited park in the country. Temporary portable toilets will be installed as a measure prior to the installation of the new wastewater treatment system that will be built, starting this month.



Manuel Antonio National Park



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News

2019 TAANZ awards sponsorship opportunities

TAANZ National Travel Industry Awards has just three categories to fill with sponsorship. These give sponsors a table of 10 and a marketing package.

Contact **darlya.redfern@taanz.org.nz** for more details on sponsorship.

- Best Travel Agency Brand – Air New Zealand – Premium Sponsor
- Best Brand Retail – Single Location – Singapore Airlines
- Best Brand Retail – Multi Location – Qantas – Premium Sponsor
- Best Brand Corporate – Single Location – Expedia – Premium Sponsor
- Best Brand Corporate – Multi Location – Air New Zealand – Premium Sponsor
- Rookie of the year – Retail – Emirates

- Rookie of the year – Corporate – Amadeus
- Best Young Travel Agency Executive – Retail – The Travel Corporation
- Best Young Travel Agency Executive – Corporate – Qantas -Premium Sponsor
- Best Travel Consultant – Retail – Globus Family of brands
- Best Travel Consultant – Corporate – Virgin Atlantic
- Best Travel Agency Manager – Retail – Princess Cruises
- Best Travel Agency Manager – Corporate – Service IQ
- Best Travel Agency Group Campaign – NEW – Etihad Airways
- Best Broker Team – Travelport – Premium Sponsor

- Best Broker Brand – Expedia – Premium Sponsor
- Best Broker – Francis Travel Marketing
- Best Wholesaler – Singapore Airlines Premium Sponsor
- Best Niche Wholesaler – TRAVELinc Memo
- Best International Airline – Online – House of Travel
- Best International Airline – Offline – Auckland Airport
- Best Cruise Operator – helloworld
- Best River Cruise Operator – sponsorship available
- Best Tour Operator – sponsorship available
- Best Car Rental Operator – First Travel Group

- Best Hotel Group – sponsorship available
- Best Technology Supplier – Christchurch Airport
- Best Industry Representative – AVIS
- Best Agency Support – sponsorship available
- Entertainment Sponsor – Total Holiday Options
- Beverage Sponsor – Covermore
- MC & Podium Sponsor – Allianz
- Entrance Sponsor – Travelport – Premium Sponsor
- Table setting Sponsor – APT
- After Party Sponsor – Air New Zealand – Premium Sponsor
- Media Sponsor – TRAVELinc Memo
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AIR NEW ZEALAND



News

MYSTERY SPOT



Can you solve the latest mystery?

This week's Mystery Spot is located on the French Riviera – a tax haven for residents who pay no income tax.

If you think you know the answer, send it to competitions@promag.co.nz with Mystery Spot in the subject line.

And congratulations to last week's Mystery Spot winner... Steve Marshall, helloworld, who correctly guessed last week's Mystery Spot, Newcastle Beach.

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

NatHab brochure's new itineraries

Adventure World Travel has released its second brochure for Natural Habitat Adventures, with two new nature-focused adventures to Africa and India.

Adventure World Travel became exclusive GSA for the brand last year. The 2019-20 collection has doubled in size to 48 pages. NHA is the travel partner of World Wildlife Fund.

Southern Africa Safari, a new trip for 2020, is a private cruise on a small luxury ship for 16 guests, exploring the islands, inlets and wildlife realms of Lake Kariba, Zimbabwe. Cruising aboard African Dream, Nat Hab guests have access to an expanse off the conventional safari circuit, including Matusadona National Park bordering the lake; priced from \$25,585pp.

India Tiger Quest Safari heads into the jungles of Ranthambore National Park in search of the Bengal tiger. The trip is timed for early summer, when visitors are few and tigers are less elusive. It has four travellers per open vehicle and a side seat for all, and is priced from \$11,075pp.



India Tiger Quest Safari

The brochure features 32 eco-conscious expeditions and nature-focused small groups, selected to suit the New Zealand and Australian market and its interests – polar bear trips in Churchill, Canada; Alaska grizzly bear encounters and African wildlife safaris are among the choices.

Nat Hab's goal is to divert (refuse, recycle, compost, upcycle, or re-use) 99% or more of all waste produced as part of Nat Hab-sponsored trip operations. It is spearheading what is said to be the world's first zero waste trip in 2019. [CLICK HERE](#) for details.

Lindblad to build new polar vessel

Lindblad has signed an agreement with Ulstein to build a new polar vessel, expanding the line's National Geographic polar fleet to four ships.

Scheduled for delivery in late 2021, it follows new builds National Geographic Quest in July 2017, National Geographic Venture in December 2018 and the scheduled delivery of National Geographic Endurance in 2020.

The polar vessel will have multiple observation decks and wings, and accommodate 126 passengers in 69 cabins and suites, with 75% of cabins featuring balconies.

Off-ship exploring will be enhanced with a Zodiac loading system and include kayaks, cross-country skis, a remotely operated vehicle, hydrophones, a video microscope, underwater video cameras and more. www.expeditions.com

Carnival celebrates Dr. Seuss

To celebrate Dr. Seuss' 115th birthday this month, Carnival Cruise Line hosted an event onboard Carnival Splendor in Long Beach for 100 local children as part of fleet-wide commemorations of the life of the author. Carnival also made a \$10,000 donation to the Long Beach Club, which helps children through educational programming year-round.

TRAVELinc MEMO

Your personal magazine twice a week

Editorial:
editorial@promag.co.nz
Editor: Stu Freeman
Studio Manager: Patrea Robson
Graphics: Andrew Denton

PO Box 60154 Titirangi, Auckland 0642
Ph: +64 9 307 3782 Mob +0274 842 863
www.travelinc.co.nz

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TODAY'S PEARLER

'I can't give you a sure-fire formula for success, but I can give you a formula for failure: try to please everybody all the time.' *Herbert Bayard Swope*

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