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## Network, upskill and set boundaries, advises NTIA broker finalist

Asking for help, upskilling and networking are essential ingredients for travel brokers, says one of the finalists in the Best Broker category of the TAANZ National Travel Industry Awards (NTIA).

Kay Humphries, of KHTravel and part of The Travel Brokers, admits it can be lonely working from home. 'Taking every opportunity to interact with colleagues who can offer help, tips and advice is invaluable.'

'At The Travel Brokers we have regional meetings and conferences which offer opportunities to meet suppliers and network. There is also an active chat room for help and support. We all have different challenges and it is awesome to have the wider network of brokers, along with the support team, on your side.'

Humphries says it is also important for brokers to 'set boundaries from the start and stick to them.'

'It is easy to become client-work focused and forget about you and your family's needs. Growing a business can become all consuming, so look after yourself.'

*Continued on page 2*

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## Network, upskill and set boundaries, advises NTIA broker finalist

*Continued from page 1*



Kay Humphries 'in the field' at the Grand Canyon

Humphries started brokering in 1998 with Jetsave Travel. 'I went back into retail store ownership for a few years but was back brokering by 2004. It started as a lifestyle choice as I had three young children, but as the business has grown and technology improved it is so much more than that now.'

She feels the advances in technology have been a major factor in the increasing popularity of brokering – as has the increase in health and wellness awareness. 'Working from home offers more flexibility and control over your work-life balance and this is a huge advantage.'

## Flight Centre's Global Gathering, BNE 2020

Brisbane has landed a major tourism windfall after being selected to host one of the world's largest travel industry conferences.

Brisbane will be the venue for the Flight Centre Travel Group's global conference in July 2020 that will attract up to 4500 travel consultants, executives and senior travel industry figures to the city and its surrounds.

Flight Centre Travel Group managing director Graham Turner says the annual conference, known as the Global Gathering, will run from July 10-12 next year and would showcase the region to the company's top achievers globally.

'The Global Gathering is the most important conference on our annual calendar and is a keenly anticipated event for our 20,000 people throughout the world,' Turner says.



'Brisbane is our global headquarters, so it's fitting that we bring our people to the city to take part in this important event and to sample South East Queensland's world class features and attractions.'

The Global Gathering was last held in Australia in 2001 (Sydney). The 2019 Global Gathering has just finished in Las Vegas and featured Mark Wahlberg.

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## News

## New face at South Sea Cruises

Ruzanne Keresoma has been appointed to the new role of global sales coordinator with South Sea Cruises.

She will provide sales support for the company, working closely with global sales manager Alyssa Field and other members of the team. She was most recently product coordinator at Flight Centre for two years and before that was global product coordinator with helloworld.

Keresoma is based in SSC's Newmarket office but will also be spending time 'on the road' servicing trade.



## Big prizes up for grabs at Samoa events

Agents who attend the Samoa Roadshow trade events around New Zealand later this month will have the opportunity to win some great prizes as well as catch up with about a dozen suppliers from the destination.

Sonny Rivers, New Zealand sales and marketing manager with Samoa Tourism Authority, says the events will be round table discussions, with the suppliers rotating around the room. Each event will run for a maximum of two hours and 15 minutes, giving agents plenty of time with each supplier. Nibbles and drinks will be served at each function, except for Christchurch on 29 July, which is a breakfast event.

Prizes vary slightly depending on the event but include accommodation at various resorts and hotels plus flights with Samoa

Airways or Air New Zealand.

Confirmed attendees (with several others likely to be announced) include Taumeasina Island Resort, Aga Reef Resort, Saletoga Sands Resort, Seabreeze Resort, Tanoa Tusitala Hotel, Return to Paradise, Levasa Resort, Air New Zealand and Samoa Airways.

Event dates and times are: Christchurch: 29 July, 7.30-9am (breakfast event) at Crowne Plaza, 764 Colombo Street; Wellington: 29 July, 5.30-8pm at Te Huinga Centre, Te Papa Museum of New Zealand; Tauranga, 30 July 5.30-8pm at Hotel Armitage, 9 Willow Street; Hamilton: 31 July, 5.30-8pm at Novotel Tainui Hamilton, 7 Alma Street Auckland: 1 August, 5.30-8pm at The Pullman Hotel, Corner Princes Street and Waterloo Quadrant.

<http://www.samoatourism.org/roadshownz/>

## DRESS UP AND WIN AT TAANZ AWARDS

Attendees at the TAANZ National Travel Industry Awards (NTIA) have the opportunity to win premium economy flights to Singapore with Singapore Airlines – just for looking glamorous.

The flights for two people are being offered to each of the best dressed female and male, but entrants need to pre-register by 30 August and be prepared to 'strut their stuff' on stage.

Online pre-registration can be found at:

<https://taanz.org.nz/ntia/taanz-ntia-best-dressed/>

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

## Air New Zealand non-stop Christchurch to Singapore

In addition to Singapore Airlines' daily non-stop service, from 1 December 2019 Air New Zealand will also fly non-stop Christchurch to Singapore five times weekly through to February 2020.

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## Pacific

## VOMO raises age for child rates



Children aged up to 16 years can now share a villa with two adults at VOMO Island Fiji and pay the child rate.

Previously the age limit for a child was 12 years and under to qualify for the child deal, now the F\$260 per child rate, per night, for children sharing a villa with adults is available for children aged up to 16 years. Children three and under are free in existing bedding or cot,

including meals.

Children aged four and over can head to the Kids Village, younger ones can be cared for by a VOMO Baby Butler and teenagers have a range of activities to choose from including snorkelling, SUP, kayaking and windsurfing.

Kids aged 10 years and older can also try out scuba diving with the PADI Discover Scuba Diving Course and its Bubble Blowers course.

## New rum bar in Moorea

An exclusive rum bar was recently opened at the Manava Beach Resort & Spa in Moorea.

The Matiehani Rum Bar offers 18 different arranged rums, 18 rums for tastings, 15 rum-based cocktails, and a tapas menu to complement the tasting.

It is open on Thursday from 5pm to 11pm and on Friday and Saturday from 5pm to midnight. Guests can sample the various rum flavours of South America, the Caribbean and French Polynesia.



## Getting pure in Solomons



A change of name from Wantok Tours to Pure Solomons better reflects what the Honiara-based company offers, says operator Francis Deve.

'We were looking for something more relevant to the Solomon Islands' nature and history,' he says.

Deve, who is the tour operator for Solomon Kitano Mendana Hotel, says Pure Solomons' most popular tour now is a day trip to the Tenaru Waterfalls, which can be extended into an overnight stay at Para Ngiju Mountain Lodge.

'The waterfall walk is one and a half hours and part of the Maruyama Trail. We can also offer treks for the whole trail (seven days) or sections of it.'

He says the track is the Solomons' version of PNG's Kokoda Trail.

Meantime, Pure Solomons also offers tours to various battlefields and a general overview of Guadalcanal.

[wantok.deve@gmail.com](mailto:wantok.deve@gmail.com)

## Honiara hotel to extend



Heritage Park Hotel, Honiara will be adding 12 new rooms and three extra serviced apartments as a result of demand, says general manager Sanjay Bhargava.

'Business is growing and we expect it to grow through to 2023 when we host the Pacific Games,' says Bhargava.

The new accommodation will add to the current inventory of 48 hotel rooms and 39 serviced apartments.

Bhargava says the hotel has had an extensive (and ongoing) refurbishment, which encompasses the accommodation and restaurants.

### NOTE THIS:

#### EarthCheck tick

Manava Suite Resort Tahiti and Manava Beach Resort & Spa Moorea have been awarded EarthCheck certification.



# Auckland Launch of *Le Commandant-Charcot*, much anticipated new vessel for PONANT

The Who's Who of Auckland's Travel Industry attended an intimate dinner at Award-winning restaurant, Paris Butter to celebrate the sales launch of *Le Commandant-Charcot*, much anticipated new vessel for PONANT and to meet the newest recruit as PONANT expands in New Zealand.

*Le Commandant-Charcot* is designed for ultimate polar exploration! A hybrid electric ship powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). PONANT will be the first to bring guests to the Geographic North Pole at 90 ° latitude north, in unrivalled conditions of comfort. *Le Commandant-Charcot* is another exciting step forward for the PONANT fleet of modern eco-responsible ships.

Guests were given advance notice of the interesting and unique expedition itineraries throughout the Arctic, including a PONANT expedition in partnership with National Geographic to explore the North East Greenland National Park.

Julie Rogers, National Business Development Manager also announced, "The time has come for PONANT to establish

a local presence in New Zealand in order to support our growing efforts in this important source market. As the business develops so too our determination to provide the very best service to the travel industry." Bianca Bratton will join Julie in the role of Business Development Executive for New Zealand. Introducing Bianca to Auckland's Travel Industry alumni, Julie highlighted "Bianca comes to PONANT with a breadth of sales management experience. Bianca has also cruised extensively on Expedition Ships throughout Tahiti, Antarctica, Sub-Antarctic Islands, Kimberley, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.

## Information & Reservations

Sales are now open for Arctic 2021 expeditions, as well as pre-registrations for Antarctica 2021-22 expeditions on *Le Commandant-Charcot*.

**CLICK HERE** for more itineraries and pricing or peruse the full brochure **HERE**.

**To book, contact your preferred New Zealand Wholesaler or PONANT on 0800 767 018 [reservations.aus@ponant.com](mailto:reservations.aus@ponant.com)**





## Cruising

## Biggest Bermuda season yet for Carnival



This season's Bermuda season is Carnival Cruise Line's biggest yet

Carnival Cruise Line will operate its largest Bermuda season ever in 2019-2020, with more than 40 voyages, including eight week-long cruises departing from Baltimore and Charleston next year.

Six Carnival ships – Carnival Breeze, Magic, Pride, Radiance, Sunshine and Sunrise – will offer four- to nine-day Bermuda cruises from five homeports along the eastern seaboard between now and next year.

Carnival is the only cruise operator to offer round-trip Bermuda cruises from Charleston, Port Canaveral and Fort Lauderdale. Nine-day Bermuda departures have also been added to

the New York-based schedules of the transformed Carnival Sunrise and Carnival Radiance which include four-day cruises as well.

The seven week-long cruises to Bermuda from Baltimore on Carnival Pride will spend three days on the island, while a seven-day cruise from Charleston aboard Carnival Sunshine will feature two days in Bermuda and a visit to the Bahamian island of Princess Cays. Baltimore departure dates include 31 May, 2 and 23 August, 6 and 20 September, and 4 and 18 October 2020. The cruise from Charleston departs 17 October 2020.

[www.francistravelmarketing.co.nz](http://www.francistravelmarketing.co.nz)

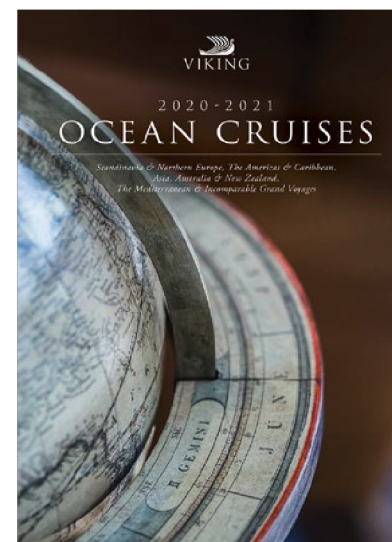
## Viking's 2020 ocean cruise brochure

Viking's new 2020-2021 Ocean Cruises brochure features more than 10 new itineraries, over 10 new extensions and a new destination when Viking returns to Turkey.

A selection of new itineraries trace the ancient Greek and Roman civilisations along the Adriatic, Aegean and Mediterranean Seas – visiting ports in Greece, Croatia and Italy. After a five-year absence Viking returns to three Turkish destinations: Troy (Canakkale), Ephesus (Kusadasi) and Istanbul.

The 2020-2021 Ocean Cruises brochure also has more than 10 new extensions in Europe such as Istanbul and Cappadocia, as well as South American destinations such as the Galapagos, Peru and Patagonia.

New ocean itinerary highlights include



Viking's 2020-2021 Ocean Cruise brochure

the eight-day Ancient Mediterranean Treasures: Istanbul to Athens via Troy (Canakkale), Ephesus (Kusadasi), Rhodes and Crete; 11-day Greek Odyssey: Athens to Athens via Crete, Santorini, Rhodes and Ephesus (Kusadasi); 15-day Ancient Adriatic Treasures: Venice to Istanbul via Croatia, Montenegro and Greece; 15-day Ancient Mediterranean Antiquities: Istanbul to Rome via Turkey, Greece and Italy; 15-day Iconic Adriatic Antiquities: Venice to Rome via Croatia, Montenegro and Greece; 15-day Mediterranean Antiquities:

Athens to Barcelona via Italy and France; 22-day Iconic Mediterranean Treasures: Istanbul to Barcelona via Turkey, Greece, Italy, Monaco, France and Spain and the 22-day Adriatic and Mediterranean Sojourn: Rome to Venice via Italy, Croatia, Montenegro, Greece and Turkey.

<http://www.brochure.net.co.nz>



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## Americas

## Cirque du Soleil brings thriller to Vegas

Cirque du Soleil is set to bring a live-action thriller directed by filmmaker Robert Rodriguez, to Las Vegas later this year with a new production.

R.U.N will be a sensory experience where special effects collide with human performance. The show will follow two clans in an adventure where a bride leads a series of fast-paced chases, combat and stunts



through the fictional dark underground of Las Vegas.

R.U.N will begin performances on 24 October 2019 and play in the R.U.N Theater at Luxor Hotel and Casino Wednesday through

Sunday at 7pm and 9.30pm.

Packages and tickets are on sale now, call reservations at AIM Holidays on 09 444 2298.

## Excite, Brand USA music guides: agents can win

Excite Holidays and Brand USA have launched a new series of itinerary-style guides, themed around popular destinations for music across the USA.

The three guides give agents different itinerary suggestions for their clients, featuring some of the USA's best known locations for music lovers of all types. A new guide will launch each Monday for the next three weeks, starting with The Great North Music Tour, an adventure through the cities in the Northeast, including famous

Motown locations in Detroit, jazz and blues in Chicago and New York City's birth of punk, hip hop and disco.

The campaign continues a partnership between the two organisations that was launched in July 2018 with the first iteration of 'The Music That Made America.'

Agents can find the guides at <https://engage.exciteholidays.com/the-music-that-made-america/> and should check back on Monday 22 July for the 'Musical Routes of The South Tour' and on Monday 29 July for the final instalment, 'Pacific Coast Music Trail.'

In addition, agents can win one of five \$100 Ticketmaster gift cards by taking a music-themed quiz:

**CLICK HERE**

## Indian Country Montana guide

A recently released Indian Country Montana Guidebook offers three road trip itineraries that will lead clients into state parks, interesting museums and Native American guided tours.

For example, the Warrior Trail Highway helps people learn more about Native

American warrior history through guided tours of historic battlefields and ancient indigenous art.

The Peaks and Valleys road trip offers scenery and history, while the Sleeping Buffalo road trip heads to the largest buffalo jump in North America and 500 buffalo.

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## Asia

Life on the Ganges in Varanasi



## Holy city of Varanasi on self famil

Exotic Holidays' Classic North India self famil offers the opportunity to visit Hindu's holiest city, Varanasi.

After beginning in Delhi and visiting the 'golden triangle' city of Jaipur, and the Taj Mahal in Agra, the 10-day itinerary then heads to Lucknow and onto Varanasi by train.

One of the oldest cities in the world with a written history dating back 4000 years, Varanasi sits on the river Ganges where the famil takes in the sunrise and morning rituals of Hindus along the river. [info@exoticholidays.co.nz](mailto:info@exoticholidays.co.nz)

## New Asia experiences for Trafalgar

Trafalgar's 2020 Asia itineraries include nine new trips, bringing the total to 32 across nine countries.

Each itinerary offers Be My Guest experiences with the locals in each destination as well as at least one JoinTrafalgar experience per itinerary.

A new trip in the City Explorer Series, the Saigon and Bangkok Explorer is available as a stand-alone nine-day trip or with the three-day Phuket extension. The Be My Guest experience features a farm-to-table lunch on an organic farm outside Ho Chi Minh and a trip to the former home of Jim Thompson, who revitalised the Thai silk industry in the 50s and 60s, with a visit to the factory. It's priced from \$3770pp including an early booking saving until 18 December 2019.

Also new in 2020 is the Festival of Colours and local life with a family during the Colourful India – Celebrate Holi trip. Diwali, the Festival of Light, is experienced in conjunction with the Colourful India trip. Departing 3 March 2020, the 14-day trip is priced from \$6829pp.

Trafalgar has extended its Be My Guest series and features a new Japanese Kaiseki and Tea Experience with a Yamato tea drinking ceremony with a local family, before visiting a mountainside tea plantation.

## New dates in India for World Journeys



World Journeys has released 2020 departure dates on two of its popular small group locally escorted tours in India.

The 16-day Best of North India tour will

depart Delhi on 2 March 2020, taking in the sights of Delhi, Varanasi, Khajuraho and the Taj Mahal, arriving in Jaipur in time for the Holi Festival. From there it's on through Rajasthan to Pushkar, Jodhpur and a stay at the real Best Exotic Marigold Hotel before ending in Udaipur. It's priced from \$4930pp.

For those with less time, the 11-day Best Exotic Marigold Tour departing 6 April or 6 September 2020 takes in Delhi, the Taj Mahal, Kanota, Jaipur, Pushkar, a stay at the Best Exotic Marigold Hotel and Udaipur. Priced from \$3251pp the journey includes four-star hotels (or best available), all transport within India, breakfast and dinner daily, sightseeing and entrance fees, and gratuities.

<https://worldjourneys.co.nz/destinations/indian-subcontinent/india/>

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## Airlines

### Top EK chef to AKL festivals



Sid Sahrawat and Manish Mehrotra

Emirates is partnering with Auckland Tourism and Economic Development (ATEED) and Eat Drink Love Ponsonby to bring India's acclaimed and awarded chef Manish Mehrotra of Indian Accent restaurants to New Zealand this week.

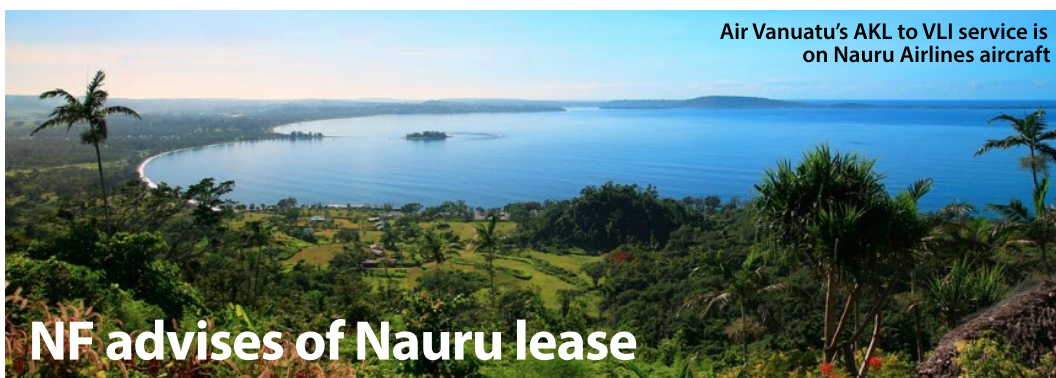
With more than 20 years of culinary experience, Mehrotra will be joining forces with award-winning local chef Sid Sahrawat on 17-18 July.

The collaborative dining experience is part of the Elemental AKL presented by ATEED and is also a feature of Eat Drink Love Ponsonby. Elemental AKL is a new festival showcasing cuisine, art, entertainment and culture in Auckland during the winter month of July 2019.



## Singapore Airlines Premium Economy & Business Class fares on sale now!

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Air Vanuatu's AKL to VLI service is on Nauru Airlines aircraft

### NF advises of Nauru lease

Air Vanuatu (NF) is updating trade on its flights that are using a Nauru Airlines aircraft from Auckland to Vanuatu and vice versa.

With NF's increased frequency to AKL to six weekly from mid-June this year and three times a week to MEL, NF has leased one aircraft from Nauru Airlines to make this possible. The arrangement is expected to be in place until June 2020, at which time NF is expecting to receive its first A220-300.

Until then AKL and BNE services will

be operated on a Nauru Airlines aircraft. Provided on board will be meals, drinks and bar service. For entertainment, because of the aircraft B737-300, clients are advised to download movies on their own devices before their flight.

The captain and first officer are Nauru Airlines crew, however the cabin service is provided by NF crew.

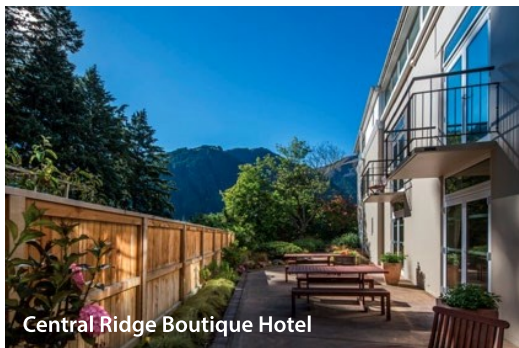
Note, because there is less capacity and spaces in the overhead lockers on this aircraft, NF will be strict on 7kg carry-on weight limit.





## New Zealand

## Naumi's second in Queenstown



Central Ridge Boutique Hotel

Naumi Hotels has acquired another hotel in Queenstown – Central Ridge Boutique Hotel. This comes on the back of its recent acquisition of The Dairy Private

Hotel, also located in Queenstown.

Central Ridge Boutique Hotel is close to the town centre, and a 15-minute drive from Queenstown International Airport. To align the hotel with the Naumi brand, its guest rooms and facilities will undergo a phased renovation, scheduled to be completed in 2020. During this period, doors remain open and business is as usual as guests will not be impacted by the changes.

With Central Ridge Boutique Hotel, Naumi Hotels now owns and/or manages seven hotels in Singapore, New Zealand and Australia.

## Hump Ridge on track to be next Great Walk

Southland's 61km Hump Ridge Track is set to be New Zealand's next Great Walk.

Minister of Conservation, Eugenie Sage says the track provides access to a spectacular southern coastline and forests, alpine tops and historic viaducts.

'This is a significant investment in Southland tourism and the Tuatapere community. Great Walk status can draw more visitors to this beautiful part of the country.

'Great Walks showcase some of the best parts of our country and are a great way to enable more people to enjoy and be inspired by nature to help protect it.'

Hump Ridge Track is one of three finalist walks (the other two being Te Pahi Coastal Track and Queen Charlotte Track) identified through DOC's search

for potential Great Walks, which began in 2017 with a call for public nominations.

DOC will continue its work in the far north to progress plans for what is currently Te Pahi Coastal Track becoming a Great Walk.

The decision has been made not to progress with Queen Charlotte Track due to insurmountable challenges around surety of permanent public access across all sections of the track.

'Queen Charlotte is a fantastic and highly popular track already achieving great results for the region. DOC will continue to support the work of the landowners, commercial operators, Marlborough District Council, iwi and community that has made this track the success it is today,' says Sage.

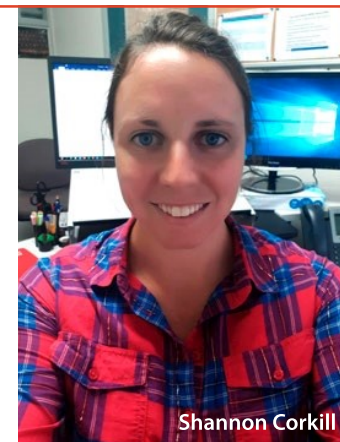
## New at Discover Waitomo

Tourism operator thl has named Shannon Corkill as Discover Waitomo's environmental manager.

The Discover Waitomo group operates several tourism experiences in the Waikato region, including the Waitomo Glowworm Cave, Ruakuri Cave, Aranui Cave, The Legendary Black Water Rafting Co. and Waitomo Homestead.

As the group's environmental manager, Corkill will oversee and lead a team that is responsible for monitoring and ensuring the sustainable management of the cave's fragile ecosystem as part of a broader

environmental programme that Discover Waitomo undertakes. Efforts include monitoring of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), water level and cave temperature and airflow, preserving the health of the cave environment and the glowworms that reside in the caves.



Shannon Corkill

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Eye See You Fluffy Kōwhiri, Tina Hutchison-Thomas, New Zealand



## Europe

## Barging in England



World Journeys is promoting English luxury barging itineraries that will appeal to clients wanting a relaxing week of quintessential English sightseeing.

The week-long Classic England cruise explores Hampton Court Palace, Runnymede, Windsor, Cookham, Hurley, Oxford and Henley-on-Thames. On specific dates, a Downton Abbey version of the cruise includes a visit to Highclere Castle, the Carnarvon family home since 1679 and the set of Downton Abbey.

Rates start from \$7315 per person share twin, including transfers from London, luxury six-night cruise with all meals and open bar, all sightseeing excursions and entrance fees, and the services of four crew, along with use of bicycles and an on-board spa pool.

For these and other barging holidays in Scotland and France, email [info@worldjourneys.co.nz](mailto:info@worldjourneys.co.nz)

## Cool spot almost off the map

For agents with clients looking for an experience that's almost off the map, the new floating Arctic Bath Hotel and Spa can now be booked through Off The Map Travel. Reservations are open for the period February 2020 to February 2021.

The Arctic Bath Hotel and Spa, located in Lulea, Swedish Lapland, freezes into the Lule River in the winter and floats on top of the water in the summer.

The hotel is comprised of six detached floating 'cabins' and six additional cabins on land, plus the arctic bath, inspired by the timber floating era which recalls how

felled trees were transported downriver for processing. Both the spa and the rooms float on or are frozen into water, depending on the season, ranging from 6.5 to 14 feet deep and are connected by wooden walkways.

The Arctic Bath and Spa offers wellness, mindfulness and cleansing treatments through activities including alternating cold-water and hot-water dips and sauna, yoga, meditation, and sessions such as crystal healing colour therapy. The open centre of the bath invites guests to sunbathe, ice bathe or sit back to view the Northern Lights or star-filled skies.



A sample three-day Off the Map Travel/ Arctic Bath itinerary including the Arctic Bath Hotel and Spa includes accommodation in a floating cabin, breakfast daily, nightly five-course dinner, a guided Northern Lights hunt, transfers and spa access is priced from US\$5040, flights are additional.

[www.offthemap.travel/arctic-bath/](http://www.offthemap.travel/arctic-bath/)

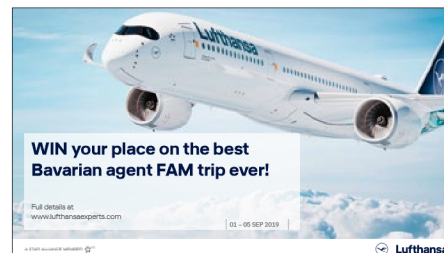
## Win a place on 'best Bavarian fam trip'

Lufthansa is giving five agents the chance to win a place on what it describes as 'the best Bavarian fam trip ever'. The trip takes place early September 2019.

Five winners will be drawn from all entries on Friday 9 August at 5pm and winners will be notified by phone and email.

The five New Zealand agents will join a Pan Asia / Pacific Mega Fam trip in Munich, Germany hosted by Lufthansa, Munich Airport, Munich Tourist Office and Jewels of Romantic Europe.

The trip includes Auckland-Singapore-Auckland (economy class) plus domestic flights if required; Singapore-Munich-Singapore (premium economy and economy class); all hotel accommodation; full board between 1 and 5 September 2019; all transport, activities and events during the trip.



One valid entry is earned by selling one economy / premium economy, business, or first class return ticket from NZ to Europe with either Lufthansa, SWISS or Austrian Airlines. Ticket must include a minimum of two international long haul sectors operated by LH, LX, or OS with tickets issued between now and 9 August 2019. There is no restriction on travel dates, check other terms and conditions.

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



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## Africa



Angela Mount and family on safari

## Safari with kids: what clients need to know

Adventure World's expert in group and family travel, Angela Mount has recently returned from safari in Africa with her three children aged 8, 14, 15 and shares her top tips for agents in preparing clients for safari with their kids.

Travelling as a group of five people, private vehicles were included as part of the itineraries, and the flexibility that this brings is 'absolutely essential' according to Mount. 'Not every person on safari would want to stay and count spots on a sleeping cheetah like we did, plus we had the freedom to avoid the 5am wake ups to prepare for game drives. Although I would recommend that if clients are going to Africa for a longer holiday, do the safari bit first as they can use jetlag in their favour to make the most of 5.30am game drive starts.'

Mount and her family stayed at three different camps on their trip through South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe. There has been progress made on providing facilities to refill drink bottles with safe drinking water and Mount advises guests to remember to pack their own bottle. She still recommends however, to avoid tap water completely, even for teeth brushing.

Mount's other top tips for agents include advising clients to pack as light as possible (under 15kg per soft-sided bag for the charter flights – most camps include laundry as part of package costs) and to pack muted colours to wear – unlike her 15 year old son who learned the hard way by wearing a bright yellow jumper.

[www.adventureworld.co.nz/blog](http://www.adventureworld.co.nz/blog)

## South Africa – back on

With the announcement that NZ travellers will no longer require South African visas, World Journeys has some recommendations on safari experiences the destination offers.

Africa expert Elly Wealthall recommends South Africa's Sabi Sands Game Reserve. 'Adjacent to Kruger National Park, with no fences in between, the game viewing is outstanding, and there is a range of fabulous luxury lodges and camps catering to all tastes.'

Within the reserve, Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve is a family-owned collection of four lodges, and celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. 'Selati Camp is indulgent and romantic; Bush Lodge offers warm hospitality and endless views; Little Bush Camp is an intimate hideaway in unspoilt bushveld; and Earth Lodge is a modern sanctuary at the cutting edge of environmental sensitivity,' says Wealthall. 'andBeyond's new Tengile River Lodge offers next level luxury combined with exceptional wildlife and community visits.'



Tengile firepit

Other private game reserves within Sabi Sands include Savanna Private Game Reserve in the western sector, with a five-star lodge offering exclusivity and personal service, and Dulini Private Game Reserve, with three lodges – Dulini, Leadwood and River Lodge. Another highly recommended experience in Sabi Sands is Londolozi Game Reserve, home to five luxury camps, ranging from the large more family-friendly Varty and Founders Camps, right up to the three-suite-only exclusivity of Private Granite Suites or Pioneer Camp, both members of Relais & Chateaux.

<https://worldjourneys.co.nz/destinations/africa/south-africa/>

## Rwanda gorillas more accessible

Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park, located two hours from Kigali, claims to be the world's easiest place to access gorillas in the wild, and Adventure World is now offering 30% off the permit as part of the Rwanda Wildlife Safari itinerary. The new five-day itinerary starts with three nights at the newly opened Magashi Lodge in Akagera National Park – a protected savannah habitat in Rwanda that boasts the addition of five more Eastern black rhinos released last month. This itinerary features some of the most rare wildlife in the world, plus the experience of trekking with mountain gorillas. Bookings made before 31 October 2019 are now priced from \$7449 per person twin share, for travel from 1 November to 15 December 2019. For more info Contact Adventure World on 0508 496 753





## News

### GO for gold and sunshine

GO Holidays has released Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast packages for sale until 22 July, unless sold out prior, and for travel from 12 August to 29 March 2020, closeouts apply.

The prices are per person, return economy class 'Seat + Bag' fares flying NZ to Brisbane.

- Seven nights Gold Coast start from \$699 from Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch family share and includes three free nights, or from \$829 twin share and includes three free nights;
- Seven nights Sunshine Coast start from \$709 from Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch family share and includes three free nights, or from \$799 from double share and includes two free nights.

### LATAM changes

LATAM will fly from Auckland four times a week instead of the current seven from late October this year.

The airline has announced that the other three flights will travel direct Sydney-Santiago.

### Winery extends

Adelaide Hills winery Bird in Hand has put forward a proposal to capitalise on the sustainable growth the region is seeing, with a \$30m upgrade proposed.

The development includes a 40-seat wine and food experience, an art gallery, expanded cellar door, tasting rooms and outdoor space. Adelaide Hills is the closest wine region to a capital city in Australia.

## Innovative Travel highlights Build Your Own Holiday options

Innovative Travel's latest earlybird 2020 Asia release highlights original and creative itineraries in Asia and India.

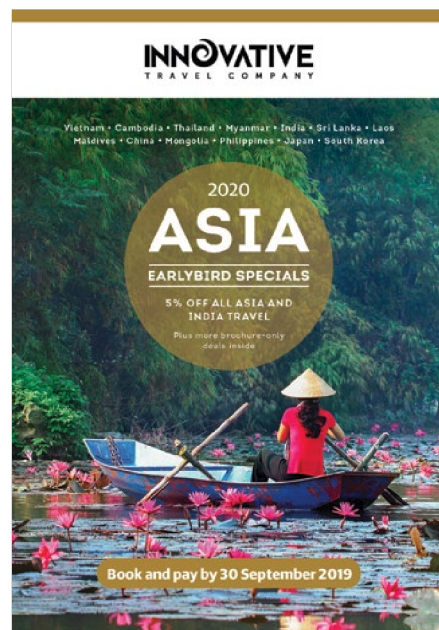
Managing director Robyn Galloway, says the company is adapting to both trade and consumer demand and offering more innovative combinations, showcased in the newly launched Build Your Own Holiday programme for Vietnam and Cambodia.

'Research indicates that clients with busy lives want the chance to experience local destinations, but also include some time to relax or explore on their own. Including transfers, accommodation, sightseeing, and combined with days at leisure, these competitively priced extensions help travel agents to compete against online bookings.'

Galloway says South Korea has traditionally not been well represented in the New Zealand market. 'Yet this country has an incredible combination of ancient forts, tea plantations, castles and authentic ancient villages, along with cosmopolitan cities, which are all featured in our private 11-day tour, ex Seoul. The South Korea private earlybird offers an amazing saving of \$8921 for a small group of four travelling together.'

'Private holidays with personal drivers and guides are offered in both South Korea and China, while the easy to navigate train system used for our private holidays in Japan helps prices remain accessible.'

Following Innovative Travel's recent



famil trip to the Philippines, a sample eight day Beaches and Nature of the Philippines itinerary, visiting Manila, Bohol and Coron, is featured from \$1699 per person in first class ex Manila.

Travel with likeminded companions is offered on a first class small group tour in Myanmar, and superior first class or deluxe holidays on the 16-day Captivating South India small group tour. All other Asia and India holidays offer a special saving of 5% for clients who book and pay by 30 September 2019.

<https://innovativetravel.co.nz/pages/order-brochures>

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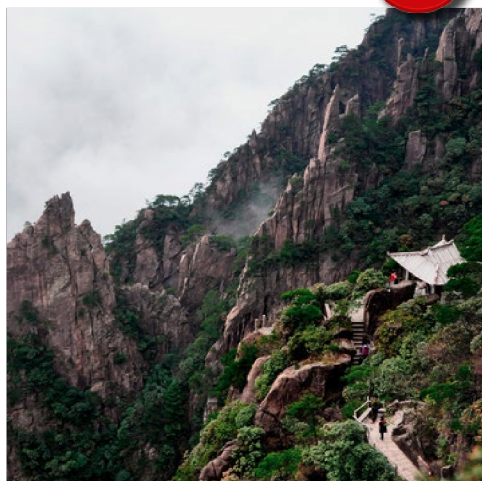
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## MYSTERY SPOT



## Can you solve the latest mystery?

This week's Mystery Spot is one of two world heritage sites in its city and is known for its scenery including its peculiarly-shaped granite peaks and pine trees.

If you think you know the answer send it to [competitions@promag.co.nz](mailto:competitions@promag.co.nz)

And congratulations to last week's Mystery Spot winner Emma Dyke, BCD Travel who correctly guessed Borobudur Temple, Indonesia.

A great prize courtesy of CTS Tours will be sent out to you.



## Tourism funding boost for Northland

Northland Inc has welcomed the Government decision to pump more than \$1.6m of tourism funding into the restoration, improvement and care of regional treasures.

The funding includes a \$1,114,000 boost for restoring the Mauri of Matapouri Beach as well as \$539,000 for a new carpark and toilets to increase capacity and bus parking at Whangārei's Abbey Caves.

Matapouri is a popular destination along the Twin Coast Discovery Highway, which has been in place since 1999 as an 800km touring route connecting Auckland with the highways on the east and west coasts of Northland.

## Christening in Antarctica

Viva Expeditions' partner, Hurtigruten, will christen its first hybrid-powered expedition cruise ship in Antarctica. The Roald Amundsen will sail to Antarctica for the beginning of the season in a few months. The first christening of a ship in Antarctica will use the same ritual invented by Amundsen himself when christening his expedition ship the 'Maud' with a chunk of ice in 1917. MS Roald Amundsen made maritime history by being the first cruise ship in the world to sail only on battery power as she left Kleven yard for her maiden voyage off the coast of Norway in late June.

<https://vivaexpeditions.com/tours?q=hurtigruten>

## Following Shackleton's footsteps



South Georgia wildlife

Viva Expeditions has 25% off a cruise that follows the track of polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton who led three expeditions to the Antarctic in the 20th century.

The cruise stops at Elephant Island, where the ship will attempt to make a landing. Guests also visit the Antarctic Peninsula, view the mountains and glaciers of South Georgia, visit Shackleton's

Grave and explore the Falkland Islands before disembarking in Puerto Madryn.

Departing March 2020 prices start at \$13,835, a saving of over \$4500 after the discount. The journey includes all meals on board, guides, lectures and zodiac shore excursions.

<https://vivaexpeditions.com/tours/antarctica/all-antarctic-cruises/shackletons-antarctica>

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## TODAY'S PEARLER

'The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me.'

Ayn Rand

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