



LUX
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Newsletter August 2014

SPECIALIST AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND

TNZ NAMED TOP NTO IN AUSSIE

TNZ has been awarded Best International Tourist Office for the second time in four YEARS AT THE AFTA NATIONAL TRAVEL INDUSTRY AWARDS.

GET WIFI WITH THRIFTY (NZ)

Thrifty car rental customers can access the internet from wherever their rental car takes them in New Zealand. The wifi hotspot technology allows travellers to access the internet via Vodafone 3G network without incurring large roaming charges. Up to five devices such as smart phones or tablets can be connected.

MARLBOROUGH TRAVEL (NZ)

has added a new vessel to their fleet - the MV Tarquin. Experience the stunning Marlborough Sounds in style and comfort onboard the private launch. Modern, beautifully appointed, and fully equipped with every safety feature, the Tarquin offers three private cabins with ensuites.

Overnight cruising packages and day charters are available from December 2014.

CLASSIC FIGHTERS, EASTER 2015

Classic Fighters air show will be held over Easter weekend, 3-5 April 2015 near Blenheim (NZ). Designed to be more than an air show, Classic Fighters provides visitors with a weekend of entertainment featuring aviation, ground theatre, music, local wine and food, and classic cars to create a spectacle that all will enjoy.

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Situated alongside Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre, made famous recently after the Royal visit, the Omaka airfield comes alive with a range of aircraft from WWI and WWII.

Wholesale rates for day passes, 3-day passes and groups to one of the world's best and most innovative airshows are available.

KAPITEA RIDGE, HOKITIKA (NZ)

Unfortunately this property has been closed due to health reasons of the owners. The property is on the market for sale so it may open up as an accommodation provider again in the future.

IPIPIRI SETTLES INTO NEW HOME (NZ)

The Ipipiri vessel has been rebranded to Hauraki Blue Cruises and now has a permanent berth in Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.

Hauraki Blue Cruises is part of the InterCity Group and CEO John Thorburn says Hauraki Blue Cruises is a floating venue to showcase the sights of the gulf for locals and visitors alike. 'Designed for comfort and effortless cruising, the catamaran's onboard team are well versed in creating mini breaks and events with the wow factor.'

NZ INBOUND JUMP IN RECORD MONTH

INTERNATIONAL arrivals surged 5.7 percent in the June year to reach 2.79 million, with a record June month, although the increase has slowed to 1.7 percent. "The past 12 months have delivered some fantastic arrivals to New Zealand, with each month delivering increases year-on-year," says TNZ CEO Kevin Bowler. Arrivals from Germany are up 16.6 percent on the year while the UK was up 2.8 percent and the US 11.7 percent. Aussie arrivals were up 4.4 percent. "This was accompanied by strong growth from Asian markets, including Singapore up 18.6 percent and Malaysia up 19.4

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percent, as well as the emerging markets of Indonesia (up 16.9 percent) and India (up 13.3 percent). Arrivals from China were up eight percent for the year.

AUSTRALIA

QF COMMENCES SYD TO WHITSUNDAYS

Qantas has commenced direct services between Sydney and the Great Barrier Reef Airport on Hamilton Island, in the Whitsundays. It has been almost 10 years since Qantas served the route and customer feedback reflected that a direct Sydney premium leisure service was required back in the region. The service will complement Jetstar's existing flights.

JETSTAR COMMENCES MEL - AYQ

Jetstar has introduced a new domestic Australian service flying Melbourne to Ayers Rock Airport (Uluru).

The introduction of the route has seen Jetstar become the first low fares carrier to offer flights between the destinations.

SOUTHERN OCEAN LODGE NAMED WORLD'S FOURTH TOP HOTEL

Kangaroo Island's acclaimed Southern Ocean Lodge has been ranked as the fourth top hotel in the world in the prestigious Travel + Leisure 2014 World's Best Awards.

The luxury lodge was also named number one resort in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, the second time Southern Ocean Lodge has been bestowed with that title. Perched dramatically on the cliffs of South Australia's Kangaroo Island, Southern Ocean Lodge has become one of Australia's most recognised luxury properties. Superbly designed by architect Max Pritchard, its 21

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contemporary suites offer spectacular views of the coast and provide a luxe base from which to explore the island's pristine wilderness, renowned wildlife and superb food and wine.

Southern Ocean Lodge is the flagship property of the Baillie Lodges portfolio and a founding member of Luxury Lodges of Australia.

ACCOR PARTNERS WITH GOLF AUSTRALIA

Accor Hotels has become the exclusive accommodation partner of Golf Australia.

Accor Australia has been involved in golf for many years, with properties with large golf courses.

As a result of the agreement, Golf Australia will have access to more than 200 hotels and facilities across Accor's brands.

The deal adds further to Accor's list of sports partners including the AFL, NRL and Cricket Australia.

HERON ISLAND RESORT (OZ), HERON ISLAND

Effective 29th July 2014 there will no longer be helicopter transfers bookable through Heron Island Resort. The launch is available and there are also Seaplane transfers available daily (excluding Christmas Day). Rates for seaplane transfers are available in our system. Agents with existing helicopter transfer bookings will be contacted to make alternative arrangements

SEASCAPE LODGE (OZ) , KANGAROO ISLAND

We are pleased to advise that the luxury Seascape Lodge on Emu Bay, Kangaroo Island is now available to be booked as accommodation only through Kangaroo Island Wilderness Tours. This is great for self drive clients going to Kangaroo Island.

Seascape Lodge on Emu Bay, is a luxury boutique

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Lodge set on five tranquil acres in a spectacular coastal location, overlooking the 5km of pristine Emu Bay beach. The three spacious guest suites all have sensational ocean, coastal & rural views as far as the eye can see. Ideal for couples or honeymooners looking for luxury, peace & privacy.

LIZARD ISLAND RESORT (OZ), LIZARD ISLAND

As you are aware, Lizard Island sustained significant damage as Cyclone Ita passed directly over the island in April this year. Since then they have been working diligently with key stakeholders on the plans to restore and rebuild Lizard Island back to its position as one of the leading resort destinations in the world. The determination has now been made that the resort will not re-open in 2014 and they are working towards an early 2015 opening

ETIHAD FLIES DAILY TO PERTH

Etihad Airways will now go daily from Abu Dhabi to Perth after signing a codeshare agreement with Virgin Australia.

AUSTALIA'S NEWEST LUXURY WALK

Walk into Luxury is offering time poor guests the opportunity to take private jet and helicopter transfers from Perth to Margaret River.

Scenic helicopter flights are also available that will deliver guests to a local winery for lunch on their last day.

Voted as one of Australia's top ten tracks by National Geographic, Walk into Luxury offers private walking experiences on the Cape to Cape, which covers a varied section of coastline running from Cape Naturaliste past Margaret River to Cape Leeuwin.

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SOUTH PACIFIC

PAUL GAUGUIN CRUISES RELEASES 2015 TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA, FIJI & SOUTH PACIFIC BROCHURE

Paul Gauguin Cruises operator of the highest-rated and longest continually sailing luxury cruise ship in the South Pacific, the m/s Paul Gauguin, and the 88-guest m/v Tere Moana, debuts its 2015 Tahiti, French Polynesia, Fiji & the South Pacific brochure. The 68-page brochure showcases a variety of dream cruises in exotic destinations aboard The Gauguin and can be viewed online at www.pgcruiises.com/e-brochure

SINALEI PREMIUM VILLAS

The Sinalei Premium Villas is a new project for Sinalei Reef Resort & Spa with construction beginning in October 2014. The 27 beautiful courtyard villas will raise the bar in terms of high-end resorts in Samoa.

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