

## Thu 16 Jun 16 Issue 3330



# Flash Sale NZ \$99.00\* Fly from Auckland to Port Vila



2016 Kirkland Photo

#### \*Conditions:

Sales: 16 June 2016 to 18 June 2016.

Ticket: 16 June 2016 to 18 June 2016.

Travel: 05 July 2016 to 27 September 2016.

Blackouts: No blackout periods apply.

Fare Basis: SFLASH2

RBD: S.

No CHD/INF discount applies to this fare.





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Incorporating Tabs on Travel

Thursday 16 June 2016

**Issue 3330** 





## 6.45am every weekday Auckland to Christchurch



## **Try Before You Fly** With Flight Centre

Brochures are out and virtual reality googles are in as Flight Centre rolls out a new offering for its Kiwi clients-to experience their destination 'first hand' before booking.

The brand last night unveiled its new virtual reality experience at its Auckland Queen St store, and says the move has already successfully converted interest into bookings.

Clients donning the googles instore can now virtually dive the Great Barrier Reef, check out Tokyo, wander through Hoi An or ride the Tower of Terror at Dreamworldand the chain has plans to roll out more videos to more destinations in the near future.

A recent report called virtual reality the most appealing new technology travel booking concept of the moment, and Flight Centre New Zealand managing director Dave Coombes says the introduction of the new technology is really exciting. "It allows our customers to take a digital step inside destinations around the globe, including ones they may have never considered.

#### **FJ's Hayne Move**

Fiji airways has appointed Fijian-Australian, Jarryd Hayne as a global ambassador for the carrier, as the airline commences service to San Francisco. See pg4 for more.

It really helps in the dreaming and planning stage of their travel jour-

While some destinations and suppliers have already been used the technology at shows in New Zealand to successfully promote travel— Flight Centre is the first to offer the experience regularly, and at a retail store level.

The chain will use the virtual reality experience as a sales tool moving forward and plans to progressively roll out the initiative across its network and brands. "There's a lot of opportunity," says Flight Centre gm marketing Jodie Burnard. "We are talking to a number of suppliers who are keen to be part of this new industry leading initiative—and we've already had a lot of feedback since last night's launch."

In the global context, travel technology experts are also talking up the role of the googles to showcase airline in-flight product, and potentially use the technology as a way of moving clients on to carriers they may not have considered in the past. The googles can also be used to virtually walk potential passengers around cruise ships.

#### . . . A Sneak Peek

For a glimpse of the destinational footage on offer through the googles for the Gold Coast **CLICK HERE** 

#### **NZ Incentive Winners**

Air New Zealand and Brand USA have named the first two winners in their #TasteUSA post-famil incentive, which is running until 01 Jul. Jessica Rogers, House of Travel Northland and Andrea Matheou, House of Travel Palmerston North have each won two return tickets to either Houston, Los Angeles or San Francisco. Agents who sell two return adult 086 tickets each week of the incentive, to a final destination in the US via NZ services to LAX, SFO or IAH will be in to win flights in the incentive. See airnzagent.co.nz

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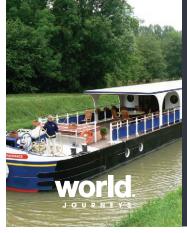
#### **More Vanuatu Flights**

Air Vanuatu will add a fourth weekly service on the Auckland-Port Vila route 05 Jul-04 Oct, and to celebrate it's re-introduced its \$99 one-way fare on the AKL-VLI sector.

The carrier, which had only recently increased to three services, will now add a fourth service every Tue. The \$99 fare is available for sales to 18 Jun and travel 05 Jul-27 Sep.

#### **HLO Oz Appointment**

lelloworld in Australia has appointed long-time Flight Centre senior executive Gregory Lording as its new group gm wholesale. Lording was most recently global leader Flight Centre's FCM corporate division. He replaces Peter Egglestone in the role. Together with Jason Buckley in New Zealand and Gary Goldner in Los Angeles, HLO boss Andrew Burnes says Lording will continue to grow and develop HLO's wholesale businesses in the years ahead.



## WINE **CRUISES**

in France

Deluxe hotel barges in the Loire Valley & Burgundy

**CLICK HERE** 

### Christchurch - Brisbane direct has returned. Permanently.

You can now fly Christchurch - Brisbane direct all year round. See qantas.co.nz/agents for details.

\*Scheduling is subject to change.







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#### **ZQN's Newest Hotel**

Queenstown's newest hotel, Ramada Queenstown Remarkables Park, has opened, adding another 54 rooms to the town. Located in the town centre, it has a mix of one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments, with ensuite bathrooms, kitchens and laundry facilities. There's also a restaurant/café, gym, free W-Fi, ski gear storage rooms, free parking and a retail precinct. See ramadaqueenstown.co.nz

#### **MH Turbulence**

Dozens of people were injured when a Malaysia Airlines flight ex London to Kuala Lumpur was hit by severe turbulence. Reports says 34 passengers and six crew onboard the A380 were hurt. Passengers uploaded photos to social media meal-service rubbish, pillows and debris in the aisles.

#### **Hobart Stay From \$99**

TFE Hotels has winter deals at its Hobart hotels, Travelodge Hobart and Travelodge Hobart Airport. Clients can stay from AUD99 per night, for bookings to 30 Jun and travel by 30 Sep.

# On-line Passport Renewals Expand

Children's passports can now be renewed on-line, and adults who have never had a passport can also now apply using the on-line service, Internal Affairs has announced.

An increasing number of people are using the RealMe verified identity service and applying for their passports on-line, says Internal Affairs Minister Peter Dunne. "Customer feedback has been overwhelmingly positive about the on-line passport service. More than half of all applications for a 10-year adult passport renewal have been made on-line since

#### **MFAT Consular Survey**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade wants to hear from anyone who received consular assistance between Jun 2015 and Jun 2016, as part of its regular annual survey. It's being conducted by Colmar Brunton, and anyone who would like to share their views on the service they received can call 0508 COLMAR (0508 265627) 0900-1700 or email consularsurvey2016@colmarbrunton.co.nz

the popular change from five-year passports in late 2015," says Dunne. The on-line passport service will expand even further later this year to include applications by family groups; urgent lost, stolen or damaged applications; and renewals for people who have changed their names in New Zealand. See passports.govt.nz

#### **SQ To Launch SFO**

Singapore Airlines is to launch nonstop A350-900 flights to San Francisco from 23 Oct, and will also add a second daily service to Los Angeles. SQ currently flies to SFO via Hong Kong and Seoul. With the launch of the non-stop services, the flight via Seoul will be re-routed to Los Angeles.

#### ... Sao Paulo Suspended

At the same time, Singapore Airlines is suspending its flights to Sao Paulo from 21 Oct as a result of 'sustained weak performance' on the route. SQ operates three flights a week to Sao Paulo via Barcelona. The Barcelona flights will continue.

#### IATA's NDC Registry

News & Product

IATA has launched a New Distribution Capability (NDC) Certification Registry to recognise airlines, travel agents, GDS' and IT providers that have implemented part or all of the NDC technical standard.

IATA has seen a 'huge upsurge in interest and activity' since approving the first NDC standard in Sep 2015, says IATA senior VP, financial and distribution services Aleks Popovich. There's three levels of attainment—level one, covering implementation using past and current NDC schemas with a limited scope; level two, focusing on offer management; and level three, targeting NDC end-to-end deployments.

As of 01 Jun, 18 airlines and 17 technology companies have achieved NDC certification or NDC-capable status, while six have applications in progress.

"NDC is now mainstream. In 2016, the program is transitioning to enhancing the standard and driving further deployment," says Popovich. "The NDC Certification Registry will help airlines to identify those travel technology stakeholders who are also moving forward to modernise distribution and transform the way air products are retailed."



## Cruising Today

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## **Croisi Bucking Trends; 2017 Plans**

Bucking the 'perceived trend of river cruising from the New Zealand market', CroisiEurope's growth in 2016 is up 25% on 2015, and the company is looking to capitalise on this with new ships and itineraries on the agenda for 2017, says local GSA Innovative Travel.

Next year will see the addition of six new ships to the Croisi fleet: Miguael Torga to cruise the Douro; Symphonie to cruise the Danube; Douce France on the Rhine; IndoChine II for the Mekong; and Barge Daniele in Burgundy; while the Zambezi Princess will be available for clients wishing to cruise on the Zambezi River. Innovative Travel's Nicholas Bloom says the new Zambezi cruise will launch mid-2017 and will be available specifically for groups, as the ship is home to only eight cabins. The cruise will incorporate three-night stays in CroisiEurope owned and operated safari lodges 'to create a stunning African experience', while final details are still to be an-

Bloom adds that Croisi's regional European river cruises are expected to sell well within this market, particularly with 'the more seasoned travellers' who are looking to visit destinations that are 'not easily covered by the main touring companies'. This includes the likes of the 10-day Amsterdam to Avignon and nine-day Strasbourg to Honfluer combination cruises, which Bloom says 'incorporate some of the most scenic and historic parts of each of the regions, and are such good value', with each cruise costing just over \$300pp per day, allinclusive. Other stand-out options include its Portugal, Loire Valley and Berlin to Prague itineraries, he adds.

#### . . . Active Travellers

In a bid to cement its position as a leading operator for its adventurous and 'younger at heart' clients, Croisi is, in 2017, introducing a new excursion package, the Discovery Package. While Croisi's traditional sightseeing focuses on the likes of history, culture and main attractions, Bloom says this new programme will include more interactive experiences such as cooking classes, bike tours, helicopter rides and Segway tours. Clients can upgrade to the Discovery Package from \$50 per cruise, or there is the option to pre-book a selection of tours to create their own programme. It will be available on selected itineraries.

Croisi is offering earlybird savings of up to \$1000 per couple for those who book and pay for their 2017 river cruise by 31 Aug. E-mail info@croisieurope.co.nz

#### **MSC A One-stop Shop**

MSC Cruises has launched Fly, Land & Cruise packages for 2017. Highlights include a 17-night European Bucket List cruise, with flights ex Australia, and the cruise departing Genoa and visiting the likes of Barcelona, Vigo, Southampton, Zeebruggee, Copenhagen, Stockholm and more, with prices starting at \$6245pp. To see the full range of packages, **CLICK HERE** 

#### **Fors To Leave Viking**

After eight years at the helm of Viking Cruises, managing direc-

tor Teresia Fors is leaving the company to join Volvo Group Australia as vice president marketing and communication. Fors established



Viking's local sales and marketing office in 2008, servicing the Australian and New Zealand markets.

As an interim replacement, Ian Bennett will step into a caretaker role commencing 20 Jun. Bennett has been engaged with Viking Cruises as an external executive, supporting strategic direction and marketing activity, for almost two years. The recruitment process has commenced.

#### **Toddler Through Railing**

Carnival Liberty had to return to its Galveston port just hours after departing, as a three-year-old fell through a railing on the 14th deck to the 12th deck below. Local reports say the toddler fell around 12-15 feet and was taken to the ship's medical centre for evaluation, where the decision was made to return to shore so she could go to hospital. Once back at the dock, the toddler was taken to hospital in an ambulance and the cruise resumed.



#### Fiordland Commission

Island Escape cruises reminds agents that it offers 12% commission on its eight-night Fiordland National Park cruise, with lead-in fares from \$5950pp, and clients who book and pay in full by 30 Jul will save \$750pp. The cruise includes pre- and post-cruise stays in Queenstown, a helicopter transfer to the ship, six nights cruising, all meals, beverages and water activities whilst on board and a return scenic flight from Milford Sound.

#### **Got Cruise News?**

evie@tabsontravel.co.nz



#### **Where Travel Agents** go for information on:

- \*Destinations \*Sightseeing
- \*Hotels
- \*Restaurants
- \*Resorts
- \*Shopping \*Events
- \* Activities \*Tours
- \*and much
- \*Transport
- more

#### **CLICK HERE**

and be informed to earn more commission!

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Free Gratuities



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#### p4

#### Free Sth America Nights

Explore is offering clients an extra nights' hotel accommodation and a complimentary local experience on selected trips to South America, for bookings made by 24 Jun.

Clients will have the chance to mix the perfect Pisco sour in Peru; dance the Tango like a local in Argentina; or indulge in a chocolate tasting experience in Ecuador. See exploreworldwide.com.au for more.

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## **FJ SFO Opportunity**



A new route to the US will open up for Kiwi travellers tonight, with the launch of Fiji Airways' flights from Nadi to San Francisco.

The inaugural FJ flight departs Nadi at 2215 tonight, offering Kiwi travellers another opportunity to reach the US. The purpose of the flights is to extend FJ's reach into the USA, and while inbound traffic to Fiji is a focus they're also expected to attract Kiwis heading to the US, says FJ executive gm sales and marketing Andrew

"We've had really good support and growth from the States for Fiji, and this opens a new market for us in California as well as extends our reach deeper into the US," he says.

"The driver for us is about driving tourism into Fiji but we get pretty good support from the New Zealand market for the US, and this is another option for those travellers."

The flights 'connect well' out of Auckland as well as offering a new one-stop option for travellers from Wellington, and they come with the added bonus of an optional Fiji stopover, says Stanbury. This is expected to be particularly popular with so-called 'bleisure' travellers heading to the technology hub of San Francisco. "We're seeing people blending their business and leisure travel so this provides them with another option," he says.

Demand for the route has been strong ahead of its launch, says Stanbury. "We've been very very pleased, it's exceeding our expectations at this point," he says.

The A330 flights will operate Thu and Sun Jun/Jul/Aug and Dec/Jan.

#### **NYC Reels In Performers**

**News & Product** 

New York City officials have started painting teal rectangles in pedestrian plazas in Times Square in a bid to confine street performers who ask tourists to pay for photos with them. The move follows confrontations when tourists refuse to pay. The zones will have signs stating tipping is expected.



#### **Overnight At The GBR?**

Airbnb is giving travellers the chance to win a one-night stay in a floating room in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef thanks to a partnership with Disney's Pixar in a bid to promote the new Finding Dory film. Along with the stay, the contest winner, and three guests, will enjoy meals provided by Australian chef Neil Perry, tours around the reef with a local guide, equipment for snorkelling and scuba diving, as well as return tickets to Australia. To enter, CLICK HERE



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#### **Heritage ZQN's New GM**

Mike Garvey has been appointed as

the new general manager of Heritage Queenstown. Garvey has more than 20 years' experience in hotel management, including most



recently four years with Wyndham Vacation Resorts Asia Pacific. Many hotels he has managed have had large conference venues so he has a unique understanding of that market, says Heritage.

#### **Disney Beaches Closed**

Beaches around Disney World's Seven Seas Lagoon are reportedly closed following the death of a young boy who was taken by an alligator near the Grand Floridian Resort.

It's not clear when the beaches, which were closed during the search for the two-year-old, will reopen, according to reports. While there were 'no swimming' signs posted where the boy was attacked, they reportedly didn't warn about alligators, and Disney has said it will 'thoroughly review the situation for the future'.

## **New Chantilly's Owners, Upgrades**



Vanuatu's Chantilly's on the Bay has appointed a new general manager, Eduardo Quipo; and a new head chef, chef Bubu.

This follows the hotel's purchase in Dec, by a group of New Caledonia businessmen, with director George Dechaineux looking set to further invest in and improve the hotel.

"We are currently working on an upgrade plan which includes new paint, furniture and lighting for the rooms; new kitchen equipment and new carpet in the conference room, which seats up to 40 people," he says. "We have already introduced fast speed Wi-Fi in the lobby and all the rooms, a new beachfront bar Banvan Beach Bar, and new staff in key management positions." He adds that there will be limited impact for cli-

ents as upgrades will be completed one room at a time 1000-1700. See coconutsmarketing.com for more



#### **Yatule Availability**

**News & Product** 

Fiji's Yatule Resort & Spa has space available in Aug and Sep across all bure types, with stay five pay four deals available, advises Eye 4 Travel. Wholesalers have details. The resort is on Natadola Beach, and clients looking for more than a beach break can head to the nearby Natadola Bay Golf Course, says Eye 4 Travel. Yatule has also been awarded the Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence.

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\*Conditions apply. Offer ends 30 June 2016.



## ndustry

#### Starwood Expo

Auckland: Mon 20, The Maritime Room, 1500-1930.

#### Tourism Philippines 'More fun in the Philippines' Roadshow

Auckland: Tue 21, The Maritime Room, Princes Wharf, 1800. Wellington: Wed 22, Amora 1 & 3, Amora Hotel, 1800.

Christchurch: Thu 23, Rakaia/ Crossings Lounge Novotel, 1800.

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

Auckland, Central: Mon 27, Novotel Hotel, 1745.

Auckland, North: Tue 28, Takapuna Boating Club, 1745.

Wellington: Tue 28, Lone Star Café,

Nelson: Wed 29, Lone Star Café 1745.

Blenheim: Thu 30, Ten Pin Bowling,

#### Spain Leisure Product Update

Auckland: Mon 27, Rydges Hotel (Hobson Room), 1730-2000.

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

Invercargill: Mon 04, Kelvin Hotel, 1745.

Dunedin: Tue 05, Lone Star Café, 1745

Christchurch: Wed 06, Lone Star Café, 1745.

Hamilton: Mon 18, Hamilton Gardens Café, 1745.

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

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

**Auckland Central:** Tue 05 Novotel Hotel Ellerslie, 1800. Auckland North: Wed 06. Spencer on Bryon Takapuna, 1800.

#### **AUGUST**

#### SPANTO roadshow

Palmerston North: Tue 09, The Distinction Hotel. Time tha. New Plymouth: Wed 10, The Novotel. Time tba.



Thu 16 Jun 16

#### **Argentina Deal**

Viva Expeditions has a seven-day Highlights of Buenos Aires and Iguazu available from \$3240pp t/s including return flights ex Auckland, for sales to 30 Jun. Clients will spend four nights in BUE, including a half-day city tour, dinner and tango show, half-day Tigre Delta tour, and two nights in Iguazu including a full-day Argentina Falls tour and half-day Brazil Falls tour. Travel dates are available through until 30 Mar (blackouts apply). Hotel upgrades and extensions are available.

#### **Edgewater Cuisine**

The Edgewater Resort and Spa's chefs won a total of 14 awards at the recent Cook Islands Salon Culinaire competition, says Hogan and Associates. The chefs won awards for dishes including rukau (taro leaves) and ika mata (marinated raw fish).

## **News & Product**

## **Maldives On Show** With Club Med, SQ



A group of 11 top selling agents were treated to a Maldives famil with Club Med Resorts, flying Singapore Airlines.

Highlights included a five-night stay at Club Med Kani as well as a day trip to the new luxury Finolhu Villas

resort, with the agents making the most of the activities on offer, such as snorkelling trips to surrounding reefs; while on the way home, the group stopped off in Singapore for a spot of shopping and sightseeing, staying at the Oasia Hotel Downtown. Pictured in the Maldives is: Jamie Shearer, Flight Centre Newtown; Tanya Chaffey, Travel Associates Chaffey & Szymanska Travel; Rod Hayward, helloworld Whangarei; Stacey Mullinger, HoT Northlands; Helen Barlow, HoT Christchurch Upper Riccarton; Kelly Showler, Accent on Travel Parnell; Elizabeth Sherry, helloworld Mount Maunganui; Jodie Weeks, Club Med BDM; Jayde Morris, helloworld Botany Centre; Michele Murphy, BonVoyage Cruise & Travel; Jennifer Hughes, Flight Centre Ellerslie; and Nicola Monteith, The Travel Brokers.



AccorHotel's popular apartment hotel, The Sebel Noosa, has completed a soft refurbishment. The AUD1.5 million update, which extends across 75 one- and two-bedroom apartments, includes new living, dining and bedroom furniture, freshly painted interiors, new bedroom cabinetry and soft décor including wall art and floor rugs. To celebrate, the hotel is offering one-bedroom apartments from AUD280 per night and twobedroom apartments from AUD430 per night during winter. See thesebel.

# Miue www.niueisland.com

## The Niue Experience

Niue has welcomed a number of agents to the island on our latest self-famil programme. Enjoying an action packed few days or week snorkelling, swimming, exploring caves and chasms, these agents have returned enthused and completely prepared to sell Niue. A common theme has been how surprised everyone is at how much there is to do on Niue and how different this destination is to the other South Pacific islands.

Here are some comments... need we say more?

"Love Niue!"

"It's different from other South Pacific islands great for those who are adventurous at heart."

"I will definitely be coming back!"

"Loved the unspoilt beauty, clean turquoise water and amazing colourful coral."

"I love Niue and will be back for my own holiday."

"Niue is my new favourite destination. I had no idea there was so much to do and it was so beautiful. Love it!"



#### Sebel Noosa Upgrade

com for more.

## **Account Executive**

## South African Airways

The Walshe Group is seeking a dynamic individual with a passion for sales to fill the full-time position of Account Executive dedicated to the South African Airways Account.

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- Build and maintain relationships with key customers and

#### Applicants must possess the following attributes;

- Previous Airline or Travel Industry Travel Experience (note, applicants without previous relevant experience will not be
- · A thorough understanding of airline terminology, airfare structure and travel industry distribution channels and processes
- Excellent verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills
- · Exceptional presentation skills, along with sound time management and organizational ability
- Thorough knowledge of MS office, including PowerPoint
- · Flexibility with a willingness to adapt to the various requirements of the role including some after hours work and out of town travel
- · Applicants must have a current drivers license and own car

Applications should be forwarded by 30 June, by email to Stephen.tanner@walshegroup.com







# BUSINESS TRAVEL TODAY

## **Orbit Adapts To Changing Demands**

With corporate agents increasingly demonstrating their value in a world where client safety is more pertinent than ever, Orbit World Travel has opened a new London office as it looks to stay ahead of the game.

Orbit says its London office, opened this week, will allow it to better offer 24/7 support to its clients in the 'constantly changing' travel world. Rather

#### **Movies On Virgin Trains**

Virgin Trains has launched a new entertainment portal which allows passengers to stream television and movies using their own devices. The BEAM app gives free access to around 200 hours of films, television, magazines and games. Passengers just need to download the app from the Apple or Android store.

#### **CHC Incentive Fund**

Christchurch Airport is looking to help draw business visitors to Canterbury at non-peak times through a new Creative Events Fund, which encourages planners to come up with new incentive itineraries.

"We're challenging Destination Management Companies (DMCs) to pitch the ultimate incentive package to us—a two- or three-day itinerary that makes the most of the unique attributes of Christchurch and Canterbury," says chief commercial officer aeronautical Justin Watson. "Destinations like Hanmer Springs, Akaroa and Tekapo give them great material to work with, so we look forward to amazing pitches and then rewarding the creativity."

The five best incentive products will each receive a grant of \$5000 to assist with further developing and marketing product to attract business visitors to Canterbury.

See christchurchairport.co.nz/DMC

than Kiwi agents working through the night, London staff will cover it as part of their normal working day. "Duty of care and traveller safety is more relevant than ever. Clients need that peace of mind and confidence in reassurance that their travellers are being looked after and managed 24/7," says Orbit marketing manager Paul Halford. "Normal business hours are not set in stone anymore—our London office is a direct response to this need for our clients."

It's all part of the TMC's efforts to adapt and stay on top of the game in a growing and increasingly competitive industry, says Halford.

The corporate market remains strong, both domestically and internationally, but the 'scope of a traditional corporate client has widened significantly'.

"Small, medium, large size companies are much more aware of the benefits of what a TMC can do. For the industry, that means needing to always be one step ahead," he says.

Increased awareness from clients about the travel environment means TMCs must also be more transparent compared to 15 years ago, says Halford; and there's also more of a focus on personalisation. "As the range of products, destinations and services available evolves, personalised and tailor-made solutions are a must."

While the scope of a corporate agent's job may have changed, it's as relevant as ever, particularly as New Zealand is increasingly opened up to the world with new air services.

"Not just international but domestically too, there are more routes and destinations becoming available to consider," says Halford. "Clients are looking to TMCs to demonstrate value in leveraging the extra competition through our own partnerships, relationships and negotiations."

#### **Stair-climbing Bags**

A US couple has come up with an innovative answer to when you've iust arrived somewhere after a long flight and discover you've got to lug your suitcase up a flight of stairs. They've developed a prototype for a line of luggage called TraxPack, which is fitted with tracks like you'd see on a military tank, allowing the bag to roll easily up and down stairs on its front. There's other useful features like luggage scales, a phone charger and GPS tracking built in to the bag, which is currently on Kick-Starter. Check it out **HERE** 



#### Where To Dine

Italian restaurant Osteria Francescana has topped this year's World's Best Restaurant awards, thanks to chef Massimo Bottura who is known for his twists on traditional Italian cuisine.

Also in the top 10 was El Celler de Can Roca, Spain; Eleven Madison Park, New York; Central, Lima; Noma, Copenhagen; Mirazur, Menton, France; Mugaritz, San Sebastian, Spain; Narisawa, Tokyo; Steirereck, Vienna; and Asador Etxebarri, Axpe, Spain.

Other restaurants in key destinations for Kiwi travellers that made the top 50 include Bangkok's Nahm (37) and Gaggan (23); Ultraviolet in Shanghai (42); Borago in Santiago (36); Melbourne's ever popular Attica (33); Restaurant Andre, Singapore (32); Saison in San Francisco (27); The Test Kitchen in Cape Town (22); Amber, Hong Kong (20); Alinea in Chicago (15); and in London, top restaurants include the Clove Club (26) and the Ledbury (14).

#### **MEL Self Boarding**

Melbourne Airport has been trialling new self-service boarding technology as part of its focus on making the journey smoother for passengers and airlines, says SITA. A self-boarding gate in T2 International allows passengers to scan their boarding pass to access the aircraft, and initial results from the partnership have shown positive results, says SITA.



#### **APX: True Jet-setters**

Next time your clients are feeling road-weary, they might like to spare a thought for the US salesman who has clocked up more than 17 million miles in the sky-or the businessman who's taken a record 718 supersonic flights. APX has highlighted some of the world's top business travellers, including US business Tom Stuker, who has travelled 17 million miles to help train car salespeople across the world—all with United Airlines, who painted his name on the side of a 777 to say thanks. British man Fred Finn meanwhile has the record for the largest total distance flown as a passenger, and his many business trips have seen him become something of an advisor to airlines and hotel groups.

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