

mp

Sydney
Melbourne
Brisbane

TRAVEL


Halekulani *Hawaii*
On the Beach at Waikiki


VIRTUOSO.
SPECIALISTS IN THE ART OF TRAVEL



HALEKULANI is widely acknowledged as one of Hawaii's most luxurious hotels receiving visitors for more than 100 years. Embodying grand elegance, it is situated on Waikiki beach, within walking distance of shops, recreation, restaurants and Honolulu nightlife. Each superbly appointed room has a spacious balcony with panoramic views. The hotel is an oasis famous for gracious hospitality, exemplary cuisine and polished service. The name **HALEKULANI** is Hawaiian meaning "House Befitting Heaven." How apt!

PROMOTION:

4th night complimentary for stays till December 23, 2011.

Virtuoso benefits of daily breakfast for two and upgrade at the time of booking is also available. Call your MP Travel Consultant on 02 9993 9000 for all bookings.

 **WANT TO BE IN THE KNOW?**
VIRTUOSO. Want to know more about Virtuoso? Contact Tracy Anderson or Melissa Gartshore from our Leisure Team on 02 9993 9000 to find out how booking with a Virtuoso agent gives you access to exclusive travel benefits.



Happy 122nd birthday to the Eiffel Tower,

which opened March 31, 1889. A few of its vital statistics: it's nearly 1,000 feet tall (300 meters), weighs 7,000 tons and hosted 6.6 million visitors in 2009.



JUST LOVING LONDON...CHECK OUT THESE DATES...



April 2011

- London Book Fair Olympia 11-13 April
- FA Cup Semi, Wembley 16-17 April
- London Marathon 17 April
- Royal Wedding 29 April

May 2011

- FA Cup Final, Wembley 14 May
- Wine Fair, Excel 17-19 May
- Chelsea Flower Show 24-28 May
- UEFA Cup Final, Wembley 28 May

June 2011

- Wimbledon Tennis Championships 20 June - 3 July

July 2011

- Triathlon World Championship 30-31 July

2012

- Olympic Games 27 July—12 August



AIRLINE UPDATES



British Airways is currently in the process of rolling out their newly fitted First Class, featuring exceptional levels of space and seclusion enabling you to sleep, work, dine and relax in complete comfort.

Features include personal wardrobes, electric blinds, a leather-bound writing desk that converts into a dining table, a buddy seat that enables customers to dine together, and new softer mattresses, plumper pillows and Egyptian cotton sheets.

Other little extras include a USB port, RCA jack and noise cancelling headsets and mood lighting.

The new First Class cabin will be available on every BA15 and BA16 service between Sydney and Singapore/London effective 19 May 2011, with BA9 and BA10 to follow soon.



PERTH CHANGES



Qantas will make a number of key changes to services operating in and out of Perth over the coming months, which will increase capacity by more than 4300 seats each week. These include:

- **Sydney-Perth** - Boeing 747-400 aircraft will operate six round trips per week from May and internationally configured Airbus A330 services will also be increased from three round trips per week to five. Combined, these changes will add more than 500 additional seats per week;
- **Brisbane-Perth** - domestic wide-body A330-200 services will be introduced on seven round trips a week in addition to the upgrading of six round trip B737 services with wide-body aircraft. This will add more than 1700 seats to the route;
- **Melbourne-Perth** - more than 2100 additional seats will be added each week, including three services operated by internationally configured A330 aircraft; and
- **Qantas' new A330s** will be reconfigured to provide more space and comfort for passengers in the Business Class cabin.



CANCELLED DIRECT ROUTES

The following Virgin Blue routes will cease direct flight operations:

- Newcastle-Gold Coast effective 7 April 2011
- Sydney-Port Vila effective 6 May 2011

NEW BAGGAGE CHARGES

New charges for checked-in baggage will apply from 1 March 2011 as follows:

- **Baggage prepaid online** - Increase from \$10 to \$12 for all domestic routes
- **Baggage fees paid at airport** - Increase from \$20 to \$40 for all domestic routes (Virgin Blue)
Increase from \$40 to \$60 for all international routes (Pacific Blue)
- **Excess baggage fees paid at airport** - Increase from \$10 per kg to \$15 per kg for all Virgin Blue and Pacific Blue routes.



Australia is the only nation to have won the Rugby World Cup twice!

RUGBY WORLD CUP DATES

9 SEPTEMBER TO 23 OCTOBER 2011



VISA ON BOARD—SYDNEY TO JAKARTA SERVICE—TRIAL PERIOD

Garuda Indonesia passengers who hold an Australian passport may now obtain their Visa on board the aircraft on direct Sydney-Jakarta flights. After check-in passengers proceed to the 'Service Counter' adjacent to the check-in. Visa costs are USD25 and are converted to AUD at the applicable daily exchange rate and payment must be made by cash. A Visa receipt will be issued and during the flight passengers present the onboard Indonesian Immigration Officials their Visa receipt. The passenger's passport is stamped and an orange immigration clearance card is issued. On arrival in Jakarta, passengers show their orange immigration card allowing them to by pass the immigration process and proceed to clearing customs.



The Setai, South Beach, Miami

60 seconds

with Maria Ieronimides



Let's chat to our Travel Specialist extraordinaire **MARIA IERONIMIDES!**

NICKNAME: Ma

FAVOURITE MOVIE: Lord of the Rings

FAVOURITE FOOD: Seafood

I LIKE TO COOK: Roast beef dinner

I COOK BADLY: Desserts

MY CHOICE HOLIDAY: Amalfi Coast

WHY: Romantic, breathtaking views

FAVOURITE RESTAURANT OVERSEAS:

Fanari Restaurant in Santorini

MY CHOICE HOTEL: Shangri La Beijing

HOLIDAY I WANT TO HAVE: Tahiti—in an overwater bungalow.

3 HOLIDAYMUST HAVES: Hair dryer, international adaptor, iPod

FUNNIEST HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE: Being abandoned in Beijing by a rickshaw driver in the Hutong district with no money and a very long walk back to the hotel.

IF I WERE A TOUR GUIDE IN SYDNEY I WOULD TAKE YOU TO: My home for a home cooked Greek meal.

BY THE WAY.....

Don't forget to travel with your PHOTO ID at all times. Airlines, car hire and some hotels all require to sight your Photo ID. Aside from passports, drivers licence, government or company issued Photo ID are all recommended.



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The Setai is an intimate, serene oceanfront resort in the heart of South Beach, set in a breathtaking oasis of tropical gardens, pools and sundecks leading down to a gorgeous stretch of white sand beach. Enjoy an extended getaway in Miami and indulge in an oasis of luxury and sophistication.

STAY 3 nights and receive the 4th night FREE for stays between May 1 through to October 31, 2011. Subject to availability. Call your MP Leisure Team on 02 9993 9000 for all bookings.



Hayman has been forced to suspend new and existing guest bookings to 31 July 2011 in order to repair damage caused to the island by tropical cyclones Anthony and Yasi, which passed over the island earlier this year. Beautiful Hayman will re-open on 1 August in time for spring and summer holidays, so please call your MP Travel Leisure Team on 02 9993 9000 for all bookings.

DID YOU KNOW?

The second man on the moon, Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name was MOON!

LIZARD ISLAND SPECIAL

Lizard Island—Australia's most northerly island resort on the Great Barrier Reef has undergone a soft refurbishment and is offering guests great deals. **Stay 5 nights and pay for 4 nights for stays to 20 Dec 2011.** Virtuoso benefits include room upgrade and half day snorkelling. Call our Leisure Team on 02 9993 9000 for details and bookings.



Virtuoso Value

EUROPE



US\$500 Shipboard Credit on Mediterranean Sailing

Relish the all-inclusive lifestyle with **Silversea Cruises** as you cruise the Mediterranean roundtrip from Lisbon, Portugal. You'll embark on a 28-day voyage, with ample opportunity to use your generous US\$500 shipboard credit per suite. Virtuoso fares **FROM US\$11,405** per person. *Silver Cloud* departs 26 September 2011. Subject to availability.



Private Evening at Prague Castle

Live like royalty with this two week 'Warsaw, Budapest, Vienna & Prague' tour from **Tauck**, encompassing everything from a gala dinner at Lobkowitz Palace in Prague Castle to a guided tour of the Baroque libraries of Prague's Strahov Monastery. Virtuoso rates **FROM US\$4,990** (approx AU\$5,012) per person. Departs 23 April–15 October 2011. Subject to availability.

ASIA & AUSTRALIA



Third Night Free in Hong Kong

Check in to **Island Shangri La, Hong Kong** and your third night is on the house. Virtuoso guests are also entitled to breakfast daily at the Michelin-starred Restaurant Petrus, chocolates, daily newspaper, in-room internet access and late check out, if available. Valid 1 June - 31 August 2011. Book before 31 May. Subject to availability.



US\$100 Spa Credit at Acclaimed Pinctada Broome Resort

Check out Broome's newest five-star property, the **Pinctada Cable Beach Spa Resort**, where you're treated to a room upgrade, if available; cocktails and canapés; and a US\$100 spa credit when staying three or more nights. Subject to availability.

UNITED STATES



Extra Night for Extra Fun in the Big Apple

Extend your stay at the **Mandarin Oriental, New York**, thanks to your complimentary third night as a Virtuoso VIP. You're steps away from Central Park, fantastic shopping and the latest in world class theatre productions. Virtuoso rates **FROM US\$997** (approx AU\$1,001) per room, per night, double occupancy. Available until 31 May 2011. Subject to availability.

Call your MP Travel Leisure Team on 02 9993 9000 for all bookings.