



THE PRINCE

...In the heart of St. Kilda



The Prince is an exclusive luxury boutique hotel in cosmopolitan St Kilda, minutes away from the beach and many of Melbourne's fine restaurants. St Kilda is one of the most vibrant places in Melbourne, and staying at The Prince is an experience to savor with each of the rooms individually designed in tasteful contemporary style—no two rooms are the same! With windows that open to the hustle and bustle of Fitzroy Street, each room features Bose sound systems, complimentary wi-fi, local artwork and supreme furnishings sure to please the most discerning traveller. This is no ordinary hotel, and you will be impressed by the style it exudes. Personal service is paramount at The Prince where you can enjoy a nightcap at Mink—the underground Vodka bar or a late night snack to end your day. Call your MP consultant for further details.

VIRGIN KERBSIDE PREMIUM ENTRY-SYDNEY



Due to the popularity of the Premium Entry service at Sydney's Virgin Australia Lounge, operating hours of the Sydney kerbside Premium Entry have been extended to include weekends.

Hours of operation effective 25 September 2011 are 05:15 - 21:15 Monday - Sunday.

Premium Valet service hours will remain the same, 05:15 – 21:15 Monday to Friday.

This service is available to Business Class and Premium Economy travellers, Gold & Platinum Velocity members and status members of Virgin Australia's partner airline loyalty programs. Located at Sydney Domestic Airport, Terminal 2, this service includes kerbside drop-off, optional valet parking, direct entry, a dedicated security screening point (for travellers with carry-on baggage only) and flight check-in, all within the convenience of the Virgin Australia lounge. If travellers are travelling with checked baggage, they are welcome to use Premium Valet. Travellers can then approach the Virgin Australia Priority Check-in counters inside the main departures hall where the Virgin Australia team will assist them with checking in their baggage.

Hertz Toll News

QUEENSLAND TOLLS

Two new tollways have been introduced in Queensland. The new Clem Jones Tunnel is now operational, and provides access from the North (Bowen Hills) to the Southside of Brisbane (Woollangabba), and the new Go Between Bridge (formerly Hale Street Link) which connects Coronation Drive to South Brisbane.

NSW/VICTORIA TOLLS

Hertz, in conjunction with Transurban, offers a product called 'Toll Cover', currently available in NSW and Victoria. If a toll road is utilised, the toll charges will automatically be directed to the nominated credit card. Note this means no toll charges will appear on your Hertz invoice as all charges will come directly from Transurban.



PASSPORT GENDER CHOICE

People will now be able to choose what gender they want to be listed as on new Australian passports, even if they have not undergone a sex change. Australians can now identify their sex of choice and select Male, Female or X. The 'X' choice is available to intersex Australians.



SYDNEY—SINGAPORE AIRCRAFT CHANGES

Note the following changes to Sydney - Singapore services, effective 07-09-2011:

SQ212 (Sydney-Singapore) is now operated daily by a Boeing 777-300R (previously an A380 operated service).

SQ232 (Sydney-Singapore) is now operated daily by an Airbus A380 (previously a B777-300R operated service). All Singapore to Sydney services remain unchanged.



The first city to reach a population of 1 million people was **Rome** in 133 B.C. **London** reached the mark in 1810 and **New York** made it in 1875. Today, there are more than 300 cities with more than 1 million people.

MP TRAVEL

SYDNEY 02 9993 9000

MELBOURNE 03 9948 0700

BRISBANE 07 3334 8888

www.mptravel.com.au

South Africa Yellow Fever Policy



As of 1 October 2011, all South African travellers to and from Zambia, in addition to other countries (a list can be obtained from your MP Consultant), will be required to show proof of Yellow Fever vaccination (unless in possession of a valid waiver certificate). South Africa requires a valid Yellow Fever certificate from all citizens & non-citizens over one year of age:

- Travelling from or having been in transit through a Yellow Fever risk country.
For those unable to produce a valid certificate, South Africa will exercise the following measures:
- Refuse entry and quarantine until their certificate becomes valid; or those with an exemption certificate due to medical reasons will be:
- Allowed entry and required to report any fever or other symptoms to the health authorities
- Be placed under surveillance.

Check with your MP Consultant for further details.

DIAMANT HOTEL—BRISBANE is a contemporary boutique hotel offering well appointed accommodation and exquisite guest services. Conveniently located on Astor Terrace, and a short walk from the city centre, Queen



Street Mall & Fortitude Valley, Diamant Brisbane provides a boutique hotel experience at exceptional value.

🌺 *BULA! Anouk Bosma marries in FIJI* 🌺



September saw MP's Groups & Events Consultant, Anouk Bosma, marry her long time beau Yoharn at the InterContinental Golf Resort and Spa in Fiji.



In Anouk's words.....

"14 September 2011 was the day of our wedding. Both of us had not been to the InterContinental Golf Resort and Spa or had even

been to Fiji before. So planning our wedding from Australia was a gamble as the communication before hand was on 'Fiji Time!', but once we arrived at the hotel we couldn't have asked for more. Such a gorgeous resort and our wedding planner was so helpful and guided us with every detail and every last minute change. The stunning location and the superb service from hotel staff made our special day perfect in every way. Fiji also delivered the most beautiful sunset of our entire stay. I would definitely recommend it."

Congratulations Anouk & Yoharn!





Strategic Airlines re-branded to Air Australia



New low-cost airline Air Australia has launched its patriotic and fashionable lime green and gold livery. It is part of a rebranding by Strategic Airlines as it re-invents itself as a low-fare carrier with new domestic and international services. The carrier will launch services to Honolulu from Brisbane and Melbourne in December and boost frequency on the Brisbane-Bali route as well as services to Phuket from Brisbane and Melbourne.

Qantas New Inflight Entertainment System—Q Streaming

In a world first, Qantas will trial the very latest technology in in-flight entertainment (IFE) on board a domestic aircraft. Q Streaming will allow all customers travelling on a dedicated aircraft during the trial the ability to stream inflight entertainment content to individual tablets supplied by Qantas whilst inflight. Travellers will also be able to watch in-flight entertainment on their laptop computer, smartphone, tablet or other WIFI enabled device later on in the trial. The initial six week trial of the IFE product will be on board a B767-300 and will run from the end of October through to early December this year.



Qantas—Focus on Asia & South America.

Qantas has increased focus on Asia as a destination with partner British Airways by offering travellers north and south of Singapore, frequent connections and seamless transfers between Australia and London through Asia. Qantas will be increasing the number of A380s on daily flights from Australia to London via Singapore and will invest in a new First Class lounge at Changi International Airport. Qantas will also offer a new service to Chile's capital Santiago three times a week from early 2012 using a three class B747 reconfigured with A380 cabin interiors.

Virgin Australia Business Class to Perth

Virgin Australia has commenced sales of its full Business Class product on Boeing 737 aircraft between Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Perth for travel from 28 September 2011. The commencement of these Boeing 737 services compliments the Airbus A330 services, also offering Business Class between Sydney and Perth. Features of the B737 Business Class cabin include eight Business Class seats with generous recline in a separate premium cabin in a 2-2 configuration, luxury leather seats with 38 inch seat pitch, priority check – in and boarding and complimentary access to The Lounge.



Emirates additional service & pre-flight hotel offer

Emirates is set to launch an additional daily Sydney to Dubai flight from 3 October 2011, departing from Sydney at 6.00am and arriving Dubai at 1.30pm. This will give passengers the opportunity to connect on to major cities, with a same day arrival. Destinations include London, Rome & Paris. Treat yourself to Emirates Business or First Class to receive a free pre-flight 4-star hotel stay when taking the Emirates EK415 morning service from Sydney. Offer includes:



- Complimentary overnight hotel stay at the 4-star Stamford Plaza Hotel Sydney Airport * incl room rates & taxes.
- Chauffeur-drive from hotel to airport the next morning for EK415 6:00am departure.
- For clients arriving via a domestic flight, free Stamford Plaza Hotel shuttle transfer to the hotel.
- Offer valid for all new bookings for travel between 3 October 2011 to 31 March 2012.
- Also valid for mixed class fares to Europe on morning service EK415.

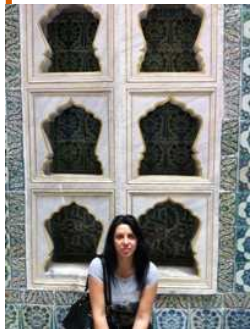


"**Merhaba!** I recently had the opportunity to visit and spend 5 amazing days in the magnificent city of Istanbul. Words cannot explain the feeling of excitement I had driving through the narrow streets of the "Old Town" with overwhelming history at every turn—this city definitely has an atmosphere of its own. There are several attractions here that have to be seen and in the area of **Sultanahmet** I would recommend:

The **Blue Mosque** with amazing architecture and an interior lined with ceramic tiles in the shape of various flowers are an exquisite example of Turkish style.

Topkapi Palace Museum and the Harem where historical clothing and jewels are on display including an 86 carat diamond! Underground in the **Basilica Cistern** you can see two upside down Medusa heads made out of stone. It was fairly dark inside but the red lights reflecting off the water created a special ambience. The museum of **Ayasofya** that was once a church, is now converted into a mosque displaying beautiful mosaics and if you go up to the second floor you will get the best view of the interior of Ayasofya. **The Grand Bazar** was a place like no other. Endless streets full of merchants selling an abundance of gold, jewellery, mosaic lamps, souvenirs, clothing, paintings, leather goods etc. This Bazar truly captured the essence of Istanbul. A short distance away is the **Spice Bazar** filled with endless rows of all kinds of spices, teas, dried fruits and many other things.

I took a cruise on the **Bosphorus** and went to the shopping district of **Taksim Square**, drank beautiful Turkish tea, tried shisha whilst watching traditional Turkish dancing and ate the best halva, sweets and burek. The restaurant choices are just endless and there is nothing like authentic Turkish cuisine.



Istanbul is a city rich with history and culture. It was however, the friendliness and kindness of the Turkish people that made this visit very special. I can't wait to go back there again...."



Air safety warning on lithium ion batteries in checked luggage



The Civil Aviation Safety Authority has warned passengers not to put spare lithium ion batteries in their checked luggage because of the danger of fire. The warning echoes those issued by other regulators after an increase in the number of incidents involving lithium batteries on aircraft and the crash of a UPS freighter last September. Airlines are also introducing additional dangerous goods questions to prompt people about the batteries. CASA says the batteries used extensively in laptops, mobile phones, cameras and music players have the potential to short circuit and burn under certain conditions and the preference is to have them carried in the cabin.

Body Scanners on trial



A trial of full-body scanners is being trialled at Australian airports. The machines have caused controversy at airports around the world, with concerns they expose passengers to radio waves and x-ray radiation. Privacy groups have also condemned some scanners because they produce detailed images of a person's body.

The Federal Government hopes to avoid that controversy by trialling machines that produce a generic outline of a person. Suspicious objects are highlighted in colour, but the scanner does not produce personal images of travellers. The information gathered will also not be shared or stored. Any passenger who sets off the metal detector alarm will be given the option of being scanned, or the more traditional method of a pat-down by security staff.



LOS ANGELES -The Hotel Wilshire

The world-famous Wilshire Boulevard has a new addition! The Hotel Wilshire, a stylish 74-room boutique hotel is located just blocks from the city's best shopping on Rodeo Drive, The Grove/Farmer's Market, Melrose Avenue and entertainment venues. Guests will enjoy their stay with an emphasis on comfort, convenience, and attentive service with in-room, and open air dining, concierge services, complimentary high speed internet access and Wi-Fi, an executive boardroom, business centre, a rooftop pool with a bar and restaurant that boasts

spectacular views of the Hollywood Hills. Complementing the chic and contemporary vibe of its host city, The Hotel Wilshire provides plush accommodations highlighted by a private-access, top floor, Penthouse Suite that offers 1,100 square feet of living and entertaining space, custom designed furnishings, state of the art audio/video systems and more. Whether you are in L.A. for business or leisure, The Hotel Wilshire is your gateway to Los Angeles, Beverly Hills & Hollywood. Call your MP consultant on 02 9993 9000 for bookings.



PARIS—The Mandarin Oriental

The Mandarin Oriental, Paris is situated on one of the most fashionable streets in the world, Rue Saint-Honoré, surrounded by haute couture and steps from the Louvre. The interiors combine natural elements with oriental influences, a dining experience by Thierry Marx and exquisite legendary service make The Mandarin Oriental a must stay in Paris. Interiors are amongst the most spacious in the capital and combine Parisian sophistication with art deco details and oriental touches. VIRTUOSO BENEFITS include complimentary one-way airport transfer, upgrade on arrival (subject to availability), American breakfast for two and one EUR85 spa credit per stay. Conditions apply. Call your MP consultant on 02 9993 9000.

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LONDON—45 Park Lane

45 Park Lane in exclusive Mayfair has opened with 45 spacious rooms and suites overlooking Hyde Park and Mayfair. This chic hotel offers London's in-crowd a smart but discreet hotel with luxurious contemporary interiors by New York based designer, Thierry Despont. The hotel provides a club-like feel with a striking central staircase, bars, library and media room. VIRTUOSO BENEFITS include 15% discount on best available rate, upgrade on arrival (subject to availability), complimentary continental breakfast for two, one GBP70

food & beverage credit per stay. Conditions apply. Call your MP consultant on 02 9993 9000 for bookings.



LORD HOWE ISLAND—Capella Lodge

Capella Lodge rests atop romantic Lovers Bay on Lord Howe Island. Stay 7 nights and enjoy this secluded island paradise in style. For a limited time only enjoy these bonus inclusions—One complimentary night (stay 7 pay 6) valued up to \$2,400 per couple, Bollinger Champagne in suite on arrival, two \$50 Capella Spa treatment vouchers (maximum two per suite). Conditions apply. Call your MP consultant on 02 9993 9000.