



CORPORATE TRAVEL NEWS

Friday, 16 April 2010

Voyager has a New Partner in China

Voyager Travel is a proud member of the global partnership of Travel Management Companies, named Global Specialists Markets (GSM). GSM is pleased to announce that they have a new Partner serving the rapidly expanding market in China.

GSM Beijing, China - Bao Sheng

With five offices in Beijing, Bao Sheng is a significant player in the market. Their team builds and maintains strong relationships with their clients and industry partners, and they have won several industry accolades for excellence, making them a great fit for GSM.



Voyager gets mobile

TRAVEL management company Voyager Travel is now utilising ConTgo's Mobile Travel Assistant to provide corporate customers with "intelligent

travel content" through mobile devices. Voyager says by using the MTA, organisations in the country will be able to reduce costs and improve the traveller experience for their client. By using key words such as Taxi, Hotel or Restaurant, users of MTA can obtain instantaneous information about each service while on the move. "Voyager always strives to provide second-to-none tailored travel solutions that add value to our client's businesses and we believe we are ahead of the corporate travel curve by making the MTA from ConTgo available to all our customers," said ceo Richard Savva.



Qantas mobile check-in

QANTAS is set to shortly launch a major enhancement to its website for mobile devices which will allow travellers to check-in with a mobile phone, PDA, BlackBerry or iPhone. Boarding passes will be sent to the gadgets via SMS as a 2D barcode which can be scanned at the boarding gate. Mobile check-in will be available for eligible Qantas and QantasLink domestic flights between 24

hours and 45 minutes prior to departure. The e-boarding pass includes a barcode, passenger name, seat number and flight details, with the upgraded mobile site also offering real-time flight arrival and departure times.



Tiger back to Darwin

TIGER Airways has announced new flights between Melbourne and Darwin, with the service to operate six times a week from 18 Jun . The move marks the low-cost carrier's return to the NT capital after it withdrew flights last year citing excessive airport charges.

Tiger Airways roars 3 times louder in Brisbane

Tiger Airways is set to launch three new services between the Queensland capital and Melbourne, Adelaide and Rockhampton. All three new routes started to/from Brisbane on Sunday 28 March. The airline will operate up to three daily flights between Brisbane and Melbourne, daily flights between Brisbane and Adelaide and daily

flights between Brisbane and Rockhampton.



New Skywest A320

SKYWEST Airlines has taken delivery of a leased Airbus A320-200 aircraft which it says will help fulfil the requirements of its higher density mining charter contracts that require greater seat numbers.



Jetstar Fiji debut

JETSTAR has started its A320 service to Fiji. The carrier has rights to operate four times per week. Jetstar will also introduce 22 additional weekly services into Cairns, with the relaunch of direct flights from Osaka and additional domestic services from Cairns to Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide.

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In Australia Jetstar now half the size of Qantas

Qantas reported its traffic for February, and for the first time it saw its subsidiary Jetstar flying 632,000 passengers, exactly half of what mainline Qantas flew in the month. This major milestone for the low-cost carrier is a first, and while international operations for Jetstar have been growing by leaps and bounds, this domestic figure has crept up more slowly but with no less impact. Domestic Qantas grew by 0.4% in the past month when compared to a year earlier, carrying 1.264 million passengers, compared to the 3.5% growth seen in Jetstar Domestic when compared to 2009. Internationally the figures and growth patterns are more dramatic, with Qantas international losing 20.7% of passengers carrying 462,000 in the month, while Jetstar grew passenger numbers by 101% up to 310,000 passengers carried. In all, the group carried 3.2 million passengers for the month, growing its passengers carried by 7.7%.



Virgin Blue flies to Ayers Rock

From Monday 2 August, Virgin Blue will commence direct flights between

Sydney and Ayres Rock. The daily service will use an Embraer E-190 aircraft

Virgins broaden alliance

V AUSTRALIA and Virgin Blue have strengthened their frequent flyer partnership with California based Virgin America (VX), which makes it now possible for guests to accrue and burn loyalty points on each others flight services. The reciprocal deal means pax registered with DJ/VA's *Velocity* program will be able to use their points on VX's *Elevate* rewards program. Effective immediately, guests will now be able to earn points on all of the carriers, and by the end of this year they will be able to redeem points on each other. Virgin America operates flights domestically across the US to San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Washington DC, Seattle, Las Vegas, Boston, Orlando and more. Last year, DJ and VX penned an interline agreement to provide seamless travel on each others services.



QantasLink awarded access into Papua New Guinea

Qantas has been swiftly given approval by the Australian government to operate direct non-stop services to Papua New Guinea, and has received all the seats that it requested. All 888 seats, or 12 weekly services with a 74-seat Bombardier, have been given the green light from the International Air Services Commission, as there were no competitors who sought to block the move. Currently Qantas code-shares on the route with Air Niugini, while Pacific Blue codeshares with Airlines of PNG. A Qantas spokesperson has confirmed that the plan is still to launch services in July this year. This move is set to become QantasLink's first international destination.



Air New Zealand To Transform Its Tasman Service

Air New Zealand announced a transformation of its trans-Tasman service commencing later this year. The trans-Tasman transformation will include:

- Cutting the price of Air New

Zealand's lead-in fares.

- Reducing the time customers need to spend in airports by an average of 45 minutes by introducing new kiosks and a streamlined check-in process.
- Standardisation of the Airbus A320 Tasman Pacific fleet to one class with 171 seats.

Christchurch will be the first market to receive the new product offering, with fares on sale from 29th April for travel late-August, before it goes on sale network-wide in early September with travel rolling out from late-November. Business class will still be available out of Auckland on wide body aircraft flights at prime times that meet the needs of corporate travellers and those Business Premier customers connecting with the long haul services.



Passengers pay for legroom

Continental Airlines is charging customers more for seats with extra legroom. The additional charges will depend on a number of factors including demand, date and time of flight. Continental said the charges took into account the extra legroom passengers had on its regional jets and larger planes.

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Etihad-Alitalia deal

ETIHAD and Italian flag carrier Alitalia have launched an extensive codeshare pact. Alitalia's code also now applies to Etihad services from Europe to Abu Dhabi and beyond to Thailand and Australia.



AirAsia ramps up

AIRASIA has confirmed it will increase its Perth and Melbourne services to Kuala Lumpur to twice daily from 01 Jul, and thrice daily between Perth and Bali, effective 01 Jun.



QF fares rising 3%

QANTAS have bumped up select Premium Economy one-way and return fares to Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia by 3%, from 21 April.

Qantas and China Eastern Codeshare Expansion

Qantas is pleased to announce the extension of their current codeshare with China Eastern by adding seven new codeshare destinations, between Shanghai and Dalian, Fuzhou, Guangzhou, Harbin, Kunming, Qingdao and Shenyang within China. Qantas currently codeshares on China Eastern services between Shanghai and Beijing, Xian and Chengdu.



Air China SYD boost

STAR Alliance member carrier Air China will increase its capacity on the Sydney-Beijing route by 25%, effective 16 September.



Malaysian Airlines adds five

MALAYSIA Airlines has announced a new codeshare pact with China Southern Airlines, allowing Malaysian Airlines passengers to connect from Guangzhou to Chengdu, Wuhan, Guilin, Nanning and Changsha.

Avis to operate self-service kiosks at Sydney Airport

Avis car rentals have unveiled a new offering at Sydney Airport which sees clients able to collect details for their rental car through a self-service kiosk option. Launched at Sydney Domestic Airport, the new service is available to all customers with an Avis Wizard number, regardless of whether or not they have an existing reservation. Avis clients can bypass the terminal counter and go straight to the kiosks located in the ground floor Avis section of the domestic terminal car park. They then drive to the exit boom gate where they simply show their drivers licence and rental agreement and then depart. Clients will also be able to change select booking details on the kiosks for any last minute corrections, such as return location and vehicle



Air China moves to new Terminal 2 at Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport

Effective from 16 Mar 10, all Air China flights departing from and arriving at Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport will be moved to the new Terminal 2. To check-in please go to Counters 14 - 21 in Area A at Terminal 2 of the airport.



Qatar visa change

AUSTRALIAN travellers wanting to visit Qatar will have to apply for a visa before they travel, under new rules set for implementation for 01 May. The new regulations also mean that passengers wanting to visit Qatar for business purposes will need to have



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visas arranged by a local sponsor.

Other countries affected include travellers to Qatar from the US, UK, New Zealand, most of Europe, Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Korea with a single-entry tourist visa for all nationalities costing US\$30. Applicants for a Qatari visa would need to provide three months' of bank statements and prove there is at least \$1300 in their account.

Voyager Travel announces 2 new Leisure tools that allow you book your holiday packages online in real time as well as to research cruises that might be of interest to you.

Just go to
http://www.voyagertravel.com.au/leisure_travel/

Make it your "favorite" and you can book and confirm a hotel, or a full hotel and flights package.

On the same page under "[Click here to search cruise options](#)" you have the opportunity to search the widest cruise directory.

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