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# TRAVEL DAILY

TUE 29 MAR 05 - PAGE 2

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## QH Japan packages

QANTAS Holidays has released a new range of packages to Japan leading in at \$1682pp t/s + taxes for three nights in Tokyo ex CNS.

CEO Simon Bernardi said the country is becoming increasingly popular with Australians, especially as a ski destination.

## VS online check-in

VIRGIN Atlantic has launched a "Do It Yourself Check In Online" service for its Sydney-Hong Kong-London services, allowing customers to check in via the internet up to 24 hours before scheduled departure.

Travellers can make their own seat selection and other formalities incl baggage drop and security screening take place at the airport.

## Disneyland Resort's 50th Birthday Quiz



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This week's quiz now online

## Travel recruitment shakeup

TRAVEL industry consulting firm TA Fastrack has set up a new recruitment service which purports to offer "cut-price" placement fees. CEO Adrian Caruso says he's set up TA Fastrack HR Solutions in response to the "huge demand" from small to medium size agents and suppliers for affordable recruitment services.

Rather than the normal placement fees which are a proportion of the salary package being advertised, the firm says it will offer a flat fee structure of \$1100 per placement.

## US packages \$1599+

UNITED Vacations are offering the same airfare price for both east and west coast USA holidays for the first time in many years.

Price ex Sydney and Melbourne is \$1599+taxes, including \$300 worth of land content for cities incl New York, Boston, Washington, Chicago, Orlando and Las Vegas.

The deal is on sale for two weeks only, until 07 Apr, for departures 01 Apr-16 Jun and 18 Jul-31 Oct 05.

More details 1300 364 884.

## World Cars deadline

WORLD Cars and Holiday Autos advise their earlybird specials (TD Thu) must be booked by 31 Mar and deposited by 07 Apr.

regardless of package or position.

The move comes amid an ongoing tight job market within the industry, and representatives of other recruitment firms said they don't believe the low-cost service will be able to offer the same level of satisfaction to clients.

## Getaway this week

THIS week ch 9 travel show *Getaway*, to be broadcast 7.30pm Thu, will feature:

- Quebec, Canada
- Abbotsford Country House SA
- Pushkar Camel Fair, India
- Barcelona, Spain
- Ranelagh House, NSW
- Kentucky, USA
- Shadows in the Vineyard, Vic

The SA and WA versions will also feature an Adelaide and Perth story respectively, with the rest of the country seeing a feature on NSW's Featherdale Wildlife Park.

## TCF reinstatement

THE Travel Compensation Fund has reinstated the participation of Kok Yong Tey trading as Skyland Travel Service of Kardinya WA, following the granting of a "stay of termination" by the WA State Administrative Tribunal.

The firm was terminated on 03 Mar 05 due to non-payment of fees.

## WINDOW SEAT

TWO skiers in the French alpine resort of Chambéry are in hospital recovering from hypothermia after spending the night on a ski lift.

Staff reportedly turned the lift off thinking there was nobody left on it, and the men spent the night suspended in freezing temperatures high above the slopes before being discovered the next morning when the resort reopened.

TASMANIA could see a boom in "bounty-hunter" tourism after *The Bulletin* magazine offered a \$1.25 million reward for anyone who can produce a live specimen of a Tasmanian tiger by 30 Jun.

Tasmanian environment minister Judy Jackson has ruled out issuing trapping permits to people aiming to claim the reward for the animal, which is presumed to be extinct.

TOURISTS trekking around the western coast of Ireland may soon become slightly confused after local authorities in an area called the Gaeltacht passed a law banning English from road signs and official maps.

Many people in the region speak Gaelic and more than 2300 towns, villages, fields and crossroads have had their previously bilingual road signs changed to Irish only.

Gaelic activists say the traditional names are "redolent of local history" and will eventually be less confusing for visitors.

THE OWNER of a missing cat has been pushing cat food and ice cubes through the letterbox of the house next door after finding the animal had been locked inside when the neighbours went away on holiday just before Easter.

Tracey Venables says she's managed to keep the animal alive for a week so far, and is hoping her neighbour will return soon.

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