

SEPTEMBER 2007

Travel World

The Magazine for Destination Travel Specialists

NEWS®

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Antigua Value-Oriented,
All-Inclusive Jolly Beach Resort

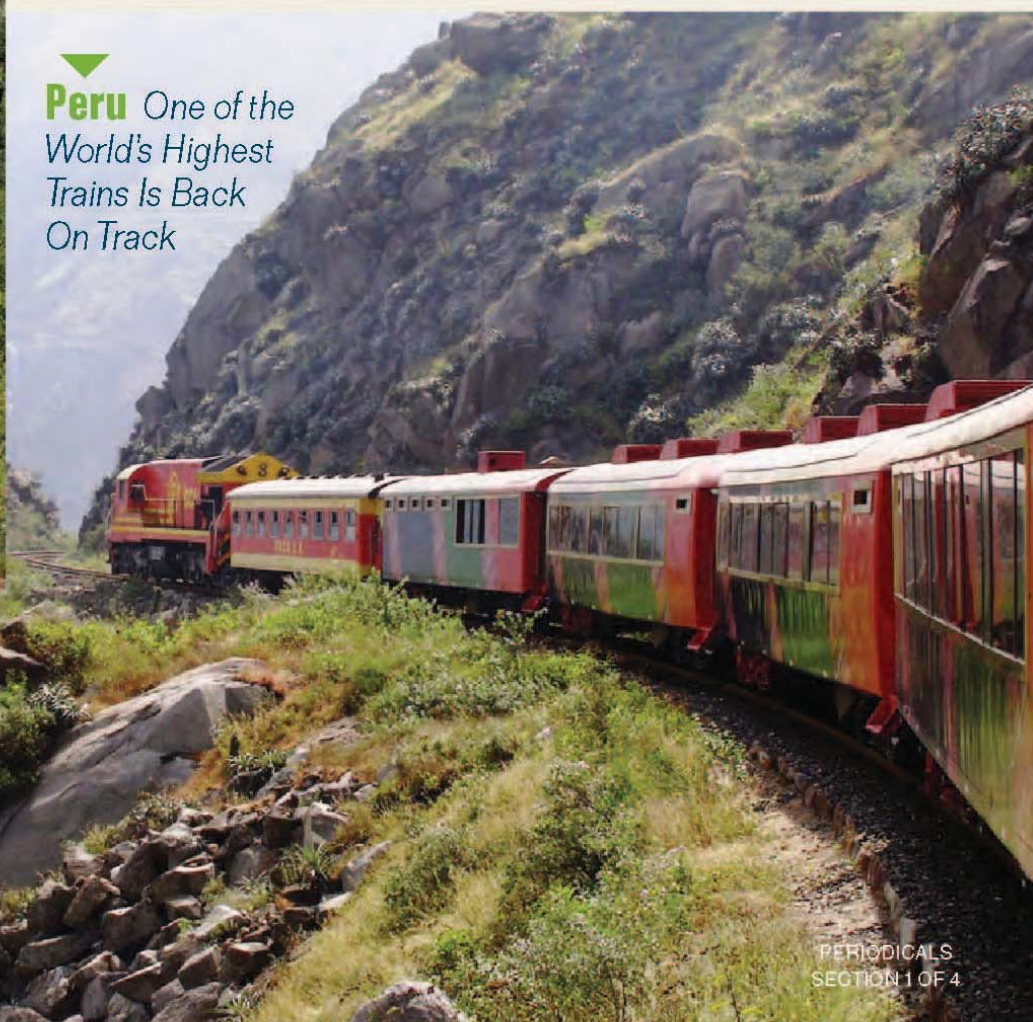
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Salt Lake Summer Après-Ski
at Solitude, Alta and Snowbird

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Peru One of the
World's Highest
Trains Is Back
On Track



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Travel World NEWS®

The Magazine for Destination Travel Specialists

SEPTEMBER 2007

ISSUE NO. 231

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Travel World News (ISSN 1044-4602) is published monthly by Travel Industry Network, Inc., 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710. The cost of a subscription in the USA is \$25, in Canada \$40. For subscribers outside USA or Canada, the rate is \$80. Please send check or money order in U.S. dollars payable to **Travel World News**. For change of address, please enclose your mailing label and send to: Circulation Department, **Travel World News**, 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT. Periodicals postage paid at Norwalk, CT, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **Travel World News**, 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710. Address advertising inquiries and/or editorial copy to: **Travel World News**, 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710. Copyright 2007. All rights reserved. Printed in USA. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission.

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**EXCITING NEWS FOR WTM 2007:
BOSNIA DEBUTS, GIBRALTAR RETURNS,
AND ONLINE TRAVEL IS SHOWCASED**

World Travel Market will be held at London ExCeL from November 12-15, 2007. Staged annually, World Travel Market is a must attend, business to business exhibition. WTM provides a unique opportunity for the whole global travel trade industry to meet, network, negotiate, conduct business and stay abreast with the latest developments in the travel industry.

Bosnia Debuts

Bosnia and Herzegovina comes to World Travel Market in London for the first time this year vowing to finally shake off its troubled past. The former Yugoslavian republic makes its appearance as part of a new drive to attract tourists. The country is wary of the fact that many potential visitors have a negative view of the destination because of its bitter civil war of the 1990s.

Fiona Jeffery, Managing Director of World Travel Market said: "We are delighted to welcome Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is the perfect global business backdrop for them to profile their strengths as a new and exciting destination with a great deal to offer the industry worldwide. B&H Tourism Association has recently stepped up efforts to woo the trade because of its concern of a low level of awareness of the country among European tour operators. We look forward to working with them and re-establishing them on the



World Travel Market 2006, ExCeL, London - Europe area.

global tourism map."

Culture, nature and historical attractions will be top of the list for the B&H delegation keen to sell the nation as Europe's "hidden secret." Alongside its attractions, World Travel Market delegates will get to hear how B&H is working to improve its product as it tries to achieve five percent growth annually for the next 10 years. International investment has been pouring into B&H in recent years. "The government and private sector in B&H increasingly recognize tourism as a driving force in the country's economic

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**Africa Travel Association's
33rd Annual Congress**
May 19–23, 2008
Arusha, Tanzania

For more information:
1.212.447.1357
info@africatravelassociation.org
www.africatravelassociation.org

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The Magazine for Distribution Travel Specialists

WTM 2007 FROM PAGE 3

development, and are united in their efforts to promote this important area of the economy," said Arna Ugljen-Kopic, spokesperson of the B&H Tourism Association. A consumer website promoting the country, www.bhtourism.ba, has also been introduced.

Gibraltar Returns

Gibraltar, situated at the southernmost tip of the Iberian Peninsula, returns to World Travel Market for the first time in four years, intent on proving it is moving with the times. Despite the issue of its sovereignty being a long-held issue for the UK and Spain, government officials on 'the Rock' believe a significant thawing in relations is set to transform its tourism outlook for the better.

In September 2006, Spain and Britain set aside many of their differences over Gibraltar, signing the historic Cordoba agreement.

"We are delighted to be welcoming back our friends from Gibraltar who clearly will be able to enjoy the global business opportunities that the event offers to exhibitors," said Fiona Jeffery.

Gibraltar Tourist Office UK spokeswoman Tracey Poggio said: "Iberia and British Airways have begun flights and the route is already proving a tremendous success. A new Barcelona route is also promised. In addition, the new agreement now includes Gibraltar in European aviation regulations, allowing carriers from the rest of Europe to fly in. What it has done is open up Gibraltar to a new international audience. Malaga has become a viable hub, and as a result there has been significant marketing of Gibraltar in Spain. Importantly, we are hopeful of spreading the word across Europe at World Travel Market – we can sell Gibraltar like a new destination across the continent."

To cater for the expected increase in visitors by air, the territory's government has unveiled a major redevelopment program for Gibraltar Airport, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2008. Related to the airport improvements is significant spending to update Gibraltar's hotel and leisure infrastructure. Similarly, refurbishment is underway in the Europa Point area, one of Gibraltar's most important physical and historical assets. Sitting at the point that the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean converge, it offers stunning views of the Strait.

WTM Showcases Stratospheric Growth in Online Travel

The Internet has now become a cornerstone of the travel industry in Europe and the latest online tools, tips and trends will be on show in World Travel Market (WTM)'s Technology & Online Travel Sector.

WTM will showcase the most recent advances in the digital world, in which online travel is seeing explosive growth of 20 percent with the sector predicted to be worth over £33 billion (or approximately \$66 billion) in the European Union by 2011, according to Euromonitor International.

"The Travel Technology and Travel Online section of World Travel Market was the first area to sell out," said Fiona Jeffery, "a sure reflection of the enormous growth in the sector."

WTM's seminar programs will be revealing the most recent on-line travel developments to pinpoint how to use technology to maximize business advantage.

Companies exhibiting at World Travel Market's Travel Technology and Online Area include: Bewotec, Biznet Solutions, boo.com, CodeGen Ltd, Comtec, Conrad Advertising, E-Clear (UK) PLC, FastBooking, Final Quadrant Solutions Ltd, GlobeTrack, Grez, Hexaware Technologies Ltd, Hostelsclub.com, Intracom IT Services, JohnHenry.net, Nozio - Internet for tourism (Netplan), Open Destinations, Open Hospitality, RedSkyIT, Rezgateway, SynXis, T I Infotech Pvt Ltd, TouristWay Software Engineering GmbH, Tourplan, TravelCLICK Inc, TravelRes and WebSource Europe Ltd.

World Travel Market, www.wtmlondon.com

WTA CEREMONY IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 17; WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

On September 17, 2007 the World Travel Awards (WTA) will be hosting their Americas Awards Gala Ceremony in New York. Hailed by the Wall Street Journal as the "Travel Industry's equivalent to the Oscars," the WTA are the most comprehensive and prestigious awards program in the global travel industry. Now in their 14th year, they acknowledge and celebrate those organizations that make the greatest contribution to the travel and tourism industry worldwide. The endorsement comes from travel agencies and professionals in over 163 countries. The WTA rely on an independent survey with votes from 167,000 organizations and people. For the tourism trade, winning a World Travel Award is a personal and reliable endorsement from the thousands of professionals who are dealing with both holidaymakers and tourism products in the marketplace. The WTA winners have been announced for the Middle East and Africa. At the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi, over 1,000 industry leaders convened to celebrate their achievements.

A total of 65 awards were presented. Abu Dhabi won Middle East's Leading New Destination and Middle East's Leading Tourist Board, fitting accolades since the emirate has seen such impressive growth in travel and tourism over the last year. The Emirates Palace won the title of Middle East's Leading Resort, Middle East's Leading Conference Hotel, and UAE's Leading Resort.

Fairmont Dubai, Burj Al Arab, Grand Hyatt Cairo, Ritz-Carlton Bahrain Hotel and Spa, and Saxon Boutique Hotel and Spa all received awards. Rotana Hotels and Resorts won Middle East's Leading Hotel Brand, while Etihad Airways scored Middle East's Leading Airline and Middle East's Leading First Class Airline. Also Europcar took home Middle East's Leading Car Hire Company and Africa's Leading Car Hire Company. These companies have automatically been put forward as nominees in their global categories. The World category winners will be announced at the global World Travel Awards ceremony in Providenciales, Turks and Caicos in the Caribbean towards the end of 2007.

World Travel Awards, www.worldtravelawards.com

PRESIDENT OF TANZANIA NAMED HONORARY GLOBAL CHAIR OF WTMS



H.E. JAKAYA
MRISHO KIKWETE

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, was named Honorary Global Chair of the 2nd World Tourism Marketing Summit (WTMS), which will take place in Beijing, China, October 28-30, 2007. The announcement was made by Sujit Chowdhury, Secretary General, of the Canada-based World Trade University (WTU), organizer of the Summit. The Summit, hosted by the Beijing Tourism

Administration of the People's Republic of China, will bring together more than 400 travel and tourism industry leaders from around the globe.

"My selection as Honorary Global Chair, as an African leader, reflects the strong and growing trade and economic ties between Africa and China, and the vast untapped potential that China represents. Travel and Tourism is the World's largest Industry and is critical to sustainable economic development and the generation of productive employment. For this reason, the Summit is very timely," stated H.E. President Kikwete.

Mr. Chowdhury, in making the announcement, said "H.E. Kikwete will bring to the Summit the dynamic and outstanding leadership that he has already demonstrated in Tanzania with his ability to attract major international investment. This is reflected in that Country's dramatic growth and development path, especially in the booming tourism sector."

Following the huge success of the historic First World Tourism Marketing Summit held in November, 2004, in Nanjing, China, the 2nd WTMS will bring together approximately 400 leading tourism executives, marketing experts and top operational managers from over 50 countries, as well as from over 150 major cities of 30 provinces in China. The Summit will provide an opportunity to network, explore joint ventures and learn from the brightest how to develop strategies to enhance cooperation between the international business community and one of the world's largest tourist markets.

World Tourism Marketing Summit,
www.worldtourismsummit.com

CANCUN TRAVEL MART MEXICO SUMMIT OCTOBER 10-12

The President of the Cancun Hotel Association, Jesus Almaguer, confirmed that the 20th Annual Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit will be held October 10- 12, 2007 at the Cancun Convention Center.

Mr. Almaguer also announced that the Cancun Hotel Association will continue the efforts launched in 2006 to work closely with other Hotel Associations and Government Tourism Officials throughout Mexico to expand the event's format and increase at-

tendance. About 650 tour operators, meeting planners, and Cancun suppliers attended last year's successful event.

The Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit, originally inaugurated and sponsored in 1987 by the Cancun Hotel Association, brings tour operator/wholesalers, meeting planners, and incentive organizers from over 16 countries to Cancun to "Buy" Cancun, Riviera Maya, Mexico Caribbean, and all of Mexico travel products and services. The format features two days of pre-scheduled business appointments between "buyers" and "suppliers." Destination presentations that were added to last year's format were very well received, and they will be included again as an integral part of the Official Welcome Program on Thursday, October 11.

Buyer pre-scheduled business appointments with suppliers are one of the most important elements of the Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit activities, and more appointments were pre-scheduled last year than ever before in the event's history. 2,316 appointments between buyers and suppliers were pre-scheduled at Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit 06; 876 of them were "Perfect Match" appointments when both buyers and suppliers requested each other, and 1,442 buyer requested appointments were scheduled. Supplier only requests are not scheduled which eliminates "no-show's." Many additional appointments are arranged personally by delegates when they arrive on-site.

Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit 07 registration fees are the same as they have been in the past several years. Buyer's registration fees are \$125 and include all official functions, airport transfers, and shuttle transportation. Buyers arrange their hotel accommodations with participating host hotels.

Cancun Hotel Association Members suppliers registration fees are \$1,360 for up to 30 pre-scheduled appointments or \$1,760 for up to 60 pre-scheduled appointments. Suppliers also pay \$165 per delegate. Registration fees for suppliers who are not members of the Cancun Hotel Association or the Hotel Association in their region are higher: \$1,560 and \$1,960. One delegate is included in the supplier registration fees.

Cancun Hotel Association President Jesus Almaguer stated: "This is an excellent opportunity for our travel industry partners to get together in a professional and organized way to really talk about business, and to make specific plans for the coming seasons. We are working very closely with our travel industry colleagues in the private and public sectors throughout all of Mexico to maximize the Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit business opportunities for Cancun, the Riviera Maya, the Mexican Caribbean Region, and for all Mexico destinations."

Irma Coleman, President & CEO of William H. Coleman, Inc., the Cancun Travel Mart Mexico Summit Event Management Firm stated: "We are very pleased by the positive results from last year's expanded format, and we are very encouraged by the number of highly qualified suppliers from other destinations in Mexico that have already indicated that they will be with us at this year's 20th Annual Event."

Cancun Travel Mart, www.cancuntravelmart.com

CARIBBEAN SALES & MARKETING STRATEGY CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE DECEMBER 13 & 14

The annual Caribbean Sales & Marketing Strategy Conference will take place December 13-14, 2007 in San Juan, Puerto Rico at the InterContinental Resort & Casino. For the third consecutive year, the Caribbean Hotel Association (CHA) and the Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMIAI) are teaming up to present this leading industry conference for hoteliers and tourism officials doing business in the Caribbean region.

The program will feature prominent professional speakers and industry experts on a variety of issues including Internet Marketing & eCommerce, Destination Marketing & Branding, Integrated Marketing Communications, and Managing Your Mix of Business.

The event is targeted to a range of industry professionals, including hotel and resort sales and marketing directors, general managers and owners; corporate sales, marketing and operations directors and managers; destination marketing organization sales and marketing directors and managers; and government officials, ministers of tourism and representatives of national tourism bureaus.

Caribbean Sales & Marketing Strategy Conference,

www.caribbeanstrategyconference.com;

HSMIAI, www.hsmiai.org;

CHA, www.caribbeanhotelassociation.com

NEST ANNOUNCES ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

The Network of Entrepreneurs Selling Travel (NEST) has announced the speaker line-up for its upcoming "Viva Las Vegas" NEST FEST '07 annual conference, December 2-4 at Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Stuart Ellis-Myers will headline the event. He is an internationally known and respected speaker on communication, leadership, sales, and customer relationship management practices that yield measurable results.

His presentation will be sponsored by Fun Sun Vacations. Dave Stockert, acclaimed speaker and Director of Training for Holland America Line, will also present a workshop on how to proactively sell more travel.

In addition, a unique agent-only panel discussion entitled "My Biggest Failure, My Greatest Success" will reveal the challenges that home-based agents encounter in owning or managing a travel business, and how they use them as stepping stones to success.

Other educational workshops will include: "Say I Do to Destination Weddings" (by Bridal Guide magazine); "Building Your Luxury Business" (by Bill Brown of Platinum Seminars); and "Bridging the Gap of Multi-Generational Travel." Agents will also increase their overall knowledge of NEST products, including NESTDirect, CruiseNEST and NESTRewards.

At NEST FEST '07, the Golden Egg Awards will again be presented to the top-producing NEST agents of 2006.

The NEST, 888-245-NEST, www.jointhenest.com

NTA ANNUAL CONVENTION NOVEMBER 2-6

As part of its ongoing efforts to bring more business opportunities to its members, the National Tour Association has invited professional travel buyers to the 2007 Annual Convention in Kansas City, November 2-6. These professionals can take part in a one-day program connecting them with the expertise and diverse tour product of NTA tour operators.

"According to the Outside Sales Support Network, only 31 percent of home-based agents have developed a niche for tours," said NTA Chairman and CEO Randy Julian. "This indicates that there is huge potential for tour operators and professional buyers, such as the home-based agent, to work together. We know that travel agents are searching for new revenue sources and NTA tour operators are always looking for new outlets for their packaged travel products. It's a win-win situation."

Professional travel buyers and NTA tour operators will have the opportunity to explore potential partnerships during the Buyer-to-Buyer Exchange on Friday, November 2. During prescheduled meetings, tour operators will be able to discuss the types of packages and products they offer and travel buyers can explain who their clients are and the types of travel packages they desire.

The National Tour Association,

800-682-8886, questions@NTA.travel, www.NTA.travel

MEETING INDUSTRY: BTC 2007 MAKES CHANGES

The 2007 edition of BTC, the International Meetings, Conventions and Incentives Fair has made some changes. First of all, BTC will be held in Rome (November 8-9) in the pavilions of the new Rome Exhibition area. This represents a strong turning point for BTC; the continuous tourist growth of the Italian capital, as well as its visibility and ability to attract buyers on an international level, will give new life to BTC, which has been for 23 years the referring point of the meeting industry in Italy. The Rome choice represents a first, important step to create new opportunities and increased chances of visibility for meeting industry professionals. In addition, for the first time, free appointments will be introduced between demand and supply. Thanks to new tools made available to professionals by the organization, negotiations will take place according to specific needs of exhibitors and buyers. Buyers and exhibitors will have two days to negotiate, so as to allow the market to optimize its participation in the event, improving business as well as contact effectiveness. Finally, the new BTC website is being designed to be an operative work and information tool for meeting industry professionals. Thanks to the website, demand and supply will be able to get in touch and define their appointments for the fair. News concerning the website with reference to the introduction of new functions, as well as news characterizing the event up to its opening, will be communicated to the market through periodical newsletters industry professionals.

BTC, www.btc.it

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2007/08

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
OCTOBER			
3-5	CIS Travel Market	St. Petersburg, Russia	www.reedtravelexhibitions.com
3-5	World Youth & Student Travel Conference 2007	Istanbul, Turkey	www.wystc.org
4-7	Adventure Travel World Summit	Whistler, BC, Canada	www.adventuretravelworldsummitt.com
7-14	Guanacaste Marketplace	Guanacaste, Costa Rica	www.guanacastemarketplace.com
10-12	Cancun Travel Mart	Cancun, Mexico	www.cancuntravelmart.com
11-13	Central American Travel Market	San Jose, CA	email: catm2007@canatur.org
12-14	TTG Incontri	Rimini, Italy	www.ttgitalia.com
12-14	Guam Micronesia Island Fair	Tumon, Guam	www.visitguam.org
16-18	BTC Conference 2007	Tallink Victoria, Baltic Sea	www.balticsea.com
16-26	OSSN International Conference 2007	Mykonos, Greece	www.ossn.com
19-24	CTC 2007	San Juan, Puerto Rico	www.onecaribbean.org
24-26	See Ecuador Travel Exposition	Quito, Ecuador	www.seecuador.com
25	10th Annual TASC Tradeshow	MacArthur Airport, LI, NY	email: lou@royalholiday.com
25-29	Central American Showcase & Travel Expo	San Salvador, El Salvador	www.centralamericashowcase.com
28-30	World Tourism Marketing Summit	Beijing, China	www.wtms.wtuglobal.org
31-Nov 3	DEMA	Orlando, FL	www.demashow.com
NOVEMBER			
1-4	Philoxenia	Thessaloniki Greece	www.helexpo.gr
2-7	NTA 2007	Kansas City, MO	www.ntaonline.com
3-6	FIT PERU	Trujillo, Peru	www.fitperu.org
6-8	Madi Travel Market 2007	Prague, Czech Republic	www.madi.cz
7-9	ALTA Airlines Leaders Forum	Cancun, Mexico	www.latamleaders.com
8-9	BTC International	Rome, Italy	www.btc.it
12-15	WTM-World Travel Market	ExCel London, UK	www.wtmlondon.com
12-15	Discover America Pavilion at WTM 2007	ExCel London, UK	www.discoveramericapavilion.com
16-19	UFTAA 41st Annual Congress	Casablanca, Morocco	www.uftaa.travel.org
17-18	The Philadelphia Inquirer Travel Show	King of Prussia, PA	www.phillytravelshow.com
17-20	FIT America Latina	Buenos Aires, Argentina	www.fit.org.ar
22-25	International Tourism Salon	Athens, Greece	www.its-athens.gr
27-29	EIBTM 2007	Barcelona, Spain	www.eibtm.com
27-29	Travel Media Showcase	Palm Springs, CA	www.travelmediashowcase.com
28	NACTA's 2.0 Conference	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	www.nacta.com
DECEMBER			
2-5	8th Int'l Gay & Lesbian Tourism Conference	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	www.communitymarketinginc.com
3-6	International Luxury Travel Market	Cannes, France	www.iltm.net
3-6	International Golf Travel Market	Cancun, Mexico	www.igtm.co.uk
4	Travel Institute Annual Conference	Las Vegas, NV	www.thetravelinstitute.com
4-7	Colombia TrAAvel Exchange	Medellin, Colombia	www.colombiatravelexchange.com
13-14	MITM Americas	Salvador de Bahia, Brazil	www.mitmamericas.com
JANUARY 2008			
6-9	SATH World Congress	Orlando, FL	www.sath.org
11-13	Monte Carlo Travel Market	Monte Carlo	www.mctm.com
13-15	Caribbean Marketplace 2008	Paradise Island, Bahamas	www.caribbeanhotels.org
16-20	BTL 2008	Lisbon, Portugal	www.btl.fil.pt
17-20	ITF Slovatour	Bratislava, Slovakia	www.incheba.sk
17-20	MATKA 2008	Helsinki, Finland	www.matkamessut.fi
18-26	ATF	Bangkok, Thailand	www.atf2008thailand.com
21-24	Go West Summit	Colorado Springs, CO	www.gowestsummit.com
30-Feb 3	FITUR 2008	Madrid, Spain	www.fitur.ifema.es
30-Feb 3	Discover America Pavilion at FITUR 2008	Madrid, Spain	www.discoveramericapavilion.com
FEBRUARY			
14-17	Holiday World 2008	Prague, Czech Republic	www.holidayworld.cz
19-20	AIME	Melbourne, Australia	www.reedtravelexhibitions.com
21-24	BIT 2008	Milan, Italy	www.bit.expects.it
21-24	Discover America Pavilion at BIT 2008	Milan, Italy	www.discoveramericapavilion.com
28-Mar 2	IFT 2008	Belgrade, Serbia	www.ift-belgrade.com
28-Mar 2	UTAZAS 2008	Budapest, Hungary	www.utazas.hungexpo.hu/2007_kiallitas_eng.php

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JUMEIRAH APPOINTS APO DEMIRTAS CHIEF SALES & MARKETING OFFICER



APO DEMIRTAS

Jumeirah, the fast growing Dubai based luxury international hospitality group and member of Dubai Holding, has announced the appointment of Mr. Apo Demirtas as Chief Sales & Marketing Officer.

Mr. Demirtas will be based in the Group's corporate office in Dubai and will report to the Chief Executive Officer.

"We are very pleased to welcome Apo to the Jumeirah team in what is a very exciting time for all of us," said Guy Crawford, Chief Executive Officer for Jumeirah Group.

"Apo's wealth of knowledge and experience will help us to further develop and communicate the key strengths of the Jumeirah brand worldwide."

"I am delighted to join one of the world's most prestigious and fast-growing luxury hospitality groups and I am proud to continue the successful development of the Jumeirah brand," Mr. Demirtas commented on his appointment. "With the ambitious expansion plans Jumeirah has embarked on, it is an exciting time for me to join the company."

Mr. Demirtas joins Jumeirah from InterContinental Hotels Group where he most recently held the position of Vice President Market Strategy for the Americas, responsible for the channel marketing, sales, distribution and revenue management strategies for the company's managed hotels.

He holds Bachelor and Masters of Science degrees in Hotel Management as well as Ph.D work in Microeconomics & Marketing at Ohio State University.

Prior to his time with InterContinental Hotels Group, Mr. Demirtas worked in several senior sales, marketing and revenue management positions with high-profile international hospitality businesses, including Hilton Hotels Corporation and the Cendant Corporation.

Jumeirah, www.jumeirah.com

TRAVCOA HIRES MARGARET HAGSTROM AS DIRECTOR OF MARKETING



MARGARET HAGSTROM

Margaret Hagstrom has joined Travcoa as the company's Director of Marketing, bringing more than 20 years experience to the position.

In her previous role, Ms. Hagstrom developed successful marketing strategies and managed overall business communications as Director of Specialty Marketing for United Healthcare.

Throughout her career as a skilled sales

and marketing decision maker, she has maintained a strong track record of growing top-line revenue while providing successful leadership to 600 employees and 22 direct management reports and has held positions in companies across a broad range of industries, including AT&T and Tricon.

"Margaret has such a breadth of knowledge from working across industries. We are excited to have her strengthen our perspective in the marketing world," said First Choice Expeditions and Travcoa President Jerre Fuqua. First Choice Expeditions is the parent company of Travcoa.

Ms. Hagstrom received a master's degree from the America Graduate School of International Management in Arizona and a Master's in Business Administration from New Hampshire College. While receiving her bachelor's degree from Colby College in Maine, Hagstrom completed a year in Vienna, Austria at the Institute for European Studies.

Travcoa, 800-992-2005, www.travcoa.com

BROWN PALACE HOTEL & SPA APPOINTS MARK SHINE NEW DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING



MARK SHINE

The Brown Palace Hotel & Spa recently appointed Mark Shine as the new Director of Sales and Marketing.

Mr. Shine oversees all marketing, direct sales, advertising and public relations opportunities for the 115-year-old historic hotel.

He has worked with Quorum Hotels as a Director of Sales and Marketing since 1996, beginning at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Tampa where he led the conversion from Crowne Plaza to a new, upscale, independent hotel – Quorum Hotel-Tampa.

Under his direction, the property was recognized as one of the most successful in the Quorum Company based on sales performance.

Prior to that, Mr. Shine served as the Director of Sales and Marketing for the Tampa Airport Hilton at Metrocenter and the Clearwater Beach Hilton in Florida.

He has also worked with the Adam's Mark Caribbean Gulf Resort in Clearwater, Embassy Suites Hotel in Fort Lauderdale, and the Holiday in Sportscenter in Miami.

Mr. Shine currently resides in Denver with his wife and two children.

The Brown Palace is a Mobil Four-Star, AAA Four-Diamond luxury landmark located in the heart of downtown Denver. It is a charter member of National Trust Historic Hotels of America and is managed by Quorum Hotels & Resorts, a full service management company headquartered in Dallas.

The Brown Palace Hotel & Spa, 800-321-2599, www.brownpalace.com

SUYA DAVENPORT RETURNS TO LEE COUNTY VCB AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



SUYA DAVENPORT

Suya Davenport has joined the team of the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB), representing The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel in southwest Florida, taking the helm as Executive Director. A southwest Florida resident for more than 20 years, Ms. Davenport began her hospitality industry career at the VCB as a sales manager from 1989 to 1992.

Most recently, she held the title of Corporate Director, Global Strategic Partnerships with LXR Luxury Resorts, a collection of resorts, hotels, spas, golf clubs, and marinas in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and the Caribbean, including properties on Sanibel and Captiva islands.

From 2000 to 2005, Ms. Davenport served as Director of Leisure Sales for Boca Resorts based in Naples, FL, which included the Boca Raton Resort & Club, The Registry Resort & Club, and the Edgewater Beach Hotel & Club. As Manager, Air Service Development for the Lee County Port Authority/Southwest Florida International Airport in Fort Myers, she was responsible for the development of marketing plans and strategies to improve air service to the airport for passenger and air cargo development.

Her career also includes various high level management, sales, and marketing positions with organizations such as The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company in Coral Gables and Manalapan, FL. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in marketing with an emphasis on management from the University of South Florida in Tampa. Ms. Davenport replaces D.T. Minich, who recently accepted the Executive Director position at the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau,
www.fortmyers-sanibel.com

JORGE PESQUERA TAKES TOP PALM BEACH COUNTY TOURISM JOB

Effective November 1, travel industry veteran Jorge Pesquera will become President and Chief Executive Officer of the Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). He replaces interim administrative director Jim Stuber, who has also served as the CVB's outside legal counsel since its founding in 1983.

"Jorge Pesquera is the right person for the job," said Mr. Stuber. "He is widely acknowledged in the national arena as a talented leader in the hotel and hospitality business as well as a dynamic strategist in destination management."

"Palm Beach County is one of the world's classic destinations, and I am delighted to have the opportunity to shape its future development," said Mr. Pesquera.

Prior to accepting this position, Pesquera was President and CEO

of the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association, and was recently recognized as the Hotel Association Executive of the Year at the annual Caribbean Hotel Industry Conference (CHIC). He spent 10 years as President and CEO of the Puerto Rico Convention Bureau, spearheading the construction of the \$450 million Puerto Rico Convention Center and surrounding district.

During his tenure, the Puerto Rico Convention Bureau was repeatedly acknowledged as one of the best destination marketing organizations by top associations and industry publications. Mr. Pesquera is a member of the accreditation board of Destination Marketing Association International (DMAI), the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA), the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), and Meeting Professionals International (MPI). He holds a degree in hotel administration from Cornell University and has held senior executive positions with Hilton.

Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau,
www.palmbeachfl.com

ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES NAMES GOBENA MIKAEL NEW REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICAS



GOBENA MIKAEL

Ethiopian Airlines has announced the arrival of their new Regional Director North & South America, Mr. Gobena Mikael. Mr. Mikael has been working for Ethiopian Airlines for more than 20 years in various capacities including pricing, revenue management, sales programs, distribution, market development, automation, information systems and sales. For the past five years, Mr. Mikael served as Ethiopian Airlines Regional Director of

Italy and Southern Europe, based in Rome.

"The U.S. is one of our major markets and strategically very important to the airline. I am very excited to join the U.S. branch where we have an immense opportunity to grow the airline," Mr. Mikael said.

"I believe Ethiopian Airlines has much to offer to America and vice versa. Ethiopia is an exciting hidden treasure that has yet to be discovered by most Americans. My goal is to bring this hidden treasure to light and diversify our market by reaching out to the mainstream American market."

The airline has evolved over those 60 years into a first-class operation, with continuous improvements in coach and business class travel, rewards through Sheba Miles, and the purchase of 10 Boeing 787 Dreamliners to begin flying in 2008. With this type of forward thinking and strategic planning Ethiopian Airlines is on the brink of tremendous growth. They have recently increased from four to six weekly flights from Washington Dulles International.

Ethiopian Airlines, www.ethiopianairlines.com

HYATT REGENCY TAMAYA RESORT AND SPA NAMED TO TOP 100 GOLF RESORTS



Conde Nast Traveler magazine recognized the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa as one of the "Top 100 Golf Resorts" in North America, The Caribbean and The Atlantic, and Ireland and Scotland. The magazine's 12th annual golf resorts readers' poll ran in the June 2007 issue. Readers were asked to rate golf resorts on several categories including course design, speed of play, pro-staff, accommodations, service, dining, and the resort's facilities.

"Being recognized by such a prestigious publication as Conde Nast Traveler magazine is a significant honor for the resort, Santa Ana Pueblo and our dedicated staff," said General Manager Jerry Westenhaver. "We are grateful for the resort's growing popularity and positive effect it has had on the pueblo's economic development and New Mexico tourism."

Located on a Native American reservation between Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico, the resort is an ideal golf destination. In addition to the resort's Twin Warriors Golf Club, there are a dozen other golf courses within an hour's drive of the resort.

The Twin Warriors Golf Club features a uniquely designed course due to its location on 400 acres of the Santa Ana Pueblo. In designing the course, architect Gary Panks worked closely with the Pueblo to review the reservation's grounds and ensure the course did not disturb any ancient cultural sites on their sacred land. During its development, the course was expanded from 200 acres to 400 acres due to the discovery of 20 new ancient cultural sites around which the course was re-routed. The cultural sites range from arrowheads to an old cave dwelling with signs of inhabitants 900 years ago, and a horse corral from the 1800s.

Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa is located on 500 acres of the Santa Ana Pueblo's reservation adjacent to the Sandia Mountains along the Rio Grande River and between Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Along with its unique cultural environment offering traditional pueblo bread baking demonstrations and tribal dance performances, Tamaya also features The Stables at Tamaya, tennis courts, and Tamaya Cultural Museum and Learning Center. Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa, 800-55-HYATT (800-554-9288), www.tamaya.hyatt.com

THE BEACH CLUB AT SEA ISLAND MAKES MID-SUMMER DEBUT

Situated on a stretch of Georgia coastline is the new oceanfront Beach Club at Sea Island. Its completion punctuates Sea Island Resorts' six-year, \$500 million renaissance.

Located across from The Cloister Hotel, the Beach Club echoes the Mediterranean-style architecture of the hotel, and is adjacent to The Spa at Sea Island. The new Beach Club is ideal for guests of all ages who want to spend a day on the beach, in a pool, playing games, or enjoying an ice cream cone, among the environment's many features.

Three swimming pools provide each member of the family with a place to call one's own. The Family Pool is open to all ages and is adjacent to the "Splash Pad" a water feature designed for Sea Island's smallest guests. For those 18 years and older, the Casino Pool offers a quiet escape. Designed with the young adult in mind, the Beach Pool features a crossover bridge and its own set of private cabanas. Activities available include shuffleboard and a playground.

Other features of the Beach Club include a 100-seat theater; the Game Room especially for teens; and the Meeting Place, a reception area for Camp Cloister and the children's Activity Center.

"The new Beach Club serves as a centralized meeting spot with a relaxed seaside atmosphere where guests of all ages can take advantage of the many activities Sea Island has to offer," said Bill Jones III, Chairman and CEO, Sea Island Company. "As we approach the resort's 80th anniversary, we celebrate these new world-class improvements which have captured The Cloister and Sea Island's traditional values, bringing them to new generations of guests and members for years to come."

With the addition of the Beach Club, there are now more dining options at Sea Island. Located just off the main lobby is Big George's Raw Bar and Grill.

Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner seasonally, Big George's is the primary dining room of the new Beach Club. Open year round, the Coffee Shop serves specialty coffee drinks, muffins, and Georgia Pecan Rolls. Seasonally, lunch and dinner are also served inside or out at the Snack Bar, located within the Gazebo. Additionally, the Kids Café serves lunch, dinner and snacks to Camp Cloister guests and doubles as a crafts room.

Modeled after an authentic 1950's soda shop, the Ice Cream Parlor invites guests to sit and enjoy hand-dipped ice creams and specialty cones, and Sea Island's traditional Gold Brick Sundaes at the old fashioned counter or parlor booths with jukeboxes.

Beginning early Fall, guests who wish to stay on the beach will be able to book one of The Cloister's 38 Beach Club Suites. The Beach Club will also begin hosting private and corporate meetings within the new banquet and meeting space.

Guest who book functions in these rooms will have access to their own VIP entrance. Sea Island Resorts, www.seaisland.com

DOLCE NORWALK UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP



Dolce International has announced that Dolce Norwalk Conference Center, in Norwalk, Connecticut has been acquired by a partnership that includes Broadreach Capital Partners, Dolce family members and senior management. Dolce will maintain management, under a long-term management contract, of the Connecticut property including sales and marketing, conference services, food and beverage, technological integration and all property operations. Located an hour from midtown Manhattan, Dolce Norwalk is ideally situated to serve Fortune 500 companies in the New York - Connecticut metropolitan region. With 120 deluxe guest rooms, more than 20,000 square feet of meeting space and a relaxing, retreat like setting, the property offers a perfect venue for business meetings, training sessions and corporate functions.

"We have spent the last three years maintaining a good working relationship with the Norwalk community to make Dolce Norwalk the property it is today and we look forward to continuing our relationship for many more years," said Chris Dolce, Dolce Norwalk General Manager.

"We are excited to maintain our presence in Connecticut as Dolce Norwalk is one of five conference destinations in Dolce's Northeast portfolio," said Andy Dolce, Chairman and Managing Director of Dolce International. "We are committed to providing our customers with a wide selection of top lodging and meeting facilities in our busiest business communities and we look forward to welcoming new and returning guests alike at Dolce Norwalk."

Set on 66 acres, Dolce Norwalk is an internationally acclaimed education and con-

ference facility located in the Connecticut countryside. Meeting facilities include 21,200 square feet of conference space comprised of 31 meeting rooms including an amphitheater and ballroom. The property offers state-of-the-art audio-visual capabilities, a dedicated conference planning team, business center, Dolce E-Café with computer stations, 18-hour ergonomic chairs in all meeting rooms and wireless high-speed Internet access. Guest facilities include 120 guest rooms, laundry/valet, local shuttle service, Candlewood Dining Room and Cidermill Lounge. Recreational amenities include an indoor pool, fitness center, tennis, and three golf courses located within 10 miles of the property. Located an hour from Manhattan, Dolce Norwalk offers a convenient location for business travelers.

Dolce Norwalk Conference Center,
800-57-DOLCE, www.norwalk.dolce.com;
Dolce International, www.dolce.com

THE SUTTON PLACE HOTEL COMPLETES RENOVATION OF LA GRANDE RESIDENCE

The AAA Five Diamond-rated Sutton Place Hotel Vancouver has announced the completion of a 14-month long, multi-million dollar renovation of La Grande Residence. Forming a part of The Sutton Place Hotel, La Grande Residence features 164 terraced residences in an 18-story residential apartment complex and is fully furnished, complete with kitchen facilities. The enhancement began on January 4, 2006 and is considered the re-birth of an already luxurious property.

"We are extremely proud of the Engineering and Housekeeping departments' success, proven in the renovation. Now more than ever, La Grande Residence offers European elegance and tradition with the comforts and convenience of today's modern style," says John Sandor, General Manager.

Upon entering La Grande Residence, the expanded lobby features a luxurious sitting area. The renovations are state-of-the-art, with much consideration given to environmentally friendly "green" solutions. Energy

efficient light bulbs, refrigerators, dishwashers and many other environmentally friendly options have been installed. The building is now entirely non-smoking. The newly renovated rooms also feature brand new carpets, sofas, flat screen TV's, paint, drapes, duvet covers and artwork. The patios have been freshened up with new furniture, while the bathrooms have new larger mirrors, countertops and refinished tubs.

The Jacuzzi now affords a view of the Buddha garden. New desks and computers with individual printers help to update the self-serve Business Centre which is open 24 hours. There is also an Airport Check-in Kiosk in the Business Centre that allows for early flight check-in.

The Sutton Place Hotel, Vancouver has upheld its reputation of luxury and exceptional service, with ongoing upgrades and a consistent accolade of the prestigious AAA Five Diamond award.

The Sutton Place Hotels, 866-3-SUTTON
(866-378-8866), www.suttonplace.com

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MICE PLANNERS CAN WIN A DIAMOND AT CORINTHIA GRAND HOTEL ROYAL



The award-winning Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal, in Budapest, Hungary, launched a new Five-Star Diamond Club Conference Package for Meeting, Incentive, Conference and Event (MICE) Planners, which features a chance to win a real diamond. The Diamond club also includes two nights in an Executive Room with free in-room Internet access, VIP amenities, and a complimentary Meeting Room.

For meetings, a screen and LCD projector are provided, along with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment and seating arrangements. All conference delegates will be able to enjoy a buffet breakfast, Silver morning coffee break, Crystal buffet lunch, and a Gold Afternoon.

During their leisure time, delegates can relax at the historical Royal Spa, all as part of the Five Star Diamond Club Conference Package.

Meeting/Event planners will find it stress-free and success-full working with the dedicated Events@Corinthia staff, professionals trained in assisting the planner in every aspect of the meeting, conference, incentive or event program. Events@Corinthia offers many unique features for the planner.

Rates are \$820 for one person for two nights in a single room and \$1,060 for two persons for two nights in a double room.

Corinthia Hotels, www.corinthiahotels.com

OPENING OF SCHLOSS VELDEN IN AUSTRIA LAUNCHES CAPELLA HOTELS AND RESORTS BRAND

Legendary hotelier Horst Schulze, who led Ritz-Carlton to prominence, unveiled plans in October of 2005 for a new luxury hotel brand to be called Capella Hotels and Resorts. Less than two years later, that vision has become reality. Recent ceremonies at Schloss Velden, a Capella Hotel, set in a lakeside locale beneath the Alps in Velden, Austria, marked the official launch of the Capella Hotels and Resorts brand.

Speaking to guests during June ceremonies celebrating the opening of Schloss Velden and the launch of the Capella brand, Schulze commented: "Capella represents the opportunity to paint my finest canvas. I'm so gratified that this 'artwork' can now be unveiled in such a beautiful setting. Most of all, I'm pleased that you, our guests, can make Capella your own."

While Schloss Velden will be popular within Austria, Germany, Italy and other European destinations, many American visitors are expected to be drawn to this stunning Alpine region in Austria. Schloss Velden's historic chateau is comprised of 39 guestrooms, a fine dining room, the reborn Schloss Bar, a wine and champagne cellar, and a private living room for guests with stunning lakefront views.

A contemporary Jabonegg & Palffy-designed addition houses 66 rooms and 45 private residences. The striking modern structure with wraparound glass views of the mountains and lake is also home to a 30,000-square foot spa and wellness center called Auriga, exclusive to Capella Hotels and Resorts.

In August, Capella Castlemartyr, in County Cork, Ireland, will join Schloss Velden and emerge as the second Capella to open to the public. This resort is set on 220 acres in the country village of Castlemartyr and encompasses a grand, fully restored manor house adjacent to the dramatic ruins of a 1,000-year-old castle.

Each of the 109 spacious guest suites, 85 standard suites, 11 manor suites and Presidential Suite, range from 500 to 3,000-square feet. The Knight's Bar will be the hotel's social focal point, and the Bell Tower, the hotel's fine dining room, will serve cuisine prepared with the finest local, farm fresh ingredients.

Auriga, the 16,000-square-foot wellness, spa and fitness center at Castlemartyr comprises 10 treatments rooms, vitality pools, an ozone treated swimming pool, steam room, saunas, a spa suite, a yoga and Pilates studio and a spa cafe.

For golf enthusiasts, an 18-hole links-style golf course at Castlemartyr, created by renowned golf course designer Ron Kirby, is poised to be another one of the region's memorable courses when it opens in spring 2008.

During 2008, Capella will open hotels and resorts in Mexico, at Capella Pedregal in Cabo San Lucas; in Dusseldorf at Breidenbacher Hof, a Capella Hotel; on Sentosa Island in Singapore, at Capella Singapore; and in Ireland once again, at Capella Dunboy Castle in Castletownbere.

Capella Hotels and Resorts, www.capellahotels.com

ROYAL LONDON PACKAGE OFFERED AT THE STAFFORD



The Stafford in London can accommodate guests in true royal fashion and when their 'Royal London' package is booked guests can experience a one-of-a-kind opportunity to live in splendor.

The weekend includes two tickets to visit the historic Tower of London and view the crown jewels; two tickets to see the former home of one of Britain's most beloved royals, Princess Diana; an opportunity to peruse her dress collection at Kensington Palace; Champagne in room upon arrival; two-course lunch or dinner in the renowned American Bar; and two nights accommodations in a deluxe king-bedded room with VAT and breakfast. Package cost is \$1,632 and is valid through November 2007. Package is subject to availability.

Guests can count of The Stafford's award winning concierge to schedule anything from a trip to Garrad's to try on a majestic tiara or a ride around London in a Rolls Royce. Or, guests can do what many current royals do and relax in the American Bar with a famed martini.

A long time favorite of the discerning traveler, The Stafford is a home away from home nestled in the heart of London and within walking distance to favorite sites such as Buckingham Palace and Green Park. This past April, the Stafford Mews, a new 26 all-suite development debuted and is poised to become London's most coveted address.

The Stafford, www.thestaffordhotel.co.uk

TWO NEW HOTELS JOIN JDB FINE HOTELS & RESORTS

JDB Fine Hotels & Resorts (JDB), the leader in deluxe travel to Italy, now represents two of Venice's most exclusive boutique hotels: Ca'Sagredo Hotel and Bauer Palladio Hotel & Spa. Just opened this year, both hotels demonstrate the distinctive facilities

and service standards requisite of all JDB hotels.

"For history lovers, a stay at Ca'Sagredo is almost like sleeping in a museum and this hotel is surely destined to become the top boutique hotel in Venice," explains Judith Davis Baer, JDB President and Founder. "Bauer Il Palladio is testimony to the talents of Mrs. Francesca Bartolotto, owner of the Bauer Hotels. With much imagination, she has converted a former convent complete with chapel and church bells into a top-of-the-line hotel on Giudecca Island, just a short walk from its famous neighbor, the Ciprianni."

Available exclusively via JDB are introductory rates starting at approximately \$327 at Ca'Sagredo Hotel and approximately \$341 at Bauer Il Palladio Hotel & Spa. JDB has also developed two exclusive offers at each hotel that include a complimentary meal with a minimum stay of three nights.

Located in the heart of Venice and facing the Grand Canal, Ca'Sagredo Hotel is managed by one of Italy's most highly regarded General Managers, Stefano Baccara. Created in a private 17th Century palazzo that had been abandoned for 25 years, the conversion to a hotel took seven years. No expense was spared in this renovation, all of which had to be done on site because of the value of the art and sculptures.

There are 42 accommodations, 24 of which are suites. The grandeur of this hotel is exemplified by the piano nobile (noble floor), which has three enormous suites, one of which faces the Grand Canal with private balconies on each corner. The original library of the palace, a national monument, has been made into an accommodation.

The hotel's formal restaurant, L'Alcova, faces directly on the Grand Canal between the Rialto Bridge and Ca' D'Oro (the vaporetto stop for the hotel). The L'Incontro bar serves drinks and afternoon teas, as well as light meals. For parties, special events and small gatherings, Ca' Sagredo has three ballrooms. Additional facilities include a fitness room, sauna, and Jacuzzi, as well as all modern conveniences expected of a five-star hotel.

Bauer Palladio Hotel & Spa is located on Giudecca Island in an original 16th century Andrea Palladio designed building facing St. Mark's Square.

The 50 accommodations include 13 spacious Suites and Jr. Suites that have private gardens and lagoon views. A boat ride to the center of Venice is less than five minutes, and the hotel offers a complimentary boat shuttle service to guests throughout the day.

Formerly a convent and built around a church and cloister, the hotel boasts many historic architectural details. Facilities include an award winning gourmet restaurant, "De Pisis," with a terrace overlooking the Grand Canal, a garden bar, and the lively BBar where guests can enjoy evening cocktails. Just opened is the hotel's full service Spa. There are eight treatment rooms, including a King-sized Turkish Hamman, and a double-sized Obermaier Jacuzzi.

JDB Fine Hotels & Resorts, 800-346-5358, www.jdbhotels.com

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Ocean Hotels is offering a travel agent VIP package at Ocean Bavaro Spa & Beach Resort/Ocean Cana Beach Club and at Ocean Blue Golf & Beach Resort/Ocean Sand Golf & Beach Resort in the Dominican Republic. At Ocean Bavaro Spa & Beach Resort/Ocean Cana Beach Club package includes accommodations in a Caribbean Spa Suite (upon availability); private check in; welcome cocktail upon arrival; VIP identification bracelet; fruit basket upon arrival; motorized water sport (one per person per stay); safe deposit box; bathrobes and slippers; one complimentary lobster dinner at the beach; and a spa experience including a natural product body exfoliation, exotic fruit body wrap, 20 minutes of relaxing massage, and 15 minutes of facial massage.

At Ocean Blue Golf & Beach Resort /Ocean Sand Golf & Beach Resort package includes accommodation in a Junior Suite; private check in; VIP guest identification bracelet; fruit basket upon arrival; one

complimentary lobster dinner at the beach; motorized water sports (one hour per person per stay); bathrobe and slippers; 30 minutes relaxing massage (one per stay); two beach towels in the room; and \$20 Match & Play (Ocean Casino Tower). This offer is good until October 31, 2007 at a cost of \$60 double p/p/n.

Ocean Hotels, info@oceanhotels.net, www.oceanhotels.net

Caliente Resort in the Dominican Republic is offering fam trips for new agents. The first three nights are complimentary, and subsequent nights are \$90 per person. A fam trip renewal is priced at a standard reduced rate of \$90 per person. For both, there is also an all-inclusive program offered in the Seacliff Room. Both offers are subject to availability. Located near Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, Caliente Caribe offers clothing optional luxury in the heart of the Caribbean.

Caliente Resorts, www.calienteresorts.com

Puntacana Resort & Club is offering a Tour and Travel rate from now until December 15 of \$85 +26 percent including breakfast per room (single or double occupancy) per night. Offer is good for one room per travel agent, subject to availability on the time of request. ID required.

Puntacana Resort & Club, www.puntacana.com

EGYPT

Value World Tours is offering an eight night tour package in Egypt October 6-14. Price includes four nights in a five star hotel in Cairo, four nights deluxe Nile cruise in an outside cabin on the MS Nile Dolphin, two intra-Egypt flights, most meals, and extensive sightseeing with an English speaking guide. Agent rate is \$699 pp twin or a single supplement of \$199. Companion rate is \$799. Not included are port and cruise fuel charges of \$48 and Egypt visa for \$32. International net airfare from New York can also be arranged.

Value World Tours, 800-795-1633, nancy@valuecruises.net, www.valuecruises.net

ETHIOPIA

The Sacramento Chapter of APTA in conjunction with Ethiopian Airlines and Jacaranda Tours is presenting a 17 day study trip to Ethiopia from October 26 to November 11, 2007, introducing agents to both the north and south of Ethiopia, the historical aspects and the cultural, tribal parts of the country. Costs start at \$2229.50 ppdo, with single supplements starting at \$500. Price includes all air transportation, as per itinerary, all land accommodations, as per itinerary, all admissions, as per itinerary, all meals plus bottled water while in Ethiopia, airline taxes and fees, hotel taxes, and tips for land tour. APTA, 916-265-5630, www.apta.biz

MEXICO


Grand Oasis Deluxe All Inclusive Resorts & Spas is offering a \$59 per person, per night, travel agent rate for travel professionals to experience any of the Grand Oasis properties including the Grand Oasis Cancun, Grand Oasis Riviera Maya, and Grand Oasis Playa which is now an adults only resort. All of these resorts were part of the \$90 million renovation program recently completed. The "Experience Oasis" travel agent rate is valid for travel from now until December 20, 2007. The rate is applicable to the travel agent and up to two guests sharing the same room and is all-inclusive including gratuities. The total must be paid at time of reservation and agents must show an IATA or CLIA card at check-in.

Oasis Hotels & Resorts, 800-44-OASIS, www.oasishotels.com

NICARAGUA

South Star Tours, the West Coast Los Angeles based tour operator specializing in travel to Central and South America is preparing its 2007-2008 FAM tours schedule. They will open their season this coming Spring heading to Nicaragua. Register at their Travel Agent Corner on their website to access complete information as it becomes available.

South Star Tours, 800-654-4468, www.southstartours.com



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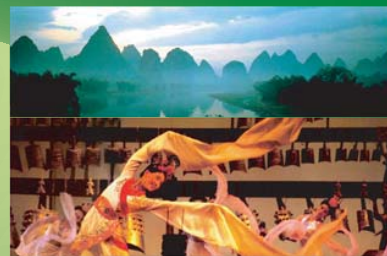
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