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THE CONCIERGE TRAVELLER EDITION • ISSUE #3

Concierge Traveller brings you  
great suggestions and great offers  
that are just perfect for **GREAT** travel.

Concierge traveller



1. HAYLEY TIDYMAN - ADVISOR
2. ERIKA AFFOLTER - ADVISOR
3. MARY ANN SAN ROMAN - ADVISOR
4. RENOS ROLOGAS - GENERAL MANAGER, CONCIERGE BUSINESS TRAVEL

Welcome to The Concierge Traveller GREAT Edition which we hope will inspire you to talk to one of our award winning travel Advisors, enjoy the anticipatory pleasures of planning your trip, pack your bags and then enjoy the rewards of being an informed traveller.

Part of the planning process is often an information gathering element. Our own professional development requires us to remain up-to-date with new destinations as well as the un-trodden corners of the places we know well. As part of this process, we invite you to engage with our most interesting industry partners by joining us at informative, social evenings. They often travel from all corners of the globe to give us the benefit of their expertise and we love to share this information with you. Recently the owner of Banyan Tours travelled to Sydney from his stately haven in Mumbai and he and his Sydney representative, Pia Anderson, transported us all to the heavenly vistas of the foothills of the Himalayas.



Since November 2008 we have staged evenings with Orient Express (trains and hotels), Banyan Tours (India), Explora Lodges (Chile), Oceania Cruises and Voyages Resorts (Australia).

The level of success of these events has prompted some clients to write:

"...THANK YOU FOR THE WARM HOSPITALITY (BY CONCIERGE TRAVELLER) LAST NIGHT. IT WAS A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU AND YOUR TEAM. I HAVE NOTHING BUT THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR BANYAN AND FOR THE FRIENDLY AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER IN WHICH THEY OBVIOUSLY LOOK AFTER THEIR GUESTS."

Mr JP, Sydney

AND AFTER THE CHILE EVENING: "...MOST ENJOYABLE HOSPITALITY...A DELICIOUS COMBINATION OF EMPANADAS, PISCO SOURS, FANTASTIC SIGHTS AND FIRST HAND INFORMATION".

Ms MJ, Sydney

*Concierge Traveller*

#### UPCOMING EVENTS in 2009

Hidden Walks of Italy	24 June
Honeymoons & Islands Escapes	15 July
Alaska & Canada	26 Aug
Executive Island Escapes	23 Sept
Small ship Cruising	28 Oct
Elegant Resorts & Villas Collection	25 Nov

For more information and to register your interest, please contact Hayley Tidyman (02) 8270 4800 or email [htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au). Please note that all costs are subject to alteration without notice.

## GREAT FAMILY GET AWAYS

There are endless choices where you and your family can go in the wide, wonderful world of travel. Multi-generational journeys are one of the fastest growing travel trends, particularly because time with your family is increasingly important, especially for those with limited or set holiday entitlements.

### KERALA WITH BANYAN TOURS

For 10 days, your family can explore the varied uniqueness of Kerala. You will have the opportunity to watch elephants bathing, mingle with children at a village school\*, observe communities living along backwater canals who chat for hours, up to their necks in water. Take a guided walk through some of India's highest tea estates, learn where kitchen spices really come from, take a soft trek through a wildlife sanctuary\*, watch spectacular Kathakali dance drama and even watch the dancers apply their make up. Finally you take a tour of the historic backstreets and shores of the busy port of Cochin.

**CONCIERGE TRAVELLER EXCLUSIVE PACKAGE INCLUDES:** 9 NIGHTS FOR A FAMILY (2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN UNDER 12) • ALL BREAKFASTS • TRANSFERS, SIGHTSEEING, PORTERAGE AND \* ACTIVITIES LISTED THAT ARE EXCLUSIVELY AVAILABLE TO CONCIERGE TRAVELLER CLIENTS • FROM AUD\$3,300.00 PER PERSON (BASED ON 4 TRAVELLERS). DEPARTURES FROM 1 OCTOBER 2009.

### CHINA - "CHINESE CHECKERS"

This well-tested journey through China is tailored to allow you to experience the very best China has to offer. Stimulating activities have been carefully designed for families to enjoy themselves together. Whether it's learning calligraphy, Tai Chi, or the ancient art of Chinese sword play, flying a kite at the Temple of Heaven, having a picnic on top of the Great Wall, taking a painting class, cycling through the countryside, or enjoying the spectacle of an awesome acrobatic performance, this educational journey is a fun-filled, inter-generational introduction to China. There are set departures, approximating school holidays, June and July.

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:** 10 NIGHTS HOTEL ACCOMMODATION AND 1 OVERNIGHT TRAIN (SOFT SLEEPER) • DOMESTIC FLIGHTS, ROAD TRANSPORT, ALL SIGHTSEEING AS SPECIFIED (EXCLUDING ENTRANCE FEES), ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TRANSFERS • BREAKFAST DAILY AND TWO LUNCHES • FROM AUD\$3,970.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

### QUEENSTOWN NZ - HEAVEN FOR A FAMILY HOLIDAY

Picturesque Queenstown lies cradled along the shores of Lake Wakatipu in the shadows of the imposing Remarkables. The town offers a wealth of outdoor activities, from sightseeing cruises and thrilling jet boat rides to farm visits, bush walks, winery tours and fishing excursions. Queenstown is also the staging point for exploring the grandeur of Milford Sound and every Lord of the Rings fantasy in the magical landscapes of Glenorchy, 15 minutes drive alongside the lake. Just how child-friendly the restaurants, shops and people of Queenstown are, is an eye-opener and a lesson in tourism-friendly business for the non-Kiwi visitors.

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:** 2 NIGHTS IN A SUPERIOR ROOM WITH TWO DOUBLE BEDS AT RYDGES QUEENSTOWN (5 MINUTE WALK FROM THE CENTRE OF TOWN) • FROM AUD\$65.00 PER PERSON, PER NIGHT, TWIN SHARE.

### DISNEYLAND

We all know that it is every child's dream to visit Disneyland, reputedly one of the happiest places in the world. Disneyland's attractions, however, appeal to every generation. Thanks giving, Christmas and the US summer vacations (July) are the busiest times of the year and we suggest a September package to take best advantage of pleasant temperatures and shorter queues.

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:** 7 NIGHTS AT THE SHERATON ANAHEIM • 5 DAY DISNEYLAND HOPPER PASS, A ONE DAY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS TOUR, FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR WITH 2 CHILDREN UNDER 12 • RETURN AIRFARES FROM SYDNEY AND TAXES • CAR HIRE FOR ONE WEEK • FROM AUD\$3,681.00 PER ADULT, AND AUD\$2,417.00 PER CHILD.

Contact Hayley Tidyman for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at [htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au)







## EXPERIENCE THE EASTERN AND ORIENTAL EXPRESS

The art of travel is mostly relegated to a means of getting from one place to another, with little or no appreciation of the journey itself. The words Orient-Express have long epitomized European elegance and continental chic. Following the success of the famous Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, the Eastern & Oriental Express made history as the first ever train to transport passengers directly from Singapore and Kuala Lumpur to Bangkok.

On board the Eastern & Oriental Express, the atmosphere harks back to a colonial age of gentility and politesse and on board cuisine continues the same high standards already established by the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express in Europe.

The Eastern & Oriental Express quickly built for itself a highly regarded reputation as providing one of the most exotic rail journeys in the world. E&O's portfolio of train journeys in Asia provides a pleasurable alternative to other land-based touring opportunities and could be described as "cruising by land". The allure of trains has

never diminished and whether it is the sound of the train's whistle, or the boarding call of the conductor, what this nostalgic train evokes is reminiscent of a classical, bygone style of travel. By the time you have completed the journey you will have been confirmed or newly converted into a true train aficionado.

E&O connects two of the region's most remarkable cities, Singapore and Bangkok, with a landscape in between that is blessed with intense natural beauty, wide-open spaces, meandering rivers, and dense jungle that remains largely untouched. The trip includes off-train excursions such as at Penang and at the Bridge on the River Kwai - the latter often being the most popular part of the journey for most travellers. Everything you see highlights that the differences in Asia extend beyond landscape, language, culture and cuisine. Certainly the trip appeals to travellers who love a touch of stately luxury, nostalgic romance and "safe" adventure. In addition to the two-night journey between Singapore and Bangkok, E&O also travels overnight to Chiang Mai from Bangkok.

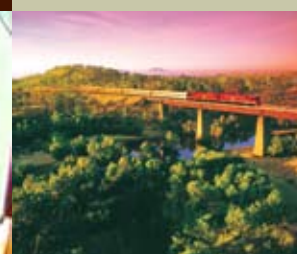


WE HAVE A PACKAGE THAT IS EXCLUSIVE TO CONCIERGE TRAVEL CLIENTS/ TO EDITION READERS:

WHEN TRAVELLING WITH EASTERN & ORIENTAL EXPRESS ONBOARD ANY OF ITS OVERNIGHT JOURNEYS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA IN 2009, CLIENTS OF CONCIERGE TRAVELLER WILL ENJOY A FREE NIGHT BEFORE OR AFTER THEIR JOURNEY IN THE STYLISH PENINSULA BANGKOK HOTEL. (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AT THE TIME OF BOOKING)

CONCIERGE TRAVELLER RECOMMENDED PACKAGE • 3 DAY/2 NIGHT SINGAPORE TO BANGKOK JOURNEY • ALL TABLE D'HÔTE MEALS ON BOARD, WITH COMPLIMENTARY TEA AND COFFEE IN YOUR COMPARTMENT, AND SIGHTSEEING TOURS AS DESCRIBED • PRICES ARE PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • FROM AUD\$2,860.00 PULLMAN SUITE • FROM AUD\$4,060.00 A STATE CABIN • FROM AUD\$5,710.00 FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE

Contact Paul Patane for full details of this exclusive package on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at [ppatane@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:ppatane@conciergetraveller.com.au)



## GREAT RAIL JOURNEYS

There are legendary train journeys on almost every continent and we have a selection in Asia, South America, Canada and in Australia for your consideration.

Train travel is almost an anomaly. It is a less mundane and more sociable way of exploring a destination and an entertaining experience in itself. You can talk to your companions, read a book, or have a stroll, and still keep your eye on the scenery. It offers a way to spend time together without the distractions of driving and work-day time constraints. Where the train actually is, determines the nuances of the journey.

### VISTADOMES AND HIRAM BINGHAM B TRAINS

- CUZCO TO MACHU PICCHU (1) This dramatic four hour trip seems to be over in a trice as one breathtaking vista is followed rapidly by another. The train nudges through switchbacks, strikingly terraced valleys and narrow gorges. En route passengers enjoy high altitude views of the Andes, the Urubamba River and rural villages.

VISTADOME TRAIN PACKAGE INCLUDES • TRANSFER TO THE TRAIN FROM ACCOMMODATION • LUNCH AT SANCTUARY LODGE • GUIDED TOUR AT MACHU PICCHU AND A TRANSFER BACK TO A CUZCO HOTEL • FROM AUD\$606.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE. THE SERVICE DEPARTS DAILY AT 7AM AND RETURNS AT 4PM.

ORIENT EXPRESS HIRAM BINGHAM PACKAGE INCLUDES • ROUND TRIP HOTEL/TRAIN TRANSFERS • AFTERNOON TEA AT SANCTUARY LODGE • A GUIDED TOUR AT MACHU PICCHU AND A FOUR COURSE DINNER SERVED ON BOARD ON THE RETURN TRIP • FROM AUD\$1,176.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE. DEPARTURES EVERY DAY EXCEPT SUNDAY AT 9AM AND RETURN TO CUZCO AT 6PM.

### ROCKY MOUNTAINEER (2)

Indulge in an award-winning journey that begins in Vancouver. You travel by day and experience a degree of visual stimulation that is akin to a palpable connection to landscapes. Our specialist Advisor Julie Richards, insider tip: choose either April for the fresh snowfalls or September and October for the spectacular display of autumn leaves.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • DAY 1: OVERNIGHT IN VANCOUVER • DAY 2: VANCOUVER TO KAMLOOPS AND OVERNIGHT IN KAMLOOPS (B,L) • DAY 3: ARRIVAL AND TRANSFER TO YOUR HOTEL (B,L) • DAY 4: DEPARTURE • FROM AUD\$1,199.00 AND AUD\$2,437.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

RED LEAF PACKAGE PRICES FROM AUD\$1,484.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE FROM MAY TO OCTOBER 2009 • GOLD LEAF PACKAGE PRICES FROM AUD\$2,968.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE FROM MAY TO OCTOBER 2009. (RED LEAF OR GOLD LEAF CARRIAGES AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE SAME TRAIN.)

### THE GHAN - ADELAIDE TO ALICE SPRINGS. (3)

In the daylight hours after departure, the desert quickly looms. Surprisingly, South Australia is nothing like the images we all nurture and you wake to a scene of scrubby saltbushes in the Northern Territory. The allure of this journey is being able to travel through large distances of arid central Australia with creature comforts and have the opportunity to visit the iconic red centre of the continent.

Platinum, Gold, Red Sleeper cabins and Red reclining day/night seats are available on the services between Adelaide and Alice Springs and then to Darwin.

GOLD CLASS PACKAGE INCLUDES • ONE NIGHT IN A COMPACT SLEEPER ACCOMMODATION WITH TWIN BERTHS AND PRIVATE FACILITIES • MEALS IN A DEDICATED RESTAURANT CARRIAGE • A DEDICATED LOUNGE CAR, IN-CABIN SERVICE, COMPLIMENTARY TOILETRIES, READING MATERIAL AND TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE 24 HOURS • FROM AUD\$1,019.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

Contact Julie Richards for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at [jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au)



# GREAT WONDERS BY THE GREAT ADVISORS



**MARY ANN SAN ROMAN**  
- AN ENTHUSIAST OF SPANISH GASTRONOMY  
Recently I visited San Sebastian, a seaside resort and a delicate cultural haven in the Bay of Biscay on Spain's north coast. It is a wonderful city with a pristine beach and is dotted with splendid tapas bars and restaurants. Arzak, a three star Michelin starred family-run restaurant, was my favourite. The expense was great value considering the amazing service and food. A stunning restaurant, comparable to the renowned El Bulli near Barcelona, and it's easier to obtain a reservation!

MARY ANN'S RECOMMENDED WONDER INCLUDES • A DINNER FOR TWO AT THE ARZAK • FROM €145 PLUS DRINKS AND V.A.T, PER PERSON.

Contact Mary Ann for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at msanroman@conciergetraveller.com.au



**JULIE RICHARDS**  
- PARTNERING FOR A GOOD CAUSE  
Recently, some well-travelled, mature clients asked me to recommend a new destination for them. Knowing their travel tastes I suggested Vietnam and Cambodia. Whilst both countries appealed, Cambodia suited them perfectly. Being philanthropic people, once back home, they arranged for rice, clothes, books and pencils to be sent to a desperately under-supported school they had visited. They continue these visits and more recently they have arranged for school uniforms to be made for the children. I still arrange their journeys but the most wonderful upshot of their many trips is the airline gives them an extra baggage allowance whenever they travel.

JULIE'S RECOMMENDED PACKAGE INCLUDES • 4 NIGHTS HOTEL ACCOMMODATION IN SIEM REAP AT A 3 OR 4 STAR FOR A GROUP OF 7-15 PEOPLE • BREAKFAST DAILY • ALL ROAD TRANSPORT BY AIR CONDITIONED VEHICLES (HALF DAY) TEMPLE TOURING BY TUK TUK • SIGHTSEEING • FROM AUD\$1,055.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

Contact Julie for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au



**ERIKA AFFOLTER**  
- DRINK AND FLY!  
Ever thought about a flight over the Bernese Alps and landing on a glacier to have a glass of champagne? I arranged this heart-stopping surprise for a client's father for his 80th birthday. Flights take off and land from near fashionable Gstaad in Saanan, but landings, as well as take offs, can only be guaranteed when the snow is firm, even during the summer months. A wondrous activity that can be arranged for you when next you travel to Switzerland.

ERIKA'S RECOMMENDED WONDER INCLUDES • FROM CHF630 FOR 15 MINUTES, OR CHF1260 FOR 30 MINUTES • ERIKA HAS RECENTLY BEEN AWARDED A HIGHLY COMMENDED FOR BEST TRAVEL CONSULTANT FOR RAIL FOR SWISS AND EUROPE AT THE AUSTRALIAN TRAVEL AWARDS.

Contact Erika for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at eaffolter@conciergetraveller.com.au



**JOHN CHEKIAN**  
- CYCLE THE LOIRE VALLEY  
A client of mine spent the first few days of his holiday in France cycling the quiet country paths and river banks of the Loire and Cher Rivers and enjoying accommodation that varied from wine-brokers lodges to a former gentleman's residence with landscaped gardens and a private lake. With meals and wines as indulgences to counter the "rigours" of the day's cycling through pretty villages and mediaeval towns, he fell in love with the region on his first visit.

JOHN'S RECOMMENDED WONDER INCLUDES • 8 NIGHT INDEPENDENT CYCLING TOUR (MAY TO SEPTEMBER) • ACCOMMODATION, BREAKFAST AND DINNER DAILY • FROM AUD\$2,200.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE

Contact John for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au



**HAYLEY TIDYMAN**  
- A WONDERFUL BALANCING TRICK.  
The narrow pathways of the Cinque Terre link 5 quaint fishing villages perched on the Ligurian Coast. For me the satisfaction of the 9 km, 5 hour walk ranged from seeing terraced vineyards, craggy cliffs and remarkable panoramas to simple but pleasurable views of washing hanging overhead. This remains a corner of Italy where you can escape more crowded hotspots. The paths take you up cliffs and winding down steep hills - but when you arrive in the last village you can relax, dip your feet in the ocean and a take a gelato to task!

HAYLEY'S RECOMMENDED PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 DAY/ 6 NIGHT WALKING TOUR OF THE CINQUE TERRE IN MAY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, ON SET DATES • ALL ACCOMMODATIONS-2 NIGHTS SANTA MARGHERITA, 2 NIGHTS RIOMAGGIORE, 2 NIGHTS PORTOVENERE (3-4 STAR HOTELS) • 6 BREAKFASTS AND 5 DINNERS; BILINGUAL GUIDES; LUGGAGE TRANSFERRED FROM HOTEL TO HOTEL AND A FINAL TRANSFER TO LA SPEZIA TRAIN STATION • FROM AUD\$3,700.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

Contact Hayley for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au



**GUY BATTEN**  
- A WONDROUSLY BRITISH AFTERNOON  
Recently in London I spent an indulgent afternoon taking high tea at The Ritz Hotel in its opulent Palm Court. With a 'no jeans, no trainers policy', guests are smartly dressed and once inside, the ambiance is relaxed. There was a low buzz of people focusing on having a good time amongst a spectacular array of sandwiches, scones, chocolate brioches, pastries and champagne. For me, it added up to a quintessentially British experience and the most quintessential of British pastimes.

GUY'S RECOMMENDED WONDER INCLUDES • AFTERNOON TEA AT THE RITZ BOOKED AT LEAST 12 WEEKS IN ADVANCE • FROM £37 PER PERSON.

Contact Guy for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at gbatten@conciergetraveller.com.au





# OUR GREAT BACKYARD

Australia is perfect for holidays especially after the frenzy of our summer has faded. treasures such as the Great Ocean Road, Kangaroo Island, the edge-of-the-world appeal

## KANGAROO ISLAND: SOUTHERN OCEAN LODGE -1 FREE NIGHT & CHAMPAGNE (1)

Clients of Concierge Traveller have recently described their arrival at the lodge after an easy 30 minute flight from Adelaide. When the doors were opened to welcome them, the astonishing vista of the location took their breath away. Their ocean view suite, the all-inclusive tariff, the fusion of refined luxury and the cliff-top views of ocean and coastal wilderness, all added up to a perfectly sensational short break.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 4 NIGHT STAY (INCLUDES 1 FOR FREE) • **BONUS CONCIERGE TRAVELLER PRIVILEGES:** BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE ON ARRIVAL • FULL DAY KANGAROO ISLAND PRIVATE CHARTER VALUED AT \$1,440\* • A \$100 SOUTHERN SPA VOUCHER (1 PER SUITE) • 2 PERSONS ONLY • EXTRA PASSENGERS INCUR A CHARGE • FROM AUD\$3,600 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE AND INCLUDING BONUS VALUE OF UP TO \$1700 PER COUPLE. VALID FROM 1 APRIL 2009 UNTIL MARCH 2010.

## BAY OF FIRES LODGE (ACTIVITY + ECO LUXURY) (2)

Set on a hilltop above the pounding sea and surrounded by national park, Bay of Fires Lodge is the only building on 20 km of coastal wilderness. Two timber and glass pavilions allow maximum connection to the landscape with minimum impact on the environment. The lodge

is autonomous in providing and managing its existence. Meals are prepared with fresh local produce, accompanied by Tasmanian wines. Solar power provides lighting and hot showers and all rooms have views of the environs.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 4 DAY/ 3 NIGHT WALK FROM LAUNCESTON, INCLUDING 1 NIGHT AT A PRIVATE BEACH CAMP AND 2 NIGHTS AT BAY OF FIRES LODGE • TRANSPORT TO AND FROM THE LOCATION OF THE WALK • MEALS, GUIDES, PARK ENTRANCE FEES, USE OF JACKET AND BACKPACK • **BONUS CONCIERGE TRAVELLER PRIVILEGES:** BOTTLE OF WINE ON ARRIVAL • FROM AUD\$1,900.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

## APOLLO BAY GUEST HOUSE (3)

You can drive the Great Ocean Road from Melbourne to Apollo Bay, visiting laid-back surfing towns en route. Then drive past the magnificent Twelve Apostles and on to Port Fairy. One of the delights of this drive is being able to stay in affordable establishments such as Apollo Bay Guest House.

It is an attractive property, a charming B & B residence situated on the water's edge on the Great Ocean Road. Apollo Bay is 195 kilometers south-west of Melbourne; a scenic 3 hour drive via the Great Ocean Road, or inland through the undulating landscapes and rainforests.



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The choices are many on this great continent including World Heritage listed of Tasmania and our soul-nourishing coastline, desserts, rainforests, beaches and islands.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • BREAKFAST DAILY FOR TWO • FROM AUD\$460.00 PER ROOM, VALID UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2009.

## WILPENA POUND RESORT (4)

Wilpena Pound in Flinders Ranges National Park is a natural amphitheatre of mountains shaped by weathering and uplifting over millennia. The Resort is 429 kilometres north of Adelaide, nestled on the banks of Wilpena Creek. It blends effortlessly into the landscape, being a comfortable base for exploring the Flinders Ranges. Pre-purchase and save!

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS' ACCOMMODATION IN A BRACHINA OR AN AROONA ROOM • BREAKFAST DAILY FOR TWO • YOUR CHOICE OF ONE OF TWO HALF DAY 4WD TOURS AND A 20MINUTE SCENIC FLIGHT OVER WILPENA POUND • FROM AUD\$460.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

## RED FEATHER INN (5)

Located just outside Launceston in Hadspen, this historic, sandstone building has been transformed in to a warm, French provincial style inn. Suites have creature comforts such as free standing baths, endless hot water, gas (log) heating and the overall ambience is that of an intimate retreat.

There are five rooms and suites and it is a clever choice for small groups of friends or family up to a maximum of 14 guests.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS' ACCOMMODATION FOR 2 PEOPLE • DAILY BREAKFAST • PROVIDORES' PLATTER AND A BOTTLE OF PREMIUM TASMANIAN WINE ON ARRIVAL • FROM AUD\$245.00 IN A DELUXE ROOM OR FROM AUD\$325.00 FOR A GARDEN VIEW SUITE.

## HOUSE OF WILLOW

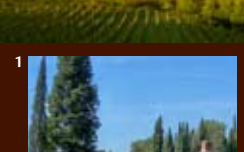
### - PORT DOUGLAS, QLD LUXURY FOR LESS (6)

If you want to make Port Douglas a base for touring to the Reef and Rainforest of Far North Queensland, this three bedroom property, over 3000 square feet, is ideal for up to 6 people who want stylish privacy as well as a convenient location for touring, shopping and dining.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 5 NIGHTS' ACCOMMODATION • WEEKLY CLEANING AND FOR AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE CLEANING CAN BE DAILY • FROM AUD\$3,250.00 TOTAL • **BONUS CONCIERGE TRAVELLER PRIVILEGES:** BREAKFAST HAMPER

Contact John Chekian more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at [jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au)





## GREAT SECRETS

### BASTIA CRETU - THE ULTIMATE HIDEAWAY (1)

On a hilltop in the Niccone Valley is a lovingly restored hamlet dating back to 1433. Set among the landscape that has formed the background to so many paintings, the borgo stands in harmony with the exquisite hills and valleys of countryside Umbria. With expansive views of the valley, the borgo is surrounded by woods, valleys and olive trees. It's an elegant hideaway for people who relish their privacy and an ideal base for a group, family or friends, travelling together.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS' ACCOMMODATION IN A TWO BEDROOM, TWO BATHROOM APARTMENT DURING MAY AND OCTOBER • LINEN CHANGES AND CLEANING ON WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS • EACH APARTMENT HAS CENTRAL HEATING, A WASHING MACHINE, A DISHWASHER, TV, AND A TELEPHONE, POOL, SAUNA AND TENNIS COURT FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE • FROM AUD\$2,650.00 TOTAL.

### OMAN A STUNNING NEW DESTINATION (2)

Muscat is a city that has been at the crossroads of seafaring trade in exotic goods for centuries. It exudes a powerful sense of history, contains a populace as

mixed as its trading partners and is a city that reveals the most liberal and hospitable face of an Islamic country. Further afield, you can enjoy BeAdouin experiences and superb landscapes in Oman along with the uber-luxury of places like the Chedi in Muscat. Rough red mountains and deep gorges are features of the landscape, as are the lush green date plantations that contrast magnificently against the desert sands

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 3 NIGHTS IN MUSCAT AT THE DIVINE CHEDI HOTEL • 3 BREAKFASTS • HALF DAY MUSCAT TOUR, A FULL DAY TOUR TO NIZWA FORT, SOUK AND JABRIN CASTLE • RETURN AIRPORT TRANSFERS • SIGHTSEEING BY PRIVATE VEHICLE WITH ENGLISH-SPEAKING GUIDE/ESCORT • FROM AUD\$1,239.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

JULIE RICHARDS, A CONCIERGE ADVISOR WAS RECENTLY AWARDED BEST TRAVEL ADVISOR, ARABIAN PENINSULA AT THE AUSTRALIAN TRAVEL AWARDS 2009.

Contact Julie on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at [jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au)

### A LODGE AT MOLLYMOOK - JUST THREE HOURS FROM SYDNEY (3)

Escape to a stunning South Coast hideaway and relax in style. Enjoy a last-minute break on the clifftops above Mollymook Beach. The lodge is perched on a dramatic bluff with views of the sparkling Pacific Ocean and adjacent to a national park and alluring beaches. It also boasts an award-winning restaurant. Packages can be tailored for any purpose including simple escapist pleasures, all of which makes it nearly impossible to drag yourself away from its seductive and blissful allure.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN AN OCEAN DELUXE ROOM • A 2 COURSE DINNER

FOR 2 IN THE AWARD-WINNING RESTAURANT • DAILY COOKED BREAKFAST FOR TWO • FROM AUD\$290.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE. SUNDAY TO THURSDAYS.

### OBERAMMERGAU 2010 - ONCE EVERY 10 YEARS (4)

Experience the famed Oberammergau Passion play with Scenic Tours. This historical and fascinating event occurs only once every ten years and attracts people from all around the world to this little village in the Bavarian Alps in southern Germany. In 2010 the community of Oberammergau will perform the Passion Play for the 41st time with more than 2000 local actors, singers, musicians and stage technicians unveiling magnificent sets and costumes. The tradition stems from the early seventeenth century when, after months of suffering from the Black Death, the village folk swore an oath that they would regularly perform a play based on the life of Jesus.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 14 NIGHT RIVER CRUISE BETWEEN AMSTERDAM AND BUDAPEST ONBOARD THE EXCLUSIVE, AUSTRALIAN-OWNED SCENIC 'SPACE-SHIPS' • ALL MEALS ONBOARD THE SHIP, ALL SIGHTSEEING, TRANSFERS • SCENIC FREECHOICE ACTIVITIES AND SHORE EXCURSIONS, TIPPING AND GRATUITIES • CATEGORY ONE TICKETS TO THE PLAY • FROM AUD\$8,295 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE\*.

\*PLEASE NOTE PRICES NOT FINAL. DEPOSITS ARE NON REFUNDABLE UNLESS TOUR PRICE INCREASES BY MORE THAN 20%. PORT CHARGES \$295 ADDITIONAL.

Contact Hayley Tidyman for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at [htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:htidyman@conciergetraveller.com.au)

Imagine yourself following clearly marked paths in the Italian countryside where Romans once gathered and walked centuries ago.

Enjoy the freedom of a non-guided walk with this off-the-beaten-track itinerary. It has been designed to give the independent traveller the chance to experience a side of Italy that other people only read about.

No shuttles or buses, this is a continuous walk, taking you from Florence to Siena. The itinerary starts and finishes in two of the most beautiful cities in Italy - Renaissance Florence and Medieval Siena, passing through a unique landscape of rolling hills, vineyards, olive groves, pine and oak forests, isolated farmhouses and medieval market towns steeped in three millennia of settlements.

All you have to do is get up in the morning, put on your boots, have breakfast and enjoy the walk - we'll look after the rest.

In true Concierge Traveller style, your bags will be moved, for you, your hand-picked hotels and your evening meals will be waiting for you at the end of the day, courtesy of our Concierge Black Service.

If you already own and use a pair of walking boots, then this walk is suitable for you. Whilst the country paths are good, you will need some experience with orientation. There are several days where the walks are about 15 kilometers with a few sections of rising terrain.

Story by John Chekian.

CONCIERGE TRAVELLER EXCLUSIVE PACKAGE INCLUDES: 5 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION, 5 BREAKFASTS AND 4 DINNERS • RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATIONS, READING LISTS AND NOTES, MAPS AND DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS • DAILY LUGGAGE TRANSFER AND OF COURSE THE BACK UP OF A LOCAL MANAGER • FROM AUD\$2,350.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE FOR A MEMORABLE EXPLORATION OF ITALY'S DIVINE COUNTRYSIDE, IT REPRESENTS EXTRAORDINARY VALUE FOR MONEY.

Contact John Chekian for full details of this exclusive package on (02) 8270 4800 or email [jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au)



## THE GREAT ESCAPE

### WALK IN THE ANCIENT HILLS OF CHIANTI





# GREAT ISLANDS GREAT BONUS OFFERS

Contact Glenda McMillan for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at [gcmcmillan@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:gcmcmillan@conciergetraveller.com.au)

PROMOTIONS VALID FOR RESERVATIONS MADE BY FRI 14 AUGUST 09



1.

## MAURITIUS WITH BONUS FOOD & BEVERAGE CREDIT

New flights to Mauritius depart Sydney on Tuesdays & Saturdays. Think seductive Sega dances, dramatic hills, beaches, sugar cane fields, uncomplicated villages, French culture mixed with African and Indian influences and Mauritius fits the bill. Situated on the beautiful east coast of the island is the Four Seasons Resort. It occupies a lagoon front on the mainland and also the adjoining private island, Ile aux Chats.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 8 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT FOUR SEASONS MAURITIUS • BONUS - 2 COMPLEMENTARY NIGHTS INCLUDED & €500 FOOD & BEVERAGE CREDIT PER COUPLE FROM AUD \$5,240.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE FROM SYDNEY • VALID 20 APRIL - 20 DECEMBER 2009.



2.

## HAMILTON ISLAND WITH BONUS CRUISE

An iconic Australian destination. Located in the Whitsunday group, it boasts an attractive climate year round. Hamilton Resort is easily the most accessible on the Queensland coast. It has its own airport with direct flights from major cities or it can be accessed by catamaran from the mainland. Restaurants, take away outlets, boutiques, specialty stores and a marina village - all complement the resorts own facilities. Activities are resort-based, include Barrier Reef excursions or deep-sea fishing options.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • RETURN ECONOMY CLASS AIRFARES AND TAXES FROM SYDNEY & RETURN AIRPORT SHUTTLE TRANSFERS • 3 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT THE REEF VIEW HOTEL, HAMILTON ISLAND INCLUDING BREAKFAST DAILY • BONUS - FULL DAY TRIP TO THE GREAT BARRIER REEF WITH FANTASEA CRUISES • FROM AUD \$1,260.00 PER PERSON OR FROM \$2,520.00 FOR TWO ADULTS.

## THAILAND WITH BONUS 4 HOUR SPA EXPERIENCE PER PERSON

The variety of landscapes, culture and cuisine make Thailand a country where it is sensible to combine both chaos and calm. Whilst Bangkok is a tapestry of chaos, the Sarojin on Khoa Lak is an oasis of calm where travellers can swim all year round. 56 suites and residences nestle within 10 acres of immaculate grounds and lily ponds. The final elements of island perfection are private access to a white beach and the crystalline waters of the Andaman Sea.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT THE SAROJIN IN A SUITE • DAILY A LA CARTE BREAKFAST WITH SPARKLING WINE FOR 2 PEOPLE • BONUS - 4 HOUR SPA EXPERIENCE PER PERSON FROM AUD\$3,110.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE EX SYDNEY • VALID UNTIL 31 OCTOBER 2009.

3.



## FIJI - BONUS COMPLEMENTARY FLIGHTS

Fiji is an easily accessible destination from Australia. Fijians are people who sing sweetly, have a sunny disposition and are a nation for whom notions of stress are an anathema. Namale is an all inclusive boutique property located in the north of the Fijian Islands. It is a resort for those seeking a discreet but authentic Fijian experience. The 19 bures and villas are built on volcanic uplifts and perched on volcanic boulders. Most overlook the Koro Sea and have breathtaking views.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 1 NIGHT SOFTEL RESORT & SPA NADI • 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT THE NAMALE FIJIAN ISLAND RESORT & SPA • ALL MEALS & BEVERAGES INCLUDING BEER, WINE & CHAMPAGNE • BONUS - COMPLEMENTARY FLIGHTS FROM NADI TO RESORTS & RETURN • FROM AUD\$4,745.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE EX SYDNEY. VALID UNTIL 30 NOV 2009.

4.



5.

## TAHITI & BORA BORA WITH BONUS 10 COMPLEMENTARY BREAKFASTS

The dramatic volcanic islands and luminous lagoons of Tahiti are so deliciously beautiful that visitors leave with almost a physical ache of loss. Tahiti's latest luxury addition to the resort scene is the Four Seasons that blends into a lush tropical setting and takes full advantage views of dazzling white beaches and soaring peaks. Its overwater bungalows are ideal for families with their spacious living areas. A stunning spa, a kids' club and a teen Island are the perfect elements for a family escape.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT FOUR SEASONS BORA BORA • BONUS - 1 COMPLEMENTARY NIGHT INCLUDED AND 10 COMPLEMENTARY BREAKFASTS PER COUPLE FROM AUD\$6,170.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE EX SYDNEY. VALID UNTIL 15 OCTOBER 2009 • DEPARTURES FROM SYDNEY TUESDAYS, FRIDAYS AND SUNDAY.



6.

## THE MALDIVES WITH 3 COMPLEMENTARY NIGHTS

Small, sparkling gems strewn across an aquamarine palette - alternating expanses of deep sea and clear, paler shallows, the Maldives are an intensely appealing destination for an island holiday. What distinguishes one atoll from another are the uniquely-designed and varied resorts. Spread over an idyllic private island in the far north of the Maldives, surrounded by coral reef lagoons, stunning natural beaches and luscious vegetation is The Beach House, with 68 villas, each with a private pool. Our advisers highly recommend this hideaway.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT THE BEACH HOUSE IN A WATER VILLA WITH A PRIVATE POOL • BREAKFAST AND DINNER • BONUS - 3 COMPLEMENTARY NIGHTS INCLUDED & 14 COMPLIMENTARY LUNCHES PER COUPLE • FROM AUD \$6,190.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE FROM SYDNEY. VALID 15 MAY - 15 OCTOBER 2009.



## OCEANIA CRUISES

### FINE CRUISING

Oceania Cruises are known for slightly smaller ships that can visit ports that the larger cruise ships cannot enter, so they attract as many travellers as cruisers.

Intimate and cozy public spaces reflect the importance of socializing on Oceania. The sophisticated, country club atmosphere on days at sea is enhanced by the programs offered, the large-ship facilities and not at all least by the excellent cuisine. Your formal garb, such as tuxedos, can be left safely at home!

Oceania's fleet of three intimate and elegant mid-sized ships offer fantastic value for money in the 4 and 5 star cruise bracket. All three ships are based in Europe during the northern hemisphere from spring to autumn and then they are redeployed to Australasia, South America and the Caribbean for the remainder of the year. The key difference between Oceania and other mid-sized cruise ships is the quality of food on board. Menus have all been created by a talented master chef. Guests rate the food as excellent and love the choice of four, open-seating dining areas.

The savvy and sophisticated fans of the Italian restaurant in particular, often describe it as "impressive".

Culinary demonstrations by invited presenters and Oceania's own executive chefs are a natural complement to joyful dining experiences. Wine and champagne seminars round out the popular gourmet attractions of the ships.

Apart from the lure of memorable dining, the cabins have especially comfortable bedding with down pillows, and high thread count sheets. A high proportion of the cabins have a balcony and importantly, there is plenty of storage space. Butler service is provided in the best suites.

Itineraries are port intensive so that the journey is not simply a relaxing cruise but incorporates interesting and stimulating destinations. Before arrival at ports of call, lectures are presented on the historical background, culture, and traditions of the destination.

Oceania has garnered many prestigious awards that reaffirm the line's unique

qualities and place it in the esteemed company of the world's most respected luxury brands. The sensibly priced cruises make it no surprise that Oceania is currently building expanding its fleet of ships.



EXPAND YOUR MIND AND PLEASE  
YOU PALETTE WITH THIS PACKAGE:

#### ALL INCLUSIVE MEDITERRANEAN TAPESTRY CRUISE

THIS VOYAGE BEGINS WITH AN EVENING IN VENICE THAT ALLOWS DEEP EXPLORATION WITH OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS SUCH AS OUR EPICUREAN IMMERSIONS, A DELECTABLE WALKING AND NOSHING TOUR THROUGH THREE VENETIAN NEIGHBOURHOODS. FOR AN ARCHITECTURAL TASTE OF FERTILE CORFU, A TOUR OF THE ACHILLEION PALACE IS SIMPLY UNPARALLELED. THEN, IT'S BACK TO ITALY, WHERE A HALF-DOZEN MAGNIFICENT PORTS REVEAL THEIR DISTINCT DIFFERENCES, INCLUDING MINIATURE AMALFI, WHICH CLINGS TO A PRECIPITOUS COASTAL RAVINE, IN CONTRAST TO URBANE ROME, A BLEND OF THE OLD AND NEW THAT BLANKETS ITS LEGENDARY SEVEN HILLS. MONTE CARLO PROVIDES A WONDERFUL COUNTERPOINT TO THE GENTEEL COUNTRYSIDE OF PROvence.

14 NIGHTS FROM AUD\$4,695.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • BASED ON 28 SEP DEPARTURE • BONUS CONCIERGE TRAVELLER PRIVILEGE: EXCLUSIVE TO CONCIERGE TRAVELLER CLIENTS, FOR EVERY BOOKING OF AN OCEANIA CRUISE YOU WILL RECEIVE A BOTTLE OF WINE FOR DINNER ON THE FIRST NIGHT OF THE CRUISE.

## CRUISE CALENDAR

Contact Julie Richards for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at [jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au](mailto:jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au)

A wonderful collection of cruise options to suit everyone's taste and budget. We regularly secure great deals on a variety of cruises including exclusives and privileges only available to the clients of Concierge Traveller.

If what you are looking for isn't listed below, feel free to contact our qualified Cruise Master Julie Richards who has personally sailed on many ships and can give you first hand information and advice on what best suits your needs.



DATES	VESSEL	GUESTS	VOYAGE TITLE	NIGHTS	SAMPLE PORTS OF CALL	COST
All year round	Aranui	200	Tahitian Paradise	13	Papeete to Papeete via outer islands	AUD\$7,400.00pp
All year round	Aqua	22	Amazon Cruise	7	Iquitos to Iquitos	USD\$4,900.00pp
All year round	Mystique Princess	72	Fijian Waters	3	Lautoka to Lautoka	AUD\$2,100.00pp
All year round	Tui Tai	22	Northern Fijian	7	Savu Savu to Savu Savu	AUD\$3,800.00pp
May to October every Sunday	Island Passage	20	Vanuatu Cruise	6	Santo to Santo	AUD\$2,800.00pp
26 June, 11 September, 18 September	Scenic Ruby	169	Paris to Prague & Moselle and Rhine Escapade river Cruise	13	Cruise & Stay Package. Paris, Trier, Coblenz, Rudesheim, Bamberg, Nuremberg, Prague	AUD \$5,520.00pp
July, August, Sept - 3 departures each month	Scenic Ruby	169	Jewels of Europe River Cruise	14	Budapest, Bratislava, Vienna, Melk, Nuremberg, Rudesheim, Cologne, Amsterdam	AUD \$5,950.00pp
29 July, 19 Aug, 1 & 30 Sept	Star Clipper	170	Venice to Rome	10	via Croatia/Montenegro/Greece/Italy	AUD\$5,720.00pp
12 & 26 August, 2 & 9 September	Seven Seas Mariner	700	Alaska Bound	7	Vancouver to Anchorage	USD\$3,655.00pp
3 September	Crystal Symphony	940	Atlantic Crossing	13	London to Boston via Scotland and Ireland	USD\$5,130.00pp
14 September	Crystal Serenity	1072	Dalmatian Coastline	11	Istanbul to Venice	USD\$6,190.00pp
10 November	Crystal Symphony	940	Caribbean Delights	11	New York to Miami via Dutch Antilles	USD\$4,950.00pp
4 sailings between December to February	Corinthian II	114	Antarctic Voyage	10	Ushuaia to Ushuaia with flights to Buenos Aires	USD\$10,995.00pp
3 December	Silver Whisper	390	Indonesian Waters	15	Singapore to Sydney via Darwin and Whitsundays	USD\$8,450.00pp
21 December	Scenic Ruby	169	Christmas Markets Special (& New Years)	15	Amsterdam to Prague via Germany/Austria	AUD\$7,490.00pp





Concierge Traveller

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