

# AOT Product News

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## AOT News:

**6 October 2017**

The 2018/19 tariff link is now available to access online for both Australia and New Zealand.

Just a reminder that in the 'Tariff Updates' tab you can access the document showing what has been loaded to date.

The first tab of the document shows the new product loaded. As we are continually loading, rates appearing in the tariff should only be used once the product has been added to this 'New Product' tab.

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## Crowne Plaza Adelaide – Hotel Name Change

*From Accor Sales Team:*

Effective immediately, Crowne Plaza Adelaide has left Intercontinental Hotels and will be managed by Accor Hotels. The property has been renamed Pullman Adelaide.



## Airlie Beach Hotel – Closure Update

*From Pascal Schaeffer, Rooms Division & Marketing Manager:*

Further to our Product Newsletter on 12 May 2017;

There has been a further delay in repairs at the property and it will now remain closed until 23 April 2018 (previously 31 July 2017). This extra time will allow all repairs carried out to be completely recertified to present State and Federal standards.



## Hamilton Island Yacht Club – Closure Update

*From Rebecca Nable, Senior Account Manager:*

Further to our Product Newsletter on 04 August 2017;

There has been a further delay in repairs at the property and it will now remain closed until 03 July 2018 (previously 30 November 2017).

A report has been run and all affected bookings will be contacted.



## Skyrail Rainforest Cableway – New Street Name

*From Skyrail Sales and Marketing Team:*

Effective immediately Cairns Regional Council has officially named the previously un-named service road on which the Skyrail Smithfield Terminal resides to "Skyrail Drive".

Skyrail's address is now: 6 Skyrail Drive, Smithfield QLD 4878.





## Seashells Broome – Pool Closure

*From Deb Williams, General Manager:*

The swimming pool will be closed from 06 November 2017 to 11 December 2017 for urgent repairs.

There is no alternative facility available during this time.



## Ramada Port Douglas – Refurbishment

*From Vanessa Midola-Dori, Sales Manager:*

From 16 October to 30 January 2018 all internal corridors and doors to all units will be repainted.

Minimal interruptions to guests are expected with each unit only being affected for one day due to drying time.



Painting works will not take place from 18 December 2017 to 14 January 2018.

## Mantra Broadbeach On The Park, Gold Coast – Refurbishment

*From Tina Strazdins, Trade Sales Coordinator:*

Effective immediately works will commence which are expected to be completed by 03 November 2017.

The decking around the pool and spa will be upgraded and the area will be closed off to guests during the works. The swimming pool will also be closed from approximately 23 to 28 October 2017.



## Crown Promenade Perth – Stay/Pay Offer Extended

Stay 2 nights and receive the 3rd night free (unlimited free nights).

Conditions:

- Valid New bookings only
- Offer not combinable
- Option Codes: RMQ,RMO, RMP
- Black-out Dates: 31DEC17 and 26JAN18

Validity:

- Sale: 06OCT17 to ~~12JAN18~~ 31MAR18
- Travel: 01DEC17 to 30DEC17, 01JAN18 to ~~12JAN18~~ 25JAN18, 27JAN18 to 31MAR18



## Destination Feature - Australia

### Kangaroo Island, SA by Jayleen Cash, Senior Product Executive

Recently 17 staff members from all different departments within Helloworld Travel Ltd, spent 2 days on Kangaroo Island, an island off the coast of South Australia, a 45 minute ferry from the main land or a 20 minute flight from Adelaide.



### *Kangaroo Island Sealink*

We were picked up at 6am from our Adelaide hotel in a large 48 seater coach with comfortable seats and seat belts. The driver was very friendly and explained that we needed to put our luggage under the coach and provided us with our ferry tickets. The drive down to Cape Jervis was approximately 2 hrs, it was very enjoyable with the driver providing commentary along the way and stopping to spot some kangaroos. He explained what we needed to do once off the coach in order to board the ferry.



and coffee. There are plenty of different places around the ferry to sit, both indoors and outdoors (particularly if you are feeling a bit sea sick!). The whole journey was seamless and was a very relaxing way to get to Kangaroo Island.

We picked up our luggage from under the bus and moved it onto a luggage vehicle that would go on the ferry. Then boarded the ferry and we were off sailing. On board the ferry there is



### *Kangaroo Island Wilderness Tours*

On arrival into Penneshaw we were met by our driver/guide from Kangaroo Island Wilderness Tours. He was a very friendly guide who assisted us with our luggage to the 4WD vehicle. The vehicle was very spacious and luxurious with leather seats making it a very comfortable ride for the day of touring. The maximum amount of people is 6, however it is recommended for 4-5 people max so you can spread out and relax. Our driver explained to us the sights we would be seeing for our day of touring, and pointed out the places on a map



for us to get an idea of the distances we would be travelling. He was a local from Kangaroo Island, so had a lot of knowledge and passion about the island. He was genuine and down to earth and very easy to get along with and was great to chat to throughout the day. He really made the trip

very enjoyable.

We had many stops during the day with the highlights being Penington Bay (pictured above), being on the beach close to the seals at Seals Bay, feeding



the kangaroos at the KI Wilderness Park and Stokes Bay, which is a beach that is only accessible through a rock tunnel at low tide (pictured right). Lunch is included in a private scrub area, cooked on the BBQ with real plates, knives and forks and wine glasses (no plastic utensils), and served with a large choice of different salads. We also had cookies in the morning and cookies with coffee and tea in the afternoon. There was bottled water provided throughout the day, at no point did we ever go hungry or thirsty!



Kangaroo Island Wilderness Tours offers 2D/1N and 3D/2N tours, however we had a tailored day tour. This is a very luxurious and boutique touring product, but extremely worth it for a very enjoyable 2 days of touring on Kangaroo Island.

(Left - Me feeding a kangaroo!)



## Aurora Ozone Hotel

We stayed at the Aurora Ozone Hotel located in Kingscote, which is the main town on Kangaroo Island, an hour drive from Penneshaw ferry terminal. You can also fly into Kingscote directly on Rex from Adelaide. Qantas Link will start operating services directly to Kangaroo Island from Melbourne from December too.



This 3.5 star property is located across the road from the Nepean Bay; the views from the restaurant looking out onto the bay are stunning. We were very lucky to see dolphins swimming in the bay during breakfast.

This is a small property that offers 37 rooms which includes Executive Rooms, Executive Sea View Rooms, Deluxe Suites, Poolside Family Rooms, 1 Bedroom Apartments and Pent

House apartments (which are 2 Bedroom, 2 Bathrooms apartments). The rooms are all very clean, comfortable and spacious. The last refurbishment was approximately 5 years ago; however the rooms do not look dated with all of the furniture still looking fresh and of good quality.

There is a walking track across the road from the property to take you to the sea baths, if you are lucky you may see some seals hanging out in the sun along there.



## PRODUCT NEWS – NEW ZEALAND

### **Fuel Crisis - Auckland Airport**

*From Product NZ:*

Auckland Airport is back to full fuel capacity. Airlines now have access to 100% of their fuel allocation and should now operate normally.



### **Interislander Premium Plus Lounge – Name Change**

*From Product NZ:*



Interislander has now rebranded their Premium Plus Lounge across their three ships to Interislander Plus Lounge. Interislander Plus still includes a hot meal, snacks, beer and wine, Wi-Fi, comfortable seating and is restricted to ages 18 years and over.

### **Spring in New Zealand – September, October & November**

*From Product Team, AOT NZ:*

Spring is our ‘waterfall season’ – the country’s falls multiply with magnificent effect. It’s the most impressive time of year to take a tour to Milford Sound via the Milford Road.

The fruit-growing areas of South Island’s Central Otago are bedecked with blossom. Alexandra’s annual Blossom Festival is held each year when the town’s cherry trees are in full bloom.



Explore



Auckland’s Waitakere Ranges on foot – tiny fern fronds dot the lush native bush during this time of year.

Spring is a great time of year to visit the Hobbiton Film Set; the charming bluebells and Middle-earth gardens are in full flower.

Explore world-class vineyards in Hawke’s Bay as well as their prestigious Food and Wine festival, FAWC, or

explore the great outdoors on one of New Zealand’s Great Walks or Cycle Trails.



### **Citylife Auckland – Upgrade**

Stay a minimum of 2 nights in a Deluxe Suite and receive an upgrade to a 1 Bedroom Executive Suite.

Conditions:

- Offer not combinable
- Subject to availability

Validity:

- Travel: 15Dec17 to 30Dec17 and 01Jan18 to 31Jan18

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## Destination Feature – New Zealand

### Waitomo

More than 30 million years ago, the legend of Waitomo Caves began with the creation of limestone at the bottom of the ocean. Now these limestone formations stand as one of New Zealand's most inspiring natural wonders and a must-see destination.

The Waitomo region is home to unforgettable sightseeing attractions. Discover magical glowworms by boat in the world famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves.



Combine your experience with Ruakuri Cave; see glowworms up close and descend a spectacular spiral entrance. In Aranui Cave be mesmerised by ornate cave decorations. For NZ rafting adventure, get your blood pumping with The Legendary Black Water Rafting Co.

There is as much to see and experience above ground as there is below. Enjoy nice cafes and walks as well as natural wonders such as the beautiful Marokopa Falls and limestone Mangapohue Bridge. A walkway beginning near the Waitomo Museum of Caves leads through farmland where you'll see fascinating rock forms and strange fluted outcrops.



### *Black Water Rafting*

The Legendary Black Water Rafting Company is New Zealand's first black water cave rafting adventure operator. They've been sharing thrills and excitement since 1987, and have experienced guides who will take clients safely through the stunning underworld of Ruakuri Cave.

With exhilarating caving & rafting tours, namely Black Labyrinth, Black Abyss and the Black Odyssey to choose from, there is something to suit all adventurous spirits. Each Waitomo Caves Black Water Rafting expedition includes around 6-12 people guided by expert guides who will support and encourage clients through the whole breathtaking caving tour.



**Black Labyrinth** – This is the original Waitomo subterranean adventure that will have you climbing, black water tubing, and leaping through Ruakuri Cave.

Over three hours you'll take leaps of faith over cascading waterfalls and float serenely down an underground river as you enjoy the glow worm show on the vaulted limestone galleries up above.

The journey concludes when you emerge into the sunlight of the Waitomo forest.

**Black Abyss** – Black Abyss is the ultimate Waitomo adventure and is the caving tour of choice for natural born adrenaline junkies everywhere.

Descend into the seemingly bottomless black depths of the glow worm studded Ruakuri Cave. This five hour expedition combines abseiling the 35 metre tomo (cave), climbing, whizzing down a flying fox and cave tubing underneath glow worms into one unforgettable journey.

At every stage you're accompanied and supported by experienced caving guides from The Legendary Black Water Rafting Co. who know and love this totally unique and mind-blowing environment.



**Black Odyssey** – Challenge yourself on this extreme dry caving adventure with The Legendary Black Water Rafting Co. who have over 25 years of caving expertise. Experience a range of different caving techniques to complete this journey that will seriously stretch your limits.

Test yourself as you twist and turn through the Ruakuri Cave's main network and hidden passageways. Conquer thrilling rock traverses and mind-blowing heights. Edge yourself over crossings that are high above roaring stream ways. You'll also spider-walk through ancient rift passages and experience the challenges of technical high rope work and flying foxes.

At every stage you're accompanied and supported by experienced caving guides from The Legendary Black Water Rafting Co. who know and love this totally unique and mind-blowing environment.

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If you have any queries on the features above, please contact AOT's Product Departments.

AOT Inbound - [product@aot.com.au](mailto:product@aot.com.au)

AOT New Zealand & South Pacific - [NZproduct@aot.co.nz](mailto:NZproduct@aot.co.nz)

Experience Tours Australia - [product@experiencetours.com.au](mailto:product@experiencetours.com.au)

[www.aotonline.net](http://www.aotonline.net)

[www.etaonline.com.au](http://www.etaonline.com.au)

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