

AOT Product News

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AOT News:

22 June 2018

Need images for your website, campaigns or brochure? Don't forget to check the 'Other Info' tab on the online tariff for the Supplier Image Instructions Document. This document provides access to our supplier's image gallery links.

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AOT GROUP - INBOUND DESTINATION MANAGEMENT SERVICE



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PRODUCT NEWS – AUSTRALIA

Sydney Harbour Bridge Experience - Update

From The Australian Attractions Team o/b Hammons Holdings:

Further to our Product Newsletter on 15 June 2018;

Hammons Holdings will be operating the Tourism Activities on the Sydney Harbour Bridge from 1 October 2018. They are continuing to work hard to ensure the smooth commencement of the operation of the Tourism Activities by themselves from 01 October 2018.

Hammons Holdings, as the owner of Scenic World, has a 73 year proven history of building and operating the most visited privately owned attraction in Australia. On and from 1 October 2018, we will ensure that your guests will be welcomed to a world class tourism experience on the Sydney Harbour Bridge as they ascend this famous landmark.

Over time, innovative and extended experiences of the Sydney Harbour Bridge will also be made available, improving on those offered today.

All confirmed bookings after 01 October 2018 will be honoured by the new company. New climb experience names are as below. Our system is currently in the process of being updated with the new experience names.



Was:	As of 01 October:
BridgeClimb® Sampler	1.5hr Lower Arch Tour
BridgeClimb® Day	3.5hr Daytime Summit Tour
BridgeClimb® Night	3.5hr Night Summit Tour
BridgeClimb® Twilight	3.5hr Twilight Summit Tour
BridgeClimb® Dawn	3.5hr Dawn Summit Tour
BridgeClimb® Express	2 ¼ hr Fast Summit Tour
Mandarin (3.5hrs)	3.5hr [Mandarin] Summit Tour
Mandarin (2.15hrs)	2 ¼ hr [Mandarin] Fast Summit Tour



Adelaide Sightseeing – Itinerary Changes

From Richard Doyle, General Manager Global Sales & Distribution:

Effective immediately, Adelaide Sightseeing has advised of the following itinerary changes:



AS12 – Ultimate Adelaide & Hahndorf

AS13 – Adelaide Hills & Hahndorf

Both tours now include a stop at Beerenberg Farm Shop.

Was: Wind your way through the Adelaide Hills villages of Crafers, Stirling, Aldgate and Bridgewater before arriving at Hahndorf, Adelaide's oldest German settlement.

Now: Wind your way through the Adelaide Hills villages of Crafers, Stirling, Aldgate and Bridgewater before arriving at Beerenberg Farm Shop, where there is time to taste and purchase from their full range of products. Then it's on to Hahndorf, Adelaide's oldest German settlement.

DAYR – Murray River Highlights

Adelaide Sightseeing has advised that participation in the cheese tastings at Woodside Cheese Wrights is AUD3 per person payable direct at time of visit (this is an optional experience).

Was: Travel back to Adelaide via the delightful Adelaide Hills, stopping at Melba's Chocolate Factory and Woodside Cheese Wrights at Woodside with an opportunity to purchase afternoon tea (own expense).

Now: Travel back to Adelaide via the delightful Adelaide Hills, stopping at Melba's Chocolate Factory where you can purchase afternoon tea and delight in cheese tastings at Woodside Cheese Wrights in Woodside (both own expense).



Cambridge Hotel Sydney – Closure

From Cambridge Hotel Sydney Sales:

Further to our Product Newsletter on 13 April 2018;

The property will now close 01 August 2019 (was 01 July 2019) for redevelopment.



Fairmont Resort - MGallery Collection, Blue Mountains – Ice Rink Works

From Thomas Brand, Director of Sales & Marketing:

Effective immediately, an ice skating development has commenced with works expected to be completed by 01 February 2019.

During this time the upper lake will be transformed into an ice skating rink. This project will impact the garden walkways and the Megalong wing rooms overlooking the lake. Some building noise in the outdoor areas of the resort is expected. There will be fencing to minimise the visual impact.



Works will take place from Monday to Friday between 9:00am and 5:00pm. No works will take place during school holidays.

Breakfree Peninsula, Gold Coast – Refurbishment Update

From Mantra Sales Group:

Further to our Product Newsletter on the 6th of April 2018;

There has been a delay to the external painting of the building which is now expected to be completed by 31 December 2018 (previously: 30 September 2018).

Breakfree Beachpoint, Gold Coast – Pool Works

From Mantra Sales Group:

Effective immediately, BreakFree Beachpoint is undergoing maintenance works on the outdoor pool, kids wading pool and BBQ which are expected to be completed by 29 June 2018.

Works will take place from Monday to Friday between 7:30am and 4:00pm. During this period the outdoor pool, kids wading pool and BBQ area will be closed, however the indoor heated pool, spa and sauna will still be available to guests.

Minimal noise disruption is expected.

Best Western Mango House Resort, Airlie Beach

From Peter Hansen, General Manager:

Effective 01 August, roof repairs will commence, following damage caused by Cyclone Debbie, which is expected to be completed by 21 August 2018.

Roof works will take place one block at a time and guests will be accommodated in rooms away from the work area. Minimal disruption is expected.

Work will take place from Monday to Sunday between 7.30am and 5.30pm

Paradise Centre, Gold Coast – Renovation Works Update

From Mantra Sales Group:

Further to our Product Newsletter on 27 October 2017;

Paradise Centre has advised that the renovation works are expected to be completed by 31 August 2018 (previously unknown).

Vision Apartments Esplanade, Cairns – Noise Works

From Ros Harries Marketing, Owner:

Effective immediately, the building next door is currently under construction and renovations which are expected to be completed by 30 November 2018.

Some construction related noise is expected.

Heron Island – Stay/Pay Special



Stay 3 nights and receive the 4th night free

Conditions:

- Valid New bookings only
- Offer not combinable
- Option Codes: RMYG, RMYE, RMYF, RMYD, RMYB, RMYC, RMYA and RMYH
- Black-out Dates: 16DEC18 to 14JAN19

Validity:

- Sale: 22JUN18 to 31MAR19
- Travel: 22JUN18 to 15DEC18 and 15JAN19-31MAR19

Rates can be found on the online tariff.



Destination Feature - Australia

Mission Beach, QLD

Mission Beach is a small town on the Cassowary Coast in Queensland, 2.5hrs drive south of Cairns, made up of four beach villages, linked by 14 kilometres of wide golden sands. This beautiful little beachside town blends vibrant art and culture with unique tourism attractions, the perfect place to relax and unwind.

With a vast array of activities ranging from sedate to extreme sports such as beach walks and spa treatments to tandem skydiving and white water rafting. Mission beach is perfect for a romantic getaway, family holiday or for adventure travellers. Be sure to include a trip to Paronella Park and the lush rainforests of Wooroonooran National Park and the Atherton Tablelands on your way from Cairns to Mission Beach.



Castaways Resort & Spa Mission Beach

Castaways Mission Beach Resort & Spa offers a wide range of 3 & 4 star accommodation, with 47 luxury Beachfront rooms and self-contained apartments, a private Beachside Villa, 18 lush Rainforest rooms and a Luxury 3 Bedroom Apartment spread over three centrally-located properties.

All rooms located within the Beachfront property other than the Hotel rooms, feature a private balcony or garden patio with stunning views out to the Coral Sea and Dunk.

All rooms located within the Rainforest property are surrounded by lush Rainforest gardens, providing wonderful serenity and privacy. The Rainforest property is located a short walk from main Beachfront property.

All guests have access to all facilities, including our 25m lap pool, beachfront leisure pool, rainforest lagoon pool, gym, laundry, Drift Day Spa and Bibesia Restaurant and Cocktail Bar; which is open 7 days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Wifi is free and accessible throughout the resort and all parking is off-the-road and complimentary.

Rates can be found on the online tariff.



Licuala Lodge

All rooms in this wonderful 4 star B&B accommodation are equipped with an ensuite; complete with complimentary toiletries, ceiling fan, fluffy towels, a large shower and of course a teddy bear. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the Lodge. Guest laundry is located on the ground floor. The guest lounge has cooking facilities (microwave, small oven, hot plates), BBQ to use is at your disposal (in fact two BBQs), a large flatscreen TV, several board games and lots of outdoor seating for you to enjoy at sunset with a glass of wine.

The Breakfast verandah is on the upper deck of the main shouse with glorious views of the grounds. Enjoy a gentle stroll around the grounds and be amazed at the collection of native plants and shrubs, gingers, heliconias, bromeliads and all other exotic tropical plants. There are several passionfruit vines, pineapples, pawpaws, a few dragonfruit plants, several species of citrus fruit including the weird and wonderful Buddha's Hand, and you may bump into a Cassowary or two.

The owners are incredibly friendly and have an excellent sense of humour, they make the stay feel like a home away from home.

Rates can be found on the online tariff.





Bush and Beach, Auckland – Discontinued Tours

From Ben Thornton, Managing Director:

Effective 01 October 2018, Bush and Beach has advised that the following tours will no longer operate.

- Auckland Untamed Island Tour - Great Barrier (Full Day)
- Great Tastes of Matakana (Full Day)



Southern Discoveries, Milford Sound – Pride of Milford Boat

From Cecil Potatau, International Sales Manager Asia:

Southern Discoveries advised that their Pride of Milford Boat in Milford Sound will be out of the water from 25 June to 05 August 2018 for repainting. The boat will be operational from the 06 August 2018.

Southern Discoveries will continue to operate their 11:30am and 1.30pm Milford Sound Scenic cruises on their Spirit of Milford Cruise Vessel. However, during this time the VIP lounge will not be available.



Skyline Queenstown – Updates

From Collette Rogers, Sales Manager:

Effective 01 July 2018, **Stratosfare Restaurant** will offer dining time slots of up to 90 minutes continuously throughout the evening, replacing their current first and second sitting structure. Tables for dinner will be available from 4:30pm daily with the opportunity for bookings through to 8:45pm. The earlier times will include dining durations starting from 60 minutes through to 90 minutes, depending on the client's needs.

Luge – Due to ground work complications, the Luge closure has now been extended. Luge is now closed and will reopen on 04 August 2018.

Kiwi Haka – Kiwi Haka will cease operations after many years in Skyline Queenstown. The final Kiwi Haka performance takes place on 31 August 2018. Show times will continue as normal between now and 31 August with daily shows at 5.15pm, 6.00pm and 7.15pm.

Agents with affected bookings are being advised.

Kiwi Dundee Adventures, Coromandel – New Owners

From Doug and Jan, current owners:

Doug and Jan have advised that Kiwi Dundee Adventures has been sold to John Rich and Rosaleen Ward, two enthusiastic kiwis with the same love and passion for nature and New Zealand. Their knowledge and enthusiasm has been gained through a relevant academic background and through working in the tourism, parks, and recreation industry for the last 25 years. The change in ownership will occur on 25 June 2018, however Doug and Jan will continue to work with Kiwi Dundee over the coming high season guiding and helping with office work to create a seamless transition.

Kuaotunu Bay Lodge, Coromandel – Room Name Change

Supplier Code: CMVACKUACMV

From Kuaotunu Bay Lodge:

Effective immediately, the room names at **Kuaotunu Bay Lodge** have changed as follows:

Old Room Name	Updated Room Name
Queen Ensuite	Cape Colville
Studio	Cuvier (Private Bathroom)
Studio Self Cater	Kereru Suite
Queen Ensuite	Moehau



Destination Feature – New Zealand

Kaikoura

Kaikoura is a base for wildlife experiences of all kinds – it's also a great place to eat crayfish (in the Maori language 'kai' means food, 'koura' means crayfish). An easy two-hour drive north of Christchurch, Kaikoura makes for a great day trip or a fun stop on your way to Marlborough.

Kaikoura's environment is truly spectacular – the village is caught between the rugged Seaward Kaikoura Range and the Pacific Ocean. In winter the mountains are covered with snow, adding to the drama of the landscape.

Kaikoura's special talent is marine mammal encounters – whales, fur seals and dolphins live permanently in the coastal waters. Whale watching trips leave the town several times a day and the local seal colony is always entertaining. There are plenty of cafés, restaurants and shops to explore.



Hapuku Lodge & Tree Houses

Hapuku Lodge + Tree Houses is a contemporary country hotel located on a deer breeding farm in the South Island. It sits snugly at the base of the Kaikoura Seaward Mountain Range, with the Kaikoura coast and famed Mangamaunu Bay only a kilometre to the east. The Lodge provides luxurious accommodation on Kaikoura's rugged coastline, a place for guests to relax in its intimate indoor/outdoor setting and a place from which they can explore the larger maritime landscape of Kaikoura.



Tree Houses – the Lodge's five Tree Houses are unique, nested 10 meters or more above the ground in the canopy of a native Kanuka grove. There are three 1-bedroom Tree Houses, and two "Family" Tree Houses which both have a master bedroom in the upper branches and a smaller bedroom in the lower branches. The Tree Houses are designed to complement the natural environment, as a bedroom in the sky. Their large windows bring the tree canopies into the bedroom and provide impressive views of Kaikoura's dramatic mountains and the Pacific Ocean.

Lodge Rooms – All of the Lodge rooms are suites which offer large soaking tubs, king beds and balconies that look over the farm and deer grazing in paddocks adjacent. The two Lodge Suites have a well-appointed lounge and large bedroom set as king or twin beds. The sofa in the lounge can be converted to a single bed. The light filled Hapuku Room is beautifully furnished with fireplace, writing desk and private entrance. The Lodge Room is a spacious bedroom that may be set as a king or twin beds.





Olive House – the Olive House is a free standing building that in the past has housed the farm's olive press. The building has been developed into a beautiful three-bedroom suite. It can comfortably accommodate 3 couples or large families. The upper floor can be separately occupied as a two-bedroom suite including the lounge, while the ground floor room can be occupied as a standalone guest room. The ground floor room is wheelchair accessible.

The area in which the Lodge is located was designated on the first European maps of the district as “Kai Whare”, the Maori term for “house of food”. Today the dining room at the Lodge, with its relaxed and warm atmosphere, is at the heart of the Hapuku Lodge experience.

Here guests can watch the food being prepared and chat with their chefs, including the Lodge’s Executive Chef, Fiona Read, as they prepare their meal.



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

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