

# travel news & deals

Call 1300 732 280

**CORPORATE  
TRAVELLER™**

Bring an expert on board



Australia | May 2011

Dear Steve,

Welcome to our May newsletter where you can view the latest industry news and travel deals.

This edition includes the latest news on the [Icelandic volcano eruption](#), recent changes to [Jetstar](#) and [Virgin Australia's](#) fare types and an update on [toll road](#) payments for car hire.

And don't forget to have your say in our [online poll](#) on in-flight amenities.

Brought to you by the team at **Corporate Traveller**

## Business Travel Deals

### International Airfares

#### Return Flights from Melbourne to

Auckland	from <b>\$335*</b>
Bangkok	from <b>\$1005*</b>
Frankfurt	from <b>\$1819*</b>
Los Angeles	from <b>\$1199*</b>
Singapore	from <b>\$859*</b>

[more flights](#)

[enquire online >>](#)

[Find International Hotels](#)

[Find Domestic Airfares](#)

[Find Domestic Hotels](#)

Earn up to \$1000  
Qantas credit\*.



[Find out more](#)

WIN a weekend  
escape at Vibe Hotel  
Gold Coast# **vibe**

[Enter now](#)

## Travel Industry News...

### Travel update - Iceland volcano eruption

The eruption from Iceland's Grimsvotn volcano is rapidly dying down and experts predict the eruption will cause far fewer problems than the ash from the Icelandic volcano in 2010. Almost 500 flights across Europe have been cancelled since Monday due to Grimsvotn and it's expected that flight disruptions will continue over the next few days. German air safety authorities have warned they may have to shut down Bremen and Hamburg airports because of the volcanic ash and Berlin could also potentially be affected. Passengers are advised to confirm all travel arrangements. Contact your travel manager or [enquire here](#) to find out more....

### Jetstar changes fare types

Jetstar has introduced a new fare structure. JetSaver Light, JetSaver, JetFlex and StarClass fares are no longer available and have been replaced with two main fare types - Starter and Business fares. These fares can be upgraded to Starter Plus, Starter Max and Business Max fares, which offer different conditions. For all Starter fares passengers need to pay for checked-in luggage. Business class fares and Business Max fares include 30kg of checked-in baggage allowance. Contact your travel manager or [enquire here](#) to find out more....

### **Virgin changes fare types**

Virgin Australia has also restructured its fares, reducing its current five fare types to three. The new fare types now include Saver, Flexi and Premium. Virgin's discount fare is Saver; Flexi economy class includes food and beverages, priority check-in, up to 23kg check luggage (32kg Gold Velocity members) and no change fees for time and date of booking up to 24 hours before departure; Premium (including Premium economy and business class) includes unlimited food and beverages, priority check-in, The Lounge access, checked luggage allowance and increased Velocity points. This change only relates to bookings on Virgin Australia, Pacific Blue and Polynesian Blue flights. There will be no change to V Australia fare types.

### **Car hire companies streamline road toll payments**

Car hire companies looking to streamline the administration and payment of road tolls around the country now require all customers to provide a credit card or charge card for road toll payment at time of vehicle pick-up (unless customers have an account direct with the car rental company). Companies such as Avis require a credit card or charge card from all customers at rental locations in states where tolls exist. Hertz has introduced the system in NSW and is looking to expand the card payment option in Qld and Vic. While customers can still use charge-back with their travel manager for the cost of car hire, a charge-back facility for road toll payment will no longer be available. Contact your travel manager or [enquire here](#) to find out more....

### **Virgin unveils new identity**

Virgin Blue has changed its name to Virgin Australia. Virgin Australia will operate domestically in Australia and by the end of the year, V Australia and Pacific Blue will also operate under the new name. The new livery has appeared on two of the airline's newest aircraft an Airbus A330-200 and Boeing 737-800. Virgin Australia is also now selling tickets for its new business class seats (Sydney-Perth route) and recently opened a 'fast-track' entry and valet service for premium customers at Sydney Airport.

### **Fast-track entry for Virgin Australia customers**

Virgin Australia has launched its new 'fast track' entry lounge at Sydney Airport for premium passengers. The service includes 10 drop off bays for valet parking and long-term parking places for guests. Guests using the service can bypass the regular check-in counters and security area for a dedicated check-in and security screening gate reserved for premium Virgin Blue passengers. Premium economy, business class, plus gold tier members of Virgin Blue's Velocity Rewards program can use the service. Contact your travel manager or [enquire here](#) to find out more....

### **Strategic Airlines start Gladstone service**

New full service airline Strategic Airlines has started its Brisbane to Gladstone service.

The carrier is offering 20 weekly services to the region from Brisbane using an Airbus A320 jet. The inaugural flight to Gladstone also marked the launch of the airport's upgraded checked bag and passenger screening services. Contact your travel manager or [enquire here](#) to find out more....

### Free internet at Marriott

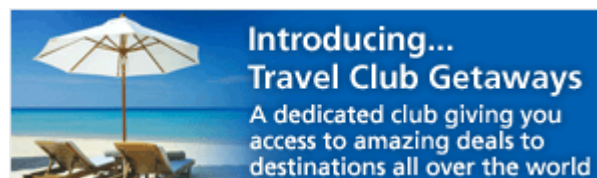
Members of the Marriott Rewards program can now access the property group's internet for free, when staying at its properties in the Asia Pacific region. Guests can join the loyalty program for free, after which they'll receive complimentary internet at properties including JW Marriott, Courtyard, Marriott and Renaissance Hotels.

### Rail link proposed for Avalon

A new government study has been commissioned for a rail link for Avalon Airport. The Victorian government is proposing to link Avalon Airport to Melbourne and Geelong by rail. The project will provide a new station at Avalon Airport and a new rail link between the airport and Lara Station.

### Complimentary Qantas frequent flyer membership

Avis and Corporate Traveller are giving all clients the chance to obtain a complimentary Qantas frequent flyer membership. You do not need to be an Avis client to take advantage of this offer. If you're keen to experience the benefits of Qantas' frequent flyer program head to [www.qantas.com.au/avisjoin](http://www.qantas.com.au/avisjoin) for more information.



 Find us on Facebook

 Follow us on Twitter

 Connect on LinkedIn

 Not a subscriber?  
Click here to subscribe now

 Forward to a Friend

[Booking Terms & Conditions](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

\* We do not accept any liability in connection with data corruption, computer virus, delay, interruption, non-delivery, unauthorised access or unauthorised amendment of this email. Travel restrictions & conditions apply. Please ask us for further details. Prices shown are fully inclusive of taxes, levies, government charges and other applicable fees (except service fees which are applied in accordance with the terms of your service contract). Airfares: airfare prices & taxes are correct as at **1 May 2011**, subject to change without notice and are subject to availability. Airfares are valid for sale until **31 May 2011**. Additional taxes specific to your flight routing may apply. Payments made by credit card will incur a surcharge. Service charges from \$15 per one way Trans-

Tasman airfare apply to in-store & telephone bookings. Prices are subject to change without notice. Rates other than FCI rates may be instant purchases and non refundable. Black-out dates may apply. Prices may fluctuate due to changes in charges and currency. Seasonal surcharges apply. Land only service fees may apply. Cancellation fees & blackout dates apply. Minimum/maximum stay restrictions apply. An additional Credit Card Service Fee will be applied to the dollar amount paid by credit or charge card. Prices and inclusions are correct at time of issue and are subject to change. Offers may be withdrawn at anytime without notice. Travel restrictions & conditions apply. Prices & taxes are correct as stated & are subject to change without notice. Flight Centre Limited (ABN 25 003 377 188) QLD: 3124259, NSW: 2TA002547, ACT: 18800566, VIC: 32360, TAS: TAS160, SA: TTA192799, NT: LTA149 and WA: 9TA1362. Level 2, 545 Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000 Australia