

Flying Colours Spring

Longer and warmer days can only mean that spring is finally here and I'm sure a relief to many. It also means the Earlybird flight deals to Europe for 2020 are now available, so if you have been thinking of taking that trip next year then now is the perfect time to start planning. For those whom have tours booked and have been waiting for the new air deals to be released we will be in touch to help get the final touches of your trip planned for you.

Ky & Tim are now the proud parents of a gorgeous little girl Sunni and send their regards for all of your well wishes.

We are very excited to be hold our Travel Expo in a brand new venue located in the very heart of town this year - The Stables. Located in the Cobb & Co Building on Raymond Street the space will be a brilliant opportunity to chat to over 35 touring companies in attendance on the day with exclusive specials on the day.

We've been busy with product updates for 2020 with lots of exciting new tours and cruises on offer.

Blaise has explored New Zealand and is now in Fiji, Ange has been exploring Castles in the UK, Tania headed to Vietnam and I've just returned from an incredible trip in the Kimberly with APT. Read on for stories of their encounters.

As always thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the Expo !

Jacqui & Team

NEWSLETTERS

We hope that you enjoy receiving our newsletter but if you would prefer not to, please let us know and we can remove you from the mailout list. If you have changed your address please also let us know so that we can update our information.

Either Call on **51443199** or email **admin@flyingcolourstravel.com.au**

We also have an email data base now that we send out special deals every 2 weeks, if you are not on this list and would like to be, please once again just let us know by calling or emailing the office.

We try to keep you update with the latest deals and information on where we have been and things that might be of interest to you and trust you enjoy the read.

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***** SAVE THE DATE *****

**FLYING COLOURS TRAVEL
EXPO 12 OCTOBER 2019
10 am— 2 pm
NEW VENUE !**

***The Stables
199 Raymond Street,
Sale***

***Over 35 Tour Operators &
Wholesalers in attendance to
help plan your next holiday.***

Exclusive deals on the day



*Miss Sunni Graham - Mum
and baby doing very well*

New Zealand Mega Famil - Blaise

I was invited to join Anzcro on a Mega Famil that included travelling to the South Island of New Zealand, going to destinations such as Christchurch and Queenstown. My educational trip commenced on 31 August where I met with the Air New Zealand host Thalia who was flying with the agents from Melbourne. I flew from Melbourne to Christchurch at 9.00am.

After a short 3 ½ hour flight I was met by Anzcro Host Elle, we were transferred into the City where we would be spending two nights staying at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. We had the afternoon to explore Christchurch at our leisure. It was an eye opener to see how some of the damage the earthquake had caused to the city but also pleasant to see how far the City has come in rebuilding. For our first night we were welcomed with a Hosted dinner at the newly opened 5-star Hotel Sudima in Christchurch City. Before dinner we were split into groups to do a hotel inspection, the hotel has a Spa which was incredible to see. They offer many treatments for all types of pampering. Dinner was a beautiful wine matched meal, as a group it was perfect to get to know all the other agents. There were 30 agents in total all from different locations such as Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and a couple from the North Island of New Zealand. We also got to meet our other Anzcro host Sheree from Brisbane.

Our first full day in Christchurch started off with buffet breakfast before meeting up to be split into groups for our full day of activities. My day included doing a hosted two-hour bike ride through Christchurch city, this was good because we got to see many of the famous and popular places to visit while in the city. Our Tour Guide also gave us a great deal of knowledge into the history of Christchurch as well as future information for what is still to come for Christchurch. After the bike ride had finished, we walked over to the Avon River to board a boat for a punting tour ride, this was incredible and the views spectacular, it was so relaxing. After lunch we boarded a double decker bus, drove to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve to have a guided tour to see the native New Zealand Animals including the famous Kiwi Bird. To finish off the day we had a guided tour of the Antarctic Centre which included seeing penguins and the snow. Tonight we were joined by Simon from Crowne Plaza and the team from Christchurch & Canterbury for a cocktail styled party. They did a presentation which included speaking about the products that we sell, it was good to get a better idea of the products especially after we got to experience them ourselves during the day as part of our activities.

The next morning started off with buffet breakfast before checking out of the hotel. We were then met with a Kirra Tours Platinum Coach. The bus was incredible it had USB ports, reclining seats, cup holder, plenty of leg room, a foot rest as well as a fold down tray. We had a scenic drive in the bus to our next stop which was staying at the Southern X Lodge in Methven for one night. We arrived into Methven at about 11:30 am, we checked in and changed clothing ready to go Skiing at Mt Hutt. We arrived at Mt Hutt ready for an afternoon of skiing or snowboarding. I had a ski lesson as it was my first-time to the snow let alone skiing and it was an incredible experience, I was lucky enough to pick up on skiing fast enough to be able to hit the slopes. Dinner was hosted by Methven Travel & Mid Coast Canterbury Tourism at the Methven Resort, we had a small presentation to learn about Methven then we enjoyed a lovely three course dinner.

After breakfast and check out we all hopped back on the Kirra Tours Platinum Coach ready to make our way to Queenstown. We had a scenic drive to our first stop which was Lake Tekapo. We stopped there to do an educational dark sky experience, it was fascinating to learn all about the installations. After lunch we all went down towards the Lake to take many pictures. We made one more stop at Lake Pukaki to take some pictures as it looked incredible. We arrived into Queenstown at roughly 5pm then got split into two groups as half of the agents were staying at Copthorne Hotel & Resort then the other half at Copthorne Hotel & Resort Apartments. We had the night to explore Queenstown ourselves. Most of us just went to a restaurant together for dinner.

This morning started with a buffet breakfast before getting split into groups for a full day of activities. My day included a 60-minute Jet boat ride upriver through the shallow river channels of the Dart River. We stopped in the World Heritage Area of Mt Aspiring National Park, we got split into groups of three for a unique Funyak experience where we canoed down the river for 5km before stopping for a buffet lunch. After lunch we got to canoe in hidden side streams that had amazing rock pools full of green water before a 5km canoe ride back to the bus. This evening for dinner we boarded the TTS Earnslaw and cruised across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak. This tour included a buffet meal which is probably the best buffet I've been too. After dinner you meet a local New Zealander Stephen and his three working dogs who perform a Sheep sheering show. They was very entertaining to watch.

Today I skipped breakfast as I was planning to jump out of a plane, we went to the Sky Diving shop downtown before we met Tom who works for NZONE. He gave us a VIP experience including giving us a private return transfer to the Sky Dive Drop, as well as a bag of souvenirs. The sky dive was incredible, best experience ever. It was a bit scary going last as I had to watch everyone else jump out first, but it was well worth it and I couldn't recommend it anymore. We got back into town at 10:00am which gave me plenty of time to explore Queenstown, have a shop and try Fergburger. This evening we went on the Gondola to the Wakatipu Function Room to be hosted for a dinner & presentation. The night started off with the presentation that included suppliers from all over Queenstown. They all had a 5-minute talk to us about the products they offer. After that we had a buffet dinner before ending the night to explore the night life of Queenstown on our own.

Today we were concluding our trip to New Zealand. We started off the day with a buffet breakfast before checking out of our hotel. We had the morning to explore Queenstown before getting a Jet boat to the Airport wharf then a Private transfer to the Airport. It was all time to say goodbye and thank our host for an incredible trip.

It was an incredible experience, my first time to New Zealand and certainly not my last time. I think it will give me a better insight into New Zealand and certainly help with product knowledge and the ability to sell New Zealand.

**** NEW TRAVEL RULES FOR NEW ZEALAND ****

There are new travel rules for visitors to New Zealand.

The New Zealand Government has introduced a new travel requirement for **some visitors and transit passengers**. It's called the NZeTA (New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority) and travellers need to request theirs via the official mobile app or website. Approval can take up to 72 hours, so your clients will need to complete this before they depart.

The NZeTA is required for travel from 1 October 2019. Australian and New Zealand passport holders are exempt from this. Visit immigration.govt.nz/nzeta to find out if you need one. If you are travelling on a passport other than these you may require one. We can help you with this in conjunction with your travel arrangements.

Source Anzcro / Immigration NZ

Europe Earlybird Airfares & 2020 Tours

A number of airlines & tour companies have started to release their 2020 specials and touring programs for the upcoming European Travel season making it the perfect time to start planning your 2020 holidays.

Singapore Airlines again is offering the \$1.00 stopover, Emirates is offering \$1.00 pre-seating along with some brilliant airfare offers. Touring companies are releasing their full programs for Europe now that the Pre-Sale period is over with a great number of specials across a great range of tours to cater for everyone's budgets. Call in to the office with your plans and let us help find you a great deal !

Trafalgar Tours have just announced a \$699.00 return airfare to Europe on tours of 11 days or more. (*conditions apply) this is an amazing deal with Singapore Airlines or Qatar Airlines it can cost more to travel return to Perth!

All the coach operators have difference deals in place and they are certainly worth taking advantage of.

We have all the major operators attending our Travel Expo this will be the perfect time to lock in your travel plans for 2020.

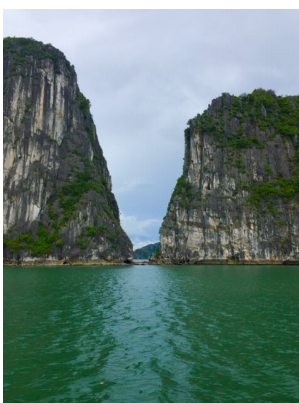


Tania heads to Vietnam—Tania

Hanoi, The Capital of Vietnam was my adventure for 4 nights hosted by The Vietnam Tourism Board.

I flew Vietnam airlines to Hanoi and was thoroughly impressed by their aircraft, The interior of the aircraft, light and bright, Leg room was quite spacious in Economy class, great entertainment, Lovely food and flights attendants very attentive.

Hanoi is pretty and very clean city. The heart of the city is the old chaotic quarter with its narrow streets and lovely French colonial architecture which have been beautifully maintained. Every street is arranged by trade, one street will focus on shoes, the other bags, then you will have clothes street, hat street, furniture street and so on. There are plenty of temples and I thoroughly enjoyed the Hanoi City tour and visit to Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. There is plenty to see and do in Hanoi and I would highly re-commend you stay in the heart of the city so that at night you can walk and enjoy the many lovely Vietnamese and French restaurants on offer. You can certainly feast on world class street food and it is safe. The city is very vibrant and bustling and very easy to walk around, if the legs get a little weary there are plenty of motor bikes and cabs to take you back to your hotel. My highlight in the city was the chaotic charm , pavements lined up with pop up food stands, great shopping, Craft Beer culture, vespa tours and friendly faces. Hanoi also boasts some beautiful parks where the locals congregate at night and play sport, listen to music or simply gather to have a picnic. The beauty about the city of Hanoi is that it shuts down at 11.00 so no loud noise to be heard from night clubs etc. Hanoi is the hub of the North and from here you can do country trips to the rice terraces, mountain cycling and the ever so popular visit to Halong Bay.



We LOVE Feedback

We always love to get feedback when you return from your trips - the good, the bad, the indifferent we like to know it all ! It helps us keep up to date

with new attractions and services that might be on offer, that the hotels are in great locations and are what they look like on their websites ! Here is some recent feedback from some clients whom returned from Europe —

Trip was amazing with Turkey being a massive highlight.

Learnt a couple of things; Ryanair are hard work. They charge 40€ per ticket if you don't do online check in within two hours of the flight. They charge plenty of luggage and let you get all the way to boarding with the wrong luggage and have an EFTPOS machine to get you as you board!

Turkish Airlines are amazing. Great service, clean and lovely staff

Istanbul has 3 international airports.

Car rental deals with non mainstream companies is a pain in the rear. The pick up and drop of times have no flexibility as the staff meet you at the nominating time. When I returned one car they flew somebody in to meet me and drive the car back to the hiring location and I had to be there with the car to meet him. Most major attractions including Auschwitz have tickets on the day, contrary to website and hotel info. Auschwitz is free. Driving is great fun if you are brave

Netherlands is stupidly expensive but worth it. Be prepared. Turkey is the opposite.

If you have some feedback that you would like to pass on feel free to call into the office anytime or email your feedback to admin@flyingcolourstravel.com.au

APT ISLAND SKY– Jacqui

I have been very lucky to have just experienced APT's ISLAND SKY small ship, sailing from Broome to Darwin along the stunning Kimberley Coast.

What a fabulous trip it was. The Island Sky is a beautiful ship with a Guest Capacity of only 110 and its not long before you have made new friends. It's a relaxed 5 star small ship all inclusive, which covers meals, drinks, shore excursions and tipping. It's a wonderful way to travel and not having to deal with an account at the end of your trip is even better.

We often think that travel within Australia can wait until we have completed everything we want to see overseas. I would strongly recommend that if the Kimberley is on your list don't put it off. The cruise and zodiac excursions are wonderful and relaxing but when you get to some of the landings and have to hike up a hill to see some of the wonderful Aboriginal art you realise you need a certain level of fitness to be able to participate in everything that the cruises offer. Not every walk is strenuous but there normally is a couple that will push the heart rate up!!!

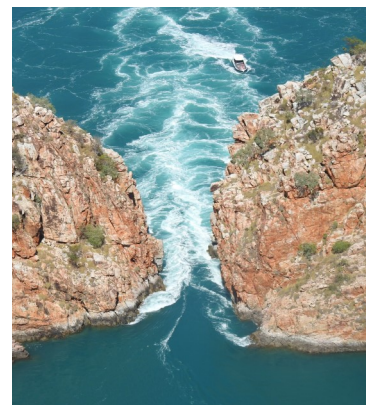
Being so tidal in the Kimberley the itinerary's can vary and you will never have the same experience on any journey.

Another very important thing to keep in mind is the time of year that you travel to this region. The Kimberley Coast is well known for its beautiful stunning waterfalls. On this cruise there was not one drop of water in the waterfalls. During the wet season this year the region received only 30% of its normal rainfall which meant no water in the falls. On the plus side it is the Whale Season and we experienced some of the most amazing whales playing with their calf's that I have ever seen.

It's a photographers paradise from sunrise in the morning to sunset at night. The changing colours of the coast to the incredible blue of the water, not to mention the birds, crocodiles, dolphins, turtles and dugongs. You really don't know which way to point your camera..yes I did take a camera not just my phone. Mind you I was so excited with the whales breaching that I have the bottom of the zodiac, the sky and the sea but very few whales...(more lesions required I think)

This was an Expedition Cruise which did mean getting on and off zodiacs to explore. I was amazed at how the crew managed to get everyone on and off so safely, we even had people on walking sticks that managed to do this without any issues. The knowledge of the Expedition Leaders was incredible and they are so passionate about what they do, this all adds to your experience and helps grow your own knowledge of the region and what you are looking at.

I would love to share more of my experience with you if you are interested in this area. Just give me a call and make a time to come in.



LAST MINUTE DEALS

We talk a lot about Early Bird deals but there are also “Last Minute” deals. This can be perfect for those that are quite happy to travel without much notice and not to fussy about exactly where their cabin might be or are quite happy just to get away.

If you are one of these people and feel like a last minute getaway contact us and we can let you know what is available. We find that Cruise lines that have cabins left will offer them at a discounted rate just to get their ships full.

This is not always the best option though, there are more and more people travelling and you can miss out if you have your heart set on a particular trip or room/cabin type. It really is for those people that are happy to go anywhere in whatever is available.

Keep it in mind and keep your Passport up to date...most countries require you to have at least 6 months validity left on your Passport from when you are scheduled to return to Australia.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We have many different experiences when dealing with Travel Insurance companies but a couple of things that I think are very important for you to remember and take into consideration when taking out Insurance for your next trip.

1/ Credit Card Insurance. Yes it can be free with some cards but please be sure that you check with your credit card company on the level of cover you have. We have found that there has been some fine print changes and you need to be aware of exactly what cover you have or don't have. Things to look out for are ...your age, destinations of travel, pre-existing medical conditions, family cover, excess of claim and length of trip. Do you have a Policy number and do you have to notify your financial institution to get a policy number?

2/ Who are you going to have to deal with if you need to make a claim. Are they in Australia?

3/ Do you have an emergency contact phone number and will they assist you overseas if you need assistance.

4/ If you are going to make a claim do you have ALL the correct documentation? Receipts, doctors reports, police reports etc

5/ Have you got Travel Insurance from when you pay your deposit?

At Flying Colours Travel we strongly recommend that Travel Insurance be taken out from the time that you pay your deposit. Please be sure to read the Product Disclosure Information about your policy to ensure that you have no surprises.

No one likes taking out Travel Insurance but if you need it for any reason you want to make sure that you have the best possible cover to avoid any unnecessary stress.

Angela heads to the UK

Myself and my step-mum headed off to the UK in July. Flying Singapore Airlines was excellent, plenty of room in economy class and exceptional service as always.

We landed into London' Heathrow Airport for our three night stop over.

We visited the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace— The Royal Mews is the finest working stable in the world, responsible for all road travel undertaken by the Royal Family being home to the coaches, horses & carriages.

The tour was a small group and I found very interesting. The Royal Mews are open to the public from February to November, as it's a Working stable it can be closed on some days at short notice—check in advance if you want to visit.



The next couple of days in London was spent walking the city and hopping on the Hop On-Off Bus, visiting London's top attractions. As someone whom has been to London a few times before, I still always find it a great way to get around the city and revisit the tourist hot spots.



We then headed over to Ireland and joined a rail/coach tour visiting The Ring of Kerry.

This was my first visit to Ireland and I was impressed by the scenery, people and attractions.

Flying from Dublin to Edinburgh we met up with our fellow Trafalgar Tour travellers for our 14 day Highlands of Scotland Tour. For me the highlight of our UK holiday was Scotland.

Our Trafalgar Tour took us as far north as the Orkney Islands which were amazing and visiting Scotland beautiful landscapes of the Highlands.

Finishing in Glasgow we then made our way by rail back to Edinburgh to visit the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Edinburgh was bustling with tourists and street artists which made for a busy couple of days exploring the city. The Tattoo gives the city a wonderful buzz and ensuring that you allow time for a wonder around the Royal Mile and soak in the atmosphere and history.

After our UK holiday it was then heading towards home via Copenhagen, Denmark to visit a friend.

Being my first visit to Denmark, we headed into the city of Copenhagen to explore the city and visit the many attractions. I found Copenhagen beautiful and the people to be lovely. We found the best way to explore the city was to join a Hop-On-Off canal cruise of the city.

If you are thinking of heading over to the Edinburgh Tattoo there are a number of companies that include tickets with their tours. I travelled with Trafalgar Tours and Globus / Cosmos Tours, Insight Vacations to name a few of the tours whom offer the Tattoo. With the Earlybird Deals and tours all available to book now is a great time to lock in your UK travels.

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"EXPERIENCE OUR EXPERIENCE"



The Whales...

PRE-SEATING

Just a reminder about Seating...

Most Airlines now are charging for pre-seating. You normally have to wait until your tickets are issued before you can have your seats allocated. Once your tickets are issued if you have a special request and are happy to pre-pay (if required) for your seats this is the time to do it. Please be sure to advise as at the time of ticketing if you have any special request. We can then advise you of your options.

All airlines have a different policy, some are based on the fare level you have paid as to if you can pre-purchase seats. Exit row seats can be purchased and the fees vary greatly depending on the airline.

INTERNATIONAL RESORT FEES & ROOMS TAXES

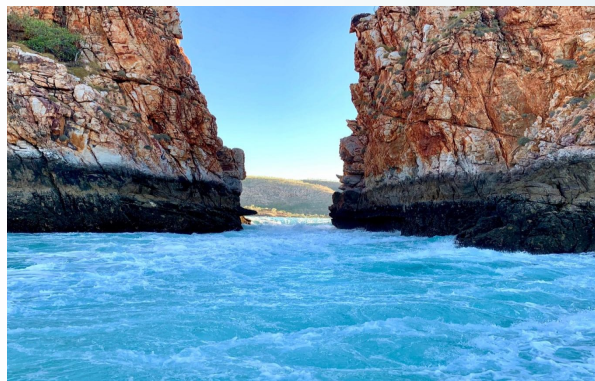
Something to keep in mind when travelling overseas with regards to Resort Fees in the United States and Room Taxes in Italy and Japan.

A lot of cities in America now have a "Resort Fee" which is payable direct to the hotel in USD, this fee normally covers things like WIFI, daily papers, bottled water. The fee is charged by the hotel and payable direct, it is worth checking to see if the hotel you are staying at has this fee as an additional charge. In some cases it can be USD\$40.00 a day.

Italy has a "City Tax" which will vary depending on the Standard of the property you are staying at. Once again this is payable direct to the hotel in local currency.

Some cities in Japan are also charging a "Hotel Tax" which is payable direct.

This Fee or Tax is something that the hotels charge direct so be sure to know if there are additional fees payable on what you have pre-booked, no one likes surprises like this on check-out.



Horizontal Falls

