



## Hawai'i MICE guide

**HAWAII**  
 Tourism  
 Oceania  
 has today  
 released  
 the  
 second  
 edition of  
 its Meet  
 Hawai'i  
 Guide.



Providing a general overview of Hawai'i's six main islands, the guide also provides details of conference, meetings and events facilities, touring activities, accommodation and dining options, team-building opportunities and special events & unique experiences.

There's also a directory of business events related contacts and a guide to hotel facilities.

The guide is available as a free download by **CLICKING HERE** or in hard copy by emailing [hballard@hawaiiitourism.com.au](mailto:hballard@hawaiiitourism.com.au).

## AMEX forecasts M&E growth

**THE** American Express Meetings & Events 2016 Global Meetings Forecast has predicted continued growth for the meetings industry in 2016, driven by positive economic trends combined with the global expansion of companies.

Across all regions, the number of training and internal meetings is expected to experience high levels of growth.

The forecast predicts that compliance, incentives and using mobile and social media for events will shape the meetings industry of 2016.

"It's pleasing to see a positive outlook in relation to Asia Pacific meetings spending and activity, particularly compared with last year when sentiment was a lot more cautious," said Belinda Doery, regional director, AMEX Meetings & Events, APAC.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the top five meetings destinations

for 2016 are predicted to be: Singapore, Shanghai, Hong Kong/Macau, Beijing and Sydney.

Group hotel rates and group hotel prices are predicted to grow 1.5%, while the overall meeting spend within an organisation is forecast to increase 2.1%.

The survey found the average lead time to be eight weeks, while Central/South America came in at six weeks, Europe at seven weeks and North America had a whopping 18 weeks.

Unlike the 2015 predictions, Australia stands out with a higher number of expected meetings than the regional average and the largest average numbers of attendees for sales and marketing meetings globally.

While meeting planners last year predicted meeting spend to remain stable, meeting spend is now expected to trend upwards through 2016.

To view the report **CLICK HERE**.

## Social Christchurch

**CHRISTCHURCH** looks to be getting back onto the business events map, with the hosting of the Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) in 2017.

The 1,200 delegate event will be the largest international conference for the NZ South Island city since it was hit by the Feb 2011 earthquake.

The Forum will also help boost New Zealand's fledgling social enterprise movement, according to Scottish founder Gerry Higgins, who was in Christchurch last week to confirm the venue.

Christchurch & Canterbury Convention Bureau manager Caroline Blanchfield said the city was ready for an event of this size.

"A large conference with a community focus like the SEWF lends itself to using an array of alternative and interesting meeting venues, and by taking a citywide approach we will be able to deliver a great experience."

We have just been awarded  
**Asia's Leading Tour Operator 2015**



And here are 268 reasons why...



Trails of Indochina

We would like to dedicate this advert to our incredibly talented staff and our global trade partners for making this happen.

[www.trailsofindochina.com](http://www.trailsofindochina.com)



# business events news

2nd November 2015



**NINETY** seconds.

That's all the time it took for the entire ten week Australian season of Rene Redzepi's Noma restaurant to sell out last Thursday morning.

The celebrity chef, famous for dishes containing such delights as live ants, tree moss and even crocodile fat, will undertake a residency in the new Barangaroo precinct in Sydney, relocating his entire operation from Copenhagen.

Despite a \$485 per person price tag - and that's just for the food, with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverage options also available - all 5,500 seats available while Noma Sydney is open - sold out in just under two minutes when the website opened for bookings.

The restaurant will open on Australia Day 2016.

## Auckland events centre in the cloud

**TECHNOLOGY** provided by cloud-based venue management software firm Priava has been selected to manage Auckland's Vodafone Events Centre.

The move comes as the centre plans significant expansion, with 4,600 square metres of existing venue spaces plus the addition of a new dedicated 1,260 square metre Conference Centre and Wero Whitewater Park which is scheduled to open in early 2016.

The Priava system will reduce IT support costs and offer seamless upgrades without downtime, as well as promising enhanced client communication, smooth migration of existing data and the ability to track prospects and support direct marketing.

## Brisbane's newest venue

TV personality Sofie Formica was just one of the highlights of an event at the Hotel Grand Chancellor Brisbane, which last week formally opened the doors to its new multi-million dollar Conference Centre.

Guests were indulged with the finest of libations including French champagne, cocktails and boutique beer as they dined on caviar and a fresh seafood bar.

The centre is claimed to be the "largest and most innovative purpose-built hotel conference facility in Brisbane," with more than 1000 square metres of floor space and 11 function rooms across two levels.

Every function room boasts state of the art audio visual equipment, which is managed on-site by Scene Change.

More than 350 guests enjoyed stunning entertainment during the launch, ranging from beat boxing to acrobatic acts and mesmerizing fire twirlers.



The development of the centre also saw a major expansion of the hotel's existing lobby, and the transformation of offices to make way for an additional 36 hotel rooms, bringing the full complement to 230 rooms.

The Hotel Grand Chancellor is situated at the highest point in the Brisbane CBD opposite the Roma Street Parklands.

Hotel Grand Chancellor general manager Peter Yared said he was thrilled at the turn-out.

"The support of everyone that attended is humbling...we are excited to become the venue of choice for conferencing and events in Brisbane," he said.

## ibtm travel discounts

**IBTM** World, which will take place in Barcelona 17-19 Nov, has announced preferential airfare deals with carriers including Emirates, Lufthansa and Iberia.

Registered trade visitors will also benefit from special discounts when they book with ibtm world's official DMC, Pacific World.

To make a reservation see [ibtmworld.com/travel-discounts](http://ibtmworld.com/travel-discounts).

## Perth Pan-Pac chef

**THE** Pan Pacific Hotel Perth has welcomed Michelin Star chef Paul Gaspa as its executive chef.

Gaspa, who has more than 15 years experience including roles at Dubai's iconic Burj al Arab, will oversee the hotel's Monterey's and Origins restaurants as well as its 24 hour in-room dining, Pacific Club lounge and its extensive meeting and event facilities.

Do you have the **BEN** app?



ANDROID APP ON  
Google play

Download on the  
App Store

## Ben on BEN



Each month Business Manager for inPlace Recruitment, Ben Carnegie, writes his observations from the recruiter's perspective to help job hunters find the perfect job.

Ben has over 15 years working in five star hotels and the MICE industry and has worked on some of Australia's biggest events.

## Career steps

**MY** daughter took her first steps this morning! Such an amazing feeling to see her with such a determined



look of concentration, tentatively take her hand away from the couch and step forward once, then again and again.

The look on her face said it all! "I did it all by myself!!".

I can't help but look back at all the guidance we've given her and the attempts, fails and tears along the way.

Your career is the same. Your happy to even get that first job. You master this job and look for your next challenge.

Every new role, you're moving forward, learning from those around you, from your mistakes and then overcoming your challenges to succeed.

Always listen to those around you, seek out a mentor and know where you're going. Make mistakes and take ownership if you do fail. Surround yourself with successful people and soon enough you'll not only be walking, but running!

**Business Events News** is Australia's newest online publication dedicated to the vibrant meetings, incentives, conferences and events sector.

Sign up for a free subscription at [www.busesseventsnews.com.au](http://www.busesseventsnews.com.au).

Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

Part of the Travel Daily group of publications.

**Business Events News** is a publication of Business Events News Pty Ltd ABN 80 153 775 449. All content is fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. **BEN** takes no responsibility for the opinions of its contributors/columnists. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

Editor: Bruce Piper [info@busesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:info@busesseventsnews.com.au)

Contributors: Guy Dundas, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Jenny Piper

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan and Magda Herdzik [advertising@busesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@busesseventsnews.com.au)

Business Manager: Jenny Piper [accounts@busesseventsnews.com.au](mailto:accounts@busesseventsnews.com.au)

Travel Daily CRUISE WEEKLY

travelBulletin

business events news

Pharmacy DAILY

Travel Daily TV