



HKTB MICE invitation

THE Hong Kong Tourism Board is inviting MICE planners and buyers to join them for a cocktail function at Sydney's Establishment restaurant. Dates and details **below**.

Radisson winter deal

SAVE up to 25% on total conference and event bills during Jun and Jul at Sydney's Radisson Blu Plaza.

For meetings held Fri to Mon a total of 25% off the total will be discounted, whilst meetings held Tue to Thu are eligible for a 5% deduction.

Available rooms include the Lady Fairfax Room, Marble and Press rooms and more.

To take advantage email:
events.sydney@radisson.com.

PCB backing reinstated

PROPOSED plans to cut 30% worth of funding to the Perth Convention Bureau over the next three years (**BEN** 25 Aug 15) have been overturned.

The Premier and Minister for Tourism, the Honourable Colin Barnett MLA, made the announcement yesterday stating that the reversal is seen as "critical" given the considerable expanded accom and venue space currently opening and due to open in the near future.

PCB chief executive officer Paul Beeson lauded the news, commenting: "We are grateful to the Premier and State Government for the reinstatement of this funding, particularly given the fiscally tight environment in which the Government currently sits. "It's an important

acknowledgement of the high return on investment PCB offers and recognition of the role of business tourism in the economy and fabric of our state," he said.

PCB chairman, Ian Laurance, said that the increased importance on the value of tourism, and particularly the business events sector will be critical for the state's economy in future years.

Laurance added that the additional funds will allow the organisation to meet the challenges of filling all the "wonderful new hotels and convention spaces".

MEANWHILE, the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre (PCEC) has hit a new milestone, welcoming its 10 millionth visitor in Mar.

"Given that Perth's population is only 2 million, we are absolutely thrilled that so many people have had an opportunity to use and enjoy the venue," PCEC General Manager Nigel Keen said.

"Overseas and interstate visitors have been walking through our doors in significant numbers, but it is also heartening to know that locals have also been making great use of the space - returning time and time again."

An estimate of 900,000 people are expected to attend more than 600 events this year at the PCEC.

\$2b venue for Brizzy?

GLOBAL venue management company AEG Ogden has plans to erect a 17,000 seat arena, cinema and public space above the Roma Street rail yards in Brisbane

The \$2 billion precinct named Brisbane Live aims to link King George Square with the Barracks on Petrie Terrace to complement the Queen's Wharf development.

The proposal will be delivered to Queensland government officials on Wed.

Oakwood's Brisbane Debut



OAKWOOD Asia Pacific marked its official expansion into the Aussie market last week, by celebrating the grand opening of its first branded building Oakwood Apartments Brisbane.

GM, Paul Wilsher, hosted guests at a cocktail party held outdoors overlooking the Story Bridge and the Brisbane CBD.

Pictured (left) are: Paul Wilsher, Hon Grace Grace MP & Dean Shreiber MD Oakwood Asia Pacific.

BEA Insights

with Penny Lion



BUSINESS EVENTS AUSTRALIA



TO SAY it's been a busy month for Business Events Australia would be to put it lightly – but what a month we've had.

The Business Events Australia team have travelled across Europe, Asia and the USA introducing our nation's unique destinations, industry-leading facilities and infrastructure and experiences to international markets.

As part of April's Australia Week in China, the Greater China Showcase provided 30 Australian business events products with direct-access to 100 corporate buyers and media.

Also in April, Tourism Australia along with Four Seasons Sydney and One and Only Hayman Island, hit the road in the US to showcase Australia's luxurious, rewarding experiences to incentive buyers

Showcasing Australia's diverse landscapes along with its stunning coastal and aquatic destinations, our teams helped to cement Australia's placement as a key incentive destination for this important market.

More recently, the Australia stand at IMEX Frankfurt boasted an impressive contingent of Australian business events products and destinations, with 18 stand partners flying the flag for Australia in Germany.

Highlighting Australia's strengths in the association and conference space, Business Events Australia introduced buyers to our expertise in the sectors of science, business and environment, driving Australia as an industry-leading destination.

Bolstering Australia's trade and distribution ties, events like these allow international audiences to discover that there's nothing like Australia when it comes to hosting business events.

Don't miss out!

Hong Kong Tourism Board invites meeting and incentive planners to join our Travel Mission cocktail function.

Tuesday 17 May 2016

Establishment

Level 3, 252 George St, Sydney
 6pm – 8pm

Mingle with over 35 suppliers and go into the draw to win sensational trips to Hong Kong

RSVP now to

Belinda.shillcock@hktb.com





business events news

9th May 2016

Do you have the **BEN** app?

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Citadines winter deal

THE Event Centre at Citadines on Bourke Melbourne is offering a complimentary lunch upgrade as part of its winter conference and meetings deal.

Events booked from now onwards for Jun, Jul or Aug will receive the complimentary upgrade to their day delegates package to include a hot buffet style lunch.

The day delegate package is priced from \$74 per person and include meeting room hire, fresh coffee and tea, morning and arvo tea breaks, stationery and more.

CLICK HERE for more info.

MICE Planners take on Europe!



TOURISM Portfolio partnered with DMC Nordic to take a select group of Aussie meeting planners on a famil exploring Copenhagen.

The four-day tour had attendees experiencing medieval alleyways, royal palaces, micro-breweries and sampling Nordic cuisine both at market stalls and in the

country's top restaurants.

Pictured is the group of MICE planners enjoying a waterside stroll in Copenhagen.

Preferred MICE ready

PREFERRED Hotels and Resorts has expanded its portfolio of MICE-equipped luxury hotels to offer planners a greater variety of global destinations for gatherings.

Venues are suitable for a variety of different events, from global annual conferences to small scale retreats, with each new property showcased and bookable online at PHGMeetings.com.

New MICE-ready properties include Palazzo Versace Dubai, UAE; Wanda Reign Chengdu, China; The Watergate Hotel, Washington; NOMO SOHO, New York City; Nassima Royal Hotel, Dubai; Pulitzer Amsterdam, Netherlands; EAST Miami, Florida; NH Collection Roma Palazzo Cinquecento, Italy.

BCEC hosts surgeons

MORE than 1500 of the country's leading medical and surgical professionals converged at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre for the annual Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Scientific Congress.

The five-day event held late Apr generated \$4.5 million in economic benefit for Brisbane and delivered 7,500 room nights to the city.

Dovetail consulting

FORMER Express Travel Group HR and events manager, Jackie Gordon, has teamed up with creative director Marcus Gibbs to launch a brand-new consulting company called Dovetail Brand Engagement.

The new company will offer HR and marketing/branding consulting services as well as full event management services for domestic, international meetings, conferences and events.

Patagonia buyer rego

BOUTIQUE Patagonia tourism trade event, Expolagos, has launched its 2016 Hosted Buyer Program.

The program will connect buyers with more than 70 exhibitors from southern Chila, Argentina and the Antarctic continent to discuss upcoming events and business opportunities.

Expolagos will this year take place in Puerto Montt, Chile, with the event alternating between Argentina and Chile every year.

The convention is due to take place 05 - 06 Sep, with hosted buyer applications due by 01 Aug.

CLICK HERE to register your interest for Expolagos.



A UK-BASED conference with a focus on the mundane and pointless has sold out.

Named "Boring Conference", the annual event will this year feature speakers who will give talks on East German pedestrian crossing signals, paper bags, lamp posts, toilet roll quality control codes and bricks.

The day long conference invites attendees to sit through subjects commonly overlooked and obvious, but when examined closely reveal themselves to be deeply fascinating.

Previous topics covered things such as sneezing, toast, IBM tills, the sounds made by vending machines, barcodes, yellow lines, the TV show Antiques Road Trip and London shop fronts.



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