

Peru puts the focus on agents



UNIQUE Latin America treated 25 agents to a three-course Peruvian dinner event at Sydney's En Casa restaurant last week.

Attendees enjoyed Pisco Sour demonstrations, a live folkloric dance show, and guest presentations from Promperu tourism board & LATAM airlines.

The evening was topped off with a prize giveaway, with Roslyn Burgess from Helloworld Lane Cove nabbing a trip to Peru.

Burgess won a five-day Sacred Valley & Lares Adventure to Machu Picchu with Mountain Lodges of Peru, a three-night cruise on the *Delfin III* with Delfin Amazon Cruises, an immersive two-night eco-lodge experience at Refugio Amazonas with Rainforest Expeditions, plus international and internal airfares, courtesy of LATAM.

The educational dinner was one of the first activities under Unique Latin America's new agent-focused strategy, which it says aims to put travel agents first and show them they are valued.

"Agents are always putting their customers first, so we wanted to put them first this time and show them just how valued they are at Unique Latin America," said Unique Latin America Director Rebeca Espinoza.

During the event Espinoza urged agents to show their clients the "real Peru", highlighting some of the most authentic experiences, from the Andean mountains to the Amazonian jungle.

Pictured are: Svet Monastyrsky, Promperu; winner Roslyn Burgess, Helloworld Lane Cove; Rebeca Espinoza, Unique Latin America & Shalina Sabar, LATAM.

Flight status deal

GLOBAL travel comparison platform Skyscanner has entered into a partnership with aviation tech company VariFlight to add real-time flight status updates to the Skyscanner mobile app.

VariFlight's technology will power the new feature which will provide up-to-date information on check-in counters, gates, and estimated takeoff/landing times.

Next to Sri Lanka

NEXT Hotels is set to make its debut in Sri Lanka when it opens the Next Hotel Colombo in 2019.

The 164-room property will be home to a Kafnu Urban Village – a specialist area designed for entrepreneurs to collaborate in.

It will also have multiple restaurants, a pool and a gym.

TAT restructure

THE Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has announced a restructure of its Deputy Governor positions.

The changes include Chattan Kunjara Na Ayudhya becoming Deputy Governor for International Marketing Asia and the South Pacific, Siripakorn Cheawsamoot moving into the Deputy Governor for Policy and Planning role, and Somradee Chitchong being appointed Advisor 10.

The changes came into effect earlier this month.

NCL cruise guide

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has launched the latest version of its Worldwide Cruising Guide with info on 2019/2020 itineraries, updated ship amenities, and trip planning advice.

Highlights of the guide include details on *Norwegian Jewel's* return for a third season in Australia, as well as cruise itineraries sailing through Hawaii,

Papeete and Bora Bora.

Further big ticket items include new Alaska cruise tour options and Europe sailings.

Access the guide online [HERE](#).

Blockchain focus

NEW research released by SITA suggests blockchain technology attracted the most research attention from airport and airline

CIOs so far this year.

Leading the motivation for the time investment in blockchain is its versatile utility across a range of important aviation functions such as passenger identification, ticketing, asset tracking, and frequent flyer programs.

"The biggest obstacles standing in the way of a seamless passenger journey are the siloed processes," said SITA Lab Director Gustavo Pina.

"By collaborating as a single industry, we can smooth that journey and blockchain is one of the technologies that has the potential to make that possible".

Access the full report [HERE](#).



Product Manager

Located in North Sydney, The Product Manager role is responsible for sourcing product from a broad range of helloworld preferred partners to ensure network, commercial and marketing objectives are maximised. In addition the successful candidate will conduct regular supplier review meetings in close collaboration with Marketing, Sales and Contracting teams to ensure activity plans are driving positive commercial outcomes. He/she would be required to identify trends and opportunities in the market to ensure a constant supply of relevant product is sourced, underpinned by strategic supplier initiatives to complement planned activity.

Essential knowledge and experience:

- Previous experience in the travel industry (min 5 years) is highly desirable.
- A proven record in a Product related environment.
- Understanding of the retail travel market and its various distribution channels.
- Demonstrated ability to work under pressure, meet deadlines and implement creative thinking in all market conditions.
- Strong analytical skills.

For more information please click [here](#)

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