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Aloha Honolulu with direct flights



Hawaiian Airlines will be the only US carrier flying to New Zealand when it starts direct flights from Auckland to Honolulu in March 2013.

The airline announced in July that it would offer three flights a week between the two destinations and Auckland Airport general manager aeronautical commercial Glenn Wedlock says the airport is looking forward to working with the airline and its partner on the new service.

“Hawaii is a very popular holiday spot for many Kiwis, plus we think that the dual destination combination of Hawaii and New Zealand offers exciting inbound leisure options for mainland US visitors and, just as importantly, offers fantastic connections to a wide range of great city destinations in the mainland United States.”

The service will provide New Zealanders with significant new holiday options,

including same carrier connections to islands such as Maui, Kauai and Hawaii, as well as to 11 destinations on the US mainland including Las Vegas, San Diego and New York.

Tourism New Zealand chief executive Kevin Bowler welcomed the announcement and says it is a significant step in improving visitor arrivals from the United States.

“The timing of this new service is ideal as the release of *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* will heighten interest in New Zealand and no doubt whet Americans’ appetite for travel here.”

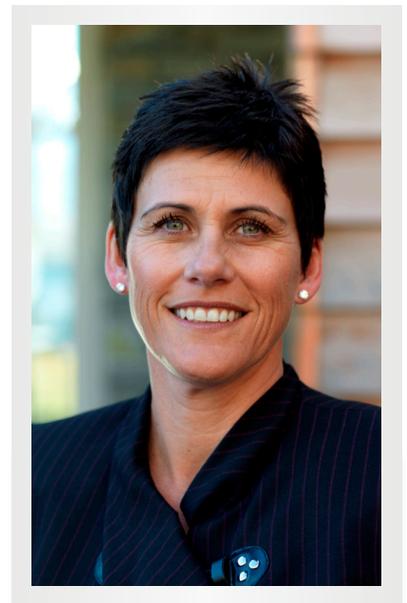
The new service will add 40,000 seats a year, each way, and passengers will be entitled to a free baggage allowance of two 32kg pieces, one of the most generous baggage allowances around.

www.hawaiianair.com

New director to come on board

Justine Smyth has been appointed as a new director on the Auckland International Airport Ltd board.

Chair Joan Withers announced the appointment in June, noting that Justine’s experience would positively complement the existing board members’ mix of skills and experience.



Justine is the current owner and executive director of a clothing manufacture and wholesale business, as well as a director of Telecom, a board member of the Financial Markets Authority and chair of the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.

Until recently she was also deputy chair of New Zealand Post Ltd and chair of their finance, audit, investment and risk committee.

The board unanimously supported the appointment and in accordance with the company’s constitution, Justine will retire and offer herself for election at the annual meeting on October 24, 2012.

Sustainability consultation process

Auckland Airport’s sustainability consultation process is drawing to a close and has elicited comments from far-flung corners of the world including India and Turkey.

At first look, the comments and submissions form a group of key topics, including aircraft noise, climate change, economic performance, sustainable transport to and from the airport, environmental protection and the airport’s social contribution.

While some submissions were very detailed – the NZ Bus and Coach Association produced a four-page response – many

concentrated on specific topics rather than the broader strategy.

Auckland Airport sustainability advisor Martin Fryer says the airport can take it as a sign that it has met stakeholder expectations in terms of the plan’s content, reflecting the experience gained from the first plan.

“The results of the consultation exercise will be analysed and a final draft produced for discussion and sign-off with senior management. I’d like to also say thank you to everyone who contributed.”

Experiencing China



It's not every day you get to go on a \$10,000 adventure in China for free, but that's just what Tony Mengel got to do after he won a competition exclusively open to AA members last year.

The competition was a collaboration between AA Tourism and Auckland Airport in conjunction with China Southern to celebrate their direct flights from Auckland to Guangzhou.

Tony got to take one lucky person with him on his 14-day tour, which was arranged by Auckland-based Adventure World and encompassed the wonders of China

including the Great Wall, the Terracotta Warriors, the Buddhist gems of Hangzhou and the Shaolin monks' Kung Fu display.

Joining a group of eight people ranging in age from their late 20s up to 65, Tony cannot praise the guide Olive highly enough. "She was professional, knowledgeable and friendly and like the other tour members we bonded with her really quickly."

Clear blue skies accompanied their day on the Great Wall and Tony also names experiencing the overnight train between Xian and Beijing as a highlight of the trip.

Shooting for gold

Community sporting groups, schools and Marae once again have a chance to receive a slice of a \$25,000 fund as part of the 2012 Auckland Airport Gold Medal Awards.

The awards are in their third year and aim to develop healthy young people in the Auckland region through sport and fitness by helping groups or teams pay for sporting equipment, coaching or training, travel or accommodation for a sporting event.



Applications opened on August 6 and each submission will be considered under three main areas: whether it addresses a clearly defined need; whether the group has access to other funding; and whether it will benefit the community or club goals.

Preference will be given to applications seeking funding for particular projects or initiatives that will achieve tangible outcomes.

Previous winners include Papatoetoe Association Football Club, Air Raiders Basketball Club (pictured) and Te Rahuitanga Te Kohanga Reo.

Applications close on Sunday September 2 and the winners will be informed on Monday September 17 ahead of a special presentation at Auckland Airport on Friday September 28.

Head to www.aucklandairport.co.nz/goldmedalawards for more information or to apply online.

A hand up for local organisations

Twenty local community projects have received \$467,000 from the Auckland Airport Community Trust (AACT) in its 2012 funding round, taking the total amount donated by the trust since it began to over \$2.56 million.

Established in 2003, the Trust receives \$250,000 a year from Auckland Airport and distributes the money to local organisations operating within its "area of benefit" that are supporting the community in the areas of literacy or life skills.

There was an unprecedented number of high quality applications for the grants this year, making the AACT's decision a difficult one. Chairman Roger Baldwin says the recipients were carefully chosen to ensure the funding provided the best possible outcome for the community.

"We can see the very real benefit that the previous AACT donations have had for the community and we know that this year's donations will have a significant impact as well. It truly is a privilege to help local groups who are achieving such great things within the community."

One of this year's grant recipients is Youthline Manukau, which receives \$30,000 for youth development programmes facilitated by youth workers from its new centre in Papatoetoe. The centre offers local young people a place to relax and feel comfortable, as well as a range of health and personal development services.



At the Youth Connections launch are (L-R): Richard Llewellyn (AACT), Sir Stephen Tindall (Tindall Foundation), Auckland Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse, and Martin Fryer (AACT).

Another recipient is Youth Connections, a joint initiative between the AACT, Auckland Council and the Tindall Foundation. Youth Connections aims to address the high number of Auckland's young people not in education, employment or training. With the 2012 grant, the AACT is specifically supporting the Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board.

Supporting Auckland's young people is not only a clear focus of Auckland Airport's wider community relations programme, but also a vital component of the council's Auckland Plan. Youth Connections will see local boards working closely with employers, education providers and young people to ensure there are more opportunities for all school leavers.

For a list of the 2012 grant recipients, visit www.aucklandairportcommunitytrust.org.nz

Attracting more Taiwanese tourists



Two Taiwanese celebrity guests were introduced to New Zealand last month as part of a new high-profile traveller campaign to grow inbound tourism from Taiwan, the next phase of Auckland Airport's Ambition 2020 initiative.

Television news anchor HaiYin Chen (pictured) and her renowned architect husband Lienchuan Yu completed an eight-day tour of the country that included the Queenstown Winter Festival and other top tourism locations in Auckland, the central North Island and the lower South Island.

Glenn Wedlock, general manager aeronautical commercial for Auckland Airport, says brand ambassadors such as HaiYin can use their enormous social media presence to share the New Zealand experience with their fan bases back home.

"Bringing HaiYin and Lienchuan here

and showing them, and their fans back in Taiwan, what New Zealand has to offer is part of our successful strategy to promote local tourism destinations and develop our nation's reputation as a must-visit travel destination," Glenn says.

HaiYin's blog posts have attracted more than 25.5 million visitors and she regularly updated her fans throughout her tour of New Zealand with her views on the country.

With a population of 23 million, Taiwan is considered a mature and high-value market that has the potential to provide a minimum of 21,000 inbound visitors a year to New Zealand by 2020, bringing at the very least an additional \$70 million to the economy.

The campaign also follows the announcement of trade pact talks with Taiwan, New Zealand's eighth largest export market and largest butter importer.

Youth benefit from auctions

The final instalment of the money Auckland Airport raised for the Foundation for Youth Development (FYD) was handed to the organisation last month, bringing the total amount donated to \$59,000.

The money was raised through a unique series of auctions that offered pieces of the airport's 30-year-old Solari board flight display sign for sale on Trade Me.



Auckland Airport general manager corporate affairs Charles Spillane says it's rewarding to see the great work that FYD is doing in South Auckland with the donation.

"We are also grateful that the auction attracted a lot of public interest and helped raise awareness of the fantastic work that FYD does."

The money has been used to directly support the foundation's programmes in the South Auckland region, helping kids in the community to discover possibility and creating a youth population with a positive outlook and eyes open to the future.

FYD CEO Marion Short says research shows the programmes get long-term results. "They help create a motivated and engaged youth population. If we can work together to ensure that our youth are successful, then we as a country will be successful."

Airport internship opportunities



Manukau Institute of Technology (MIT) and Auckland Airport are joining forces to offer students the opportunity to undertake internships at the country's busiest airport.

The relationship is part of the Auckland Council's Southern Initiative, which aims to increase living standards in Auckland south.

The programme will see MIT students from the South Auckland area provided with the opportunity to participate in internships over their summer holidays with Auckland Airport retail, food and beverage providers.

"We're talking about potentially creating careers and providing career paths in

organisations for appropriately qualified students. It's a very exciting opportunity," says Charles Spillane, Auckland Airport general manager corporate affairs.

MIT external relations director Stuart Middleton says the institution's commitment to the Southern Initiative meant working with the airport wasn't a hard decision.

"It seemed to us totally in tune with where we want to go," he says, pointing out that students will get real training rather than just watching someone operate a cash register.

"We know this programme will put people into jobs."



20.3%

The increase in the number of Australians arriving at Auckland in June 2012 when compared to June 2011.

Keeping Auckland Airport safe: The Airport Police



The Airport Police have a responsibility to police all land owned by the Auckland Airport Company (and of course, beyond those boundaries), and we do this in conjunction with many partner agencies.

Naturally, when it comes to situations requiring an urgent response to criminal offending we are the first port of call, however, we also need to be informed of any situation that involves intelligence-led policing.

This could include, for example, a suspicious incident that may have already occurred, such as those involving vehicles or people.

Information that might assist us to apprehend offenders – even a good old fashioned “something does not feel right” feeling – will not be dismissed without basic investigation. In fact, without this intelligence we can only achieve so much.

Our crime levels are still pleasingly low and this can be attributed to the enormous investment that police and other security organisations have made, however we need our visitors to be a little more vigilant around their own possessions.

Of the small number of thefts that do occur here, some could have been prevented by people being just a little bit more aware of their surroundings and most of all not assuming that their valuables are 100 per cent safe.

The harsh reality is that in every airport, in every city in the world, there is a thief waiting to make the most of any opportunity.

The Auckland Airport Company employs the Airport Watch system (09 256 8817) to report suspicious behaviour and police of course endorse the internationally recognised Crimestoppers service (0800 555 111).

The Airport Police (09 275 9046) have just recorded their first major success as a result of Crimestoppers and we are delighted.

A very small piece of information led to a much larger arrest, which just goes to show that a seemingly unimportant snippet may actually be the largest piece of the jigsaw.

Whether you are passing through this wonderful airport or arrive here every day for work, thank you for helping us to ensure it remains one of the safest airports in the world.



Sweet tooth celebrations

Queensland’s Sunshine Coast Airport not only welcomed the new Air New Zealand direct flight arrival from Auckland last month – signaling the change into an international airport for the first time – they were also celebrating winning internationally acclaimed anna.aero’s “Cake of the Week” title for their twin cakes.



The “arrivals” and “departures” cakes had some stiff competition from TAV (Istanbul Ataturk Airport), which created a Bosphorus Bridge cake to celebrate the launch of United’s New York-Istanbul service.

Anna.aero – Airline Network News and Analysis – has 80,000 online readers who vote for their favourite cake each week. The winners are then in the running for a monthly award.

The cakes were baked and decorated by Wendy Berrospi from Sweet Creations in Buderim and were cut by the Irwin family and curators of Australia Zoo.

www.airnewzealand.co.nz
www.virginaustralia.com



 **11%**

The increase in the total number of international passengers arriving at Auckland Airport in June 2012 when compared to June 2011.

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