

Long long w@@kend... \$99* Fantastic Fridays & Super Sundays



Stay at any of our properties between April 1st and August 31st, 2006 on a Friday or Sunday night for the amazing price of only \$99 per night. Other specials are also available for Saturday night stays and mid-week.



Book online now at www.rydges.com/weekend or call 1300 857 922 for other great deals

*Terms & Conditions: Rates & rooms are subject to availability. Bookings available through www.rydges.com only. \$10 surcharge for phone bookings. Rydges Jamison Sydney will incur a surcharge of \$60 per night. This offer does not include frequent flyer points. Kids are classified as 12 years and under. Kids stay free in existing bedding only and eat free when dining with a full paying adult. Offer excludes room service. Rate includes GST. Rate advertised in local currency. Offer valid from 01 April 2006 to 31 August 2006.

RYDGES
HOTELS • RESORTS

Australia: Sydney, Wollongong, Port Macquarie, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide, Hobart, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Cairns, Yeppoon, Perth.
Go online to check-out great deals in New Zealand.

Siteseeing FOCUS ON ... SEARCH FOR SPECIALS

with SCOTT PODMORE
siteseeing@escape.com.au

Everyone loves a discount, but the hardest part is finding them — try these websites for some great travel deals

SEAL THE DEAL

www.travelmonitor.com.au

THIS new Australian website is making a name for itself as the place to go for tracking down travel deals or special offers in most parts of the world.

Travel Monitor lists more than 1000 discounts and bonus inclusions available with air travel, cruising, tours and hotel stays in Australia and more than 120 countries. It can save travellers thousands of dollars in some cases, or gain them extra benefits by changing travel dates slightly or varying itineraries. It helps travellers shop for the best-value deal by listing a range of offers made by hundreds of travel operators and agents at any time. It also allows buyers to check out the worth of advertised offers by comparing prices of companies promoting the same product. Material is updated daily and the site carries only offers marketed by Australian companies or foreign companies officially represented in Australia, ensuring buyers have the protection of state and federal legislation governing the activities of travel agents and suppliers.

NEED IT NOW

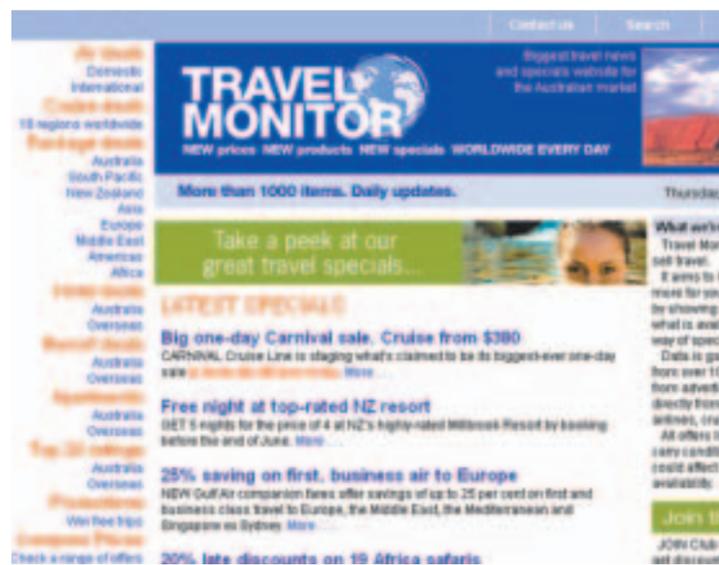
www.needitnow.com

THIS site specialises in giving web surfers the chance to snap up travel bargains at the last minute. The main focus is accommodation throughout Australia and New Zealand. The online booking process is a breeze and there are also last-minute specials for flights and car hire.

HERE'S CHEERS

www.thehappiesthour.com

MOST Aussies enjoy travel and love a beer — here is a kind of beer heaven for those who want to know where the happy hours are happening in



Australia's capital cities. Simply use a search engine to find out where the discounts are, read reviews and sign up for a free newsletter. The chat forum has some great reading too, including finding out about such things as best and worst venues, best pub crawls and a Hall of Shame for places that are absolute rip-offs.

ZIP INTO ZUJI

www.zuji.com.au

THIS online travel giant gives travellers a choice of more than 60,000 hotels with 45,000 traveller reviews, 400 airlines as well as package tours, cruises, car hire, attractions and other products.

Zuji has some red-hot specials for the snow season, in which you can save hundreds of dollars, including some super seven-night deals in Falls Creek, Thredbo and Queenstown, New Zealand.

WOT'S HOT

www.wotif.com

WOTIF is becoming synonymous with accommodation bargains — choose from a broad range of hotels, motels, apartments, resorts and B&Bs in more than 35 countries at discounted rates — sometimes heavily discounted. Book last-minute accommodation or up to 28 days in advance by using a search engine and keep an eye on the Wot's

Hot link, which has regular promotions.

When this column went to print, accommodation was available at Broome's Rendezvous Sanctuary Resort, Cable Beach, for \$192 (studio apartment, including breakfast for two, open plan living and kitchen facilities).

Now that's a hot deal, and there are plenty more.

STUDENTS' DREAM

www.studentflights.com.au

THIS is a dream website for students and backpackers who are searching for affordable rates.

Some deals include one-way air fares to London from just over \$900 and a ticket to Tokyo from \$1179, as well as great domestic flight specials.

There is also loads of material on working holidays, hotels and hostels, cheap tours and some excellent destination guides supplied by Lonely Planet.

COMPARE FARES

www.flightcentre.com.au

FLIGHT Centre's cyberhome is a gem for its homepage search facility feature — quite simply, its motto is: "Search. Compare. Book." And it really is that easy.

Also check competitive rates for car hire, hotels, cruise and rail.



Rock and Rail

4 days ~ The Ghan ~ Alice Springs, Kata Tjuta, Walpa Gorge, Uluru sunrise and sunset tours.

from **\$1,295pp***
Concession fare ex Adelaide



THE GHAN

Refresh your soul.
Visit Australia's heart.

The wide brown land for me

Two great train holiday packages that take you deep into Australia's heart. Enjoy Gold Kangaroo Service on board The Legendary Ghan PLUS tour Australia's iconic Red Centre attractions. Spectacular holidays at spectacular value.

Call 1300 13 21 47, visit trainways.com.au or see your licensed travel agent.



Darwin and The Rock

6 days ~ The Ghan ~ Darwin, Katherine, Alice Springs ~ Uluru sunset and sunrise tours, Kata Tjuta, Walpa Gorge.

from **\$2,265pp***
Concession fare ex Darwin

*Concession fare per person twin share Gold Kangaroo Service, Rock and Rail ex Adelaide, Darwin and the Rock ex Darwin. Prices are subject to change. Airfares not included in package price. Ask about our supersaver airfares available. Packages available for bookings made 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007. For travel from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007 and completed by 31 March 2007. Fares valid to 31 March 2007. For Trainways packages only. Conditions apply. Travel Agent Licence No. TTA 164 190. GSGH23119/2