

## **Media Release**

**3 August 2011**

### **SIDE-STEP YOUR WAY BACK TO NEW ZEALAND**

New Zealand really is the place to be with so many rugby matches coming up over the next few months. Visitors from around the world are starting to gear up to take in our beautiful country.

As availability around this time tightens on flights on traditional routes to New Zealand, Flight Centre, New Zealand's largest travel agency, has drawn on the expert airfare knowledge of its travel consultants to come up with interesting ways to get home to New Zealand to soak up the rugby atmosphere.

#### **South Africa**

Coming from South Africa, why not head to Auckland via Brazil and stop in the colourful city of Rio De Janeiro? Take in the renowned statue of Christ the Redeemer, sing the famous song at Copacabana beach, check out the girl from Ipanema and admire the picture perfect Sugarloaf Mountain. If you needed anymore reasons to visit this vibrant city, flying to Auckland via Brazil with South African Airways and Lan Chile gives you extra luggage allowance of two 23 kilogram bags each. Shop away!

#### **France**

There's only one way to head to New Zealand from France and that's on the superjumbo A380 aircraft with Emirates. Fly through Dubai and stay in the city where old mixes with new. Explore the gold and spice souks and Dubai Creek with traditional dhow boats then experience the new of Dubai and shop at some of the largest shopping malls in the world, with indoor ski slopes! Splash around at the water fun parks, stay in lavish seven-star hotels and be sure to take a desert tour where you can sand-board in the dunes or dine in the desert.

Continue on your journey to Auckland after Dubai by stopping in the Maldives – paradise on earth! And remember, you'll have 30 kilograms of luggage allowance to play with on this route.

#### **England**

Forget the usual routes from Europe to New Zealand, try heading via India and stop in one of the oldest European settlements in India – Fort Kochi. Its quaint streets and heritage buildings are a must-see before taking a private two night cruise on the Keralan Backwaters on a luxury rice barge. It's the perfect way to take in the beauty of Southern India.

#### **Germany**

If it's time to put down your schnitzel and stein and head home, then why not taste the tequila of Mexico along the way. Take a cruise along the Mexican Riviera and take in Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas, Acapulco or Manzanillo.

Throughout Mexico you can learn about the history and culture of the Aztecs, the Toltecs and the Mayans and visit the vast archaeological ruins. Heading back through fabulous Los Angeles is a must!

- ENDS -

For more information contact:

Marie Pilkington

Flight Centre

021 753 767

### **About Flight Centre**

Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd is New Zealand's largest travel agency, with approximately 900 staff in more than 200 retail stores and businesses nationwide.

Flight Centre consultants are the travel experts and are selected for their vast product knowledge and their passion for travel. Flight Centre's global network allows consultants access to the widest travel product offering in the New Zealand, at the best value.

Brands in the New Zealand market operated by Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd include;

Flight Centre  
Round the World  
Premium Travel  
FCm Travel Solutions  
Corporate Traveller  
Student Flights  
Infinity Holidays  
Escape Holidays  
CiEvents  
Cruiseabout

The company has won the JRA Best Workplaces, large workplace category award for eight consecutive years. In addition and in recognition of Flight Centre's continued achievements in the JRA Best Workplaces Survey over the past eight years, Flight Centre is also a Five-Year League Award recipient.

Flight Centre Limited globally has almost 13,000 staff in 11 countries including Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Hong Kong, India and China.