

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **TRAVEL PRICES THE LOWEST IN DECADES**

With airfares and holiday packages the lowest in decades, New Zealand's largest travel retailer, Flight Centre, advises Kiwis to make the most of these fantastic specials.

Flight Centre's spokesperson, Marie Pilkington, reflects on the price comparisons over the past year, which has seen the cost of many international destinations fall dramatically.

"The deals that our air and land partners are currently offering are terrific value and will probably never be repeated.

"We're excited to bring consumers these incredibly low fares and we encourage Kiwis to take advantage of these deals as we believe these fares are not sustainable in the medium-term," Ms Pilkington said.

The drop in airfares comes at an opportune time for Kiwis looking to take a break this year and escape the pressures that the global economic crisis brings.

"New Zealanders need to take their well-earned break this year and now is the time to capitalise on these low fares.

In 2008, an average return ticket to London in low season was \$2,299, this price has since dropped as low as \$1,599 with an Asian airline this year.

For Kiwis wanting to visit America, pricing has dropped from an average of \$1,899 return to Los Angeles in 2008 to as low as \$895 this year. Hawaii has also seen a price fall from \$1,499 previous years to \$899 this year.

Closer to home, jumping across the Tasman this year has seen pricing from Flight Centre drop to as low as \$199 for a return fare to Sydney. When you remove the airport taxes, levies and security charges of approximately \$160 per ticket, this translates to a fare level of just \$39 return.

The Pacific Islands has also never been more affordable with prices this year to Rarotonga dropping as low as \$499, compared to \$900 in previous years.

Ms Pilkington went on to say that Flight Centre is committed to bringing Kiwis the best value airfare and holiday packages and if New Zealanders are wanting to travel then now has never been a better time to book.

"By using an experienced travel consultant, Kiwis can rest assured they're getting the best deal and a holiday that suits their individual requirements.

“With travel prices so low, it’s important New Zealanders take advantage of these deals and lock them in now in case of any unforeseen price rises, such as fuel charges and taxes, which may occur,” Ms Pilkington said.

- ENDS -

Flight Centre’s global sale is on now with massive savings on a range of holiday options.

### **Sydney**

Airfares + 2 Nights

**AKL - \$429\*pp** save \$130\*pp, **WLG - \$535\*pp** save \$210\*pp, **CHC - \$389\*pp** save \$145\*pp

### **Gold Coast**

Airfares + 7 Nights

**AKL/WLG/CHC - \$599\*pp**, AKL/CHC save \$270\*pp, WLG save \$425\*pp

### **Fiji**

Airfares + 4 Nights

INCLUDES Airports transfers and continental breakfast daily.

**AKL - \$679\*pp** save \$270\*pp, **WLG - \$799\*pp** save \$280\*pp, **CHC - \$799\*pp** save \$280\*pp

### **Hong Kong 4-Star**

Airfares + 4 Nights

INCLUDES Upgrade to a Deluxe Room (subject to availability).

**AKL - \$1,399\*pp** save \$330\*pp, **WLG - \$1,619\*pp** save \$330\*pp, **CHC - \$1,619\*pp** save \$330 \*pp

### **Hawaii**

Airfares + 5 Nights

INCLUDES 5 nights in Honolulu.

**AKL/WLG/CHC - \$1,299 \*pp** save \$645\*pp

\*Price subject to availability. Valid for sales until 15 May 2009. Travel dates vary, call 0800 35 44 42 for details.

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