



JANUARY 2009 NEWS FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA

JAN 09: Latest news from South Australia (www.southaustralia.com) includes tennis greats Pat Cash and Henri Leconte, among others, playing in Adelaide, Chris Isaak performing in the Barossa and wild dolphins tail walking:

- WORLD TENNIS CHALLENGE TO BRING GREATS TO ADELAIDE
- MULTI MILLION DOLLAR REFURBISHMENT FOR BAROSSA RESORT
- CHRIS ISAAK TO PERFORM AT BAROSSA UNDER THE STARS
- NEW HELI-GOLF DAY PACKAGE FROM GOLF EXPLORER
- HUNT TAKES OVER WILPENA POUND RESORT
- WILD DOLPHINS WALKING TALL
- TIGER AIRWAYS ANNOUNCES FIRST ADELAIDE ROUTES
- PEREGRINE ADVENTURES LAUNCHES NEW SOUTH AUSTRALIA TREKS
- BAROSSA VOTED ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP 10 WINE DESTINATIONS
- WINE AUSTRALIA TO STAGE INAUGURAL RESIDENTIAL TUTORIAL IN THE BAROSSA

WORLD TENNIS CHALLENGE TO BRING GREATS TO ADELAIDE - Some of the world's biggest tennis names, past and present, will be participating in the World Tennis Challenge to be held in Adelaide at Memorial Drive from January 14-16 2009. Pat Cash, Mark Philippoussis, Jim Courier, Mats Wilander and Henri Leconte are set to star in what Recreation and Sport Minister, Michael Wright, described as "one of the most innovative and exciting sports entertainment events on the world stage". The inaugural World Tennis Challenge will feature four teams – Australia, the United States, France and Sweden, with each team consisting of a past legend and a current star. www.worldtennischallenge.com

MULTI MILLION DOLLAR REFURBISHMENT FOR BAROSSA VALLEY RESORT

The Novotel Barossa Valley Resort opened its doors at the end of last year following a multi-million dollar refurbishment. With a commitment to the environment, all the redecorated and refurnished rooms have been installed with energy efficient lighting, water saving shower heads and green certified absorption fridges with no moving parts, ensuring complete silence through the night. Other features include newly installed docking stations and nine complimentary Foxtel channels.

The resort features an 18-hole golf course, half-court basketball, badminton and tennis courts, gymnasium, bicycles and a new High Ropes course, the only one of its kind in the Barossa, whilst the endota Day Spa offers a host of luxurious treatments including its signature red wine bath. www.novotelbarossa.com.au

CHRIS ISAAK TO PERFORM AT BAROSSA UNDER THE STARS – Internationally renowned Californian singer, Chris Isaak, will headline Barossa Under the Stars on March 14. The news coincides with the recent release of the singer/songwriter's first live album, Chris Isaak- Live in Australia, by Universal Music Australia. Barossa Under The Stars, which has showcased acts such as Joe Cocker, Rod Stewart and The Beach Boys during its 10-year history, is now one of the state's premier social events.

The **NEW HELI-GOLF DAY PACKAGE FROM GOLF EXPLORER** offers golfers a private Adelaide hotel/airport transfer for a scenic flight aboard an AS350 Squirrel helicopter above the Fleurieu Peninsula coast and on to Links Lady Bay Golf Club. Designed by Jack Newton, the course offers a St Andrew's-style sand-based links course with challenges for golfers of all abilities. Heli-golfers will have the added advantage of a 15-minute helicopter flight over the course accompanied by the Club Professional who will point out all the hazards from above. The Heli-Golf Day also includes one round of golf with a shared cart and the use of a full set of hire clubs. www.golfexplorer.com.au

HUNT TAKES OVER WILPENNA POUND RESORT – One of Australia's most visionary tourism personalities is set to take the Flinders Ranges to a higher level with the purchase of renowned Wilpenna Pound Resort from long-term owners and

Flinders Ranges' icons, the Rasheed family. Grant Hunt, head of the new company "Anthology the Travellers' Collection" and the original driving force behind Voyages, recently took ownership of Wilpena Pound Resort with a view to rejuvenating the property early this year.

WILD DOLPHINS WALKING TALL - A wild dolphin is apparently teaching other members of her group to walk on their tails, a behaviour usually seen only after training in captivity. These tail-walking dolphins live along the South Australian coast near Adelaide. "We can't for the life of us work out why they do it," said Mike Bossley from the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS), one of the scientists who have been monitoring the group on the Port River estuary. Bossley also said: "This indicates that they do learn from each other".

TIGER AIRWAYS ANNOUNCES FIRST ADELAIDE ROUTES -Tiger Airways has announced that Melbourne, Perth, the Gold Coast, Hobart and Alice Springs will be the first routes from Adelaide Airport, the airline's new second Australian base. To date Tiger flew only between Melbourne and Adelaide but from 1 March 2009, it will fly this route 39 times each week, introducing daily flights to Adelaide from Perth and the Gold Coast. The Alice Springs-Adelaide route will operate three times a week, the Hobart-Adelaide route four times a week.

PEREGRINE ADVENTURES LAUNCHES NEW SOUTH AUSTRALIA TREKS

Leading small group tour operator, Peregrine Adventures, has launched an exciting seven-day Flinders Ranges trek and a new five-day Kangaroo Island exploration tour, both of which may be combined to form an 11-day Southern adventure. The Flinders Ranges & The Heysen Trail trip provides a taste of the Outback, showcasing the amazing diversity of the region from the Heysen Trail to Wilpena Pound, and the copper mining town of Blinman, whilst Kangaroo Island will satisfy wildlife fans as this is home to over 250 species of birds and 850 varieties of plants.

BAROSSA VOTED ONE OF WORLD'S TOP 10 WINE DESTINATIONS by

TripAdvisor, the largest online travel community. Based both on the editor's opinion and the popularity of the Barossa among the travelling public, TripAdvisor commented: "This scenic region in South Australia is highly regarded for its Shiraz

and other robust varieties of red wine. Characterised by its visible rich German heritage, along with rolling vine-covered hills, the Barossa Valley is a uniquely beautiful destination for sightseers and wine connoisseurs alike.”

WINE AUSTRALIA TO STAGE INAUGURAL RESIDENTIAL TUTORIAL IN THE BAROSSA – The Barossa’s the award winning vineyard retreat The Louise and its restaurant, Appellation, will provide the luxurious base for Wine Australia’s inaugural five-day residential tutorial in June 2009 which will see Appellation devoting its full culinary resources to this event, matching courses to the amazing array of wines on offer for participants of the tutorial.

Wine Australia will select and fly twelve high profile opinion formers from all over the world to South Australia where principal tutors, Dr. Tony Jordan, Michael Hill Smith AM MW and Andrew Caillard MW, will lead the Landmark Australia Tutorial and will be joined by other wine experts including James Halliday and Brian Croser.

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