

Agents can win South Africa trip

■ **Makanyane Safari Lodge** in South Africa is offering agents the chance to win one of three prizes combining a stay at the lodge with tickets to one of England's World Cup group matches.

The first three agents to book five packages incorporating a four-night (or longer) stay at Makanyane for two people sharing will win the trip for two to Makanyane.

The lodge is situated on private land within the 75,000 hectare malaria-free Madikwe Game Reserve, home to the Big Five and a host of other animal and bird species.

The deal is valid for sales made between April 1 and May 3 2010, for travel anytime from April 1 onwards.

Bookings must be logged to makanyane@hbportfolio.co.uk



Seychelles in the Round

■ Seychelles will have a brand new resort by the end of 2010 with the opening of the **Round Island Resort Mahé**, a 'top-end exclusive resort' featuring just 10 secluded oceanfront beach villas, all with their own private infinity pools just steps from the beach.

The five-acre island resort with Creole-Seychellois inspired architecture will be managed by Dubai-based **Jebel Ali International Hotels** as part of the Enchanted Seychelles collection and will also host the Serena Round Island Spa.

Round Island has several stunning beaches with excellent swimming, coves and one of the best snorkelling sites in the Seychelles.

www.enchantedseychelles.com

Private Maldives dining is a Classic affair

■ Maldives resort **Kanuhura**, located on the eastern rim of remote Lhaviyani Atoll, has opened a new upscale restaurant called 'Kandu' on its own privately owned island, Jehunhura.

A few minutes away by boat from Kanuhura, the island retreat restaurant's speciality is, not surprisingly, locally-caught seafood.

ITC Classics has seven nights at Kanuhura priced from £1,930 pp, based on two sharing a beach villa, breakfast, with World Traveller flights with British Airways from London-Gatwick and seaplane transfers, valid for travel between May 8 and July 31 and September 1-30 2010.

A Shore secret in Phuket

■ Phuket has a new pool villa property – **The Shore at Katathani** – which was set to open on April 1.

Located on the secluded cove of Kata Noi Beach on Phuket's southwest coast, it's just 45 minutes by road to Phuket International Airport and is claimed to be 'the ultimate in luxury to Thailand'.

The Shore at Katathani has 36 luxurious infinity pool villas, restaurant, spa, wine cellar and a Secret Wedding Terrace. The Shore's style fuses seaside resort comfort, colonial antiquity and mod-con luxury on a hillside with views of the 850-metre beachfront.

Facilities at the resort include a restaurant, cocktail bar, wine cellar and Serenity Spa. The Secret Wedding



Terrace can accommodate up to 120 people for weddings, vow renewals and blessing ceremonies.

The Shore at Katathani is the little sister to the established Katathani

Phuket Beach Resort, located next door. Guests staying at The Shore will have full use of all the facilities on offer at Katathani Phuket Beach Resort.

www.theshore.katathani.com

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GENERAL TRAVEL IN BRIEF

UK-Taiwan direct for the first time

■ **China Airlines** launched a service from London-Heathrow to Taipei, Taiwan, last month, the first time that the UK has been connected by a non-stop service to Taiwan. The thrice-weekly flights depart London on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays with return fares starting from £523, including taxes and charges. www.china-airlines.co.uk

February a Premier month

■ **Premier Holidays** reported record sales in February, with total passenger bookings up 24%. The best seller remains Premier's Faraway product, with bookings up 36%. Bookings to South Africa were up 138%, while the Maldives also saw a steep 197% increase. Far East business improved by 80%. www.trade.premierholidays.co.uk

Kirra Tours can help plan Kiwi trip

■ Clients looking for the perfect New Zealand trip will appreciate the launch of the 2010/2011 edition of **Kirra Tours' New Zealand Holiday Planner**. The 92-page guide includes accommodation by region and suggested self-drive itineraries, focusing on interests such as food and wine, nature and wildlife. **0800 856 5494; www.kirratours.com**