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#### NEWSFLASH - DECEMBER 2017

# Grayston Travel's management & staff would like to wish our valued and loyal clients a Merry Christmas.

#### **GRAYSTON TRAVEL**

Grayston Travel would like to thank all our valued clients for their support though out 2017. Grayston travel will be closing at 12H00 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2017 and although we will not be in the offices between Christmas and New Year, we will have a full team working on laptops making reservations as usual during that week.

#### **NEW BA BOARDING POLICY**

British Airways is to introduce a new boarding policy which will see passengers with the cheapest tickets board last. The airline says the new policy which is being introduced from December will speed up the boarding process. Under the new policy BA passengers will be issued with boarding cards numbered from five to one, based on the fare they paid and their frequent flyer status. Group one passengers will board first and group five will be held back until everyone else is seated however disabled passengers and anyone travelling with young children will still be invited to board first. The new boarding process will be introduced on all of the airline's European flights from the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

#### ANGOLA VISA NO LONGER REQUIRED

The South African Department of Home Affairs have advised that South African passport holders travelling to Angola on holiday will no longer require a visa from the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. Those travelling for business purposes will still need to apply for a visa. The governments of South Africa and Angola have mutually agreed to grant each other's ordinary passport holders visa exemption for holiday travel of up to 90 days per year with a maximum stay of 30 days per visit.

#### CAPE TOWN AIRPORT SECURITY

Cape Town International Airport are to be fast-tracked by Airports Company South Africa (ACSA). The security initiatives include licence plate recognition, additional CCTV cameras and a specialised canine unit. ACSA is working with the South African Police Service (SAPS) on the implementation. ACSA and the SAPS are working together to study security measures and initiatives recently implemented at OR Tambo International Airport.

#### THIALAND SMOKING BAN

Phuket's Patong Beach has started enforcing no-smoking rules, Patong Beach is the first of 24 beaches where a smoking ban will be introduced around the country through next February. Violators of the ban will be punished with a maximum of one year in jail and/or a fine of up to Bt100,000. Patong City Administration Organisation opened new designated smoking areas in order to encourage people not to smoke and drop cigarette butts on the beach. All 20 smoking areas are installed with clear signage informing people that they are designated areas where they allowed to light up the decision to ban smoking in public places also includes electronic cigarettes.

### QATAR UPS FREQUENCIES TO EUROPE

Qatar Airways will increase flights to five destinations in Europe this December flights from Doha to Rome, Milan and Stockholm will each increase to 17 flights a week and flights to Oslo will increase from seven to 10 a week.

#### **GERNERAL STRIKE IN BRAZIL**

A general strike is planned for Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of December in Brazil. Unions have said that all forms of transportation will be disrupted in all major cities. Chances are that Travelers will find roads to airports blocked. Banks will be closed and there will be no money in ATM's.

## NEW PREMIUM LOUNGE FOR HEATHROW

Plaza Premium Lounge has opened a new 465sqm facility in Heathrow's Terminal 5 The independent airport lounge provider already offers services in Terminals 2, 3 and 4.