



News release
19 March 2018

New Zealand's best on show for MEETINGS' Hosted Buyers

Hosted buyer positions are filling fast for New Zealand's most prestigious business event, [CINZ MEETINGS 2018](#) run by Conventions and Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) on 30 and 31 May in Auckland.

Australian Hosted Buyer Manager, Sharon Auld says the success of MEETINGS is reflected in the demand for hosted buyer positions. "This is our 22nd consecutive year and the event never fails to surprise with the quality and diversity of what New Zealand has to offer for business events.

"This unique event lets business event decision-makers meet personally with their choice of more than 190 exhibitors. Over two days, hosted buyers connect and meet face-to-face with a wide range of relevant suppliers from right across New Zealand," she says.

Vanessa Baranovsky from Event Mafia, who was a MEETINGS' hosted buyer last year, sums up the overwhelming feedback. "New Zealand's top suppliers are all under one roof and everyone is super-friendly. I would come every year, get what I need and take it back, with everything managed for me. I appreciate the fresh creative ideas too – the welcome function was cool and gave me lots of inspiration."

New Zealand's mix of spectacular scenery, fascinating culture, myriad activities and modern cities makes it the ideal location for conferences and incentives with a difference, Sharon Auld says.

"Our hosted buyers say they love the hospitality and feel the spirit of the manaakitanga – the unique New Zealand way of giving and making people feel welcome."

The highly popular pre-MEETINGS familiarisation programme gives selected hosted buyers the opportunity to experience their choice of eight destinations across New Zealand - Auckland, Rotorua, Lake Taupo, Wellington, Marlborough, Christchurch and Canterbury, Dunedin and Queenstown.

MEETINGS' hosted buyers receive fully-funded Air New Zealand trans-Tasman flights, a familiarisation day with host city Auckland, four nights' accommodation in one of the city's top hotels, tickets to the welcome, gala and networking social events, and all transfers.

Australian Hosted Buyers also have the option to experience the Waikato region and Hobbiton on an exclusive one-day programme post-MEETINGS.

Applications for hosted buyer positions and pre-familiarisation tours close on 2 April 2018. Australian event organisers can register online at <https://www.meetings.co.nz/apply-online-now>, or contact [Sharon Auld](#) directly for more information about becoming a hosted buyer.

ENDS

Note to editors: Media are invited to attend [MEETINGS](#) for all or part of the two-day programme, which will include media conferences and guided tours of the show floor. Limited fully hosted places are available for media. Please contact [Anabel Darby](#) to register your interest.

Hosted buyer enquiries:
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Applications are invited before 2 April 2018 at <https://conventionsnz.eventsair.com/meetings-2018/media>

Follow [CINZ MEETINGS 2018](#) on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) using hashtags #meetings18 and #cinz

Background Information

- [CINZ MEETINGS 2018](#) is New Zealand's largest business tourism trade exhibition.
- Auckland is host city, and the event takes place at ASB Showgrounds from 30-31 May.
- Conventions & Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) owns and manages the event, which has been run annually since 1997.
- MEETINGS is New Zealand's leading platform for connecting influential domestic, Australian and international buyers with key regions, meeting facilities, accommodation, off-site venues and activities.
- Air New Zealand is Principal Sponsor for CINZ MEETINGS 2018, renewing its ongoing commitment to the sector and to the hosted buyer and media programmes.
- Other major sponsors include ASB Showgrounds, Peek Exhibition, Centium Software and Auckland Convention Bureau.
- The 2018 event will showcase over 195 exhibitors from 19 regions across New Zealand to more than 500 New Zealand, Australian and international buyers. Exhibitors include venues, theming companies, hotels, AV companies, regional bureaux, attractions and activities.
- More than 220 qualified hosted buyers are expected to attend, including over 90 hosted buyers and media from Australia, over 30 from international markets, 120 hosted buyers and media from around New Zealand. As well, more than 300 day buyers are set to attend.
- Tourism New Zealand and Air New Zealand are bringing influential buyers and media from China, South East Asia, India and North America.

For further information and images, please contact:
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