



AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION

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MEDIA RELEASE

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TAKING AN EASTER BREAK A GOOD WAY TO SPEND STIMULUS PACKAGE

Australians should spend their economic stimulus payments by taking a break this Easter, according to the Australian Hotels Association.

AHA National Chief Executive Officer Bill Healey said there would be real economic benefits if more Australians choose to travel over the holiday weekend next month.

“With money from the Federal Government’s second economic stimulus package arriving this week, the tourism and hospitality industry is urging Australians to help maintain jobs by spending the money on a well-earned break,” Mr Healey said.

“The bonus will enable people to experience our nation’s great destinations and hotels – in metropolitan and regional areas – many of which are offering opportunities that are extremely affordable.

“They will have a terrific time with their families and return to work after Easter more refreshed.”

Like all sectors, hotel and tourism businesses are suffering as a result of the economic downturn and would welcome extra visitors over Easter with open arms.

“Hotels are doing everything they can to avoid laying off staff,” Mr Healey said.

“And a boost in business over Easter would be very timely as far as preserving jobs is concerned.

“Taking a break could well help save the jobs of workers in the hotel industry or a regional town.

“People can really recharge their batteries by adding a few extra days annual leave to the traditional Easter holidays – a short break is better than not taking a break at all.”

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