

Date: 5 November 2009  
On behalf of: itravel2000  
For immediate release

## **Ittravel2000**

### **Part of Travelzest Plc**

#### **▪ Ittravel2000 backs WestJet and ACTA in call for transparency**

itravel2000, a Travelzest company has once again come out, this time supporting Westjet and the Association of Canadian Travel Agencies' (ACTA) in their call for greater transparency in taxes and fees that are being charged for vacation packages. Tour operators inflated taxes as a scheme to advertise low base prices.

This is not the first time that itravel2000 has gone public with their dismay of travel advertising practices. In August 2008, a petition initiated by itravel2000 received over 22,000 signatures in response to their desire to have airlines advertise the final price that customers pay rather than advertising the "taxes" which can sometimes be more than the base fare that is advertised. "It's not fair to the consumer to have a misinformed representation of what the price breakdown is. When you purchase anything else from a retail outlet, you expect the base price and the tax that is in line with the individual provinces" said Stuart Morris, VP of Marketing at itravel2000. "It's about time that we as consumers stand up and demand full disclosure of all taxes and fees associated with the advertised trip" added Morris.

#### **About itravel2000**

itravel2000, which was acquired by UK based Travelzest in October 2006 is a leading travel retailer with 16 years experience. itravel2000 was a pioneer of on-line travel and has 100 travel agents to assist travelers by phone. To see how we're fighting to save you money, visit [www.ittravel2000.com](http://www.ittravel2000.com).

#### **About Travelzest**

Travelzest plc is a dynamic travel group, with a collection of four on-line travel retailers and nine specialized tour operators. These companies operate in fast growing sectors of the market, are low in fixed assets, and have unique propositions and attributes that make them resistant to the 'unbundling' and price competition being experienced in the mainstream parts of the market. Travelzest's vision is to continue to leverage their brands that have been built up over their long and successful histories while driving synergistic benefits. Travelzest is traded on London's AIM Exchange under the symbol TVZ.

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## Notes to Editors:

### The Travelzest group currently comprises:

#### ***itravel2000.com***

[itravel2000.com](http://itravel2000.com) was founded in 1994 and is an online travel agent. Sales are made online and through customer call centres located in Mississauga, Ontario and Montreal, Quebec. The greater proportion of ittravel2000.com's business is winter-based, thus providing counter-seasonal revenue to the predominantly summer-based revenues of Travelzest's businesses in Europe.

#### ***The Cruise Professionals***

The Cruise Professionals is a retailer with an online presence offering luxury cruise experiences, providing its customers with a bespoke service selling itineraries in the most luxurious suites on the World's best cruise lines. The company's staff pride themselves in providing world class customer service and competitive rates. Destinations include itineraries from around the World, including Antarctica, Australia, New Zealand, The Orient, South Pacific and Northern Europe. It specialises in World cruise voyages with itineraries of 100 days or longer. [www.cruiseprofessionals.com](http://www.cruiseprofessionals.com)

#### ***Holiday Express***

Holiday Express owns the domain names [www.holiday.co.uk](http://www.holiday.co.uk) and [www.flight.co.uk](http://www.flight.co.uk). In October 2008, Travelzest closed the in-house operations of Holiday Express and licensed use of the domain names to a third party.

#### ***Fair's Fare***

Fair's Fare was established in 1995 and is the UK's leading firm of airfare analysts, offering a unique travel planning service to both private and business clients. The company seeks out the very best financial options, on all major airlines, but primarily for long-haul travellers in the first and business class cabins of the world's leading airlines. [www.fairsfare.com](http://www.fairsfare.com)

#### ***VFB Holidays***

VFB Holidays is a long established, award winning tour operator, which provided holidays for approximately 24,000 passengers in its last financial year. VFB is currently contracted with the owners of approximately 350 holiday cottages throughout France for the summer season, and has booking arrangements with over 150 hotels, most of which are privately owned and are located in rural or semi-rural locations. VFB specialises in cottage holidays in France, but also has a number of other holiday programmes including: France à la Carte (hotel accommodation), Corsica, Short Breaks, Escorted Tours and River Cruises. [www.vfbholidays.com](http://www.vfbholidays.com)

#### ***Best of Morocco***

Best of Morocco is a tour operator specialising in high quality, tailor-made holidays to Morocco for individuals or small groups. It provides a personalised service and it's highly experienced and knowledgeable staff help each customer select the hotels / resorts from their large range which are appropriate for the customer's desired style of holiday. Best of Morocco is the premier agent for the Marathon des Sables, a foot race that takes place in Morocco in April each year, covering some 230km. Best of Morocco provides the largest contingent of runners for the race each year. [www.bestofmorocco.co.uk](http://www.bestofmorocco.co.uk)

#### ***Peng Travel***

Peng Travel was formed in 1971 to arrange naturist holidays for the UK market. Since then, it

has grown to become Britain's biggest naturist tour operator. It has unrivalled experience of naturist areas worldwide and has selected only the best. The range of naturist holidays offered is unmatched by any other British tour operator.

[www.pengtravel.co.uk](http://www.pengtravel.co.uk)

### ***Faraway Holidays***

Faraway Holidays was launched by Travelzest in August 2006. It offers luxury tailor-made holidays and tours to top exotic destinations, including Vietnam, Cambodia, Bali and Thailand. Every destination offered by Faraway Holidays will have been visited by at least one member of the sales team, ensuring that customers receive informed and knowledgeable advice when planning their holiday.

[www.farawayholidays.co.uk](http://www.farawayholidays.co.uk)

### ***The Malaysia Experience***

The Malaysia Experience, operated by Faraway Holidays, was acquired by Travelzest in February 2008. This extends Faraway Holidays expertise and local knowledge to be able to offer individually tailored holidays to destinations across Malaysia.

[www.malaysiaexperience.co.uk](http://www.malaysiaexperience.co.uk)

### ***Tapestry Collection***

Travelzest acquired the assets of Tapestry Holidays and has launched a revitalised brand consisting of the very best of the Tapestry range. The Tapestry Collection showcases the very best of Turkey, Cephalonia and Crete featuring many boutique hotels, apartments and villas.

[www.thetapestrycollection.com](http://www.thetapestrycollection.com)

### ***The Wow House Company***

Wow House Limited, trading as The Wow House Company, is a specialist UK accommodation provider offering an exclusive portfolio of large, prestigious houses to rent for short breaks in the UK. The company also offers a comprehensive event planning service.

[www.thewowhousecompany.co.uk](http://www.thewowhousecompany.co.uk)

### ***Captivating Cuba***

Captivating Cuba is a tour operator specialising in quality tailor made holidays to Cuba. It's highly experienced team provide customers with the very best advice regarding how to get the most from their visit to the largest Caribbean island.

[www.captivatingcuba.com](http://www.captivatingcuba.com)

### ***JMB Travel***

JMB Travel Consultants Limited is a leading UK specialist in opera holidays offering an extensive range of destinations noted for their operas and music festivals. It has unrivalled experience in catering for the particular needs of the opera and music lover and has connections with every major opera house and music festival in Europe and a small section of North America.

[www.jmb-travel.co.uk](http://www.jmb-travel.co.uk)