Privacy Policy

Specialist Holidays Pty Ltd ACN 134 691 580 and Specialist Travel Pty Ltd ACN 124 827 096 ("us", "our" or "we") respects your privacy and this policy sets out how we collect, use, store, disclose and otherwise treat your personal information as required by the Australian Privacy Principles ("APPs") set out in the Privacy Act 1988(Cth) ("Privacy Act"). Information is collected by us for the primary purpose of providing travel services to you.

1. Collection of Your Personal Information

The personal information collected, held, used and disclosed by us is collected from you either directly or from third parties. We only collect personal information that is necessary to assist us in providing the services you request. The types of personal information that we collect from you depend on your individual circumstances and on the type of service that you request from us. For example, when you request us to make your travel arrangements, we collect personal information such as:

1. title (gender);
2. name;
3. date of birth;
4. address;
5. email address;
6. postcode;
7. nationality;
8. credit card or other payment details including billing address;
9. travel details;
10. passport number;
11. dietary requirements;
12. other information relevant to travel arrangements;
13. IP address of visitors to the Website; and
14. uses cookies to store a user’s name and password on their computer for future visits to the Website.

Sensitive information is collected if it is relevant to the provision of travel related services, such as insurance cover. This could include, but is not limited to, health information, religious practices or details of a criminal record that may be relevant to your travel arrangements. We may also collect your personal information in a variety of ways, including the following methods:

a) information given directly by you when making a booking with us. This information will usually be provided in person during a meeting, online, by writing to us or by telephone;
b) information you provide on our website, such as to register online for our special deals, competitions or to receive our newsletters;
c) from one of our affiliated companies;
d) from other travel agents or service providers;
e) from market research companies; from third party service providers that collect personal information when providing you with a service and then provide that information to us, such as frequent flyer programs; and
f) through cookies or our server software.

2. Use of your personal information
We collect your personal information for the primary purposes of providing travel related services, including:

a) to make bookings with travel service providers, such as airlines, hotels and tours, on your behalf;
b) to fulfil administrative functions associated with your purchase order, such as billing;
c) to correspond with you in relation to the travel services you have requested;
d) to provide you with promotional and marketing materials that may be of interest to you;
e) using the IP address of visitors to our website to help diagnose problems with our server, to administer our website and for statistical purposes.

We will not sell our client database to third parties and will only use your personal information for the purpose for which it was provided or a related secondary purpose, unless you agree otherwise or the use and disclosure is permitted under the Privacy Act.

3. Disclosure of personal information to overseas recipients

We need to disclose your personal information, which may include sensitive information, to third party travel suppliers to provide you with the travel services you request. Some of these travel service providers may be located outside Australia.

If you consent to the practices outlined in this Privacy Policy, you are consenting to your personal information, including any sensitive personal information that we collect, being disclosed to overseas recipients whose privacy policies may not be equivalent to the standards imposed in Australia by the APPs. We do not exercise any control over the privacy practices of overseas recipients. If you do not consent to this you should not disclose your personal information to us.

4. Security of your personal information

Our parent company is located in New Zealand. The personal information that we collect from Australian customers will be stored on our servers in New Zealand and may be accessed by employees of our parent company. We take reasonable steps to:

a) ensure that personal information that we collect, use and disclose is accurate, complete, up-to-date and relevant, having regard to the purpose of the use or disclosure and stored in a secure environment;
b) implement physical, electronic and organisation steps to protect your personal information that we hold from misuse, interference and loss and from unauthorised access, modification or disclosure;
c) regularly review and update our security measures to maintain the security, integrity and privacy of personal information that we collect;
d) destroy or de-identify personal information when it is no longer required.

Security measures that we have in place to protect your personal information include the following:

a) storing all hard copies of personal information in a secure office premises;
b) employing industry standard techniques such as firewalls, virus scanning tools and encryption;

c) requiring employees to use logins and passwords for access to all systems;

d) requiring all staff and contractors to maintain the confidentiality of customer information; and

e) using secure networks when transmitting electronic data.

To the extent permitted by law, we are not liable for any unauthorised access to your personal information or for any other security breach.

5. Opting Out and Unsubscribing

You can opt out or unsubscribe from receiving communications from us at any time. If you do not wish to receive any further information or material from us, please let us know by returning any email communication you receive from us, with the subject line “unsubscribe”.

6. Access to, and correction of, your personal information

You may request access to, or correction of, any of your personal information that we hold by contacting us directly using the details set out below. We will respond to your request within a reasonable period after it is made and may recover from you our reasonable cost of providing you with access.

7. Third Party Websites

Our website contains links to other websites that are not controlled, operated or maintained by us. We are not responsible for the privacy practices of those websites. Before providing your personal information to such websites, you should read, and ensure that you understand, their privacy policies.

8. Updates to our privacy policy

This privacy policy is subject to change without prior or separate notification. Any changes will be posted to our website.

9. Cookies

We use cookies on our website to improve your experience of using the website and to deliver content that is specific to your interests. A cookie is a small file which is placed on your hard disk and is used by our website to identify you when you visit the website and to store details about your use of the website.

If you do not wish to receive cookies, or prefer to use the website anonymously, you should adjust your internet browser settings accordingly.
10. Complaints

If you have a complaint about the way we have dealt with your personal information, or if there has been a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles please contact us directly using the details set out below. We will respond to your complaint within a reasonable time.

11. Specialist Holidays Pty Ltd and Specialist Travel Pty Ltd contact details

Attention: Privacy Officer
Specialist Holidays Pty Ltd/Specialist Travel Pty Ltd
PO Box 2006
World Square NSW 2002
Australia

Phone: (02) 9080 1600

Email: mail@hooholidays.com.au