



# Whole-of-Australian-Government Travel Arrangements Advice 2014/02 – Updates from Virgin Atlantic and United Airlines

8 January 2014

## Agency Travel Managers

### Virgin Atlantic

Virgin Atlantic has advised, effective from 1 February 2014, that if you wish to select your seat you must do so via the Virgin Atlantic website (<https://www.virgin-atlantic.com/au/en/manage-your-flights/seat-assignment.html>). Your TMC will no longer be able to pre-assign seats through the normal reservation systems for Virgin Atlantic flights. If you do not require a pre-assigned seat you will not be affected.

Virgin Atlantic have also stated that, effective from 1 April 2014, if you opt to pre-select a seat there will a charge for economy advanced seat selection of US\$40 (AUD \$44.85 as at 8 Jan 2014) per seat. This fee will be waived for upper class, premium economy and economy passengers in Y booking class, plus Flying Club Gold members.

### United Airlines

United Airlines has advised that effective from 1 January 2014 there will be a charge for all alcoholic beverages in economy class on Trans-Pacific flights. United operates cashless flights and credit cards will be required for all in-flight purchases.

Alcohol remains complimentary for passengers in United's premium cabins. United will continue to offer a wide assortment of complimentary beverages.

With the ongoing winter storms being experienced in the United States, United has advised TMC's of the process for waivers and /or refunds for passengers affected by the storms, if required.

Please contact TCMS at [tcms@finance.gov.au](mailto:tcms@finance.gov.au) if you require any further information on this advice.