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Budapest Airport bestows best business partners

- easyJet takes best developing airline prize.
- Transavia, Qatar Airways, Iberia and Wizz Air recognised for growth, marketing and performance.
- Qatar Airways Cargo wins best in class; Air Canada rouge top of long-haul.

Budapest Airport last week hosted its 10th Annual Awards Ceremony, an evening of recognition for its airlines and other highly-valued business partners which have made important contributions during another record-breaking year for the Hungarian gateway. Serving more than 11 million passengers in 2016 – the highest ever number recorded at the airport – the gala was a chance to bestow thanks to all of Budapest's associates who continue to play a significant role in the enhancement of the airport's aviation and retail development.



Photo caption: Perfect partnerships: All the winners at the 10th Annual Awards Ceremony, hosted in Budapest Airport's Terminal 1 Event Center, including new winners Air Canada rouge, easyJet, Iberia and Qatar Airways Cargo.

Category	2016 Winner
Best Developing Airline	easyJet
Best Performing Airline	Wizz Air
Highest Airline Growth	Transavia
Best New Long-Haul Airline	Air Canada rouge
Best Performing Cargo Airline	Qatar Airways Cargo
Best Aircraft Maintenance Company	Lufthansa Technik
Best Load Factor – Full Service Carrier	Iberia
Best Airline Marketing Company	Qatar Airways
Best Greenairport Company	Magyar Posta
Best Ground Handling Company	Celebi
Retail Concessionaire of the Year – Highest growth in customer transactions	Heinemann Multi-brand Accessories
Retail Concessionaire of the Year (F&B) – Highest turnover growth rate	O’Leary’s Sports Bar & Restaurant (SSP)
Retail Concessionaire of the Year – Highest absolute turnover growth	Interchange T2A (Arrivals Hall)

The winners add a few words:

Best New Long-Haul Airline – Air Canada rouge. Jean-Christophe Herault, Air Canada General Manager, Germany: “Our relationship with Budapest Airport goes from strength to strength. This award is not only testament to a successful first year working together to operate our Air Canada Rouge seasonal service from Budapest to Toronto, but is also a clear indication of the positive year ahead with our new friends in Budapest. Our Air Canada Rouge service will resume on 19th May, operating three times weekly, and we are pleased to announce that this will increase to five flights a week during the summer peak.”

Highest Airline Growth – Transavia. Yassine Atmani, Network Planner: “In 2015 we launched our new growth goals, part of this strategy included the doubling of our daily route from Budapest to Rotterdam last summer, which has proven immensely popular. Working closely with the team at Budapest has helped us to ensure our passengers have an optimal and smooth experience when flying Transavia. We’d like to thank the airport management for supporting us throughout the year.”

Best Developing Airline – easyJet. Andy Campbell, Regional Airport Manager: “Thank you to all at Budapest Airport for not only awarding us this prize, but also for the recognition of our continued development within Hungary. We’re set to launch our eighth route from Budapest next week, and having already witnessed high level of bookings on the service, we can only build upon last year’s achievements.”

Best Airline Marketing Partner – Qatar Airways. Grisha Jenkov, Country Manager Eastern Europe - Centre: “Qatar Airways has been proudly flying to Budapest since 2011, and ever since, we have experienced year on year growth. Our marketing approach must always match the pace of our development and the airport is naturally one of the best locations for our target audience. Budapest Airport continues to be a great supporter of our strategy.”

Best Load Factor – Full Service Carrier – Iberia. Emil Delibashev, Commercial Manager- Eastern Europe: “It is an honour for Iberia to have won Budapest Airport’s ‘Best Network Airline Load Factor’ Award 2016. Our route from Budapest to Madrid has become one of the highlights of Iberia’s summer flight programme and we would look to building on this success. This summer we’ll be operating the route from the end of March, and therefore, strengthening our offer in this market.”

Over 300 guests from Budapest's carriers, concessionaires, operations partners and many other enterprises working with the airport were bought together for the evening. Speaking at the ceremony, Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport said: "We're enormously proud of last year's triumphs, we couldn't achieve these fantastic results without the positive collaboration of so many closely-held partners throughout our airport. It is a great honour to be able to personally acknowledge you all tonight for your extensive involvement in the growth of Budapest Airport."

Notes for Editors

- Budapest Airport Zrt. is the operator of Budapest Airport. It is owned by an international consortium of investors, led by the privately-owned German company AviAlliance, an independent airport manager holding a 55.438% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (21.228%), and Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (23.334%).
- Budapest Airport welcomed 11.1 million passengers in 2016, flying on the airport's services to 111 destinations across 38 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth in the period to end-December 2016 has exceeded +19%.
- Budapest Airport's route development includes:
To launch:
 - easyJet thrice-weekly service to Amsterdam, starting 6 February 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Faro, starting 1 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Skopje, starting 2 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Podgorica, starting 3 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Tirana, starting 5 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Sarajevo, starting 5 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Pristina, starting 7 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air four times weekly service to Hannover, starting 10 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Bergen, starting 10 April 2017;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Lamezia Terme, starting 12 April 2017;
 - Flybe three times weekly service to London Southend, starting 4 May 2017
 - TAP Portugal daily service to Lisbon, starting 1 July 2017.

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