

20 June 2016

Budapest Airport boosts Bulgarian links

Having already exceeded four million passengers in 2016, Budapest Airport is showing early signs of surpassing latest forecasts predicting 11.1 million passengers by year-end. Continuing to expand its solid route network, the Hungarian gateway has welcomed its latest new airline partner, celebrating the inaugural flight of Bulgaria Air's four times weekly direct connection to Sofia.

Budapest recorded 20,000 indirect passengers from Sofia last year, and as the largest city in Bulgaria, the capital is the hub of business and culture, making it an ideal destination for leisure and business passengers alike. Commenting at the launch, Balázs Bogáts, Head of Airline Development, Budapest Airport said: "The indirect passenger numbers from 2015 indicate high demand for Bulgaria Air's service. It's a great pleasure to welcome our new airline partner with direct flights, and in giving our travellers optimum choice, we look forward to further development with the carrier."

Facing no direct competition on the airport pair at this time, Bulgaria Air's link to Sofia gives the national flag carrier 31% of all scheduled seats from Budapest to Bulgaria. Launching the operation with a variety of equipment, primarily flown by its 108-seat E190, Bulgaria Air will offer 432 weekly seats to Bulgaria's capital city, adding to Wizz Air and Travel Services Hungary's connections to Bourgas.



Photo caption: Welcoming the crew with a celebratory cake, Balázs Bogáts, Head of Airline Development, Budapest Airport, met Bulgaria Air's inaugural flight from Sofia on 20 June. Commenting at the launch, Bogáts said: "Demand is significantly high for this connection, Bulgaria Air's new link will give our passengers a great choice of service."

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 52.66% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (20.17%), Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (22.17%) and KfW IPEX-Bank GmbH (5%).
- Budapest Airport welcomed 10.3 million passengers in 2015, flying on the airport's services to 95 destinations across 36 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth in the period to end-May 2016 has exceeded +12%.

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