

1 February 2018

## LOT Polish Airlines loves Budapest! Kraków connection to commence

LOT Polish Airlines has announced its intention to add a six times weekly Q400 service from Kraków to Budapest Airport, furthering an already strong and vital partnership between the airline and the Hungarian gateway. The year-round service to Poland's second-largest city is planned to commence on 28 April, and joins the Star Alliance carrier's existing 33 times weekly operation to Warsaw Chopin Airport, as well as LOT's four times weekly New York JFK sector (starts 3 May), and twice-weekly flights to Chicago O'Hare (starts 5 May) from Budapest.

"Our passengers have told us for a long time that a direct flight to Kraków is high on their wish list – the potential market is more than 30,000 passenger – so it's great to have finally solved this travel problem for them with our increasingly important partner LOT Polish Airlines," says Kam Jandu, CCO, Budapest Airport. "The travel time by road is around eight hours by car – the flight time is just over one hour – so that is a significant time-saving for all," confirms Jandu.

Budapest will be serving destinations in over 40 countries in S18, with Poland currently the 14<sup>th</sup> largest, with over 110,000 one-way seats available from Hungary's capital city airport this summer. The new Kraków service will add a further 12,000 one-way seats to Budapest's Polish capacity offer in S18.

With the existing Warsaw flights and its new US routes, LOT is already the airport's ninth largest carrier in terms of weekly seats. With nearly 500 extra weekly seats coming on stream following the introduction of Kraków, the carrier is expected to jump to seventh biggest carrier at Budapest this summer.



Photo caption: Seen last year when LOT Polish Airlines announced its plans to start US services from Budapest Airport in S18 were Jost Lammers, Budapest Airport, CEO and Rafal Milczarski LOT Polish Airlines CEO. The Star Alliance carrier will add a six times weekly operation from Kraków to the Hungarian gateway from 28 April.

#### 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 more than 13 million passengers in 2017, flying on the airport's services to 125 destinations across 45 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth December 2017 has exceeded +12.7%.
- Budapest Airport's route development includes:  
To launch:
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Stavanger, starting 15 March 2018;
  - Wizz Air four times weekly service to Athens, starting 25 March 2018;
  - Ryanair three times weekly service to Santander, starting 26 March 2018;
  - Ryanair three times weekly service to Paphos, starting 27 March 2018;
  - LOT Polish Airlines six times weekly service to Kraków, starting 28 April 2018;
  - Wizz Air five times weekly service to Basel, starting 3 May 2018;
  - LOT Polish Airlines four times weekly service to New York JFK, starting 3 May 2018;
  - LOT Polish Airlines twice-weekly service to Chicago O'Hare, starting 5 May 2018;
  - American Airlines daily service to Philadelphia, starting 5 May 2018;
  - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Marseille, starting W18.

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