

28 April 2015

## Budapest Airport's strongest-ever Q1 indicates second consecutive year of near-double digit growth

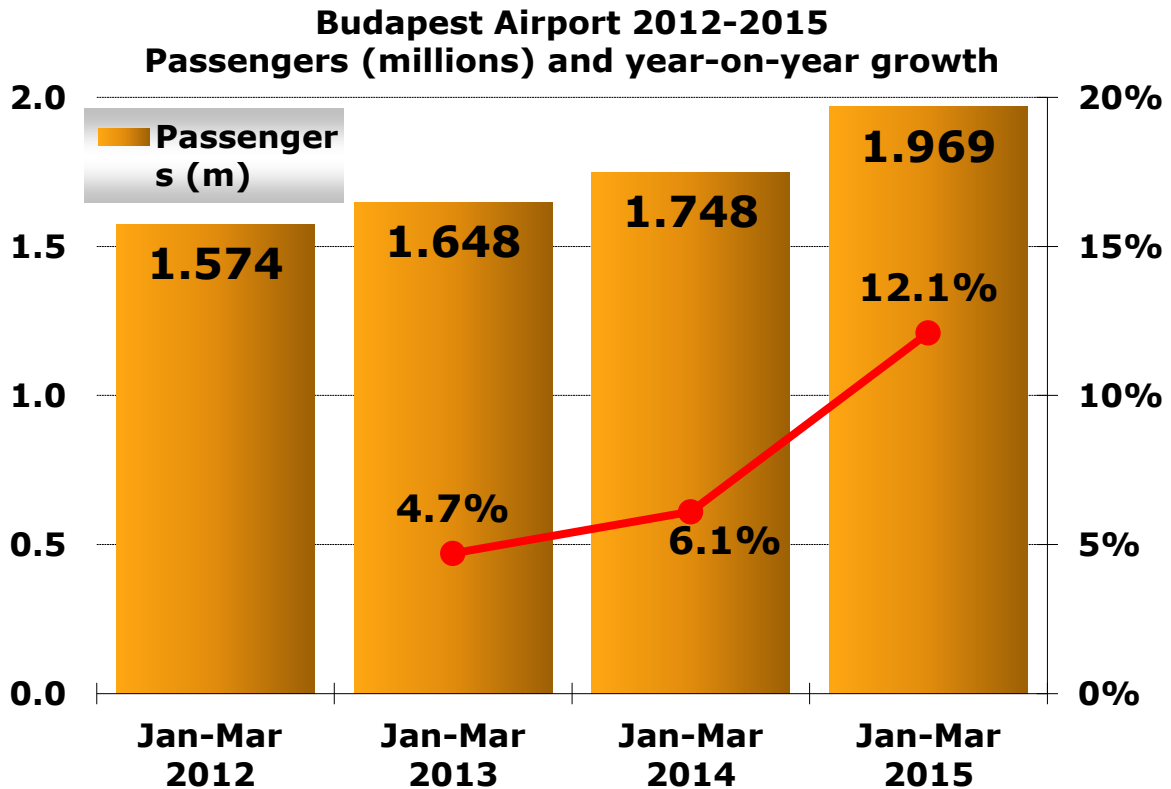
Budapest Airport has just recorded its strongest-ever first quarter with growth exceeding 12%, showing every sign that it is maintaining the surge which produced a record 9.16 million passengers in 2014. Serving close to two million passengers in the traditional 'low season' at the start of 2015, the Hungarian gateway's above-average performance puts the airport on course to surpass an initial forecast of 9.6 million passengers in 2015.

Last year's all-time high saw passenger growth driven in all categories including long, short and mid-haul, network carriers, as well as among regional and charter airlines. Propelled by welcoming major new airlines such as Emirates, Air China, and Iberia, and having already announced a plethora of new routes for 2015 including: Toronto, Montréal, Beijing, Hurghada, Maastricht, Glasgow, Bologna and Alghero; Budapest continues its ceaseless growth and network expansion.

Commenting on the acceleration of Budapest Airport's growth, Jost Lammers, CEO asserts: "With recent passenger development showing the allure of Budapest as a destination for both business and leisure, I am extremely optimistic that this very strong positive trend will continue for the rest of this year, supported by our strategy to provide a great passenger experience and efficient infrastructure closely matched to the needs of our different airline partners."

Achieving record revenues and operating profit, Budapest Airport has also successfully refinanced new loans, running until the end of 2019, with the solid backing of a consortium of international banks. As a result, 2014 saw the Central European airport continuing to invest in the future of its infrastructure with extensive refurbishment of the runway and taxiway system, an upgrade of electricity networks, and several new commercial initiatives. As well as also recording a best-ever quarter for commercial revenues (exceeding 9% growth and surpassing €15 million in overall retail and F&B sales), the airport is now launching a series of specialist retail tenders for significant areas of SkyCourt – the flagship F&B and shopping centre – in a move calculated to refresh the offers available and drive a higher spend-per-passenger.

Ingo Ludwig, Deputy CEO and CFO added: "Our dedication and commitment continue to be acknowledged and recognised. We were honoured with a Skytrax award as the top airport in Eastern Europe for a second consecutive year in March, an exceptional reward for our efforts in terms of quality and sustainability. The strong operational profitability of Budapest Airport in 2014, and the successfully-completed refinancing, provides the airport with a stable platform for continued strong and robust growth during the next five years."



Graph caption: Comparing January-March records, this graph shows Budapest Airport's continued acceleration of passenger traffic growth from 2012 to 2015.

#### 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 9.1 million passengers in 2014, flying on the airport's services to 88 destinations across 35 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth in the period to end-March 2015 has exceeded +12%.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2015 include:
  - Already launched:
    - Vueling thrice-weekly services to Barcelona and Rome, 27 March 2015
    - SAS four-times weekly service to Stockholm Arlanda, 29 March 2015
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Lisbon, 30 March 2015
    - Ryanair four-times weekly service to Athens, 1 April 2015
  - To launch:
    - Air China four-times weekly service to Beijing, starting 1 May 2015
    - Wizz Air four-times weekly service to Maastricht, starting 15 May 2015
    - Wizz Air once-weekly service to Hurghada, starting 16 May 2015
    - SkyGreece Airlines twice-weekly service to Toronto, starting 22 May 2015
    - Iberia and Iberia Express seven-times services to Madrid, starting 2 June 2015
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Bologna, starting 5 June 2015
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Glasgow, starting 13 June 2015
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Alghero, starting 15 June 2015
    - Air Transat weekly service to Montréal-Toronto, starting 18 June 2015
    - Wizz Air daily service to Copenhagen, starting 25 October 2015
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Tenerife South, starting 30 October 2015

To find out more on Budapest Airport, visit [www.bud.hu](http://www.bud.hu)

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