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Budapest Airport to be Ryanair's first link to Israel

Budapest Airport's extensive route network development continues with the significant announcement of Ryanair's first link to Israel. The Hungarian gateway has confirmed the noteworthy addition of the ultra-low cost carrier's (ULCC) operation to Eilat-Ovda Airport, commencing a twice-weekly service from 7 November. While facing no direct competition on the airport pair, its arrival in the Israeli market at Budapest gives Ryanair an immediate 13% share of flights and seats across all routes to the Middle Eastern country, which will now be served by three carriers.

The Hungarian gateway recorded a significant 20% jump in Israeli visitors in 2014, and it expects to serve considerably more passengers this year than the 230,000 carried between the two countries last year. With the addition of the Eilat-Ovda link to existing Tel Aviv services, the Central Eastern European airport will now offer 16 weekly flights to the two Israeli airports.



Photo caption: Ryanair will launch its first ever link to Israel from Budapest Airport this winter. The Hungarian gateway will see the start of a new twice-weekly service to Eilat-Ovda with the ULCC, commencing on 7 November.

Ryanair has already added over 3,000 weekly seats to the Hungarian gateway this year, with its stake at Budapest Airport growing 1% between August 2014 and August 2015, a sizeable increase at the fast-growing airport which has seen double-digit (12%) traffic increase so far in 2015.

Commenting on the notable announcement, Budapest Airport's CEO, Jost Lammers says: "I am so pleased that Ryanair will now also be serving our operations to Israel, and has chosen Budapest Airport as its first link with Eilat-Ovda, and indeed Israel. There is clearly bi-directional demand for the Eilat-Ovda to Budapest market and all visitors can be assured of excellent service from the best airport in the region while appreciating the growing popularity of Budapest."

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-May 2015 has exceeded +10%.
- 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
- Air China four times weekly service to Beijing, 1 May 2015
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Maastricht, 15 May 2015
- Wizz Air once-weekly service to Hurghada, 16 May 2015
- Iberia six times weekly service to Madrid, 2 June 2015
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Bologna, 5 June 2015
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Glasgow, 13 June 2015
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Alghero, 15 June 2015
- Air Transat weekly service to Montréal-Toronto, 18 June 2015
- SkyGreece Airlines once-weekly service to Toronto, 18 June 2015

To launch:

- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Birmingham, starting 15 September 2015
- Ryanair daily service to Copenhagen, starting 25 October 2015
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Tenerife South, starting 30 October 2015

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