



## PRESS RELEASE

# WIZZ AIR REVEALS BUDAPEST LIVERY AIRCRAFT AT BUDAPEST AIRPORT

## BUDAPEST 2024 DESIGN LIVERY AIRCRAFT JOINS THE FLEET

Wizz Air, the largest low-cost airline in Central and Eastern Europe, in partnership with Budapest Airport and the Budapest 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Bid, revealed the livery of its Budapest aircraft yesterday.

As part of its support towards the Budapest 2024 Olympic and Paralympic bid, Wizz Air has decorated one Airbus A321 and one Airbus A320\* aircraft of its Budapest fleet with unique livery carrying Budapest 2024 design elements. The elements reflect the waves of the Danube River that flows through the heart of the city, as well as the historic monument of the Statue of Liberty located on one of the highest hills of the Hungarian capital.

The A321 Budapest 2024 livery design aircraft joined the fleet on 24 November, followed shortly by an A320 aircraft that will start operating commercial flights from 1 December 2016. Both aircraft will feature the new Budapest livery for the entire duration of the Olympic and Paralympic bid, until 31 August 2017.

Being the home-based airline of Hungary, Wizz Air is constantly expanding its operations in Hungary. The airline currently operates two Hungarian bases, in Budapest and Debrecen, with a total of 11 aircraft in the country. Recently announcing an additional aircraft to join the Budapest fleet from April 2017, the carrier employs more than 1,000 people in flight crew, cabin crew, office and supporting functions. Over the past 12 months, Wizz Air carried 3.4 million passengers on its low-fare Budapest routes, further supporting over 2,300 local indirect jobs\*\*. Wizz Air has already announced four new routes to be launched in 2017, including such attractive destinations like Faro, Hanover, Bergen and Lamezia Terme. Being a strong supporter of sports and active lifestyle, this year's Wizz Air Budapest Half Marathon was held for the third time, attracting over 13,500 runners from all over the world to the Hungarian capital.

To mark the revealing of this special livery, Wizz Air is launching a "Spot the Budapest Plane" competition, calling on all plane lovers to keep an eye out for the special Budapest aircraft. Take a photo of the Budapest 2024 livery design aircraft and post it on Instagram with the **#WIZZBudapest2024** hashtag. The two best photos will each be awarded a €200 Wizz Air Value Voucher and a special gift package\*\*\*.

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**Photo caption:** Welcoming Wizz Air's new livery, in partnership with Budapest Airport and the Budapest 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Bid, were: József Váradi, CEO, Wizz Air; Balázs Fürjes, Head, Budapest 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Bid; and Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport (centre from Budapest 2024 flag)

**Speaking at a press conference in Budapest, József Váradi, CEO, Wizz Air said:** "As an airline with its roots in Hungary, we are proud to contribute today to building and further promoting the Budapest brand internationally. Since 2004, when the airline took off for the first time, we have earned the loyalty and trust of close to 18.5 million passengers in our Hungarian route network, and this year we will achieve a record number of passengers per year ever carried by an airline to and from Hungary. Wizz Air's Budapest aircraft, with the Budapest 2024 livery design, will help create international buzz and inspire people to visit Budapest, as we continue to grow capacity and expand our route network in Hungary."

"As a main sponsor of this historic bid, we are proud to welcome the new Wizz Air Budapest 2024 livery designed A321 aircraft to our airport, where it will be seen by hundreds and thousands of people from all around the world daily," **said Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport.** He added: "Together with Wizz Air and the 10,000 strong community of employees at the airport, we will do everything to help the success of Budapest's Olympic Bid for hosting the 2024 Games. Our biggest contribution to this noble cause is our 50 billion HUF (170 m EUR) BUD 2020 airport development program, as well as our sport initiatives, like the unique and successful annual BUD:Runway Run."



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*"I have been to many international competitions," said **Emese Szász, Olympic champion at the 2016 Rio Games** in women's épée fencing, "and I feel that to host the Olympic Games in Budapest would be really special. Generally, it takes a long time to travel between the Olympic village and the competition venues. On the contrary, in Budapest it would take an average travel time of 12 minutes between the different competition venues for the athletes...then how much time would be left for everything else, to train, to prepare, to rest? For the fans, the Olympic Games in Budapest would be a great experience, because in addition to the competition, they can learn about our amazing buildings and our gastronomy; they can feel the sport festival atmosphere – something we are famous for – and experience the bottomless enthusiasm of Hungarian fans."*

*"Budapest is experiencing a renaissance from every aspect, it is a city that constantly renews itself and is truly on the rise. Hosting the 2024 Games would speed up the economic catching up of Budapest and Hungary by 25 years, and according to economic analyses of hosting the Games we would need to spend half a percent of the country's budget between 2017 and 2024 for getting back three times as much within 15 years," said **Balázs Fürjes, Head of the Budapest Olympic and Paralympic Bid**. He added: "In order to host the games we would only need to implement those developments that would be necessary even without the Games, however, hosting the Olympics would guarantee that these developments will indeed be finished."*

Photos of the event could be downloaded from here: <https://goo.gl/photos/j4dYDYiNkp6ZaMWUA>

**--ENDS**

### **About Wizz Air**

*Wizz Air is the largest low-cost airline in Central and Eastern Europe, operates a fleet of 73 Airbus A320 and Airbus A321 aircraft, and offers more than 450 routes from 26 bases, connecting 130 destinations across 38 countries. At Wizz Air, a team of approximately 2,800 aviation professionals delivers superior service and very low ticket prices, making Wizz Air the preferred choice of 20 million passengers in the financial year ended 31 March 2016. Wizz Air is listed on the London Stock Exchange under the ticker WIZZ and is included in the FTSE 250 and FTSE All-Share Indices. Wizz Air is registered under the International Air Transport Association (IATA), Operational Safety Audit (IOSA), the global benchmark in airline safety recognition. The company was recently named 2016 Value Airline of the Year by the editors of Air Transport World, one of the leading airline trade magazines, as well as 2016 Low Cost Airline of the Year by the Center for Aviation (CAPA), the leading provider of independent aviation market intelligence.*

*\*A320 Budapest 2024 livery aircraft will join the Wizz Air fleet from 1 December 2016.*

*\*\* ACI estimates that 750 on-site jobs are created for every 1 million passengers carried per year.*



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### About the Budapest 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Bid

*"This year's Sportal listings recognise Budapest as the rising star of major global sport events, ranking the city seventh among the top global sport cities and second in the Future Sports Cities Index 2017-2023. Named as European Capital of Sport 2019, Budapest is a high-value city, with an excellent transport infrastructure and a long-term sustainable development plan. The Budapest 2024 Olympic Bid proposes a compact and intimate Games footprint in the capital, and truly nationwide Games that features sport in six other Olympic cities. Budapest 2024 is dedicated to deliver an on-budget and inclusive Olympic and Paralympic Games in one of the top 20 most peaceful countries in the world. Sports-mad Hungary was one of the founding members of the IOC and has participated in the Games since 1896. Hungary is the only country ranked in the top ten of the all-time Olympic Medal table that has not yet hosted the Olympic Games."*

### About Budapest Airport

*Budapest Airport is the best airport in Eastern Europe, as recognized by Skytrax in 2014, 2015 and 2016, based on passenger ratings. Budapest Airport Ltd., the operator of Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport, is owned by a consortium of Canadian (Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, 21.228 %) and Singaporean (Malton Investment Pte Ltd., 23.334 %) investors led by AviAlliance GmbH (55.438 %). The terminals of the airport are home to 44 airlines, which transported 10.3 million passengers to 95 airports in 36 countries in 2015 (12.5% growth rate in 2015 vs. 2014) ) Budapest Airport also handled 91.422 tons of cargo in 2015 with 15.5% growth in air cargo during the first nine months of 2016.*

### For more information:

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### Notes for Editors:

- All flights operated on Airbus A320 aircraft, with 180 seats and A321 aircraft with 230 seats
- New Airbus A321 deliveries started in November 2015
- For free pictures of aircraft, crews and logo library, please visit <http://wizzair.com/en-GB/press>