

15 December 2016

## Budapest Airport bound for the Balkans

Just days after passing the 11 million passenger threshold, Budapest Airport announces further development of its already solid route network with the significant launch of Wizz Air's new links to the Balkans. Supporting the expansion of its home-base, the ultra-low-cost carrier (ULCC) has confirmed the commencement of five connections from the Hungarian gateway to Pristina (Serbia), Tirana (Albania), Podgorica (Montenegro), Skopje (Macedonia) and Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

The Central Eastern European airport's largest carrier, and one of Europe's biggest ULCCs, confirmed today it will be launching twice-weekly services to five of the main countries within the Balkan Peninsula next summer, facing no direct competition on any of the routes. The addition of the new operations will see Wizz Air operate 54 non-stop destinations from Budapest and overall serve 28 countries directly from the capital city airport (according to OAG Schedules Analyser in S17).

"Wizz Air's latest announcement will connect us to a number of white spots on our route map, seeing us grow from 37 to 41 countries served non-stop as of next April," comments Balázs Bogáts, Head of Airline Development, Budapest Airport. He added: "Hungary has always enjoyed a good relationship with the Balkans so it has been very important for us to add these destinations to our network. Working closely with our largest airline partner, who has previously announced new flights to Faro, Bergen, Hannover and Lamezia Terme so far for 2017, we look forward to ensuring the success of each and every one of these routes."



Photo caption: Recently revealing its livery in support of Budapest's 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Bid, Wizz Air has today announced a further five new routes to the Balkan Peninsula from Budapest Airport as of next summer.

## 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 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-November 2016 has exceeded +15%.
- Budapest Airport's route development includes:  
Launched since September:
  - Ryanair daily service to Berlin, 2 September 2016;
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Porto, 4 September 2016;
  - Air Algerie twice-weekly service to Algeria, 15 September 2015;
  - Wizz Air four times weekly service to Bucharest, 19 September 2016;
  - Wizz Air weekly service to Fuerteventura, 30 October 2016;
  - easyJet thrice-weekly service to Venice Marco Polo, 31 October 2016;
  - Ryanair daily service to Nuremberg, 1 November 2016;
  - Wizz Air thrice-weekly service to Sofia, 1 November 2016;
  - Wizz Air weekly service to Lanzarote, 2 November 2016.

### To launch:

- easyJet thrice-weekly service to Amsterdam, starting 6 February 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Faro, starting 1 April 2017;
- Wizz Air four times weekly service to Hannover, starting 10 April 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Bergen, starting 10 April 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Lamezia Terme, starting 12 April 2017;
- TAP Portugal daily service to Lisbon, starting 1 June 2017.

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