

# **PRESS** | Aviation Development

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## Budapest Airport's winter warmth with Wizz Air

Budapest Airport's W16/17 season is warming up with today's announcement that Wizz Air will launch a twice-weekly service to Portugal's second largest airport, Porto. The ultra-low-cost-carrier (ULCC) has confirmed the new winter sun connection to the coastal city will commence on 4 September, adding another 360 weekly seats from the Hungarian gateway.

Having launched its first link from Budapest to Portugal last March, Wizz Air has already increased frequency on its Lisbon service. Doubling the twice-weekly route earlier this year, the Portuguese capital quickly became one of the airline's favourite destinations from the Budapest. With Porto showing a healthy potential passenger market of 16,000 passengers in 2015, the home-based carrier will now connect Budapest to the north-west of the country, with ULCC facing no direct competition on either Portuguese service.

Commenting on the announcement, Kam Jandu, CCO, Budapest Airport said: "Last year we experienced an amazing 43% jump in indirect passengers to and from Porto, so we expect great things from Wizz Air's latest link, and don't doubt it won't be long before we announce a frequency increase on this route too. It's always a pleasure working with our largest carrier and being able to offer passengers an even more varied selection of first-rate destinations."



**Photo caption:** Last March Balázs Bogáts, Head of Airline Development, Budapest Airport (third from the right) welcomed Wizz Air's inaugural flight from Lisbon, now a four-times weekly service following a frequency increase earlier this year. Following on from this success the ULCC has now announced the launch of a twice-weekly service to Porto, starting 4 September.

With the latest addition to its route network, Wizz Air now offers a total of 51 routes to 23 countries from Budapest. Tamara Vallois, Head of Communications, Wizz Air added: "We have already announced, and will be launching, 10 new routes from Budapest this year, and we are thrilled to add yet another exciting link to Wizz Air's broadest and most diverse network."

#### 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 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-May 2016 has exceeded +12%.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2016 include:
- Already launched:
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Nice, 11 March 2016;
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden, 11 March 2016;
  - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Malaga, 17 March 2016;
  - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Malta, 19 March 2016;
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Liverpool, 23 March 2016;
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Reykjavik/Keflavik, 24 March 2016;
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Baku, 24 March 2016;
  - Ryanair, weekly service to Gran Canaria, 3 April 2016;
  - easyJet thrice-weekly service to Lyon, 26 April 2016;
  - Ryanair, weekly service to Corfu, 28 April 2016.
  - Air Canada rouge, thrice-weekly service to Toronto, 11 June 2016.

To launch:

- Wizz Air weekly service to Ibiza, starting 18 June 2016;
- o Bulgaria Air four-times weekly service to Sofia, starting 20 June;
- Asiana Airlines weekly service to Seoul Incheon, starting 1 July;
- Ryanair daily service to Berlin, starting 2 September 2016;
- Air Algerie twice-weekly service to Algeria, starting 15 September 2015;
- Wizz Air four times weekly service to Bucharest, starting 19 September 2016;
- Wizz Air weekly service to Fuerteventura, starting 30 October 2016;
- Ryanair daily service to Nuremburg, starting 1 November 2016;
- Wizz Air thrice-weekly service to Sofia, starting 1 November 2016;
- Wizz Air weekly service to Lanzarote, starting 2 November 2016.

#### For more information:

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