

3 April 2017

## Budapest Airport's Kazakhstan connection

Just days into S17, Budapest Airport has announced further expansion of its destination map, filling the white spot that was Kazakhstan. Confirming a twice-weekly service to Astana, Wizz Air will be linking the two capital cities from 8 June, utilising the carrier's fleet of 180-seat A320s on the 3,742 kilometre sector.

As Kazakhstan becomes Budapest's 45<sup>th</sup> country market, the Central Asian operation means Wizz Air will now offer flights to 29 countries from its home-base. As the world's youngest capital city, Astana can now be reached from Budapest in less than five hours as the ultra-low-cost-carrier's (ULCC) direct link omits the previous need for connections via Istanbul, Prague or Minsk. Facing no direct competition on the airport pair, the ULCC's new Kazakhstan connection joins the Hungarian gateway's existing links in the region to Georgia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan.

"Filling another gap on our route map is proof of our continued commitment to be able to offer our passengers an ever-expanding selection of great destinations," comments Balázs Bogáts, Head of Airline Development, Budapest Airport. "Wizz Air's confirmation of Thursday and Sunday flights is perfect for a long weekend break for Hungarian and Kazakh travellers alike," adds Bogáts.



Photo caption: Kazakhstan becomes Budapest Airport's 45<sup>th</sup> country market as Wizz Air confirms a twice-weekly service to capital city Astana from 8 June.

## 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 more than 11.4 million passengers in 2016, flying on the airport's services to 111 destinations across 38 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth February 2017 has exceeded +14.8%.
- Budapest Airport's route development includes:
  - Already launched:
    - easyJet three times weekly service to Amsterdam, 6 February 2017;
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Faro, 1 April 2017;
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Skopje, 2 April 2017;
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Podgorica, 3 April 2017.
  - To launch:
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Tirana, starting 5 April 2017;
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Sarajevo, starting 5 April 2017;
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Pristina, starting 7 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;
    - Flybe three times weekly service to London Southend, starting 4 May 2017;
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Astana, starting 8 June 2017;
    - Ukraine International Airlines, daily service to Kiev Boryspil, starting 15 June 2017;
    - TAP Portugal daily service to Lisbon, starting 1 July 2017;
    - Wizz Air, twice-weekly service to Bordeaux, starting 22 September 2017;
    - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Lviv, starting 25 October 2017;
    - Ryanair five times weekly service to Prague, starting 29 October 2017;
    - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Marrakech, starting 30 October 2017;
    - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Valencia, starting 30 October 2017;
    - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Edinburgh, starting 30 October 2017;
    - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Naples, starting 30 October 2017;
    - Wizz Air daily service to Frankfurt, starting 15 December 2017.

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