Aviation Development

14 March 2016

Budapest Airport marks Wizz Air's new connections

Hitting an all-time high last month, Budapest Airport recorded an exceptionally healthy 14% increase in passenger traffic during February, welcoming close to 700,000 monthly visitors. Contributing to the Hungarian gateway's development, home-based carrier Wizz Air launched its latest additions to the airport's route network, commencing twice-weekly services to Nice and Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden.

Having shown a potential passenger market of 14,000 bi-directional indirect traffic flow in 2015 (MIDT data), last week saw Budapest celebrate the inaugural flight of the ultra-low-cost carrier's (ULCC) in-demand link to Nice. Facing no direct competition on the airport pair, Wizz Air's arrival to the French market at Budapest will add to the already robust 8% year-on-year growth within this country market.

Starting its fourth German route, Wizz Air's additional link to Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden will then give the ULCC a 12% share of all of Budapest's scheduled seats to the German market. Commencing Budapest's new connection on 11 March, Wizz Air adds another 360 weekly seats from the capital city airport to Germany.



Photo caption: Budapest Airport welcomed Wizz Air's twice-weekly service to Nice with a traditional cake in the shape of the now-familiar sight of running shoes on the Hungarian gateway's runway.



Photo caption: Balázs Bogáts, Head of Airline Development, Budapest Airport, and Tamara Mshvenieradze, Corporate Communications Manager, Wizz Air, celebrate the commencement of the ULCC's two new routes on 11 March.

Commenting on Wizz Air's route development, Kam Jandu, Chief Commercial Officer, Budapest Airport, says: "It's always a great pleasure to celebrate the start of new routes with our largest carrier. There has been clear demand for more connections between Budapest and more regions of France, by welcoming Wizz Air's service to Nice we are strengthening our network range within this country, which can only build upon the exceptional yearly growth we have been experiencing."

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 IPEXBank 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-February 2016 has exceeded +14%.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2016 include:
 - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Malaga, starting 17 March 2016;
 - o Ryanair twice-weekly service to Malta, starting 19 March 2016;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Liverpool, starting 23 March 2016;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Reykjavik/Keflavik, starting 24 March 2016;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Baku, starting 27 March 2016;
 - Ryanair, weekly service to Gran Canaria, starting 4 April 2016;
 - easyJet thrice-weekly service to Lyon, starting 26 April 2016;
 - Ryanair, weekly service to Corfu, starting 28 April 2016;
 - Air Canada rouge, thrice-weekly service to Toronto, starting 9 June 2016;
 - Wizz Air weekly service to Ibiza, starting 18 June 2016;
 - Ellinair weekly service to Thessaloniki, starting 19 June 2016;
 - Wizz Air four times weekly service to Bucharest, starting 19 September 2016;
 - Ryanair daily service to Berlin, starting 30 October 2016;
 - Ryanair daily service to Nuremburg, starting 1 November 2016;
 - Wizz Air thrice-weekly service to Sofia, starting 1 November 2016.