

27 October 2014

## Budapest Airport celebrates Emirates' inaugural flight from Dubai

Budapest Airport celebrated a major development today, welcoming the inaugural flight of its new airline partner, Emirates. Operated by its two-class 278-seat Airbus A330, the new daily service to Dubai is expected to deliver around 200,000 annual passengers to the Central European airport.

Adding Dubai to its route network means the recently underserved Budapest-Middle East market is now more accessible than ever, and also allows Budapest Airport to provide more onward destinations to several new connecting markets including Sydney, Taipei and Sialkot. With Emirates joining Qatar Airways, the Hungarian gateway will now be served by two of the Middle East Big 3 (MEB3) airlines, as well as home-carrier Wizz Air, which also serves Dubai World Central - Al Maktoum International Airport.

At the official opening ceremony today, Budapest Airport's CEO, Jost Lammers welcomes the arrival of this significant new service and the airport's fifth new airline this year. Commenting on the latest addition to the airport's route network, Lammers said: "We are delighted that Emirates has launched its daily wide-body service from Budapest to Dubai which will provide excellent connections through its Dubai hub. For a fast-growing market like Budapest, it is essential to have world-class airlines and, with tourism numbers to Budapest outperforming most European markets and robust GDP forecasts, we are confident that now is the ideal time to celebrate this route launch and we look forward to seeing Emirates upgrading the aircraft with more capacity in the not too distant future."

Thierry Antinori, Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer, Emirates adds: "Emirates' new daily service will create additional air links to boost Budapest's accessibility, and at the same time, we are also glad our Hungarian travellers will have better access to our global network. With over 60 destinations in the Far East and Australasia, West Asia, Indian Ocean and Middle East, both business and leisure passengers will benefit from enhanced links. I have no doubt that our new daily service to Budapest will stimulate growth and provide new opportunities for Hungarian trade and tourism."



**Photo caption: Budapest Airport marks the launch of the airport's significant new service with Emirates' Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer, Thierry Antinori (left). Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport (right) comments: "We are delighted that Emirates has launched its new Dubai service. For the fast-growing market of Budapest, now is the ideal time to celebrate."**



**Photo caption: Budapest Airport welcomes Emirates' inaugural daily service from Dubai with a traditional fire truck water arch.**

## 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 8.5 million passengers in 2013, flying on the airport's services to 99 destinations across 34 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth in the period to end-September 2014 has exceeded +7%.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2014 include:
  - Already launched:
    - Norwegian thrice-weekly service to London Gatwick, 30 March
    - Air Serbia daily service to Belgrade, 30 March
    - Jet2.com twice-weekly service to Leeds Bradford, 3 April
    - transavia.com France thrice-weekly service to Paris Orly, 15 April
    - Wizz Air weekly service to Alicante, 14 June
    - Vueling thrice-weekly service to Barcelona, 21 June
    - Pegasus four times weekly service to Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen, 16 July
    - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Kutaisi, 30 September
    - Emirates Airlines daily service to Dubai, 27 October
  - To launch:
    - Air Transat weekly service to Montréal-Toronto, starting 18 June 2015

To find out more on Budapest Airport, visit [www.bud.hu](http://www.bud.hu)

For more information:

**Kerry Parks, Account Manager, Budapest Airport Aviation Development PR**  
PPS Publications, Media & Events  
(44) 1293 783851/mobile (44) 7808 172723 or [kerry@pps-publications.com](mailto:kerry@pps-publications.com)