

30 May 2014

Budapest Airport announces Pegasus Airlines will fly to Budapest from Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen

This week Budapest Airport announces another important new route with the confirmation that Turkey's leading low cost carrier Pegasus Airlines will launch a four times weekly service on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays between Budapest and Istanbul's fast-growing Sabiha Gökçen Airport. The rapidly expanding leading low-cost carrier will begin the connection on 16 July with one-way fares from 36.99 EUR (approximately 11.000 HUF), operating the 1,081-kilometre sector using 737-800s.

Kam Jandu, Budapest Airport's Chief Commercial Officer comments: "There were some key cities missing from the Pegasus Airlines route map – Budapest was one of them, but we have worked really hard to make sure we were chosen ahead of our competitors. With this carrier's great record of sustaining routes we have no doubt that this new service will play a considerable role in growing the important Budapest-Istanbul market."

Situated on the Asian side of the city, Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen has a very different catchment area from Istanbul Atatürk, and also serves a large number of industrial cities in Eastern Turkey. Besides serving Istanbul, Pegasus Airlines' Budapest-Istanbul flights will also connect Hungarian travellers to 38 destinations within Turkey and beyond via Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen.

Güliz Öztürk, Chief Commercial Officer, Pegasus Airlines added: "By implementing a brand new low cost airlines model in Turkey, we continued 8 years of steady growth and carried 69.22 million guests with our scheduled flights until the end of 2013. We're pleased to offer our Hungarian guests an affordable choice when they travel to Istanbul and 38 destinations beyond."

Pegasus Airlines joins Wizz Air in offering a direct service to Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen, while Turkish Airlines already offers long-haul onward connections to the Middle East and East via Istanbul Atatürk. Jandu continues: "With a choice of three carriers offering an increasing range of services to Istanbul our passengers are now provided with the possibility of many different frequencies service levels and prices, and even both airports serving this significant mega city."

Pegasus connects Budapest to 38 destinations

Pegasus connects from Budapest to 22 destinations within Turkey: Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Balıkesir/Edremit, Batman, Bodrum, Dalaman, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Erzincan, Gazipaşa/Alanya, Gaziantep, Hatay, İzmir, Kayseri, Konya, Malatya, Nevşehir, Samsun, Sivas, Şanlıurfa, Trabzon and 16 other international destinations: Almaty, Bahrain, Beirut, Bishkek, Doha, Donetsk, Dubai, Kharkiv, Krasnodar, Kuwait, North Cyprus, Lviv, Mineralnye Vody, Omsk, Tbilisi, Tel Aviv; comprising a total of 38 destinations in all.

Notes for Editors

About Pegasus Airlines (www.flypgs.com)

Pegasus Airlines launched its first charter flights in 1990 and has been owned by ESAS Holding since 2005. It is Turkey's leading low-cost carrier offering economically priced point to point flights on short and medium-haul routes. Founded with the belief that everyone has the right to fly, Pegasus offers its guests affordable, on-time flights and the newest aircraft under the auspices of its low-cost model. Pegasus Airlines flies a scheduled service to 30 destinations in Turkey and 54 in the rest of the world, bringing its total network to 84 destinations in 35 countries.

Due to its continuous expansion, Pegasus was named "The Fastest Growing Airline" of Europe's 25 largest airlines in terms of seat capacity for both 2011 and 2012 by the Official Airline Guide (OAG). In 2012 Pegasus made the single largest-ever aircraft order in Turkish civil aviation history at the time of approximately US\$12 billion (list price) for 100 new Airbus aircraft, of which 25 are optional.

- 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 49.67% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (18.17%), Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (18.17%), Aero Investment S.á.r.l. (10%) and KfW IPEX-Bank GmbH (4%).
- Budapest Airport welcomed 8.5 million passengers in 2013, flying on the airport's services to 99 destinations across 34 countries.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2014 include:
 - Already launched:
 - o Norwegian thrice-weekly service to London Gatwick, 30 March
 - o Air Serbia daily service to Belgrade, 30 March
 - o UP by ELAL nine-weekly service to Tel Aviv, starting 2 April (increasing to 11 weekly 1 June)
 - o Jet2.com twice-weekly service to Leeds Bradford, 3 April
 - o transavia.com France thrice-weekly service to Paris Orly, 15 April
 - o Vueling thrice-weekly service to Barcelona, Easter flights 17 & 21 April, full service 20 June
 - To launch:
 - o Wizz Air weekly service to Alicante, starting 14 June
 - o Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Kutaisi, starting 30 September

To find out more on Budapest Airport, visit www.bud.hu

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