

10 December 2015

Budapest Airport hits definitive 10 million mark

For the first time in its history, Budapest Airport has hit the definitive 10 million passenger mark, setting a new record for annual passengers for the second year in a row. Last month saw the Hungarian gateway experience its 12th consecutive double-digit month of passenger traffic growth, more than double the European average. Endorsed by the airport's strengthening of existing flights, bedding-in of new carriers, and the expansion of route choice, the capital city airport is one of Europe's fastest growing airports in 2015.

Welcoming over 22% more passengers than five years ago, the extraordinary growth of Budapest has seen the airport bounce back tremendously from losing the national carrier in 2012. In the past 12 months alone, the Central European airport has celebrated the arrival of three new airlines and started 18 new routes, a sum total of 44 airlines connecting the capital city with 100 destinations this year.

Today's exceptional landmark was celebrated with an official ceremony, following an ongoing promotion via Facebook, which allowed passengers to upload their experiences at the airport with a chance to win two tickets for a long weekend in Istanbul, provided by Pegasus Airlines. The lucky winner, Zsolt Lukás, travelling with his wife Judit Tóth, was presented with their prize during the celebrations before being escorted as a VIP onto the winning flight.

In his speech during the ceremony, Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport, commented: "This is a proud moment for Budapest Airport, surpassing the 10 million mark speaks volumes for our hard work and our staying power as one of Europe's leading airports." He added: "Our strategy for this year has been to seek out new and exciting destinations, as well as solidifying our position in Central Europe. Next year is already set to be even busier as we continue to do all we can to ensure Budapest, and Hungary, remain an attractive market, while we ensure the demands of our catchment area and beyond are met."



Photo caption: Budapest Airport welcomes its 10 millionth passenger, setting a new record for the second year in a row.



Photo caption: Budapest Airport's CEO, Jost Lammers, congratulates Zsolt Lukás and his wife on being the lucky 10 millionth passenger. "This is a proud moment, speaking volumes for our hard work and staying power as one of Europe's leading airports," commented Lammers at the celebration.

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 9.1 million passengers in 2014, flying on the airport's services to 88 destinations across 35 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth in the period to end-November 2015 has exceeded +11%.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2015 include:
 - Launched since September:
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Birmingham, 15 September 2015;
 - Ryanair daily service to Copenhagen, 26 October 2015;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Tenerife South, 30 October 2015;
 - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Eilat-Ovda, 7 November 2015.
 - To launch:
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Nice, starting 11 March 2016;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden, starting 11 March 2016;
 - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Malaga, starting March 2016;
 - Ryanair twice-weekly service to Malta, starting March 2016;
 - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Heydar Aliyev, starting 27 March 2016;
 - Ryanair, weekly service to Gran Canaria, starting 3 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 10 June 2016.

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