



CORPORATE TRAVEL NEWS

Tuesday, 1 December 2009



Qantas baggage & seating enhancements

Qantas have announced a range of initiatives designed to provide customers with further choice and flexibility when they next travel.

Passengers who commence their journey in Australia have the ability to increase their checked baggage allowance for any domestic or international Qantas operated service with a QF flight number, from 7 days before the scheduled departure.

The Qantas Advance Seat Selection capability has been expanded to include all international customers, including Qantas Bronze Frequent Flyer members and non Frequent Flyers, from 7 days to 24 hours prior to departure of their Qantas operated international flight.

Platinum, Gold and Silver Frequent Flyers will continue

to have priority seating, available immediately after they have made their booking.



VIRGIN BLUE DOUBLES WEEKDAY SERVICES TO PORT HEDLAND!

Virgin Blue has launched further services between Perth and Port Hedland which will provide double daily services five days a week (from Monday to Friday) boosting capacity on the route from seven to 12 flights a week. The new services will operate every weekday morning departing Perth at 6am and arriving into Port Hedland at 8.05am before returning to Perth by 10.35am the same day. This is in addition to the current schedule which offers a daily return service each afternoon departing Perth at 4.10pm and Port Hedland 6.45pm.



Tiger Airways New Route

Tiger Airways have announced commencing from 28th March 2010, they will operate flights between Melbourne and Brisbane.



Qantas to overhaul domestic airport check in

Qantas announced plans to introduce a next generation check-in facility for passengers at *CityFlyer* ports across the country, to be rolled from next year.

The world-leading technology expects to revolutionise the airport experience, and halve check-in time. The initiative will see Qantas Frequent Flyers' cards embedded with an intelligent chip, "transforming them into personal boarding passes

linked to permanent bag tags.

Qantas passengers will be able to swipe their Frequent Flyer card on a reader and head to a simplified baggage drop, or straight through to their departure gate. The initiative will be available to QF Frequent Flyers from Silver through to Platinum, and all Qantas Club Members.



V Australia takes off to Fiji!

V Australia is launching direct daily services Sydney - Nadi, Fiji from 18 December 2009.

It will mean more seats to Fiji for Australian holiday-makers as well as the option of being able to travel across the Pacific to Fiji in Premium Economy or International Business Class cabins. All cabins are inclusive of food and beverage service and complimentary in-flight entertainment via the award

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winning individual seat back RED program.



Malaysian Airlines to launch Brisbane direct flights

Malaysian Airlines will launch twice weekly direct flights between Brisbane and Kuala Lumpur from 28 March. The new services will compliment the current 5 times per week service to Brisbane which operates via Sydney. The new Friday and Sunday direct flights will operate overnight, departing Brisbane at 11.20pm and arriving into Kuala Lumpur at 5.45am the next day.



UA to launch Rome

United Airlines has announced a new seasonal daily non-stop service

between Chicago and Rome. The flights will operate over the northern hemisphere summer, from 01 May until 31 Aug.



Qantas codeshare expanded

Qantas has announced they have expanded the current codeshare arrangement with Air North to include services between Darwin and Dili, East Timor. The expanded codeshare arrangement will operate to Dili, 5 times per week on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday. Members of the Qantas Frequent Flyer program will be able to earn points on the Air North operated services when traveling under the Qantas code.

Brisbane Airport access

Brisbane Airport's second access road is almost finished after more than two years of construction. Brisbane's international and domestic airports will have improved access following the completion of the new road. Two major roadways and a number of link roads and bridges will be launched when the Northern Access Road Project is unveiled 3 December.



South African Airways rejoins Qantas FF program

South African Airways has rejoined the Qantas Frequent Flyer program as an airline partner. Qantas points can now be earned on SAA services from Perth to Johannesburg as well as QF codeshare services from Sydney. The changes also mean Qantas frequent flyer members will be able to earn and redeem points on Classic Awards on eligible flights between Australia and South

Africa – as well as on domestic flights to more than 15 destinations with South Africa.



Japan Airlines offer Premium

From 1 December, Japan Airlines will offer Premium Economy on their Sydney to Tokyo flights. The Sky Shell seat is the first shell-shaped seats and offers 20% more leg room, special meals and a dedicated check in service.



Emirates to Narita

Emirates will launch a 5 times weekly operation between Dubai and Tokyo Narita from 28 March 2010. The Dubai-based carrier will also expand its codeshare pact with Japan Airlines on the route.

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EK already operates a daily service from Dubai to Osaka.



Jetstar goes mobile

Jetstar is about to begin trials on a new mobile boarding pass system which will see passengers departing from Melbourne's Avalon Airport the first to use the technology. There are plans to roll out the system nationally in late 2010.

Further news on Jetstar...

New Tasmanian services

Jetstar is set to boost Hobart to Melbourne flights from 18 December to 31 January & 1 March to 27 March, with an additional 3 return flights per week.

The airline will also make the Launceston to Brisbane a daily direct service for 2 January to 31 January & 1 - 27 March.

Brazil Visa fee drop

The Consulate General of Brazil has advised that the cost of all categories of visas and its service charges will decrease because of currency market changes.

From 01 Dec, Tourist Visas for Australian passport holders will drop from \$70 to \$49 when lodged in person or from \$90 to \$53 when lodged by agent/ courier/ mail or third party.



Qantas opens new business lounge

Qantas has opened its new signature lounge at Hong Kong International Airport. The lounge is equipped with 14 individual workstations which each have a PC and complimentary wireless access. The new business lounge is located on Level 5 of the International Terminal.

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