



Friday, 21 August 2009

NEWS ITEMS



Jetstar tweaks Melbourne, less Avalon, more Tullamarine Melbourne direct to/from Sydney

Jetstar will now be flying to Melbourne Tullamarine direct from Sydney, making this the first step that the low cost carrier will take into a key CityFlyer route, inside sister airline Qantas territory.

Qantas Group has long maintained that it will not "cannibalise" its own business and leave Jetstar services in Avalon, but recent moves by Tiger Airways to ply the lucrative Melbourne to Sydney service seems to have shaken this principal.

Jetstar will reduce its Sydney-Avalon service from seven

dailies to four dailies, and launch five daily services on the Sydney- Melbourne route from the 25th of October.

This will be done to re-balance the capacity on the Melbourne-Sydney route. Avalon's Brisbane services are expected to remain unchanged. Qantas will maintain its high frequency premium offering for business travelers.

Jetstar Asia also expanding

Sister airline Jetstar Asia today also announced a new service for Phuket and extra capacity for Manila, as three more Airbus A320s enter into the Jetstar fleet from next year onwards.

Singapore-Phuket will launch as a double daily from the 15th of December, while Singapore-Manila will see an additional three weekly services to a total of ten weekly return flights from the 25th of October.

Jetstar Asia is also expected to launch its first ever Mainland China service later this week.



Qantas Terminal Changes - Johannesburg Airport

Effective 08 September 2009, customers travelling on Qantas operated services from Johannesburg to Sydney are required to check-in at Terminal A at Johannesburg Airport. Customers travelling on Qantas codeshare services (operated by South African Airways) from Johannesburg to Perth will continue to check in at Terminal B.



Continental confident for October entrance into Star Alliance

Continental Airlines has gone forward with its plans to enter into the Star Alliance

airline network, with the 27th of October this year as the official date of entry.



Regional Express Launches into North Queensland

Regional Express (Rex), announced it will commence services between Townsville and Mackay from Thursday 1 October 2009.

The new Rex service will be operated with 34-seat SAAB 340 turboprop aircraft. For the first time the two communities will have 3 return flights every week day except Wednesday, allowing both the Townsville and Mackay business communities to spend a full day at their destination and return home for the night. Saturday and Sunday flights are also provided. The standard fully inclusive entry level one-way web fare



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CORPORATE TRAVEL NEWS

between Townsville and Mackay will be \$129.00.

The additional capacity will offer local residents an increased availability to fly direct to Mackay for both their business and leisure travel, and at the same time encourage visitors from the Mackay region to come and explore the sights of Townsville and surrounding areas.

Commencement of the Rex service is subject to all regulatory approvals being received.



V Australia second phase expansion. Flights to Thailand, South Africa & L.A!

V Australia announced Phuket and Johannesburg as its next two destinations along with a strengthened focus on Melbourne just six months after launch. Four new V Australia routes to

commence from December onwards include:
 * Brisbane to Phuket, Thailand direct twice weekly from 22 November 2009
 * Melbourne to Phuket, Thailand direct flights 1 a week from 3 December 2009
 * Melbourne to Los Angeles, USA direct flights twice weekly from 1 December 2009
 * Melbourne to Johannesburg, South Africa direct flights from 13 March 2010 .

The airline has lodged an application with the International Air Services Commission for permission and slots to operate flights between Australia and Fiji.

V Australia will be the only airline to offer direct flights from Brisbane to Phuket and Melbourne to Phuket, as well as from Melbourne to South Africa.

Connecting flights will be available from other key Australian ports to both Johannesburg and Phuket.

V Australia, a member of the Virgin Blue Airlines group launched in February on the

Sydney- Los Angeles route and commenced operations between Brisbane-Los Angeles in April this year.

The airline is set to take delivery of its fourth Boeing 777-300ER aircraft configured in three class configuration.



Turkish Airlines to enter Australian market in 2011

Turkish Airlines plans to start flying into Australia from 2011

With the carrier's expansion to Jakarta scheduled to start at the end of this month, a Boeing 777-300 aircraft would serve the Australian route from Istanbul via Jakarta.

It is expected the flights will bring in many tourists from Turkey and be able to serve Australians desiring to visit Turkey for ANZAC services. The carrier plans to continue expanding its network and frequency, with the

Philippines and Vietnam next on its destination wish list. The carrier hopes to double its frequency in the next two to three years, with hopes to eradicate limitations on destinations such as Narita, Japan which it hopes to increase its four-weekly flights to daily operations. To serve its expansion Turkish Airlines have ordered 19 aircraft, 12 of which are Boeing 777-300s in a 3-class configuration and 7 of which are Airbus 330-300s

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