

Aviation Business Press Release

2020 VISION FOR MILAN AIRPORTS

SEA MILAN ATTENDS EUROPEAN ROUTE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE IN HANNOVER, GERMANY TO ATTRACT MORE ROUTES TO AND FROM THE REGION



Caption: An Emirates 777-300 on stand at Milan Malpensa ahead of its next trip to Dubai. The Italian hub experienced its highest ever passenger throughput in 2018 with almost 25 million passengers, however unserved opportunities to destinations like Gothenburg, Thessaloniki and Hannover still exist.

Milan, 4 April 2019 – SEA, which operates Milan’s Malpensa and Linate airports, is attending the Routes Europe route development conference in Hannover next week to further its network goals. During the four-day event the airport operator will participate in countless meetings with airline network planners to determine which new services will be added to Milan’s future route portfolio. Next year, Milan will be the host of the global equivalent of the forum, World Routes.

It’s only a short flight for SEA’s business development team, but their vision as they visit Hannover is far reaching. “Our meetings take on an added importance,” states Andrea Tucci, VP Aviation Business Development at SEA, “because not only are we here to update airlines on network opportunities, but we are also looking forward to next autumn when, along with the Lombardy Region, we will be hosting World Routes. The premier event in the route development calendar will be set against the backdrop of record passengers and impressive growth here in Milan, and we are excited about showcasing our airports and the city.”

There is never a bad time to invite the world’s airlines to your city, but the current period is a particularly buoyant one for SEA. Its two airports have just finished a record year, reaching around 34 million passengers. On its European routes it handled 28 million passengers, up 6.7% on 2017 figures. Malpensa had its



highest throughput ever, with almost 19 million European passengers — an incredible annual growth of 12.5%. “We offer a wide European network,” notes Tucci. “There are 134 destinations in 38 countries served by an unbelievable 52 airlines. A diverse and robust portfolio is our key strength and the fact our development continues at a breath-taking rate is testimony to this.” He is not wrong; in 2019, almost 30 new routes have already been added, as well as 48 incremental weekly frequencies on 10 existing services.

Tucci and his team have an important job to do this week. “We are obviously here to promote unserved destinations,” explains Tucci. “These include Gothenburg, Thessaloniki, Billund, Nuremburg and indeed our host city, Hannover. But we also have some important updates for our airline partners.” The updates that the SEA team will be sharing include a new analytical tool based on ‘Big Data’ which they are using to measure the actual size and potential of Malpensa’s catchment area, important accessibility improvements, and operational information on the three-month closure of Linate during S19 and subsequent relocation of flights to Malpensa.

With the world’s network planners descending into Italy next September for World Routes 2020, SEA is busy developing its infrastructure. Over the next year, upgrades to Terminals 1 and 2 at Malpensa, as well as enhancements to the cargo infrastructure will take place. “New routes and robust growth are not enough,” says Tucci. “We must always have one eye on the future and ensure that our infrastructure can cope with the additional passengers that we are planning to welcome into our system, making sure it is truly fit for the demands of the 2020s.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

SEA Group manages the two main airports of Milan, Malpensa and Linate.

Malpensa is located in Lombardy, Italy’s richest region and the third richest in Europe, where the population is over 10 million inhabitants.

The Milan catchment area is wealthier, bigger and more dynamic than any other city in the country, with almost 70% of total Italian outbound traffic originating in Northern Italy. As a result, Milan’s routes generate a high share of premium traffic, equivalent to other major European hubs.

The Milan airport system is the biggest Italian generator of origin and destination traffic: 47 million passengers in Milan area (plus another nine million within 150-minute radius).

Malpensa handled 24.6 million passengers in 2018, with Linate processing 9,2 million passengers during the same period, making them the second and fifth busiest airports in Italy respectively.

Malpensa is also the busiest cargo airport in Italy, handling more than 50% of the nation’s air freight. The airport is also the sixth busiest in Europe in terms of cargo volumes.



More than 210 global destinations are served direct from the city's airports, which are operated by 105 airline partners.

Milan will host World Routes 2020 network development event, taking place between 5-8 September next year.

New routes already launched in 2019:

- 13 January – **Neos**, weekly service to Guiyan (new destination);
- 22 February – **Wizz Air**, daily service to Vienna;
- 12 March – **Ernest**, twice-weekly service to Kharkiv (new destination);
- 14 March – **Neos**, weekly service to Luxor;
- 19 March – **Wizz Air**, twice-weekly service to Ohrid (new destination);
- 31 March – **Air Italy**, daily service to Cagliari;
- 1 April – **Ryanair**, daily service to Madrid;
- 2 April – **Ryanair**, twice-weekly service to Almeria (new destination);
- 3 April – **Air Italy**, four times weekly service to Los Angeles (new destination);

New routes still to launch in 2019:

- 9 April – **TWIN JET**, three times weekly service to Strasbourg (new destination);
- 10 April – **Air Italy**, four times weekly service to San Francisco (new destination);
- 6 May – **Air Italy**, four times weekly service to Toronto Pearson;
- 21 May – **Neos**, weekly service to Mersa Matruh (new destination);
- 26 May – **Ryanair**, twice-weekly service to Bristol (new destination);
- 1 June – **Neos**, weekly service to Samos (new destination);
- 3 June – **Neos**, weekly services to Malaga and Corfu;
- 3 June – **Ryanair**, three times weekly service to Heraklion and Malaga;
- 7 June – **Neos**, weekly service to Larnaca;
- 12 June – **Neos**, weekly service to Chania;
- 29 June – **SAS**, weekly service to Stavanger (new destination);
- 30 June – **SAS**, twice-weekly service to Bergen (new destination);
- 1 July – **Ryanair**, six times weekly service to Dublin;
- 27 October – **Ryanair**, five times weekly service to Manchester.