Press release



Berlin becomes even more accessible with 200,000 additional easyJet seats

- More connections and new destinations from summer
- Announcement at press event with Senator for Economic Affairs Giffey at ITB
- Strong partnership between visitBerlin and easyJet for 20 years now

Berlin, 5 March 2024 Just in time for the peak travel season, easyJet is increasing its range of routes at BER and thus strengthening accessibility to the capital for its guests. A total of 200,000 seats will be added on existing and new routes this summer. The new summer flight schedule will come into effect on 31 March 2024, as Stephan Erler, Country Manager for Germany and Switzerland at easyJet, announced today at a joint meeting with Berlin's Senator for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises, Franziska Giffey. The meeting took place at the ITB International Tourism Fair, which is currently taking place in Berlin. Aletta von Massenbach, CEO of Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg GmbH, and Burkhard Kieker, CEO of *visitBerlin*, were also present.

Franziska Giffey, Mayor and Senator for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises: "Berlin is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe and worldwide. 12 million people visited our city last year and stayed overnight here almost 30 million times. We want this upward trend to continue. We are working to ensure that Berlin, as a cultural and sports metropolis, a centre of science and a dynamic business location, has good international flight connections. By expanding its services, easyJet is making another important contribution to ensuring that the German capital is even better connected to Europe by air. This is good for our BER airport and for the entire Berlin-Brandenburg metropolitan region."

Burkhard Kieker, CEO of *visitBerlin*, is delighted with easyJet's strong commitment to Berlin: "The increase in seat capacity for summer 2024 will help Berlin. We are proud to be working with easyJet to further increase Berlin's connectivity and to be able to meet the great demand for our city."

Stephan Erler, Country Manager for Germany and Switzerland at easyJet: "As the home airline at BER and a long-standing partner of the capital region, we are delighted to be able to increase our route network by 200,000 additional seats this summer. This is all the more an expression of our confidence in the region in times of rising location costs and tax burdens. In addition, with our package holiday provider easyJet holidays, we also offer many holiday options for tourists who want to explore Berlin this summer and, with *visitBerlin*, we have a partner at our side who also wants to continuously improve the tourism offer in the capital region. We will therefore continue to keep an eye on the demand for flights to and from BER in the future and continuously adapt our route network to meet demand and guarantee the connectivity of the capital region."

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Aletta von Massenbach, Chairwoman of the Management Board, Flughafen Berlin Brandenburg GmbH: "We are delighted to have a strong partner at BER in easyJet. By offering 200,000 additional seats this summer, the airline is emphasising its ambitions at the capital's airport. With more than 50 destinations from BER in the summer flight schedule, easyJet is increasing the number of flights on offer and fulfilling wishes for holidays on the beach as well as in major European cities or the cultural centres of Europe."

easyJet with new destinations at BER

Based on the figures for the second half of 2023, easyJet is back in the top group of airlines represented at BER with five new destinations (Bordeaux, Toulouse-Blagnac, Salerno, Izmir and Antalya) and 200,000 additional seats.

More connections for the whole of Europe

Among other things, easyJet is increasing its connections to Switzerland, making it the airline with the strongest presence in our neighbouring country. In addition to the multiple daily service to Basel, the route offering to Geneva and Zurich will be expanded. Connections to Copenhagen, Bordeaux, Paris, Nice and Rome will also be increased. There will be new incoming connections from Birmingham and Toulouse from the summer. This will provide Berlin with even better connections to European medium-haul destinations than before.

Overall, easyJet is thus increasing Berlin's importance as a destination for holiday and business travel, especially after the slump during the coronavirus pandemic. The airline is also an important partner for Berlin as a destination with its own package holiday provider easyJet holidays.

Twenty years of cooperation between visitBerlin and easyJet

visitBerlin and easyJet have been working closely together for twenty years, which led to a strategic partnership <u>six years ago</u>. easyJet is the home airline of the people of Berlin and Brandenburg. With eleven stationed aircraft and 700 employees on site, easyJet transports four million passengers a year on over 55 routes to and from BER.

visitBerlin

"Inspiring the world for Berlin." With this mission, Berlin Tourismus & Kongress GmbH provides destination management as well as tourism and congress marketing for Berlin. The company, which operates under the *visitBerlin*

brand, is a partner, player, ideas provider and networker. Its work focusses on sustainable product development and the marketing of city-friendly tourism offers in all twelve districts. The aim is to maintain the quality of life of Berlin's residents and increase the quality of stay for visitors. *visitBerlin* also acts as a tour operator and is the issuer of the official tourist ticket, the Berlin WelcomeCard. The company also operates the Berlin Tourist Info Centres. At <u>visitBerlin.de</u>, Berlin's official travel portal, visitors to Berlin can find all the information they need about travelling to Berlin. More about *visitBerlin* at <u>about.visitBerlin.de</u>