**PRESS RELEASE**

**Prague Airport Continues to Grow: 2018 Brings More Passengers and More Destinations**

Prague, 15 January 2019

**Václav Havel Airport Prague has continued to grow without interruption since 2013. In 2018, as per the latest operating results, Prague Airport handled a total of 16,797,006 passengers, which represents a 9% year-on-year growth. Routes to Great Britain were the busiest last year with the greatest number of passengers traditionally heading to London. Barcelona recorded the highest year-on-year increase in the number of handled passengers on the route. Long-haul routes also significantly enhanced their performance, with nearly quarter of a million more passengers compared to the previous year.**

Nearly 16.8 million passengers passed through the gates of Václav Havel Airport Prague in 2018, and a total of 155,530 take-offs and landings were performed. The positive trend has thus continued, with 9% more handled passengers and almost 5% more performed movements, a slightly slower growth rate than the former.

*“Last year meant additional growth in both the number of handled passengers and regular scheduled routes at Prague Airport. Three new air carriers launched their operations in 2018 and there were seven new destinations put on the map of connections from Prague. We were able to significantly enhance the long-haul segment by increasing both the number of frequencies and capacity, and by launching brand new routes. As a result, over 250 thousand more passengers used long-haul connections with Prague, representing a 24% increase,”* Vaclav Rehor, Chairman of the Prague Airport Board of Directors, said.

The busiest month of 2018 was July with 1,877,369 handled passengers. Last year, on average, 46 thousand passengers passed through the airport each day. A total of 69 carriers operated their flights from Prague, connecting it with 171 destinations, including several new places such as Philadelphia, Kutaisi, Belfast, Amman, Marrakesh, Sharjah and Yerevan.

In 2018, the most popular routes were between Prague and Great Britain, Italy, Russia, Spain and Germany. The busiest 2018 destination was London, followed by Paris, Moscow, Amsterdam and Frankfurt. The most significant year-on-year growth in the number of handled passengers was recorded by Barcelona, followed by Budapest, London/Stansted, Madrid and Antalya. Out of holiday destinations, the greatest number of passengers used flights to Antalya, Heraklion, Hurghada, Burgas and Marsa Alam.

**2018 Operational Results**

Number of Passengers 16,797,006 change from 2017/2018 +9%

Number of Movements 155,530 change from 2017/2018 +4.9%

**TOP Countries: Number of PAX Year-on-year Change**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Great Britain | 2,061,865 | +13.1% |
| 2. Italy | 1,343,164 | - 0.8% |
| 3. Russia | 1,198,445 | - 0.1% |
| 4. Spain | 1,190,571 | + 23.3% |
| 5. Germany | 1,156,998 | - 7.7% |

**TOP Destinations: Number of PAX Year-on-year Change**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. London | 1,357,406 | +8.8% |
| 2. Paris | 828,622 | -2.2% |
| 3. Moscow | 823,394 | - 0.1% |
| 4. Amsterdam | 690,855 | + 4.9% |
| 5. Frankfurt | 524,458 | + 0.7% |

**Destinations with Greatest Passenger Number Increases:**

**Destination Passenger Number Increase In %**

**1. Barcelona +117,728 34.8%**

**2. Budapest +90,765 82.3%**

**3. London/Stansted +77,896 23.6%**

**4. Madrid +66,219 26.7%**

**5. Antalya +64,405 50.5%**

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**Media Contact:**

Roman Pacvoň

Prague Airport Spokesperson

Tel.: +420 220 116 179

Mobile: +420 724 392 455

E-mail: [roman.pacvon@prg.aero](mailto:roman.pacvon@prg.aero)

[www.prg.aero](http://www.prg.aero)