

QATAR AIRWAYS SET TO FLY TO CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA FROM FEBRUARY 2018

Daily flights to the Australian capital will be tagged to the airline's second-daily Doha-Sydney service

28 July 2017

MELBOURNE, Australia – Qatar Airways is pleased to announce that it will begin daily service to Canberra, via Sydney, starting 12 February 2018. The airline's first flight departing Canberra for Doha will be on 13 February. Canberra will be Qatar Airways' fifth Australian destination, and the airline will be the first international carrier to offer Australia's capital city daily scheduled flights to Doha via Sydney.

Qatar Airways, the reigning Skytrax Airline of the Year, inaugurated its first daily Sydney flight on 1 March 2016 with great success, upgrading it to the superjumbo A380 just six months after the airline's Sydney launch.

Qatar Airways' second-daily Sydney flight that will make its way to Canberra will be served by a 358-seater Boeing 777-300 aircraft. Return flights will be on a Canberra-Sydney-Doha routing.

Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, His Excellency Mr. Akbar Al Baker, said: "We are delighted to finally bring our award-winning service to Canberra in 2018, our ninth year of operation in Australia. As Australia's capital city, Canberra is an important addition to our global route map and further boosts the existing strong ties between Australia and Qatar. We are confident our highly-acclaimed product will appeal greatly to government, business and leisure travellers alike and we look forward to welcoming our passengers on board very soon."

The Managing Director of Canberra Airport, Stephen Byron, said the Qatar connection was an exciting development in the fulfilment of a major goal.

"We have had a long-held dream that we could connect Canberra with the rest of the world. The beginning of the Qatar Airways service in February provides seamless access to the major international hub of Doha, and a stepping off point for the Middle East, Europe and points beyond".

"We welcome Qatar Airways' strong support for Canberra, and the people living in our wider region of around 1 million people".

Qatar Airways will fly a Boeing 777-300 daily from Canberra to Sydney and onward to Doha, connecting passengers to its global network of more than 150 destinations, of which more than 40 are in Europe. The passenger aircraft features a total of 358 seats, with 42 seats in Business Class and 316 seats in Economy Class.

On board in Business Class, passengers can enjoy one of the most comfortable fully-flat beds in the sky with 78 inches of seat pitch. In addition, the on-demand à la carte menu service allows Business Class passengers to order anything from the menu at any time during the flight. The aircraft also features the state-of-the-art Oryx One entertainment system, with up to 3,000 entertainment options on individual screens in all classes.

At Qatar Airways state-of-the-art home and hub, Hamad International Airport, passengers can be assured of the convenience and luxuries the only five-star airport in the Middle East can provide. The contemporary and luxurious airport, which opened in 2014, has more than 40,000 square metres of retail space and



restaurants including more than 70 retail and 30 food and beverage outlets, as well as a 25-metre swimming pool, gym, hotel and spa.

The 2017 Airline of the Year, as awarded by Skytrax, has a host of exciting new destinations planned for the remainder of this year and in 2018, including Prague, Czech Republic and Kyiv, Ukraine, as well as European cities such as Cardiff, United Kingdom; Mykonos, Greece and Lisbon, Portugal, among others.

Qatar Airways has received a number of accolades this year, including *Airline of the Year* by the prestigious 2017 Skytrax World Airline Awards, which was held at the Paris Air Show. This is the fourth time that Qatar Airways has been given this global recognition as the world's best airline. In addition to being voted Best Airline by travellers from around the world, Qatar's national carrier also won a raft of other major awards at the ceremony, including *Best Airline in the Middle East*, *World's Best Business Class* and *World's Best First Class Airline Lounge*. Now in its 20th year of operations, Qatar Airways has a modern fleet of 200 aircraft flying to business and leisure destinations across six continents.

Flight Schedule: All flights daily, subject to regulatory and government approval

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|--------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| QR 906 | Doha-Sydney | Dep 08:10, Arr 06:15 (+1) |
| QR 906 | Sydney-Canberra | Dep 07:25, Arr 08:25 |
| QR 907 | Canberra-Sydney | Dep 13:45, Arr 14:45 |
| QR 907 | Sydney-Doha | Dep 15:55, Arr 22:30 |

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Notes to Editors:

About Qatar Airways:

Qatar Airways, the national carrier of the State of Qatar, is celebrating 20 years of Going Places Together with travellers across its more than 150 business and leisure destinations. The world's fast growing airline will add a number of exciting new destinations to its growing network in 2017/18, including Dublin, Nice, Skopje, Sarajevo and many more, flying passengers on board its modern fleet of 200 aircraft.

A multiple award-winning airline, Qatar Airways was recently named Airline of the Year by the 2017 World Airline Awards, managed by international air transport rating organisation Skytrax. It was also named World's Best Business Class, Best Airline in the Middle East, and World's Best First Class Airline Lounge.

Qatar Airways is a member of the **oneworld** global alliance. The award-winning alliance was named the World's Best Airline Alliance 2015 by Skytrax for the third year running. Qatar Airways was the first Gulf carrier to join global airline alliance, **oneworld**, enabling its passengers to benefit from more than 1,000 airports in more than 150 countries, with 14,250 daily departures.

Oryx One, Qatar Airways' in-flight entertainment system offers passengers up to 3,000 entertainment options from the latest blockbuster movies, TV box sets, music, games and much more. Passengers flying on Qatar Airways flights served by its B787, A350, A380, A319 and select A320 and A330 aircraft can also stay in touch with their friends and family around the world by using the award-winning airline's on-board Wi-Fi and GSM service.

Qatar Airways proudly supports a range of exciting international and local initiatives dedicated to enriching the global community that it serves. Qatar Airways, the official FIFA partner, is the official sponsor of many top-level sporting events, including the FIFA 2018 and 2022 World Cups, reflecting the values of sports as a means of bringing people together, something at the core of the airline's own brand message - Going Places Together.



Qatar Airways Cargo, the world's third largest international cargo carrier, serves 60 exclusive freighter destinations worldwide via its world-class Doha hub and also delivers freight to more than 150 key business and leisure destinations globally with 200 aircraft. The Qatar Airways Cargo fleet includes eight Airbus A330 freighters, 12 Boeing 777 freighters and one Boeing 747 freighter.

For Qatar Airways corporate images, please click here: <http://www.qatarairways.com/corporateimages>

For further information contact:

Qatar Airways Group, Corporate Communications Department

Tel: +974 4022 2072, Fax: +974 4022 5350

E-mail: qrmmedia@qatarairways.com.qa

Website: www.qatarairways.com