

MEDIA RELEASE

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Canberra Airport partners with Link Airways with direct flights to Hobart

Canberra Airport today announced Link Airways will commence four weekly scheduled return services between Canberra and Hobart, Tasmania, from 3 December 2020 or earlier depending on the timing of the Tasmanian Government's decision to open borders to the ACT.

Link Airways, a Canberra owned airline, will provide direct flights from Canberra to Hobart for the first time since 2013, further establishing the expansion of tourism and business.

Link Airways currently operates airline services from Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne to nine destinations in Queensland and New South Wales. Link Airways is owned by Corporate Air - one of the longest established aviation service providers in eastern Australia.

Canberra Airport's Head of Aviation, Michael Thomson is pleased to welcome the new partnership with Link Airways and expand the Canberra Airport offering.

"We're excited to partner with a local Canberra business to connect travellers with Tasmania. It is the second airline in less than a week to announce new services from the capital, adding further confidence that we are restarting aviation in Canberra."

"Canberra tourism and business are ready to welcome back travellers to the Capital and Canberrans are ready to get away, and with flights starting just before Christmas, there is no better time to book your flight to Tasmania", Mr Thomson said.

Chief Minister Andrew Barr said that this announcement is another great opportunity for Canberrans. "Once Tasmania reopens its borders it will be great for Canberrans to have yet another new option to fly direct and enjoy a short break away. I thank Canberra Airport and Link Airways for their confidence in the route - a great success story for a Canberra owned airline which will lead to more visitors and more jobs for Canberrans."

Tasmania's border is set to reopen from 1 December 2020, allowing the commencement of flights to take place on 3 December. If the Tasmanian Government opens the border with the ACT opens earlier than 1 December 2020, the airline will look to bring forward the scheduled commencement date.

Link Airways CEO Andrew Major believes the new route will provide a convenient and cost-effective alternative for passengers wanting to travel to the Capital and connect to other domestic destinations.

"We're particularly pleased to announce the establishment of this exciting new route given Link Airways Canberra ownership. Detailed research has identified a strong demand for direct flights between Canberra and Hobart and the proposed service will not only facilitate travel between the ACT and Tasmania, but also provide a convenient and cost effective alternative for passengers wanting to connect from Canberra to other domestic destinations", Mr Major said.

In 2021, the service will grow to 11 return flights per week on the 34-passenger seat Saab 340B Plus aircraft. Tickets are now on sale at linkairways.com or through on-line and shop front travel agents, with prices start from \$219 one-way.

For more information on how the Canberra Airport is working to keep passengers safe during and beyond COVID-19 go to:

<https://www.canberraairport.com.au/>



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