



## Chauffeur service adds Sabre Red app

Chauffeur-drive transfer service SummitQwest has linked up to Sabre with an app. The DataArt-developed function means travel agents will be able to receive price quotes, book and manage chauffeured ground transportation real-time through SummitLink.

## Heathrow awarded China Charter mark

London Heathrow Airport has certified as being 'China Ready' under a UK scheme designed to offer more facilities to Chinese travellers. The UK's main gateway airport joins nearly 200 existing members of the China Charter scheme that helps Chinese tourists identify hotels, attractions and retailers that offer services for Chinese guests. The move comes as Air China plans to double its flights to the airport from Beijing in October.

## China to need 6,000 new aircraft – Boeing



Airlines in China will purchase approximately 6,020 new aircraft over the next 20 years, as the country's aviation sector continues its rapid expansion.

This estimated total of new aircraft deliveries, which is worth US\$870 billion at list prices, represents 16% of the global total and 45% of new aircraft needed in the Asia Pacific region.

"China's aviation market is going through dynamic changes,"

said Randy Tinseth, Boeing's vice president of marketing. "New business models like low-cost carriers and airplane leasing companies, a new generation of fuel-efficient airplanes and evolving consumer needs are driving demand for more direct flights to more destinations."

And driving new aircraft demand in China will be single-aisle jets, such as the Boeing 737 or Airbus A320. China is forecast to need

4,540 regional or single-aisle jets over the next two decades, or 75% of the country's total demand. A further 780 will be small twin-aisle jets, such as the Boeing 787-8, followed by 640 large twin-aisles, such as the Boeing 777-300, and 60 very large aircraft, such as the Airbus A380.

Worldwide, Boeing estimates that the world's airlines will spend US\$5.2 trillion on 36,770 new aircraft over the next 20 years.

## Xiamen Airlines sets up Beijing base



Xiamen Airlines has set up a new operating base in Beijing. The fast-expanding Chinese airline currently bases seven aircraft at Beijing Capital International Airport, providing 21 daily flights on 10 routes to cities including Fuzhou, Xiamen, Changsha, Hangzhou, Shanghai, Hailar and Qingdao.

But it now plans to significantly increase this Beijing-based fleet to 40 aircraft by 2020, with the aim of handling five million passengers a year.

This will include addition of more flights to Fuzhou, Xiamen and

Hangzhou, plus the launch of brand new routes to major Chinese cities including Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Chengdu and Kunming.

And by October 2015, when Xiamen Airlines receives the last of its six Boeing 787 Dreamliners, the airline plans to commence new international services linking Beijing with Southeast Asia, Japan, South Korea, North America, Europe and Australia.

The Beijing base becomes the airline's sixth unit in China, following Fuzhou, Hangzhou, Tianjin, Changsha and Nanchang.

## Garuda launches flights to London

Garuda Indonesia has launched its long-awaited service to London. The new route commenced on 8 September 2014 and will now operate five times a week between Jakarta and London Gatwick Airport, via Amsterdam.

"We are very pleased to be able to add London to our extensive global network," said Garuda's executive vice president of marketing & sales, Erik Meijer. "There are strong business, educational and cultural ties between Indonesia and the United Kingdom, and we believe this new service will further boost those activities amongst two countries, whilst offering easier access for

travellers from UK to Indonesia, which now is one of the fastest economic growth centres in the world."

The route will now operate every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday using Garuda's new 314-seat Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, offering first, business and economy class cabins.

Garuda intended to launch the London route last year, but was delayed due to problems with the runways at Soekarno-Hatta. It then commenced the Amsterdam route in May 2014, and will now operate to London as an extension of this service. [Click here for full story →](#)



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