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Three new A330 to join airberlin fleet Nearly 1,000 extra seats to boost extended long-haul flight network

airberlin is to add three wide-body Airbus 330-200 aircraft to its fleet as it builds towards its biggest long-haul summer flight schedule to the US.

The new aircraft will join airberlin's existing Airbus 330 fleet of 14 and boost capacity by nearly 1,000 passenger seats.

The first of the 290-seater aircraft will come into operation in February with the next two planes flying in airberlin's colours before the end of April.

The leased aircraft will be configured with 19 fully-flat seats in business class and 271 seats in the economy section. Each aircraft will be fitted with 46 XL seats which give an extra 20 per cent seat pitch to provide more legroom and extra comfort.

More than 70 airberlin pilots and 260 flight attendants have undergone extensive training in the last months to operate the three new jets.

Thomas Winkelmann, Chief Executive Officer of airberlin, said: "We're therefore increasingly aligning our route network with the needs of our long-haul passengers. This increased capacity and our expanded fleet are further steps towards becoming a network carrier and extending our US services."

airberlin will operate 84 non-stop flights a week from Germany during the summer to eight destinations in the USA. A new route for the airline will be Orlando in Florida and it will join New York (JFK), Boston, Miami, Fort Myers, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The two Californian destinations of San Francisco and Los Angeles will operate from Berlin Tegel with three or four non-stop flights a week from May.

Direct flights from Berlin Tegel to Miami, which this year will be available all year-round for the first time, will increase from three to five weekly flights starting in mid-April.

Other long-haul destinations offered by airberlin, with non-stop flights from Berlin or Dusseldorf, are Cancun in Mexico, Varadero and Havana in Cuba, Punta Cana and Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic, and the Caribbean island of Curaçao.

All long-haul flights are optimally timed to ensure the availability of numerous feeder and connecting flights to and from many cities throughout Europe, as well as much of Germany.

Tickets can be booked at www.airberlin.com, by telephone on 0180 6 - 334 334 (German landline: €0.20 per call / German mobile network: max. €0.60 per call) and through travel agents.

About airberlin

As one of Europe's largest network airlines, airberlin focuses on extremely frequent domestic flights and on services between a number of major European cities and its Berlin-Tegel and Dusseldorf hubs, from where the airline also operates long-haul flights to the USA, Caribbean and Middle East. airberlin carried more than 30.2 million passengers in 2015 and its fleet is among the most modern and eco-efficient in Europe. airberlin is a member of the oneworld® airline alliance, co-founder of Etihad Airways Partners and a strategic partner of Etihad Airways, which has a 29.21 per cent share in airberlin. topbonus, the frequent flyer programme of airberlin, has more than 4 million members.

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