

Melbourne, 25 September 2019

[Share](#) [Post](#) Like 81

Newsroom

Jetstar proposes withdrawal from regional flying in New Zealand

Jetstar today announced a proposal to end its regional Q300 turboprop services in New Zealand at the end of November 2019.

The airline began flying to the regional centres in December 2015 and currently offers up to 130 return services a week during the peak season across five routes – Auckland and Nelson, Napier, New Plymouth and Palmerston North and flights between Nelson and Wellington.

The proposal does not impact Jetstar’s New Zealand domestic and international jet services.

Gareth Evans, Jetstar’s Chief Executive Officer, said the proposal to withdraw the airline’s regional flying was based on the operation continuing to be loss making combined with higher costs and a softening of the regional travel market.

“The New Zealand regional market is facing some headwinds, with softer demand and higher fuel costs and we don’t see the outlook changing any time soon. As a result, we’re announcing a proposal today to end our regional services, with the final flights on 30 November this year,” said Mr Evans.

“We have given it a real go. However, despite four years of hard work, including becoming the most on-time of the two major regional airlines and having high customer satisfaction, our regional network continues to be loss-making.

“We understand there will be disappointment in regional centres at today’s announcement.

“Jetstar brought low fares and competition to the regions and we’ve carried more than 1.3 million passengers since these services began in 2015.

“We’re immensely proud of what our regional team has achieved to help Kiwis see more of their country for less. Last year 25 percent of our regional customers paid less than \$50 for their flight and 75 percent paid under \$100.

“Our regional customers have been very loyal and we’d like to thank them, and all our regional stakeholders including airports, local councils, businesses and tourism organisations, for their support.”

Jetstar will continue to offer up to 270 domestic jet services a week on its jet services between Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin and Queenstown and up to 100 international flights a week on the Tasman and to Rarotonga.

“We are fully committed to our domestic jet services. It’s business as usual for the rest of our New Zealand operation.

“From the end of October, we’re doubling our Queenstown to Wellington services to six per week and we’ll continue to look at opportunities for our domestic trunk routes and international flying,” said Mr Evans.

The airline will today begin a consultation process with about 70 affected employees on the proposal and expected to announce a final decision before the end of October.

Alternative employment options would be available for all affected Jetstar regional employees – made up chiefly of pilots and cabin crew – across Jetstar and Qantas Group businesses in New Zealand and Australia.

Given the uncertainty of turboprop services beyond 30 November 2019, Jetstar customers booked on regional services after this date will be offered options including a full refund.

Share this release

Jetstar proposes withdrawal from regional flying in New Zealand

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#)

Social media

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [Google+](#) [YouTube](#)

[WhatsApp](#)

Latest news

08 Dec 2025 - [Jetstar to launch Australia’s only low-cost direct flights to Sri Lanka, with fares from just \\$315^](#)

● ● ● ● ● ●

