



Jetstar announces major expansion in New Zealand as it celebrates its 15th birthday

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Monday, 24 June 2024: Jetstar plans to significantly grow its New Zealand operations, unlocking more than 240,000 new low fares seats each year and boosting tourism on both sides of the Tasman.

The first stage of its expansion includes the launch of new flights between Christchurch and Cairns, and Auckland and the Sunshine Coast (Maroochydore), with tickets going on sale at 12pm NZST today at jetstar.com.

The low-cost carrier has also announced it will increase capacity on key domestic routes, starting with Christchurch to Auckland and Auckland to Wellington. It's also planning to further grow its NZ domestic operations in the next 12 months.

In addition to the new routes, Jetstar will adjust its Christchurch to Melbourne flight times to improve connectivity to its long-haul international network. This will provide better access to Jetstar's flights between Melbourne and Asia, including Ho Chi Minh City, Phuket, Singapore and Bangkok, and enhance inbound tourism to the South Island.

To support the growth in flying, Jetstar will base an additional aircraft in Christchurch from December, bringing its New Zealand fleet to eight Airbus A320 aircraft. It's the first time Jetstar has expanded its fleet in New Zealand in more than 10 years.

Improved reliability

This major expansion comes as Jetstar continues to deliver strong reliability in New Zealand.

Over the past six months, Jetstar's cancellations have dropped to around one per cent or less and on average, more than 80 per cent of its flights have arrived on time so far this year.

Jetstar Group CEO, Stephanie Tully said today's announcement marks the biggest boost to Jetstar's operations in New Zealand in more than a decade.

"This month we're celebrating our 15th birthday in New Zealand, and as we mark this milestone, we're really excited to be entering such a significant period of growth.

"Over the past 15 years, we've helped make travel more accessible for millions of New Zealanders and this expansion will help to unlock hundreds of thousands of low fares and more choice for our customers and provide a significant boost to tourism on both sides of the Tasman.

"Having another aircraft based in Christchurch, as well as the launch of new flights and capacity, will help establish the city as a major gateway for Jetstar in New Zealand, providing more choice and great low fares for South Island residents.

"We thank Christchurch Airport and the Queensland Government for their ongoing support of low fares travel."

Christchurch Airport CEO, Justin Watson said:

"Most of that increase will bolster services and offer more travel options in and out of Christchurch Airport so this is a huge vote of confidence in our city. Christchurch is thriving, Jetstar's decided to bring even more people to the party, and we couldn't be happier to host them.

"This is a smart decision by Jetstar. The city has some major new assets, including the Te Pae, our awesome new convention centre with Te Kaha stadium and Parakiore Recreation and Sport centre coming onstream which will drive further visitor growth. Jetstar is positioning itself well to capitalise on that expansion.

"More seats across the Tasman offers better choice and a direct connection with Cairns opens up a seamless two-way link to the fantastic opportunities in the South Island and in Tropical North Queensland"

Queensland Tourism Minister and State Member for Cairns Michael Healy said:

"We're excited to see yet another international service booked for Cairns with a three-year commitment by Jetstar for three weekly services from Christchurch to Cairns, starting in April 2025.

"Sunshine Coast Airport will also benefit from three weekly Jetstar services arriving from Auckland starting in December 2024.

"The flights will go some way to alleviating the pain of losing Bonza Airlines from the local market.

"These will be the 33rd and 34th routes secured through the \$200 million Attracting Aviation Investment Fund.

"The Fund is estimated to deliver more than 2.26 million inbound international seats and up to \$1.95 billion in overnight visitor spend per year, supporting 22,700 Queensland jobs."

24-hour Route Launch Sale

To celebrate today's announcement, Jetstar is launching a 24-hour Route Launch Sale* with great low fares, including:

Trans-Tasman:

- Christchurch to Cairns from \$220* NZD
- Cairns to Christchurch from \$229* AUD
- Auckland to Sunshine Coast (Maroochydore) from \$199* NZD
- Sunshine Coast (Maroochydore) to Auckland from \$215* AUD

NZ Domestic:

- Christchurch to Auckland from \$39* NZD
- Auckland to Wellington from \$39* NZD

Sale fares are available from 12pm NZST today at jetstar.com

*Sale ends 12.00pm NZST Tuesday 25 June 2024, unless sold out prior. Prices based on payment by POLI for NZD bookings or PayID for AUD bookings, Jetstar voucher, Jetstar Gift Card, or bookings redeemed only in Qantas Points through jetstar.com. For other payment options, a Payment Fee applies. See jetstar.com/fees. Fares are one-way, checked baggage not included. Selected travel dates and other conditions apply.

Flight Schedule

Christchurch to Cairns*

From 1 April 2025

Flight	Frequency	From	To	Depart	Arrive
JQ135	Tue, Thu	CNS	CHC	22:55	06:50#
JQ136	Wed, Fri	CHC	CNS	08:05#	10:40

#NZ daylight saving time

From 6 April 2025

Flight	Frequency	From	To	Depart	Arrive
JQ135	Tue, Thu, Sun	CNS	CHC	22:55	05:50
JQ136	Mon, Wed, Fri	CHC	CNS	07:05	10:40

Auckland to Sunshine Coast (Maroochydore)*

From 13 December 2024*

Flight	Frequency	From	To	Depart	Arrive
JQ176	Tue, Fri, Sun	AKL	MCY	6:15	06:45
JQ175	Tue, Fri, Sun	MCY	AKL	08:00	14:10

Revised timings to improve connectivity to Jetstar long haul network

From 15 December 2024

Flight	Frequency	From	To	Depart	Arrive
JQ172	Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun	CHC	MEL	9:15	11:05
JQ171	Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun	MEL	CHC	12:05	17:20

*Subject to government and regulatory approval.

About Jetstar Group

Jetstar first took to the skies in 2004 and has since flown more than 350 million customers across an extensive international and domestic network. The Jetstar Group is made up of Jetstar Airways (subsidiary of the Qantas Group) in Australia and New Zealand, Jetstar Asia in Singapore, and Jetstar Japan in Japan. A leading low-fares airline, Jetstar is committed to offering everyday low fares to enable more people to fly to more places, more often. As one of Asia Pacific's fastest-growing airline brands, Jetstar was voted Best Low-Cost Airline in Asia Pacific in 2021 and was recognized for its excellent flight safety records and services when listed on the "2022 World's Top 10 LCC" released by Airline Ratings.

