AIRBALTIC STARTS 2018 WITH STRONG PASSENGER GROWTH IN JANUARY

News / Airlines

The Latvian airline *airBaltic* in January 2018 has transported 233 334 passengers or 24% more than last year to its network spanning Europe, Scandinavia, Russia, CIS and the Middle East. In addition, this is the record number of carried passengers in January in the history of the airline.

Martin Gauss, Chief Executive Officer of *airBaltic*: "We are excited to start the year with great results and increased demand from passengers across the Baltic states. The beginning of this year has been great – not only more passengers have chosen to travel with us, but we also received two important recognitions globally from *OAG* analysts for being the most punctual airline in the world in 2017 as well as the prestigious *Air Transport World* Airline Industry Achievement Award as the Market Leader of the Year. I am proud of our team and the excellent work done so far."

In January 2018, the airline performed 3 890 flights, or 12% more than in the same period of 2017. The airline's load factor, which represents the number of passengers as a proportion of the number of available seats, was at a level of 62% in January 2018.

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The 15-minute flight punctuality indicator for *airBaltic* reached a level of 89.2% in January 2018. This means that more than 89 out of every 100 *airBaltic* flights departed at the planned time or with a delay of no more than 15 minutes.

	January 2018	**January 2017**	**Changes**
Number of passengers	**233 334**	187 996	+24%
Number of flights	**3 890**	3 463	+12%
Load factor	**62%**	62%	0 percentage points
15-minute departure punctuality	**89.2%**	87.3%	+1.9 percentage points

Last week it was announced that *airBaltic* has received Air Transport World Airline Industry Achievement Award as the Market Leader of the Year. ATW 44th annual Airline Industry Achievement Awards are the most coveted honour an airline or individual can receive to recognize excellence in the air transport industry.

In addition, on January 3, 2018, it was announced that the Latvian airline *airBaltic* has been ranked No 1 globally in punctuality in 2017 by *OAG* analysts, who tracked the performance of a total of over 50 million flight records. *airBaltic* has been on the top of the global on-time performance ranking for the past four consecutive years. According to OAG, *airBaltic* achieved a punctuality rating of 90.01% for flights linking the Baltics to its network spanning Europe, Scandinavia, CIS and the Middle Least. It means that more than 90 out of 100 *airBaltic* flights arrived on time in 2017.

airBaltic serves over 60 destinations from its home base in Riga, Latvia. From every one of these locations, *airBaltic* offers convenient connections via Riga to its network spanning Europe, Scandinavia, CIS and the Middle East. In addition, *airBaltic* also offers direct flights from Tallinn and Vilnius.

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