

Etihad Airways signs strategic partnership with Kenya Airways

Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), is to expand significantly its reach across Africa after signing a strategic commercial partnership agreement with Kenya Airways, the national flag carrier of Kenya.



Etihad Airways will place its EY code on Kenya Airways flights from Nairobi to 27 destinations across Kenya Airways' network in Africa.

As part of the reciprocal codeshare agreement, Kenya Airways will place its KQ code on Etihad Airways' daily service from Nairobi to Abu Dhabi and, subject to government approval, onwards to up to 32 key destinations across Etihad's global network.

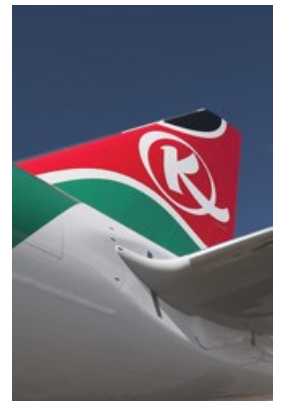
New service

Kenya Airways will also launch a new three times a week service between Nairobi and Abu Dhabi from mid-summer 2013. This will give passengers improved connections and greater choice.

The agreement paves the way for greater collaboration between the airlines on the joint procurement of services for ground handling, line and heavy maintenance, training and cargo operations.

The new codeshare with Kenya Airways will complement Etihad's existing scheduled service between Nairobi to Abu Dhabi that provides passengers with sub-four hour connections over its hub in the UAE to destinations across North Asia, South East Asia, the Indian Sub continent and Australia.

James Hogan, Etihad Airways President and Chief Executive Officer, said: "The partnership agreement with Kenya Airways is in line with our strategy of forming alliances with airlines around the world to enhance our network and marketing reach. This agreement will also allow both airlines to benefit from cost savings achieved through synergies and economies of scale."



Growing importance of Africa sees new services

"Last year we launched new services to Tripoli, Nairobi and Lagos, and over the last five years we have more than doubled our services to Africa, reflecting the increasing importance of the continent. During the same period we have flown nearly three million passengers between Africa and the UAE, and key destinations across our network."



James Hogan, Etihad Airways President and Chief

Dr. Titus Naikuni, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Airways, said: "The new codeshare partnership with Etihad Airways is a significant strengthening of the global network of both airlines, which provides more choice to all our passengers. As part of the agreement we are looking for greater collaboration and coordination on cargo operations, training and procurement opportunities which will make us more cost efficient and customer responsive."

Kenya Airlines joins a growing list of airlines to have launched new services to Abu Dhabi International Airport as a direct result of Etihad Airways' partnership strategy,

Executive Officer with Dr. Titus Naikuni, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Kenya Airways.

including: airberlin Air Seychelles, Alitalia, CSA Czech Airlines, Garuda, Hainan Airlines, RAK Airways and Virgin Australia.

The codeshare agreement with Kenyan Airways brings to 42 the number of Etihad Airways codeshare partners, creating a combined passenger network of 349 destinations, more than any other Middle East airline.

Etihad Airways' daily service from Nairobi to Abu Dhabi is operated by a two class A320 aircraft with 16 Pearl Business class and 120 Coral Economy seats.

Cities that Etihad Airways codeshares to on Kenya Airways network	
Country	City
Benin	Cotonou
Botswana	Gaborone
Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou
Burundi	Bujumbura
Cameroon	Douala
Cameroon	Yaounde
Comoros	Dzaoudzi
Congo	Brazzaville
Djibouti	Djibouti
Ghana	Accra
Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire)	Abidjan
Kenya	Eldoret
Kenya	Kisumu
Kenya	Malindi
Kenya	Mombasa
Liberia	Monrovia-Roberts
Mali	Bamako
Rwanda	Kigali
Sierra Leone	Freetown
South Africa	Johannesburg
Tanzania	Dar Es Salaam
Tanzania	Kilimanjaro
Uganda	Entebbe/Kampala
Zambia	Lusaka
Zambia	Ndola
Zimbabwe	Harare
China	Guangzhou

Cities that Kenya Airways codeshares to on Etihad Airways network	
Country	City
Libya	Tripoli
Morocco	Casablanca
China	Beijing
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur
Pakistan	Karachi
Pakistan	Lahore
Singapore	Singapore
Sri Lanka	Colombo
Australia	Brisbane
Australia	Melbourne
Australia	Sydney
Belgium	Brussels
Germany	Duesseldorf
Germany	Frankfurt
Germany	Munich
Italy	Milan-Malpensa

Russian Federation	Moscow-Domodedovo
Switzerland	Geneva
United Kingdom	Manchester
Bahrain	Bahrain
Iran	Imam Khomeini
Iraq	Baghdad
Iraq	Erbil
Jordan	Amman
Kuwait	Kuwait
Lebanon	Beirut
Oman	Muscat
Saudi Arabia	Dammam
Saudi Arabia	Jeddah
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh
Canada	Toronto
Brazil	Sao Paulo-Guarulhos

About Etihad Airways

Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, began operations in 2003, and in 2012 carried 10.3 million passengers. From its hub at Abu Dhabi International Airport, Etihad Airways serves 86 passenger and cargo destinations in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Americas, with a fleet of 72 Airbus and Boeing aircraft, and over 90 aircraft on firm order, including 10 Airbus A380s, the world's largest passenger aircraft. Etihad Airways also holds equity investments in airberlin, Air Seychelles, Virgin Australia and Aer Lingus. For more information, please visit: www.etihad.com.

About Kenya Airways

Founded in 1977, Kenya Airways is a member of the SkyTeam Alliance and a leading African airline flying to 59 destinations worldwide, 47 of which are in Africa, and carrying over three million passengers annually.

Kenya Airways has a modern fleet of 38 aircraft. With an order of 31 aircraft over the next three years of which nine are 787 Dreamliners, KQ is one of the fastest growing carriers in the regions.

Most recently, it has scooped top awards at the Africa Investor (Ai) Tourism Investor Awards and was declared the Business Airline of the Year in Africa.

Kenya Airways takes pride for being in the forefront of connecting Africa to the world and the World to Africa through its hub at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

For more information, please visit www.kenya-airways.com.

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>