

# REPORT: AIRLINES: NORTHEAST ASIA

## What you need to know

December 2024

This report presents a roundup of what's been happening to airlines in Northeast Asia over the last month.

## Major airlines

### ANA

#### Two new European routes for 2025

Japanese carrier ANA has started [thrice-weekly](#) services from Tokyo Haneda to Milan Malpensa as part of a major expansion of its European network.

### Cathay Pacific

#### Two new European routes for 2025

Cathay Pacific is to add Munich to its European network in 2025, when it will also resume services to Brussels. The [four-times](#) weekly Munich service will start on [June 16](#). Flights to Brussels at the same frequency will restart on [June 16](#).

### Japan Airlines

#### New IndiGo codeshare launches

Japan Airlines launched a new codeshare with Indian carrier IndiGo on [December 16](#). The arrangement initially covers IndiGo's domestic services that connect to JAL's daily flights from Tokyo Haneda to Delhi and five-times weekly flights from Tokyo Narita to Bangalore. JAL's passengers will now be able to connect to Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Coimbatore, Goa, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kolkata, Leh, Lucknow, Mumbai, Pune, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy and Varanasi.

The codeshare also includes JAL's flights from Bangkok and Singapore to Haneda and Narita and from Bangkok to Osaka.

### Korean Air

#### Asiana merger completed

Korean Air has closed the W1.5 trillion (US\$1.05 billion) acquisition of local rival Asian Airlines, four years since the deal was originally announced. Asiana is now a subsidiary of Korean Air. Integration of the two companies is expected to take two years, and this will include diversified schedules on overlapping routes.

The enlarged Korean Air Group, which includes low-cost divisions Air Busan, Air Seoul and Jin Air, operates a combined fleet of 291 aircraft.

## Other airlines

### Hainan Airlines

#### Boost to Singapore services

At the start of [January 2025](#), China's Hainan Airlines will boost its services to Singapore. It will start [four](#)-times weekly flights from Lanzhou and [thrice](#)-weekly services from Yichang. Both routes will operate with a stop *en route* in Haikou. Its standalone Haikou-Singapore service will at the same time see its frequency increase from five per week to [daily](#).

### Hong Kong Airlines

#### Vancouver services to resume

Hong Kong Airlines is to resume [twice-weekly](#) services to Vancouver from January 18 using Airbus A330-300s. It suspended the services in February 2020.

### Shanghai Airlines

#### International services expanding

China Eastern-owned Shanghai Airlines is busy expanding its international services. During December, it added [thrice-weekly](#) Changchun-Yuncheng-Kuala Lumpur services and [daily](#) Changchun-Shanghai Pudong-Bangkok flights.

On [January 19, 2025](#), Shanghai Airlines will also launch [thrice-weekly](#) services from Shanghai Pudong to Casablanca, Morocco.

### Starlux

#### Two new Japanese routes announced for 2025

Taiwanese carrier Starlux plans to launch direct flights to Kobe, Japan, in April 2025. Using Airbus A321neo aircraft, it will operate [daily](#) flights from Taichung and [three-weekly](#) flights from Taipei. Kobe becomes the airline's 11<sup>th</sup> Japanese destination.

### Toki Air

#### Third aircraft joins regional fleet

Having only started services in January 2024, Japanese regional carrier Toki Air has added a third aircraft to its fleet. The ATR 42-600 joins a pair of ATR 72-600s already in operation.

## Low-cost carriers

### Greater Bay Airlines

#### New Chinese service launched

Hong Kong-based low-cost carrier Greater Bay Airlines commenced scheduled services to Yichang in China's Hubei province on [December 17](#). It's offering [thrice-weekly](#) service.

## West Air

### Third aircraft joins regional fleet

Chinese carrier West Air will launch [thrice-weekly](#) flights from Lhasa in the Tibet Autonomous Region to Singapore via Chongqing on [December 25](#).

The information presented in this report represents the latest view as at December 21, 2024. We have carefully researched and checked the information contained. However, we do not guarantee or warrant the correctness, completeness or topicality of this article and do not accept any liability for any damage or loss as a result of the use of the information contained within this article.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please email [mike.eggleton@bcdtravel.co.uk](mailto:mike.eggleton@bcdtravel.co.uk) to share your thoughts.