

REPORT: AIRLINES: SOUTHEAST ASIA

What you need to know

July 2022

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

Major airlines

Garuda Indonesia

More flights planned for the summer

Garuda Indonesia will increase flight frequencies this summer, mainly on domestic routes. During [August](#), it will increase weekly flights to at least 850; [32%](#) more than the 650 operated in June. Extra frequencies will be focused on domestic flights from Jakarta to Batam, Balikpapan, Denpasar, Makassar, Medan and Surabaya, but also to Singapore. Future increases will be based on route performance.

Malaysia Airlines

Doha capacity to double

In response to high passenger demand, Malaysia Airlines will add a [second daily](#) flight from Kuala Lumpur to Doha on [August 10](#). Both daily services will also carry Qatar Airways' QR code.

Singapore Airlines

Big leap in June passenger numbers

Singapore Airlines Group carried 1.94 million passengers in June, nearly [15 times](#) the 132,600 it carried in the same month last year. With capacity rising by 127%, the group boosted its passenger load factor by 69.4 percentage points to [86%](#). During June, Singapore Airlines carried 1.41 million passengers while low-cost division Scoot carried 531,500.

Extra services to India and Japan this winter

During the northern winter season starting [October 30](#), Singapore Airlines (SIA) aims to boost services to Japan and restore its Indian network to pre-pandemic levels. To India, SIA will offer [17](#) weekly flights to Chennai, [16](#) to Bangalore and Mumbai, [double daily](#) to Delhi and Kochi, [daily](#) to Hyderabad and Kolkata, and [five per week](#) to Ahmedabad.

Its Japanese services will comprise [four daily](#) flights to Tokyo, [double daily](#) services to Osaka and [three weekly flights](#) to Fukuoka and Nagoya.

Elsewhere, SIA will also add more flights to Los Angeles and Paris in [December](#) and continue direct flights to Vancouver into the winter season.

Vietnam Airlines

Turkish alliance being explored

Vietnam Airlines has signed a memorandum of understanding to explore code sharing opportunities with Turkish Airlines on flights to Istanbul from Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Low-cost carriers

AirAsia

Big rise in passenger numbers in Q2

Capital A, the recently adopted name for AirAsia Group, reported a more than **sevenfold** year-over-year increase in passenger numbers during the second quarter of 2022. Together, its airlines in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines carried more than 5.6 million passengers, compared with around 759,000 in the second quarter of 2021.

AirAsia Malaysia saw passenger numbers surge by **more than 13 times** to 3.85 million. AirAsia Indonesia reported a **132%** rise to 715,000, while AirAsia Philippines recorded growth of **480%** to nearly 995,000. Outside of Capital A, AirAsia Thailand carried nearly 1.7 million passengers during the second quarter, **133%** more than in 2021.

AirAsia restores Vietnamese routes

During July, AirAsia Malaysia restored **twice-weekly** flights from Kuala Lumpur to Da Lat and Nha Trang, as momentum is restored to leisure travel.

AirAsia Thailand to add China and Hong Kong flights

AirAsia Thailand has announced plans for the start of flights to China and Hong Kong from Bangkok's Don Mueang airport. It will begin **weekly** Hong Kong flights on **August 7**, increasing frequency to **twice-weekly** in **September** and to **thrice-weekly** in **October**.

The airline also restarted flights from Bangkok to Guangzhou in mid-July.

AirAsia X

Flights to Australia and New Zealand planned

AirAsia X will start **thrice-weekly** flights from Kuala Lumpur to Melbourne and Perth during the **first week of November**. It will also start **thrice-weekly** flights to Auckland via Sydney at the same time. It will gradually increase frequency to **daily** during the first quarter of **2023** in response to pent-up demand.

Cebu Pacific

Capacity gets closer to pre-pandemic levels

Philippine carrier Cebu Pacific returned capacity to **88%** of its pre-pandemic level in June. It had fully restored domestic capacity in April, and it should be at 109% of December 2019 levels in July.

VietJet

Three new routes to Busan

Vietnamese carrier VietJet has launched three new routes to Busan in South Korea. It is now flying **daily** from Da Nang, Ho Chi Minh City and Nha Trang. The airline had earlier resumed thrice-weekly flights from Hanoi to Busan.

Indian network expanded

During **September**, VietJet will launch nine new routes connecting Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang with Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Hyderabad. Each route will be operated **four times weekly**. There will also be new services from both Da Nang and Phu Quoc to Delhi and Mumbai.

Other airlines

Bangkok Airways

More services resume

Bangkok Airways will resume [daily](#) services from Bangkok Suvarnabhumi airport to Siem Reap in Cambodia and Yangon in Myanmar on [August 1](#). Daily services to Da Nang in Vietnam are due to resume on [September 1](#).

The information presented in this report represents the latest view as at July 26, 2022. 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 to share your thoughts.