

ETIHAD AIRWAYS' NEW SECOND DAILY SERVICE CONNECTS MELBOURNE TO THE WORLD

- **Exclusive double daily non-stop services between Melbourne and UAE**
- **Increased connectivity to more than 50 markets via Abu Dhabi**
- **Double daily service to 20 key destinations in the Middle East and Europe**
- **Connectivity to exciting new destinations including Madrid and Edinburgh**
- **Doubling cargo capacity supports increased trade and job creation**

The launch this weekend of Etihad Airways' second daily non-stop service will connect Melbourne with more of the world's great cities and create new opportunities for international commerce and trade.

Etihad Airways flight EY462 will depart Abu Dhabi at 10:30am local time on Saturday 1 August and touch down in Melbourne at approximately 6.05am on Sunday 2 August. The return flight EY463 will depart Melbourne at 3:00pm on 2 August and arrive in Abu Dhabi at 11.05pm the same day.

The new service will be operated by a three-class Boeing 777-300ER aircraft with eight seats in First Class, 40 in Business Class and 280 in Economy Class. It complements the airline's existing daily non-stop B777 flight between Melbourne and Abu Dhabi.

Etihad Airways' President and Chief Executive Officer James Hogan said the launch of the airline's second daily flight would put Etihad Airways in its strongest ever competitive position in the Melbourne market.

"Becoming the only airline to offer double daily non-stop flights between Melbourne and the UAE clearly demonstrates our ongoing commitment to Victoria and exponentially increases the attractiveness of our customer proposition.

"From August 1 we will connect more international visitors to Melbourne from more markets in the Middle East and Europe and will offer Melbournians the convenience of two daily departures and one-stop connectivity to more than 50 great destinations.

“We also plan to boost our economic contribution to the state of Victoria through the airline’s successful freight division – Etihad Cargo. The addition of a second Boeing 777-300ER will double belly-hold cargo capacity between Melbourne and Abu Dhabi and provide new opportunities for bilateral trade with the UAE – Australia’s largest trading partner in the Middle East.”

Etihad Airways will now offer one-stop connectivity between Melbourne and popular destinations such as Edinburgh, Geneva, Madrid and Zurich on the Etihad Airways network, Stuttgart and Vienna operated by the Air Berlin Group, and Venice operated by Alitalia, and improved connectivity to key destinations such as Athens and Brussels.

The airline will also offer double daily connectivity between Melbourne and Manchester, Dublin, Beirut and London Heathrow, where guests will experience Etihad Airways’ flagship A380 aircraft. Etihad Airways will also offer double daily connections to Rome and Milan in conjunction with Alitalia, Berlin and Düsseldorf with airberlin, and Belgrade with Air Serbia.

The new double daily schedule for Melbourne increases to 39 the total number of non-stop weekly return flights the airline operates between its four Australian gateways. The airline flies daily from Brisbane and Perth and offers double daily flights from Sydney – 11 of which are operated by Etihad Airways and three which are operated by partner Virgin Australia.

Etihad Airways also codeshares on Virgin Australia flights to 44 destinations across Australia and six in New Zealand.

The airline has strong ties to Melbourne and the state of Victoria through partnerships with Etihad Stadium, Melbourne City Football Club, Sport Australia Hall of Fame, Melbourne Recital Centre and Islamic Museum of Australia.

Schedule for Abu Dhabi – Melbourne flights, effective 1 August 2015:

Flight No.	Origin	Departs	Destination	Arrives	Frequency	Aircraft
EY462 (new flight)	Abu Dhabi (AUH)	10:30	Melbourne (MEL)	06:05+1	Daily	B777-300ER
EY463 (new flight)	Melbourne (MEL)	15:00	Abu Dhabi (AUH)	23:05	Daily	B777-300ER
EY460 (existing flight)	Abu Dhabi (AUH)	21:45	Melbourne (MEL)	17:20+1	Daily	B777-300ER
EY461 (existing flight)	Melbourne (MEL)	22:40	Abu Dhabi (AUH)	06:45+1	Daily	B777-300ER

Note: All departures and arrivals are listed in local time.

- Ends -

About Etihad Airways

Etihad Airways began operations in 2003, and in 2014 carried 14.8 million passengers. From its Abu Dhabi base, Etihad Airways flies to or has announced plans to serve 111 passenger and cargo destinations in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Americas. The airline has a fleet of 116 Airbus and Boeing aircraft, and more than 200 aircraft on firm order, including 66 Boeing 787s, 25 Boeing 777-X, 62 Airbus A350s and seven Airbus A380s.

Etihad Airways holds equity investments in airberlin, Air Serbia, Air Seychelles, Aer Lingus, Alitalia, Jet Airways, Virgin Australia, and Swiss-based Darwin Airline, trading as Etihad Regional. Etihad Airways, along with airberlin, Air Serbia, Air Seychelles, Alitalia, Etihad Regional, Jet Airways and NIKI, also participate in Etihad Airways Partners, a new brand that brings together like-minded airlines to offer customers more choice through improved networks and schedules and enhanced frequent flyer benefits. For more information, please visit: www.etihad.com