

A record of frequentation this winter : a growth of +95%

Grenoble airport has passed a historical record both in term of traffic and in terms of the number of airlines operating at the airport. Forecasts before the beginning of the winter season showed a strong growth ahead. Forecasts proved to be right as the airport traffic grew by 95% over last winter season. The airport has handled more than 341,000 passengers from December 2005 to April 2006 (+95% vly)!

This strong growth is mainly due to a drastic development of scheduled services and particularly to a strong interest from all major European Low Cost carrier (Ryanair, blu-express, easyJet, Centralwings, Flynordic, marmara) making Grenoble Airport the preferred gateway in the Rhone-Alps region of France for these carriers.

Scheduled traffic ⁽¹⁾ represents now 44% of the total airport traffic and grew by as much as 600% over last year boosting the airport traffic dramatically. Interestingly charter traffic continued to grow in the meantime. Indeed charter operators experienced a 30% increase over last year and carried more than 192,000 passengers.

First market by far is the United Kingdom : 230,000 passengers (+108% vly). Traffic to and from the UK weighs now over two thirds of the total airport traffic.

The second most important market to is Scandinavia with a 40% growth compared with the last winter and more than 50,000 passengers from mainly Copenhagen, Stockholm, Billund and Gutenberg.

Eastern European markets and Russia generated 24,000 passengers (+24% vly). Grenoble-Isère airport is now by far the preferred gateway to the Alps for the Russian market.

Overall, the top 10 of main destinations are London Gatwick, London Stansted, Manchester, London Luton, Copenhagen, Domodedovo (Moscow), Bristol, Stockholm and Birmingham.

A bright future ahead

Air Algerie, the second flag carrier after British Airways to operate and develop the airport, has just announced a new weekly service Constantine starting June the 26th . The flights will be operated by a B737-800 with a capacity of 160 seats.

French leading Tour Operator Marmara who has been operating two weekly Monastir and Marrakech air services from April 2005 and has just celebrated 20,000 travellers. Its new Grenoble services has allowed the Tour Operator to increase its market share on the region and grew its regional sales by more than 30% over last year. Given this success Marmara will add Dierba on a weekly basis as of next winter.

More new routes should be announced shortly.

Spring & summer scheduled program

1 daily flight to London Stansted with Ryanair,

2 weekly flights to Marrakesh and Monastir with Marmara

3 flights per week to Rome with Blu-Express

1 weekly flight to Constantine with Air Algerie

British Airways has already announced it will renew its winter program for London Gatwick with 4 weekly flights on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, starting from October 29th .

Bookings are available on-line on the airline web site and in travel agencies.

⁽¹⁾ London Luton (easyJet) ; Londron Stansted (Ryanair) ; Warsaw (Centralwings) ; London Gatwick (British Airways and easyJet) ; Bristol (easyJet) ; Rome (Blu-Express) ; Stockholm (Flynordic) ; Marrakesh (Tour Operator Marmara) ; Monastir (Tour Operator Marmara)