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Finnair Unveils New York-Helsinki Winter Schedule, Summer 2010 Toronto Service

by Staff on November 5, 2009



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Finnair, the national carrier of Finland, has announced its winter schedule on the New York JFK–Helsinki route, and a new seasonal service between Helsinki and Toronto in summer 2010.

Until December 7, the Nordic airline will operate daily non-stop A330 service between New York JFK and Helsinki-Vantaa (HEL), departing JFK at 5:40 p.m. and arriving at HEL the next morning at 8:50 a.m. Flights from Helsinki to JFK depart at 2:10 p.m. and arrive the same afternoon at 3:55 p.m.

Between December 8, 2009 and March 27, 2010, Finnair will fly either five or six days per week, depending on the exact travel date. From December 8, Finnair will not operate the service on Tuesdays; and in the week of December 14, it will not operate the service on Tuesday, December 15 and Wednesday, December 16.

“Please check with your travel agent or online at www.finnair.com before you finalize your travel dates because during the winter there will be one or two days every week when Finnair does not operate to and from the USA,” says Michael Maass, Finnair’s sales Director for North America. “But do consider Finnair when you book your next trip, because sometimes flying via Helsinki to one of our European destinations such as Milan or Istanbul, or to one of our cities in the Far East such as Tokyo, Seoul or Beijing makes more sense, financially and from an environmental perspective, than via any other European gateway.”



Finnair’s long-haul fleet now is based on the Airbus A330-300 and A340-300, with the airline beginning to phase out its long-serving McDonnell Douglas MD-11s

Finnair flies new Airbus A330-300s on its transatlantic route. “These new airplanes have improved Finnair’s environmental efficiency significantly, especially since they consume 20 per cent less fuel than the MD-11 they replaced,” notes Maass.

The airline is adding five flights per week between Toronto and Helsinki next summer. From June 6 to September 10, 2010, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, Finnair will offer all-economy class flights on the route. Its flights will leave Toronto at 10:50 p.m., arriving in Helsinki at 2 p.m. the next afternoon. Return flights will depart Helsinki at 5:45 p.m., arriving in Toronto at 7:35 p.m. on the same day.

“This particular schedule will be excellent for travelers who want to connect to Finnair’s flights to the Far East. Of course, we know that many of our passengers use Finnair to get to destinations in the Baltic countries or almost anywhere in Europe,” says Maass. “Smart travelers love to bypass congested airports like London or Paris, and instead go through Helsinki. In addition to their actual time in the air, transfer times are usually much shorter.”

In this year’s Skytrax World Airport Awards survey, the world’s leading annual survey of passenger preferences in air travel, Helsinki-Vantaa won the award as the ‘World’s Best in Baggage Delivery’. More than 190 airports throughout the world participated in the survey.

According to airport statistics, passengers at Helsinki Airport are able to claim their bags quickly, with some 87 per cent of arriving flights being offloaded in less than 30 minutes. “At Helsinki Airport most of our passengers pick up their bags in less than half an hour after their planes have landed. On average, the wait time at the baggage claim carousels is around 10-15 minutes,” says Maass.

Finnair’s route network includes more than 50 international destinations and 700 more through its cooperation with its oneworld alliance partners.

Finnair was established in 1923. Its major shareholder is the Finnish government, which has a 55.8 per cent holding. In addition to flying passengers and cargo, Finnair Group offers technical and ground-handling services, catering and travel agencies as well as travel information and reservation services.

It employs approximately 9,500 people, while Finnair’s fleet comprises 63 aircraft. During 2008, Finnair carried a total of 8,270,100 passengers.

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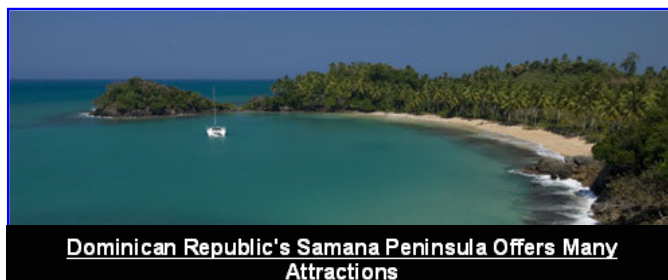
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