

Vienna Airport: 4.2% passenger decline in February 2015

Optimistic passenger outlook for the entire year 2015 with passenger growth between 0% and 2%, positive development of the cargo business

The number of passengers handled by Vienna Airport declined in February 2015 as expected. Passenger volume fell by 4.2% from the prior-year period to a total of 1,298,459. This development can be mainly attributed to the reduction in the flight offering by the airlines as a reflection of a stronger seasonality, the crises in Russia and the Ukraine and the related drop in transfer traffic. Accordingly, as already announced, Flughafen Wien AG expects a negative passenger development in the first quarter, but an overall improvement in the course of the year. Total passenger volume is predicted to rise between 0% and 2% for the entire year 2015.

Vienna Airport reported an 15.6% decrease in February 2015 in the number of transfer passengers compared to February 2014. The number of local passengers remained stable for the most part, decreasing by only 0.6% in the same period. The number of flight movements fell by 4.2%, whereas the maximum take-off weight also declined slightly by 1.0%. In contrast, total air cargo developed positively in February 2015, rising by 2.9%.

The number of passengers flying to Western Europe was down 3.6% in February 2015. In Eastern Europe passenger traffic fell by 18.2% compared to February 2014 as a result of the crises in Russia and the Ukraine. The Middle East region showed a decline of 4.4% in February 2015, whereas passenger volume to destinations in the Far East rose by 6.4%. The number of passengers flying to North American destinations remained basically unchanged, showing a slight drop of 0.5% from the prior-year period. Passenger traffic to Africa developed very well, rising by 56.0% from the previous year.

The strategic investments of Flughafen Wien AG developed well. Malta Airport registered a 6.4% increase in passenger volume to 417,799 passengers in the period January to February 2015. The number of passengers handled by Kosice Airport rose 10.2% in the same period to 33,655, according to preliminary figures.

Results in detail

	February 2015	Change in %	January – February 2015	Change in %
Passengers:	1,298,459	-4.2	2,622,141	-5.0
Local passengers:	976,923	-0.6	1,937,583	-0.9
Transfer passengers:	312,898	-15.6	665,176	-17.1
Maximum take off weight (tonnes):	536,301	-1.0	1,116,223	-0.8
Flight movements (arrivals & departures):	15,179	-4.2	31,334	-4.4
Cargo in tonnes (air cargo and trucking):	19,949	+2.9	39,457	+0.9

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