

Vienna Airport: 1.0% passenger growth in March 2015

5.2% rise in local passengers – Passenger increase to Western Europe, Middle East, Far East, North America and Africa

The number of passengers handled by Vienna Airport rose by 1.0% in March 2015 compared to the prior-year month to a total of 1,678,451. Local passenger volume also rose by 5.2% in the same period. Vienna Airport reported a 10.5% decline year-on-year in the number of transfer passengers in March 2015. The number of flight movements was down 0.7%, whereas the maximum take-off weight showed a positive development, increasing by 2.7%. Total air cargo fell in March 2015 by 4.5% from the previous year.

The number of passengers flying to Western Europe increased by 2.9% in March 2015. In contrast, Eastern European passenger traffic fell by 9.8%, which is related, amongst other factors, to the crisis situations in Russia and the Ukraine. The Middle East region showed a rise of 2.0% in March 2015 while passenger volume to the Far East increased by 12.0%. The number of passengers flying to North American destinations rose sharply by 19.8% in the month of March 2015. Passenger traffic to Africa developed very well, rising by 85.8% from the previous year.

As expected by Vienna Airport, total passenger volume declined in the first quarter of 2015 after the two weak months of January and February. This can be mainly attributed to reductions in the flight offering on the part of Austrian Airlines and the prevailing crises in Russia and the Ukraine with the related drop in transfer traffic. On balance, a total of 4,300,592 passengers were handled by Vienna Airport in the first three months of the year 2015, comprising a year-on-year drop of 2.8%. However, as demonstrated by passenger growth in March 2015, the development of passenger volume should improve again in the course of the year. Flughafen Wien AG continues to expect passenger growth of between 0% and 2% for the entire year 2015.

The strategic investments of Flughafen Wien AG developed well. Malta Airport registered a 5.6% increase in passenger volume to 693,133 passengers in the period January to March 2015. The number of passengers handled by Kosice Airport rose 15.0% in the same period to 54,305, according to preliminary figures.

Results in detail

	March 2015	Change in %	January – March 2015	Change in %
Passengers	1,678,451	+1.0	4,300,592	-2.8
Local passengers	1,238,641	+5.2	3,176,166	+1.4
Transfer passengers	431,202	-10.5	1,096,436	-14.7
Maximum take off weight (tonnes)	656,180	+2.7	1,772,403	+0.5
Flight movements (arrivals & departures)	18,324	-0.7	49,658	-3.0
Cargo in tonnes (air cargo and trucking)	23,854	-4.5	63,311	-1.2

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