



New Ryanair air base at Reus Airport thanks to institutional collaboration

12 February 2008

This morning, the presentation of the new air base at Reus Airport of the low-cost flight company, Ryanair took place at Reus Airport. The announcement comes after a period of negotiations, in which the collaboration between diverse institutions of the region was decisive. Ryanair has established an agreement with the Generalitat of Catalonia, Tarragona Regional Council, Reus Town Council and Reus Chamber of Commerce.

The creation of a base for the company at Reus is of particular value as it means that up to 4 or 5 planes will develop their activity from this airport and this will mean an important growth with regard to the number of flights. Specifically, the volume of weekly connections envisaged is 63, reaching 93 during the summer period. The creation of these new flights will mean that Reus Airport will be connected both internationally in markets where there are currently no connections, as well as with cities in Spain.

The agreement envisages, in addition to maintaining the current routes, opening up new international routes to Paris, Stockholm, Oslo, Brussels, Rome, Milan or Dusseldorf and new domestic flights to Seville, Santander, Jerez and Santiago de Compostela.

At an institutional level, a great effort has been made to turn the announcement made this morning by Ryanair about the setting up of an air base at Reus Airport into a reality. Evidence of this is the agreement signed between Ryanair, the Generalitat of Catalonia, Tarragona Regional Council, Reus Town Council and Reus Chamber of Commerce. A co-operation agreement which has as its aim to encourage measures to promote the Camp de Tarragona region and its area of influence and to promote intermodal activities in the logistics area of the Camp de Tarragona. The agreement provides continuity to the task initiated by the Boella Pact, which had as its aim to promote the economic, business and tourist development of the Tarragona regions and to promote Reus Airport.



The co-ordination between the Catalan Government and the various other bodies, which in their day participated in the Boella Pact and have now signed this new agreement (Tarragona Regional Council, Tarragona Town Council, Reus Town Council, Vila-seca Town Council, Salou Town Council, Cambrils Town Council, Tarragona Port Authority, Tarragona Chamber of Commerce, Reus Chamber of Commerce, Valls Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Hotel Businesses in the Province of Tarragona and the Reus Shopkeepers Association) has been decisive in reaching the current situation. Thanks to their previous efforts, they have contributed to Reus Airport having increased the number of low-cost flights and volume of passengers. According to a study on the activity of low-cost airline companies to Reus Airport between 2004 and 2007, the number of tourists who arrived with these airline companies and who stayed on the Costa Daurada has been increasing, and in 2007 reached 189,000 compared to 85,000 in 2004. With regard to the number of overnight stays in the area, in 2004 there were 599,000 while in 2007 this number grew to 1,428,000.

Therefore, the announcement made today by Ryanair shows the desire of the territory to support the growth of Reus Airport, support that has been materialised from the various institutions over recent years to promote low-cost flights.