

A new flight will connect Barcelona and New York as from 25th April

- A new daily flight will connect Barcelona and New York, as from 25th April
- Barcelona has 7 direct flights to North America and the new flight with American Airlines will reinforce the service provided by Delta Airlines and Continental Airlines to New York
- Air connections with the United States, Canada and Mexico constitute 29% of the intercontinental activity at Prat airport

04.11.2008

New flight between Barcelona and New York.

Barcelona airport will offer, as from 25th April this year, a new direct daily flight between Barcelona and New York with the company American Airlines. Planes will depart daily from Barcelona at 11:10 and from JFK airport in New York at 19:00. The flight will operate with a Boeing 767-300 with a capacity for 221 seats, 30 of which will be Business Class, and will incorporate the latest features in comfort, flexibility and privacy for users.



The CDRA considers that American Airlines' decision to offer flights from Barcelona airport provides a new impulse for the project of direct intercontinental flights from this airport thus permitting a substantial increase in the offer of long distance flights.

Strengthening the direct link with New York

With the launch of this new American Airlines daily flight, there will now be three companies which fly daily between Barcelona and New York. The high demand for direct connections between these two cities represents a great opportunity for Barcelona, as JFK airport is a hub of top level international distribution. These direct connections between Barcelona and JFK airport open the doors for other destinations in the American market. The new American Airlines flight reinforces the already existing daily direct flight operated by Delta Airlines to this international airport with over 750,000 passengers annually. The United States represents Barcelona's main intercontinental market and the promotion of these connections is of great importance for Catalonia.

More connections with North America

Two and a half years after the creation of the Barcelona Air Route Development Committee (CDRA), the business group formed by AENA, the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, the Generalitat of Catalonia and the Barcelona City Council is working to ensure that Prat airport continues to increase its offer of intercontinental flights. The new connection between Barcelona and New York is an example of this as well as the three-weekly service launched last week between Barcelona and Montreal. With the launch of these new flights, Barcelona airport offers the possibility of flying direct from the Catalan capital to three cities in the United States: New York, Atlanta and Philadelphia, to two cities in Canada: Montreal and Toronto and to one city in Mexico: Mexico City.

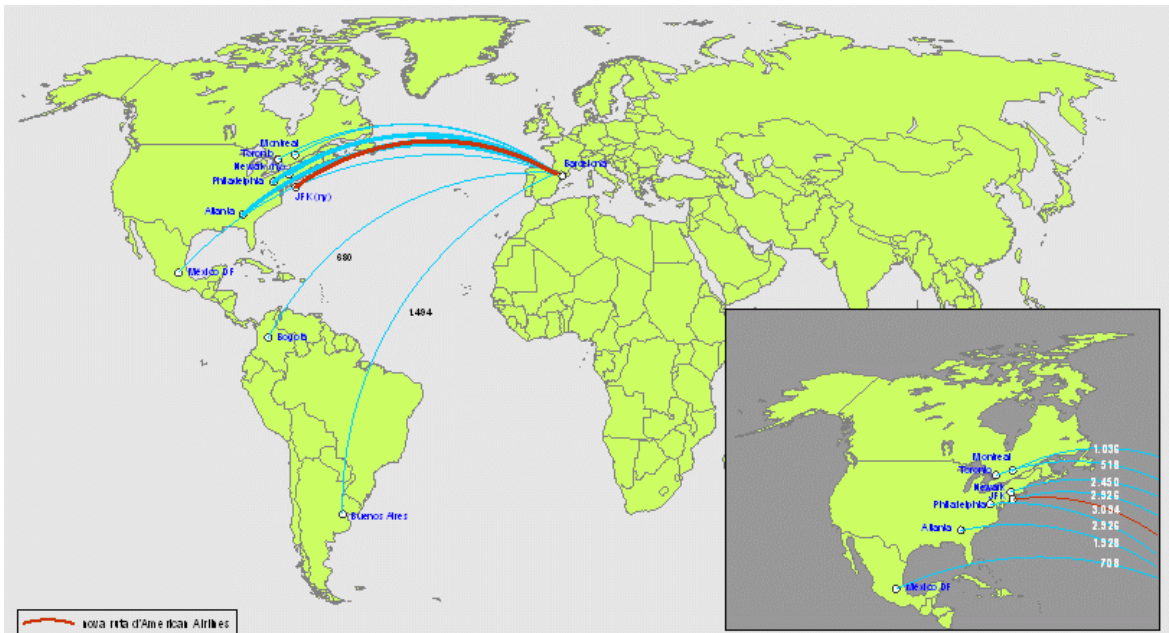
Connections with North America represent 29% of the intercontinental links which are now available from Barcelona airport. The CDRA considers that it is important to promote this market in order to maintain and complete the current offer and it is planning to include direct flights to Central America and to increase the number of flights to South America. Similarly, the CDRA has identified Cuba, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico as destinations of interest. Aerolíneas Argentinas and Aeroméxico currently offer direct flights to Argentina and Mexico. Another link with South America which is now operative is that offered by the Colombian company Avianca which connects Barcelona and Bogota.

Current routes with America

Destination	Airline company	Frequency	Observations
NORTH AMERICA			
Philadelphia	US Airways	Daily	Summer season
New York (Newark)	Continental Airlines	Daily	All year round
New York (JFK)	Delta Air Lines	Daily	All year round
New York (JFK)	American Airlines	Daily	All year round (as from 25 th April)
Atlanta	Delta Air Lines	Daily	Summer season
		4 per week	Winter season
Montreal	Air Transat	2 per week	Summer season
Toronto*	Air Transat	1 per week	Summer season
Mexico City	Aeroméxico	2 per week	All year round
SOUTH AMERICA			
Buenos Aires	Aerolíneas Argentinas	3 per week	All year round
Bogota	Avianca	2 per week	All year round

** technical stop in Malaga*

In 2007, the increase in traffic to North America was fairly significant with an increase of 28% in relation to 2006. This was due to the greater frequency and offer of seats in three companies: Delta Airlines, Continental and US Airways and the launch of new flights with Air Transat (Montreal and Toronto) and Aeroméxico to Mexico City. The total increase in number of passengers to North America was 85,000, reaching a total of 380,000 passengers flying direct between Barcelona and the North American continent. This data represents a growth of 78% in direct traffic between Barcelona and North America since the creation of the CDRA in 2005.



Availability of international flights (9th April 2008)

Potential market for 2008

Apart from the American market, the Barcelona Air Route Development Committee has identified Asia, the Mediterranean area and Eastern Europe as potential future destinations. The CDRA is centering on four areas: the consolidation of connections with America, investigation into new links with Asia, an increase in communications with the Mediterranean area and Eastern Europe and an improvement in the offer of cargo flights.

With the aim of increasing the number of flights from Barcelona, over the last few months representatives of the CDRA have held talks at various levels with 40 airline companies: 15 European, 11 Asian, 6 North American, 5 from the Middle East and North Africa and 3 South American companies.