



**BOLOGNA AIRPORT: -83.3% PASSENGER TRAFFIC IN SEPTEMBER.
TRAFFIC DATA WERE IMPACTED BY THE CLOSURE FOR MAINTENANCE WORKS
ON THE RUNWAY AND AIR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ACROSS THE EU
150 thousand passengers only were recorded in September and the first three
quarters of the year reached 2 million 120 thousand**

The Airport's closure for scheduled maintenance works on the runway (from 11 to 21 September) **together with Governments' measures imposing travel restrictions to/from many foreign Countries, including the EU** (Bulgaria and Romania first, then Croazia, Greece, Malta and Spain, finally a part of France), have heavily impacted on Bologna Airport's traffic data. After some months of post-lockdown slight recovery, in September only **149,230 passengers were recorded, a decrease of 83.3%** on the same month in 2019.

This figure is well below the 900 thousand passengers of September 2019, but also below the 300 thousand passengers registered in August this year. If the **ten-day Airport's closure is estimated to have cleared about 80 thousand passengers**, on the other hand traffic slow-down is evident, for the difficulties arising from the **continuous changes in the national anti-Covid measures** and the **introduction of self-isolation upon arrival from many foreign Countries**.

On this theme **Bologna Airport is supporting the initiative launched by ACI Europe** (European Airports' Association) which, together with Airlines' representatives and Tourism sector operators, has recently wrote to European Commission President Ms Ursula Von der Leyen urging the **Commission to take a leading role in developing and implementing common criteria and an anti-Covid testing protocol valid across the Union, to avoid quarantines and to re-open borders in the EU area** . *"An EU Testing Protocol – ACI writes - would allow the removal of (or at least considerably reduce) quarantines for travellers coming from red/grey areas as per the proposed Commission common criteria and mapping. It is thus instrumental in re-establishing the free movement of people, ending current discriminations and restoring the essential functionality of the Single Market"*.

Monthly flight movements were 1,800 (-73.1% on September 2019). In detail, **international passengers were 80,106** (a decrease of 88.8% on September 2019), while **domestic passengers were 69,124** (-60.7%). It results that, as in the previous months, the pandemic outbreak was more severe on international flights which historically account for about 75% of Bologna Airport's traffic, while domestic flights were holding on better. As a matter of fact, **four out of five most popular destinations in September** were Italian (Palermo, Catania, Cagliari and Rome Fiumicino) and only one destination was foreign (London Heathrow).

Air freight recorded a decrease of 33.8% (1,968 tons) on September 2019.

In the first three quarters of 2020, 2,123,312 passengers passed through Bologna Airport (-70.4%), with 21,615 movements (-61.0%) and 20,646 tons of air freight (-20.0%).

Bologna, 6th October 2020

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Bologna Guglielmo Marconi Airport, classified as a "strategic airport" in the centre-north area of the National Airports Plan prepared by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, in 2019 was the seventh biggest Italian airport by passenger numbers, with 9.4 million passengers (Source: Assaeroporti). Located in the heart of the Emilian food valley and the automotive and packaging industrial districts, the airport has a catchment area of about 11 million inhabitants and around 47,000 companies, with a strong propensity to exports and internationalisation and with commercial expansion policies to Eastern Europe and Asia.

The presence at the airport of some of the largest airlines in Europe along with some of the leading low-cost carriers and the close link with European continental hubs make Bologna Italy's fourth airport for global connectivity (Source: ICCSAI - Fact Book 2019).

As for airport infrastructure, the airport has among its strategic objectives in the next few years an important development plan that mainly concerns the expansion of the terminal, particularly in the parts of security checks and gate area. The company's aim is to make Bologna Airport one of the most modern and functional in Italy, an important gateway to the city and region.

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