



BOLOGNA AIRPORT: 2.5 MILLION PASSENGERS TRANSPORTED IN 2020, A DECREASE OF 73.4% ON 2019

Covid-19 outbreak brought Bologna Airport back to 1997 traffic levels

Covid-19 pandemic outbreak harshly impacted on air traffic trends in the airports all over the world and had particularly severe effects in Europe and Italy. Bologna Airport closed year 2020 with **2,506,258 total passengers, i.e. a decrease of 73.4% on 2019: this figure brings Bologna Airport back to its passenger traffic rates of 1997**, when 20% of passengers flew on charter flights – almost disappeared nowadays – and low-cost segment had not completely changed air transportation in Europe and in Italy yet.

In detail, **domestic passengers were 803,289 (-59.0%) in 2020 and international traffic reached 1,698,289 (-77.2%)**. The year's flight movements were **30,139 (-60.9%)**, while air freight amounted to **43,378 tons, a decrease of 11.1% on the previous year**. Cargo was therefore confirmed as the sector which best reacted to the pandemic crisis, also as a result of medical supplies' import.

Consistently with the restrictions imposed during the year, in the ranking of 2020's most popular destinations, three Italian Airports stand out: **Catania, Palermo and Rome Fiumicino** followed by Madrid, Barcelona, London Heathrow, Paris Charles de Gaulle, Brindisi, Cagliari and Tirana.

Looking through **each month's trend**, after a brilliant month of January (passenger growth of 9.9% on January 2019) and February confirming the previous year's figures, the national lockdown imposed by the Government in Spring led to traffic decreasing to almost zero (the Airport being open to perform public service functions and served by one daily flight to Rome) from March to June, when the first domestic and European flights restarted progressively as a result of the borders' openings. After two months of slight recovery mainly on domestic flights (July and August), the new anti – Covid emergency restrictions imposed in September led to continuous cancellations of routes and frequencies until **December** when a **passenger traffic decrease of 86.5% (on December 2019)** was reported, for a total of **95,549 passengers of which 47,953 domestic (-68.2%) and 47,365 international (-91.5%)**.

December's flight movements amounted to 1,735, a reduction of 70.4% on December 2019, while air cargo decreased by 39.6% on the same month in 2019, totaling 5,226 tons.

Year 2020 closed with the delivery of the first vaccines in our Region, delivery which will continue in the next few weeks as well. Though the first part of 2021 is expected to be particularly severe for the pandemic emergency ongoing, the start of vaccine delivery and their administration is a good sign, a hope in 2021 we shall be able to recover from the health and economic emergency and steadily start again to fly throughout the World.

Bologna, 7th January 2021

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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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