



## **BOLOGNA AIRPORT HITS A NEW TRAFFIC RECORD: NEARLY 8.2 MILLION PASSENGERS IN 2017 (+6.7%)**

***London, Paris and Catania the most popular destinations  
Strong growth in December: +9.2% with about 600 thousand passengers***

A new traffic record was hit for the ninth consecutive year by Bologna Airport: for the first time in its history **nearly 8.2 million passengers (8,198,156)\* travelled through the airport, with a growth of 6.7%** on 2016.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July** was the busiest day in the year with 29,691 arriving and departing passengers whereas the **all-time record of 8 million yearly passengers** was hit on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

2017 traffic growth was mainly driven by **international passengers (6,249,972, an 8.6% increase)**, whose market share reached **76% of the total**, but **domestic traffic registered a positive trend too (1,939,900, +1.2%)**.

Last year's excellent results were achieved through a successful mix: the **start of new scheduled connections** (Lisbon, Eindhoven, Naples, Prague, Cologne and Bratislava with Ryanair, Tirana with Ernest, Suceava with Wizzair) and the **strengthening of some already existing important routes**, namely Paris CDG, Rome Fiumicino, Bucharest and Moscow. This positive trend was also the result of **passengers' renewed interest in European hubs**, especially Frankfurt, London Heathrow, Munich, Istanbul and Moscow offering onward connections.

As regards the **most popular destinations**, **London** reached the top of the ranking with over 590 thousand passengers considering its three airports Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, followed by **Paris** (more than 390 thousand passengers overall for Charles De Gaulle, Beauvais and Orly). **Catania** ranked third delivering an increase of 11% with over 360 thousand passengers. The other "Top Ten" destinations were: Frankfurt, Barcelona, Madrid, Palermo, Rome Fiumicino, Bucharest and Munich.

**Total flight movements were 71,878\***, increasing by 3.1% as compared to 2016. **Air cargo** performed also well (+11.8%) reaching **41,861 tons**.

**December** registered a sound growth as regards passenger traffic: 599,966\* passengers, + 9.2%. Good performances were also delivered by flight movements (5,234\* +3.5%), and air freight trend was in line (3,413 tons +3.7%).

*\*Note: this figure also includes General Aviation passengers and flights which are not included in other data.*

Bologna, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018

\* \* \*

*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 2016 was the seventh biggest Italian airport by passenger numbers, with nearly 7.5 million passengers, of which 75% on international flights (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.*

*In 2016 103 destinations were served from Bologna: 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 in for global connectivity (Source: ICCSAI - Fact Book 2017) and the first in Europe in terms of growth of connectivity in the decade from 2004 to 2014 (Source: ACI Europe Airport Connectivity Report 2004-2014).*

*As for airport infrastructure, the airport has recently completed a major upgrade and expansion of the passenger terminal, while the capacity of aeronautical infrastructure is deemed adequate to accommodate the expected growth over the coming years. 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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**For further information:** [www.bologna-airport.it](http://www.bologna-airport.it)

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