



Emirates is getting ready to launch its gateway in Bologna, the fourth in Italy

Daily flights to Bologna from the 3rd November

BOLOGNA, ITALY, 27th May 2015 – Emirates has today announced its planned daily service to Bologna, Italy from the 3rd November 2015.

The capital of the Emilia-Romagna region, Bologna will be Emirates' fourth Italian destination bringing Emirates' weekly flights to Italy to 56. Set to be operated by a Boeing 777-300ER in a three class configuration, Emirates will offer the only long-haul wide-bodied service to and from Bologna. The new flight will add 5,040 international seats per week to and from the city, enabling customers in Bologna and the surrounding region to conveniently access key Emirates destinations in the Far East, Middle East, Africa and West Asia.

Known as the 'European Capital of Culture', Bologna is not only a vibrant economic and tourism centre but also a perfect stepping off point for travellers looking to explore the neighboring cities of Florence, Verona, Parma and Pisa.

"The addition of a fourth Italian gateway is another new and exciting development for Emirates. We have been committed to Italy for over 23 years and in that time we have played an important role in increasing opportunities for business and tourism across the country, thanks to our convenient connections to over 49 destinations in the Far East, Middle East and Africa," said Thierry Antinori, Emirates' Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer.

"Our three class Boeing 777 product is second to none, offering our customers unrivalled comfort across the board. We offer one of the best inflight products in the sky, with multi-award winning cuisine and inflight entertainment and we are proud to be bringing this to Bologna. As the industrial epicentre of Italy we expect to see strong demand from both the passenger and cargo side of our business, taking advantage of convenient access to our extensive network in the East including our home, Dubai, one of the fastest growing economic centres in the world," added Mr Antinori.

"We are very proud to host for the first time an Emirates flight," said Enrico Postacchini, Chairman of Aeroporto di Bologna (AdB). "This top-class service enables us to connect our dynamic territory, rich of both artistic heritage and economic and entrepreneurial spirit, with the Gulf area and Dubai, representing a gateway for Asia and Africa".

"This new partnership between Emirates and Bologna Airport enhances Marconi Airport's positioning as fourth for global connectivity among Italian airports," added Nazareno Ventola, Managing Director of AdB. "The route offers to approximately 47,000 local businesses, operating in key domestic sectors and managing export volume of more than 26

billion Euros per year, comfortable and timely access to almost 50 Far Eastern, Middle Eastern and African destinations.”

Home to a large ethnic community Emirates expects to see strong outbound traffic from Bologna to key destinations in the East across India, China, Bangladesh, Pakistan and the Philippines thanks to the airline’s convenient connection times via Dubai. Most of the inbound flow of passengers to Bologna is expected to come from the UAE, Japan, China, India and Australia comprising a mix of trade and tourism traffic.

Passengers to and from Bologna will enjoy unrivalled comfort and amenities on board Emirates' Boeing 777-300ER, which is equipped with eight luxurious private suites in First Class, 42 of its latest lie-flat seats in Business Class, and generous space for 310 passengers in Economy Class.

Throughout all cabin classes, passengers can enjoy more than 2,000 channels of entertainment on demand on ice, the airline's award-winning in-flight entertainment system. Passengers on all Emirates flights also have the added bonus of a generous baggage allowance with 30 kilograms for those travelling in Economy Class, 40 kilograms for Business Class and 50 kilograms in First Class.

With the new daily flight to Bologna, Emirates SkyCargo will offer 23 tons of cargo capacity per week, further supporting Italian exports of cosmetics, construction equipment and machinery, automotive spare parts and handicrafts. Inbound to Bologna Emirates SkyCargo is expected to carry leather goods, garments, footwear and perishable goods.

Emirates’ flight EK093 will depart Dubai International Airport at 0845hrs and will arrive at Bologna Guglielmo Marconi Airport at 1220hrs the same day. The return flight will depart Bologna at 1440hrs and arrive in Dubai at 2330 the same day.

Emirates has been contributing to Italy’s connectivity since 1992 when it first launched flights to Rome. In the last 23 years Emirates has grown its presence in line with demand and today, measured on the basis of flights and purchases of Italian goods and services, the airline supports more than 10,000 jobs in Italy and contributes €747 million to the economy.

Emirates currently operates a triple daily flight to Rome and Milan and a daily flight to Venice. Emirates also operates a daily flight to New York from Milan, which will be operated by an A380 aircraft from 1st June 2015.

With the launch of Bologna, Emirates will increase its European network to an impressive 38 passenger destinations.

Emirates Airline, one of the fastest growing carrier worldwide, has received more than 500 awards for its services’ excellence and it has more than 8.3 million Skywards members. Emirates operates flights to 148 destinations in 83 countries. Its aircraft is composed of 232 wide-body Airbus and Boeings. It is the leader of its sector with 60 A380 aircrafts, and it has already in the pipeline other 283 aircrafts to arrive for a value of approximately USD \$ 138 billion. For further information, please visit www.emirates.com

***Bologna Airport**, defined as “strategic airport” of the Central – Northern area in the National Plan for Airports, drawn up by Italian Ministry of Infrastructures and Transportation, is currently the seventh Italian airport for passenger traffic, with approximately 6.6 million passengers in 2014, over 70% being transported on international routes (source:Assoaeroporti). Located in the heart of the Emilian food valley and the famous industrial districts of automotive and packaging, Bologna Airport benefits of a catchment area of about 10.7 million inhabitants and approximately 47,000 firms strongly oriented to exports and expansion of their commercial policies especially towards Eastern European Countries and Asian markets.*

In 2014 Bologna Airport served 99 destinations. Presence of some of the leading European legacy carriers and of the main low-cost carriers together with excellent connections to European hubs make Bologna rank fourth in Italy for world connectivity (source: ICCSAI – Fact Book 2014) and rank first in Europe for connectivity growth in the decade 2004-2014 (source: ACI Europe Airport Connectivity Report 2004-2014).

Regarding the Airport's infrastructure, the restyling and enlargement of the Passengers' terminal have recently been completed and the airside infrastructure capacity is considered adequate to sustain the growth estimated for the next years. The Company's target is to make Bologna Airport one of the most advanced and functional airports in Italy, a major gateway to the city and its territory.

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