



## **Gold Coast Airport**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **GOLD COAST AIRPORT WELCOMES TOKYO DIRECT SERVICE**

Gold Coast Airport today welcomes another new international service with the first Jetstar international flight direct to Tokyo (Narita), Japan departing Gold Coast Airport at 10.50am.

The first direct flight back from Narita to the Gold Coast, bringing hundreds of tourists from Japan and beyond, will arrive at the Gold Coast Airport on Friday 19 December (6.10 am).

Jetstar will operate the new service five times per week before moving to a daily service from 29 March 2009, a result of overwhelming demand.

Greeted by Jetstar and Gold Coast Airport senior management the flight has capped off a successful year for the Gold Coast and Northern Rivers tourism industries, with the area now firmly in the sights of both domestic and international low cost carriers as an alluring destination.

Gold Coast Airport Chief Operating Officer, Paul Donovan said the latest international service arrival significantly boosts the local tourism industry's confidence in international tourism to the region in light of the current challenging times.

"The majority of inbound Japanese passengers choose to end their stay in Australia with a stay on the Gold Coast. Jetstar recognised this by making the sound business decision to commence direct Osaka and Tokyo flights into the Gold Coast this year.

"The additional capacity on the Tokyo service, commencing in March 2009, adds further weight to Jetstar's ongoing commitment to the region, establishing the Gold Coast as an international and domestic hub," Mr Donovan said.

"The introduction of the Tokyo service into the Gold Coast will give locals yet more options for international travel - the list of outbound destinations has increased substantially over the last year which is good news for Gold Coasters," he said.

Gold Coast Tourism CEO Martin Winter highlighted the impact Jetstar's dedication to the Gold Coast makes on the city.

“Without access, a tourism city such as the Gold Coast will simply shrivel up and die on the international marketplace,” he said.

“The commitment of Jetstar and Gold Coast Airport to not only sustain access but to increase access into the Gold Coast beyond that of other destinations is essential to the ongoing success of this city on so many levels.”

Tweed Tourism General Manager Phil Villiers said the Tweed region was already reaping the rewards of the increase in international passenger traffic from Gold Coast Airport.

“These fantastic opportunities that now present with the new Japan direct flights give our growing tourism markets on the Tweed a “point of difference” holiday experience and coupled with the Tweed’s natural attributes and the ease of access from the Gold Coast Airport it results in a win win for all parties,” he said.

The new service will have the inbound Japan flight arriving at Gold Coast Airport at 6.10 am before a 10.50 am departure back to Narita five times per week before the service increases to daily in March 2009.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.goldcoastairport.com.au>

Gold Coast Airport Pty Limited is a Queensland Airports Limited company.

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