

VIRGIN AUSTRALIA LAUNCHES FIRST FLIGHTS FROM DARWIN TO BALI

10 April 2019

Virgin Australia will tonight launch its inaugural flight between Darwin-Denpasar, becoming the only full-service carrier to operate on the route and marking its first international service from Darwin.

Flight VA131, operated on a Boeing 737-800 aircraft, will depart at 9:00pm local time, with the launch of seasonal services coming just in time for the peak school holiday travel period.

Virgin Australia will celebrate the launch ahead of the flight's departure, holding an event at the Darwin Airport Lounge, with Balinese dancers on hand to provide guests and VIPs with a glimpse of the culture that awaits customers when they touch down in Bali.

Virgin Australia General Manager of Sales, Ann Elliott, said: "Virgin Australia is proud to provide seamless connections to Australia and the rest of the world for Territorians. We look forward to providing our guests with a great customer experience when travelling between Darwin and Bali on this new seasonal service.

"Virgin Australia has continued to build upon its service for Darwin travellers, not only in terms of the destinations that we fly to, but also the product enhancements that we have implemented, and we have worked really hard to provide a customer friendly schedule on this route," she said.

The new services are expected to bring benefits to consumers in the form of increased competition on the route, as well as having a positive impact on the Northern Territory's tourism sector.

Chief Minister for the Northern Territory, the Hon. Michael Gunner, said: "We welcome Virgin Australia to this route with open arms. There is a lot that can be said for the positive impact that these flights will have for the people of Darwin and our local economy and I encourage Territorians to get behind these services."

Minister for Tourism and Culture, the Hon. Lauren Moss MLA, said that she was thrilled with the launch of these services, saying: "There is no doubt that these services will attract more tourists to our region and will open up more opportunities for local businesses too. Virgin Australia has been a loyal operator to and from Darwin for 17 years and we expect these new seasonal services will bring strong competition to this route," she said.

The CEO of Northern Territory Airports, Mr Ian Kew, said: "These seasonal flights, with convenient flight times and competitive fares, are a winning combination for Territorians and will be a real boost to Darwin's tourism industry. We rely on air travel to be able to attract more visitors to this region and we are pleased to see Virgin Australia's inaugural flight take-off. We look forward to celebrating the success of these flights over the next six months," he said.

Virgin Australia first commenced operations to Darwin in 2001 under the Virgin Blue banner, and since this time, its service offering has increased by 600 per cent, with its weekly operations now totalling up to 42 return flights.



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The airline has also welcomed more than 4.9 million Territorians on board since its first flight back at the start of the millennium.

All-inclusive airfares for flights between Darwin-Bali are on sale between 10-14 April 2019 from \$169 one way and \$299 return for travel between 5 May-23 June and 21 July-22 September 2019. Flights can be booked on www.virginaustralia.com.

Darwin-Denpasar schedule: 10 April-20 October 2019

Route	Flight Number	Dep/Arr	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
DRW-DPS	VA131	2100/2220			✈		✈		✈
DPS-DRW	VA130	1545/2000			✈		✈		✈

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