

Air New Zealand is Back, Bigger and Better than Ever

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Direct flights from Hobart to Auckland are officially back, bigger and better than ever, with the first flight of the season touching down at Hobart Airport today.

Hobart Airport Chief Operating Officer, Matt Cocker, said this was the start of the fifth successful season for the popular trans-Tasman flights.

“Hobart Airport is thrilled to have Air New Zealand back, bigger and better than ever before,” Mr Cocker said.

“The 2025-26 seasonal flights will add more than 25,000 seats to this summer’s busy flying schedule from Hobart Airport.

“This is a huge 11 per cent increase on the number of seats compared with last year’s service, with Air New Zealand using a larger aircraft for six in 10 of its flights.

“This is great news for Tasmania’s tourism and hospitality businesses and keen local travellers too who can fly one-stop from Hobart to New York, Los Angeles, Fiji and other Pacific Islands.

“The seasonal Air New Zealand flights are a great success story, having started with the help of Tasmanian Government seed funding and now operating on a stand-alone basis and with growing popularity too.

“It’s going to be a blockbuster summer at Hobart Airport, with the return of Air New Zealand, relaunch of the Qantas direct flight to Perth and new Jetstar Newcastle flights.

“This is why Hobart Airport is investing \$200 million into doubling the size of the terminal by 2027, to provide more space, more choice and more jobs for Tasmanians.

Air New Zealand Senior Manager Australia Airports Scott Smith said the airline was looking forward to getting back to Tasmania for another successful season.

“We’re thrilled to be touching down in Hobart again for another exciting summer season. Demand from both sides of the Tasman has continued to grow, and this year’s expanded schedule reflects that confidence. With more flights and larger aircraft, we’re making it easier than ever for Tasmanians to connect with friends, family and adventure across New Zealand and beyond.

“Air New Zealand has proudly served Hobart since 2021, and we’ve seen the route go from strength to strength. Whether travellers are discovering Aotearoa’s great outdoors or connecting



onwards to destinations like Los Angeles, New York or the Pacific Islands, this service puts the world within easy reach.”

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