

PRESS RELEASE

Issue 2025: 5

Wednesday, 26 February 2025
For Immediate Release
January 2025 / Traffic / Preliminary

Association of Asia Pacific Airlines
(Reg. No.587)
36th Floor, Menara Maxis
Kuala Lumpur City Centre
50088 Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA
Tel: +603 2615 0188
Fax: +603 2615 0088
www.aapairlines.org

Asia Pacific Airlines January 2025 Traffic Results

Asia Pacific airlines kick off 2025 with sustained growth in demand

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Preliminary January 2025 traffic figures released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) showed that international passenger markets enjoyed a robust start to the year, driven by a surge in leisure travel during the Lunar New Year festive period.

The region's carriers achieved a solid 19.9% year-on-year growth for the month, transporting a combined total of 35.2 million international passengers. Demand as measured in revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) increased by 22.5%, markedly surpassing the 17.4% year-on-year expansion in available seat capacity. Consequently, the average international passenger load factor rose by 3.5 percentage points, to an elevated 83.7% in January.

Despite growing uncertainties in the broader trade environment, air cargo markets also sustained growth in the new year. Higher demand for consumer goods in anticipation of the festive season, resulted in a 4.7% year-on-year increase in international air cargo demand as measured in freight tonne kilometres (FTK), adding to the double-digit growth recorded in January 2024. Expansion in belly-hold space, drove a 10.9% year-on-year increase in offered freight capacity. Average international freight load factor dipped 3.3 percentage points to 55.2% for the month.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Subhas Menon, AAPA Director General, said, "The year began on a positive note for Asia Pacific carriers, with both international air passenger and cargo markets posting encouraging growth, underpinned by the timing of the Lunar New Year holidays."

continued /-

Mr. Menon added, “The relatively high load factors reflect strong demand but also ongoing capacity constraints, compounded by the grounding of aircraft due to engine issues and delays in aircraft deliveries. These challenges have contributed to an increase in expenditure on maintenance, aircraft leasing, and labour, while greater competition saw to lower yields and operating margins.”

Looking ahead, Mr. Menon concluded, “Growth prospects remain promising in the coming months, against a backdrop of steady expansion in global economic activity. However, ongoing geopolitical and trade tensions pose potential risks to both business sentiment and consumer demand in the months ahead. The region’s airlines are closely monitoring developments, whilst carefully managing costs to boost operating economics.”

TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY

International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines

International	Jan-25	Jan-24	% Change
Passengers (Thousand)	35,196	29,345	+ 19.9%
RPK (Million)	123,719	101,010	+ 22.5%
ASK (Million)	147,775	125,920	+ 17.4%
Passenger Load Factor	83.7%	80.2%	+ 3.5 pp
FTK (Million)	5,956	5,689	+ 4.7%
FATK (Million)	10,797	9,732	+ 10.9%
Freight Load Factor	55.2%	58.5%	- 3.3 pp

Effective November 2024, the dataset comprises aggregated traffic data from the following 38 Asia Pacific based carriers: 3K, 5J, 6E, 7C, 9C, AI, AK, BI, BR, CA, CI, CK, CX, CZ, D7, GA, HO, HU, IX, JL, JQ, KC, KE, KZ, MH, MU, NH, NZ, OZ, PG, PR, QF, SG, SQ, TG, TR, VA and VN.

- Previous year data adjusted for comparison purposes
- RPK = revenue passenger kilometres
- ASK = available seat kilometres
- FTK = freight tonne kilometres
- FATK = available freight tonne kilometres
- All figures, including estimates for missing data, are provisional

Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA)

The AAPA is the trade association for scheduled international airlines based in the Asia Pacific region. The AAPA permanent secretariat is headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with international representation in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Collectively, the region's airlines represent over one-third of global passenger and air cargo traffic, and thus play a leading role in the ongoing development of global aviation.

For further information, please contact:
 Office of the Director General
 Tel: +603 2615 0188
 Fax: +603 2615 0088
 Email: odg@aapa.org.my
 Website: www.aapairlines.org
 Twitter: @aapairlines

continued /-