



PRESS RELEASE

Pope Francis flies to Luxembourg with ITA Airways

Departure from Rome Fiumicino Airport on September 26 at 8:05am on the Airbus A321neo

Rome, 17 September 2024 – The Holy Father will depart on September 26th at 8:05 am from Rome Fiumicino Airport to Luxembourg – Findel Airport travelling on an ITA Airways flight.

ITA Airways has chosen the Airbus A321neo to transport the Holy Father on his trip. The A321neo is the largest aircraft in the Airbus A320neo family and offers exceptional range and performance. Efficient and quiet, the new A321neo boasts 20% lower fuel consumption and CO2 emissions per seat. It is the first narrow-body aircraft configured with three separate cabins: Business Class (12 seats), Premium Economy (12 seats), and Economy (141 seats, including 12 dedicated to Comfort Economy).

As usual, the flight will depart from Terminal 5 at Leonardo da Vinci Airport, with landing scheduled at 10:00 am (local time).

Welcoming the Holy Father on board at Fiumicino Airport will be Andrea Benassi, General Manager of ITA Airways and Emiliana Limosani, Chief Commercial Officer of ITA Airways and CEO of Volare. The supervisor of onboard activities will be Commander Corrado Di Maria, with 18,000 flight hours of experience; the total crew will be of 9 people, including 3 pilots and 6 flight attendants, joined by the ITA Airways team dedicated to special flights. As usual, in addition to the papal delegation, representatives of the Italian and international press will travel with Pope Francis.

It is an honour and a source of great pride for ITA Airways to accompany the Holy Father on his Apostolic Journey.

ITA Airways has prepared a plan for this trip that takes into consideration the efficiency of operational procedures, the use of SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel) for an amount equal to 0.5 percent of the refueling needed for flights, and the full offsetting of emissions that cannot be eliminated through participation in a Gold Standard certified CO2 reduction project.

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About ITA Airways

ITA Airways is a company entirely owned by the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance for the exercise of business in the air transport sector. ITA Airways aims at creating an efficient and innovative air carrier that will become a reference point in providing Italy with quality connectivity both in terms of international destinations, thus boosting tourism and foreign trade, and within the Country, also taking advantage of the train-air integrated mobility. ITA Airways will place the best customer service at the centre of its strategy (through a strong digitization of processes that ensure a best-in-class experience and personalized services), combined with sustainability, in its environmental (new green and technologically advanced aircraft, use of sustainable fuels), social (equality and inclusion for a gender-neutral company) and governance (integration of sustainability into internal strategies and processes) aspects. ITA Airways is a member of SkyTeam alliance as of October 2021.