

## ***ITA Airways and airBaltic Announce Codeshare Agreement***

Riga, January 25, 2022 – *ITA Airways* and *airBaltic* are starting codeshare cooperation that will open new and wider travel opportunities. *airBaltic* customers will benefit from convenient access to various destinations in Italy. At the same time, *ITA Airways* passengers can now purchase tickets to Riga on direct flights from Rome (Fiumicino) and Milan (Malpensa).

*airBaltic* will expand its network by putting its “BT” designator code on selected *ITA Airways* operated flights covering 10 Italian cities in the current winter season, namely Brindisi, Bari, Catania, Genoa, Palermo, Reggio Calabria, Lamezia Terme, Turin, Trieste, Venice, which will be joined by Bologna, Florence, Naples, Verona in the summer season.

Similarly, *ITA Airways* will offer new connections to its passengers and will apply its code 'AZ' on flights operated by *airBaltic* between Italy and Latvia.

Martin Gauss, Chief Executive Officer of *airBaltic*: “We are pleased to add *ITA Airways* as another partner to our existing network of codeshare airlines. Our strong network of partners enables us to further improve the connectivity of Baltic states. The new partnership provides convenient connections to existing destinations in Italy.”

Thanks to this agreement, *ITA Airways* and *airBaltic* customers can fly seamlessly to their chosen destinations with a single ticket, checking in at the airport of departure, and collecting their checked baggage at the end of their trip in the arrival airport.

Ticket sales under the codeshare agreement are already open on the airlines' respective websites: [ita-airways.com](http://ita-airways.com) and [airbaltic.com](http://airbaltic.com), as well on all channels and major GDS systems and in travel agencies, for flights starting February 2, 2022.

*airBaltic* performs all of its flights with the most modern and environmentally friendly *Airbus A220-300* jets, offering affordable and flexible Economy class tickets as well as a full Business class service. A complete schedule of *airBaltic* flights can be found on the company's homepage at [www.airbaltic.com](http://www.airbaltic.com).

### **airBaltic in brief:**

**airBaltic** (Air Baltic Corporation AS) connects the Baltic region with over 70 destinations in Europe, the Middle East, and the CIS. Over the last 25 years *airBaltic* has developed as a strong, profitable and internationally respected airline. *airBaltic* is by far the best known international brand of Latvia and responsible for more than 2.5% of the Latvian GDP. *airBaltic* operates 32 *Airbus A220-300* aircraft. *airBaltic* has received numerous international awards for excellence and innovative services. *Skytrax* has awarded Latvian airline *airBaltic* a five-star COVID-19 safety rating. In addition, *airBaltic* is one of the Top twenty airlines for COVID-19 compliance by the safety, product, and COVID-19 rating agency *Airlineratings.com*. In 2018 and 2019 *airBaltic* received the *ATW Airline Industry Achievement Award* as the *Market Leader of the Year*. In addition, in 2019 *airBaltic* received Sector Leadership Award by *Airline Business*. *airBaltic* is a joint stock company that was established in 1995. Its primary shareholder is the Latvian state, which holds 96.14% of the stock, while Lars Thuesen holds 3.86% through his fully-owned Aircraft Leasing 1 SIA.

Aviation industry indirectly provides close to 30 000 jobs in Latvia, while millions of people transfer through Riga, yet many more arrive to Latvia. Each year foreign tourists spend more than EUR 750 million in Latvia. Find out more: <https://blog.airbaltic.com/airbaltic-an-asset-for-the-national-economy-of-latvia/>.

### **Health and safety:**

The safety and health of our passengers is *airBaltic*'s top priority. *airBaltic* has introduced strong health measures and the flight operations follow the recommendations issued by authorities. To read more about the *airBaltic* health measures, please visit *airBaltic* website: <https://www.airbaltic.com/en/health-measures>.

*airBaltic* asks its passengers to strictly follow all of the rules and regulations issued by the relevant authorities. Passengers are strongly suggested to check the travel regulations and airport restrictions on the official websites or with local embassies before travelling. Regulations are changing rapidly and vary per country, therefore passengers are asked to always make sure they have the latest information to have a smooth journey.

**About ITA Airways:**

ITA Airways is a company totally 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 personalised 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 currently operates a fleet of 52 aircrafts (7 wide-bodies and 45 narrow-bodies), including 18 Airbus A319, 27 Airbus A320 and 7 Airbus A330 aircrafts. In 2022, the fleet will rise to 78 aircrafts to reach 105 aircrafts (23 wide-bodies and 82 narrow-bodies) at the end of 2025.

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