

February 24, 2010

Travel Resources **INDUSTRY INSIDER**

Lufthansa Strike Suspended — Pilots go Back to Work



Lufthansa

A strike by about 4,000 pilots at German airline Lufthansa has been suspended - with union officials agreeing to resume negotiations.

The action - which had been scheduled to run for four days - was called off after less than 24 hours of delays and cancellations for passengers. There will be no further action until at least March 9, the union said.

Lufthansa had predicted the strike would cost it about US\$34 million per day. However the strike has already disrupted an estimated 10,000 passengers around the world, with the carrier trying to arrange alternative travel for them.

Air Canada Expands US Service



AIR CANADA

Air Canada has introduced new services for seven more American cities. This spring, Air Canada will offer new daily service between Toronto and Orange County (Santa Ana) and San Diego, California; Portland, Oregon; Memphis, Tennessee; Cincinnati, Ohio; Portland, Maine; and Syracuse, New York.

Flights will be non-stop and timed for connections with flights on the carrier's extensive domestic and international network.

Air Canada is also adding four new international destinations from Toronto this summer. The airline has announced it will begin flying to Athens, Barcelona and Copenhagen, and offer same-plane, direct service to Brussels through Montreal.

British Airways Cabin Crews Vote to Walk Off the Job



British Airways' cabin crews have voted to strike, although no date has been set for any job action.

Travel Resources will be contacting our clients who may be affected by this action to provide them with assistance in securing alternate flight arrangements.

The recent vote by Unite union members follows BA's plans to change conditions for cabin crews, with Unite saying members' working hours would be lengthened and crew levels reduced. The union said such moves would hurt customer service.

Unite says 81% of the 80% of union members who voted in favor of a strike. Shop stewards are apparently meeting to consider a possible strike date.

In December, a British judge block a planned 12-day walkout by Unite members that was scheduled to start just before Christmas. BA lost hundreds of millions of dollars in 2009 and says the changes it plans will save it US\$665 million.

American Airlines Strike on the Way?



American Airlines (AA) is a step closer to a ground workers strike, with the Transport Workers Union saying it will ask US government mediators to allow the union to walk away from contract talks if the union and American don't reach a deal by March 8. If the mediators okay the request, **it could lead to the union moving toward a spring walkout.**

Travel Resources will be contacting our clients who may be affected by this action to provide them with assistance in securing alternate flight arrangements.

The union now represents 28,000 staff at both AA and affiliated American Eagle. Meanwhile, trouble may be brewing for American on another labor front as the head of its flight attendants union has said that she will ask for a release from mediation if the two sides don't reach a deal by early March.

France's Air Traffic Controllers on Strike



Air traffic controllers in France have gone on strike, forcing the delay or outright cancellation of hundreds of flights and leaving thousands of would-be passengers on the ground.

Travel Resources will be contacting our clients who may be affected by this action to provide them with assistance in securing alternate flight arrangements.

France's civil aviation agency has ordered airlines to cut back half of the flights in and out of Paris's Orly airport and one in four at Charles de Gaulle airport near Paris, amid staffing shortages caused by the walkout.

Five unions of air traffic controllers called the four-day strike to protest conditions of plans to integrate European air traffic control. Workers fear losses of jobs and civil servant benefits

The strike beginning Feb. 23/10 comes amid a seasonal school holiday in France. Union leaders are hoping to pressure President Nicolas Sarkozy's governing conservatives ahead of regional elections next month.

Porter Airlines Heading North to Sudbury



Porter Airlines is introducing year-round flights between Sudbury and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, beginning March 31, with one daily non-stop roundtrip flight, and one-way fares starting at \$99, plus taxes. Flights are now available for booking

Passport Required for Travel to Mexico as of March 1



The Mexico Tourism Board has announced that **Canadian citizens travelling to Mexico will need valid passports as of March 1**, Permanent residents of Canada will be required to present either a permanent resident card or certificate of identity or refugee travel document.

The tourism board says the move aligns Mexico with all the security measures established by the International Civil Aviation Organization. Visas won't be required for either Canadian citizens or Canadian permanent residents. Meanwhile, the tourism board said that the move isn't likely to affect many people as out of the 1.2 million Canadian tourists that visited Mexico in 2009, only 10,000 didn't have a passport.



Should you have any questions please contact a member of our Management Team at 905-480-9986:

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