

TAV Airports welcomed the 1st Freebird Airlines charter flight with German tourists at Skopje International Airport

The airline engaged by Macedonian and German tour operators in cooperation with the Macedonian Government, will fly to Skopje Airport every day as from February until June, and from October until December. It is expected that this incoming tourism program will bring a total of 35.000 European tourists from Germany, France and Great Britain

The first group of 180 German tourists onboard the inaugural **Freebird Airlines** charter flight were welcomed today at **Skopje International Airport** by **TAV Macedonia management**, the **Vice Prime Minister Aleksandar Nikoloski** and the **Minister of Culture and Tourism, Zoran Ljutkov**, marking the launch of the charter flights that will arrive at Skopje Airport every day from February until June, and from October until December this year, expected to bring 35.000 European tourists in the country.



*"Today, 16th February 2025, we have welcomed the first **Freebird Airlines** chartered flight carrying 180 German tourists from Dusseldorf and Frankfurt with a piece of Macedonian culture, Macedonian ajvar and Skopje sightseeing postcards. We are hoping that all 35.000 tourists*

expected to arrive with daily flights from 13 different destinations from Germany, France, and Great Britain at Skopje International Airport this year, will have a memorable travel journey filled with hospitality, cultural experiences and gastronomic delights. For us as TAV Airports, a member of Groupe ADP, it is always a pleasure to welcome and serve new airlines, new tour operators and new destinations. As an airport operator, we strive to add to hospitality and service quality, while serving both airlines and passengers.”, stated **Nejat Kurt, TAV Macedonia General Manager.**

As of today, until the beginning of June, and then again from October until December this year, Freebird will fly to Skopje once per day, bringing tourists from 13 different European cities from Germany, France, and Great Britain. The European cities from which Freebird will take off and arrive at Skopje International Airport are: Hamburg, Hannover, Munich, Stuttgart, Berlin and Leipzig, Dusseldorf and Frankfurt (Germany); Manchester, London-Gatwick (Great Britain) and Paris, Lyon, and Marseille (France).



“Our customers are eager to visit your lovely country and advance bookings are very positive. Already now we have gained more than 25.000 customers who have booked this study trip from Germany, Austria, France and UK and until the end of the season we plan bring 35.000 guests. I am convinced that these guests will enjoy your lovely country, the history and the warm welcome from the people living here. I truly did when I visited North Macedonia.”, stated **Horst Zhifkovits, RSD Reisen CEO.**

TAV Macedonia, a subsidiary of **TAV Airports**, and a member of **Groupe ADP**, finished 2024 with a total of 3.174.484 passengers at both Macedonian airports – **Skopje International Airport** and **Ohrid St. Paul the Apostle Airport**, which is a 1% increase compared to 2023. Regarding



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the number of flights, there were 25.482 flights for the 12 months of 2024 or 6% more flights than in 2023.

ABOUT TAV AIRPORTS

A global brand in financing, developing, and operating airports, TAV welcomed 78.5 million passengers in 2022. A member of Groupe ADP, TAV Airports is part of the leading airport management platform globally. The company operates 15 airports in eight countries –Turkey, N. Macedonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, Latvia, Saudi Arabia, and Croatia. Through its subsidiaries, TAV provides integrated services in all areas of airport operations, including duty-free, food and beverage, ground handling, IT, private security, and hospitality services. The company is quoted on the Istanbul Stock Exchange and featured on the BIST Sustainability Index. TAV Airports is committed to achieving net zero emissions in 2050.

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