

## Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Tourism Ministry Welcomes New Direct British Airways Service to Port of Spain**

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts is thrilled at the launch of British Airways' new direct flight service from Gatwick to Port of Spain, which started on March 26th, 2023. The new service is expected to provide a significant boost to the country's tourism industry and strengthen the economic ties between the United Kingdom and Trinidad and Tobago.

The new nonstop flight service will operate from London Gatwick (LGW) to Port of Spain (POS) on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays weekly.

The last time Port of Spain was linked directly to London was in 2016 when Caribbean Airlines offered nonstop flights to Gatwick.

This new service is expected to enhance our destination's appeal to travellers from the United Kingdom, by giving them access to be able to enjoy the vibrant culture, scenic beauty, and warm hospitality of Trinidad and Tobago with ease.

Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, the Honourable Randall Mitchell says, "we are delighted to welcome the new BA direct service to Port of Spain." He continues, "the United Kingdom is a significant market for us, and we believe this new service will provide a substantial boost to our tourism industry. We look forward to welcoming more British travellers and even returning nationals to our beautiful islands and showcasing all that Trinidad and Tobago has to offer."

It should be noted that with the ease of direct travel, business and other travellers will have more time to focus on their work and or leisure and build stronger relationships with their counterparts.

Further to this Senator Mitchell says, "this new service also shows the level of confidence that British Airways has in the Port-of- Spain route. With the estimated size of BA aircraft

servicing this route having an average capacity of approximately 312 (dependant on the airline's configuration), Trinidad can now see its inbound market increase by at least 1,000 passengers weekly from this region alone."

British Airways also resumed operations from London-Gatwick to Tobago last October with a 233 passenger seat capacity. The airline operates the route weekly, on Mondays and Fridays, with one stop at the V. C. Bird International Airport, in Antigua.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts looks forward to welcoming visitors to Trinidad and Tobago as it continues to strengthen the tourism sector and facilitate the environment necessary for an exciting and unforgettable visitor experience.

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