



Contents

02/2010

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Central Germany Takes Off into the Summer Season



Air Dolomiti ATR42

28 March marks the date again: the Central German airports will once again provide improvements to their networks of routes when the summer timetable comes into force. Dresden International Airport provides two new direct flights to

Milan Malpensa and Split.

The Italian airline Air Dolomiti is launching a direct flight between Dresden Airport and the North Italian city of Milan when the timetable changes at the end of March. 50-seater ATR42-500 aircraft will fly to Italy's second largest city every day of the week except Saturdays in future. This route opens up an ideal link to nearby destinations like Turin or Lake Garda for both business people and those on city breaks. Passengers also have the option of reaching cities like Naples on connecting flights from Milan Malpensa airport. The Croatian airline "Croatia" will also be directly linking the Saxon state capital with Split, the picturesque city located on the Adriatic coast, from 1 May onwards. Both Air Dolomiti and Croatia are partner airlines in Lufthansa's Miles & More frequent flier programme.

As a result of these new direct flights, Dresden International Airport now provides passengers with 291 departures to 52 destinations in 16 countries in Southern, Central and Eastern

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

1. Central Germany Takes Off into the Summer Season
2. Lufthansa Strike Affects Central German Airports Too

Leipzig/Halle Airport

3. Interesting Country Information Days Again in 2010
4. Lufthansa Tram Travels through Leipzig City Centre
5. Last "Flight" for the IL-18
6. Leipzig/Halle Airport: A Hollywood Stage

Dresden International

7. Dresden International Airport Showcases Its Services to Branch Representatives from the Czech Republic
8. Dresden International Now Intermodal Too: From the River Elbe to the Airport on a Low Loader
9. Prominent Guests Stream In and Out

From the Region

10. Runway Extension at Leipzig/Halle Airport

Europe, North Africa and the Middle East every week. Flights will also operate to Warsaw and Moscow Sheremetyevo during the complete summer period for the first time. Michael Hupe, Managing Director of Flughafen Dresden GmbH, emphasizes: "We can offer our passengers a varied summer timetable. The best argument for attracting new routes is good load factors on existing flights." The airport is particular providing additional capacity on flights to Palma de Mallorca, Greece and Antalya.

Dierk Näther, Managing Director of Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH, is also looking ahead to the upcoming summer season with a sense of confidence. The airport is continuing to provide a stable network of routes both in terms of quantity and quality with a total of 55 destinations – including 49 international cities and six domestic ones. The domestic hubs at Frankfurt, Munich, Düsseldorf, Cologne/Bonn and Stuttgart and the international hubs at Paris and Vienna provide many opportunities for connecting flights for business and private travellers and tourists. Tour operators and airlines will significantly reinforce their services on very popular routes like Antalya and Palma de Mallorca during the summer. We are providing our passengers with an unbeatable all-round package – ranging from individual holiday advice from local travel agents to our unrivalled cheap car parking rates and excellent service for our passengers when they take off and return," said Näther. They are particularly attractive in the P20 seasonal parking area where passengers will pay just EUR 20 per week as from 1 May.

Lufthansa Strike Affects Central German Airports Too

The German airport world had to face some turbulence as a result of the Lufthansa pilot strikes during the last few days. The Central German airports seized the opportunity to demonstrate their excellent level of cooperation with the airline once again.

Leipzig/Halle and Dresden International Airports made extensive preparations for the imminent situation and staff were available to provide passengers with advice and help in conjunction with Lufthansa and Germanwings. Passengers accepted the situation with a sense of composure, contrary to fears, and most of them responded in a calm and relaxed fashion.

Lufthansa's major priority in the run-up to the strike was to assist passengers. The company communicated all the information about the special timetable or opportunities to rebook or cancel bookings through all the popular media channels in good time. All the adjustments to the timetable could be found promptly, primarily on the Internet at www.lufthansa.com or if customers used a free hotline. This information was constantly updated. Carsten Bömelburg, Central German Sales Director for Lufthansa AG, confirmed this: "We were able to arrange alternative flights for passengers who were affected in close cooperation with the Central German airports." Rapid and non-bureaucratic assistance was provided

Uncovers New Stone Age Well

11. The "Türkische Cammer" (Turkish Chamber) Opens at Dresden's Royal Palace



Aircraft taking off at Dresden International Airport

for passengers and the travel agents by the Lufthansa service team and the ticket offices at Dresden International and Leipzig/Halle Airports. "By assisting passengers quickly and fully, we were able to minimize the effect of the strike on airport operations to the greatest possible degree," Bömelburg said.

Interesting Country Information Days Again in 2010

The further development of the largest travel market in Central Germany and the event site at Leipzig/Halle Airport is the major focus of marketing activities. This customer-oriented theme is being continually extended with a series of events at or near the airport.

A Turkey Day kicked off this year's activities on 21 February. Many visitors from the immediate vicinity of the airport and adjacent regions accepted the invitation and discovered more about Turkey as a holiday destination. There are as many as 30 flights from Leipzig/Halle to the country every week. A varied entertainment programme for people of all ages rounded off the day.

Mario Krug, Chairman of the "Gate to the World" advertising organisation at the holiday market at Leipzig/Halle Airport, welcomed the event: "I am delighted that the airport has once again included the country information days provided last year in this year's calendar. The series of events singles out the airport in a special way. It not only serves to cultivate its image, but it is also a very specific experience for future holiday-makers. In addition to providing comprehensive travel information and a great deal of entertainment, our customers also find many special travel offers. Many visitors use this opportunity and book their dream holiday on the spot."

The airport is planning to hold country information days on Greece (on 25 April) and the Canaries (on 24 October) as holiday destinations later this year. There will also be a spring festival on 21 March, a fire brigade open day on 20 June, a kids and family day on 14-15 August and various Christmas events.

Lufthansa Tram Travels through Leipzig City Centre

Thanks to a joint marketing offensive by Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH and Deutsche Lufthansa AG, the people of Leipzig and many visitors to the city have been able to travel on a Leipzig Transport Company tram bearing the airline colours since the end of last year.

The aim of the scheme is to present both companies in the Leipzig city centre in an appealing and striking way.

Leipzig/Halle Airport



Belly dancer in the show programme for the Turkey Day at Leipzig/Halle Airport



Lufthansa Tram in the Leipzig city centre

Arne Kirchhoff, Lufthansa Traffic Manager at Leipzig/Halle, confirmed this aim: "We want to use this marketing tool to point out to the people of Leipzig that Lufthansa opens up access to a global network of more than 400 destinations for them from Leipzig/Halle."

The tram will travel through the city centre of Leipzig for a period of two years. As it can be used in a flexible way on various routes, it can spread its message to a wide audience during its daily travels.

Last "Flight" for the IL-18

The vintage IL-18 plane "took off" from Leipzig/Halle for probably the last time on 24 February. The historic plane, which bears the original Lufthansa East markings, was lifted into the public area of the airport with the help of a heavy duty crane.

The IL-18 will be placed in the airport's central zone during the next few weeks. This is the first step on the way to establishing the planned airport event park. The plane will be opened to the public this year and people will be able to view it initially during guided tours for visitors to the airport.

The IL-18 was registered with the markings DM-STA in the fleet of the East German Lufthansa company in March 1960. When the airline was renamed in 1963, the IL-18 was painted in the new Interflug colours, but still maintained its original registration. The plane was only given its new registration "DDR-STA" in 1981 and was repainted in slightly different colours in the mid-1980s. The plane was removed from service in 1988.



IL-18 at Leipzig/Halle Airport

Leipzig/Halle Airport: A Hollywood Stage

The film stars Liam Neeson and Diane Krüger in person travelled to Leipzig on 24 - 26 February in order to shoot several scenes for their new thriller entitled "Unknown White Male".

The 57-year-old Liam Neeson, who is famous for his role in "Schindler's List", plays an American, who, on waking from a coma, discovers that his identity has been stolen.

Dresden International Airport Showcases Its Services to Branch Representatives from the Czech Republic

Dresden International

Dresden International Airport showcased its services on the joint Tourismus Marketing Gesellschaft Sachsen GmbH (TMGS) stand at the Holiday World travel fair in Prague on 4 – 7 February.

Alongside the state of Saxony and Dresden Marketing GmbH, the airport informed many representatives from local travel agents and tour guides and other branch representatives about the flights available and the special features of the region. The airport was also able to increase its degree of brand awareness in the Northern Bohemia region of the Czech Republic, both by attending a TMGS press conference and with the help of a radio interview. The efforts to communicate the excellent transport connections and many event highlights in the Dresden region were well received by the target group. During the day when the event was open to the public, the cheap parking fees attracted particular interest. Many interested parties deliberately stopped to obtain more specific information at the stand.



Holiday World travel fair in Prague

Dresden International Now Intermodal Too: From the River Elbe to the Airport on a Low Loader

After the first section for the test cell of the A400M military transport aircraft was shipped through Dresden International Airport to the IABG test hangar located there on board the A300-600 ST transport plane (“Beluga”) at the beginning of January, the wing construction weighing almost 20 tonnes arrived at Dresden’s Albert Port on 20 February.

The 42.20 meter long and 8.73 meter wide wing section was transported to the airport on a heavy load truck watched by hundreds of sightseers in what might be called a hush-hush operation. Earlier two cranes had the task of transferring the huge construction from the barge on to a low loader with 28 axles.

Once the complete aircraft structure has been assembled by a team from the manufacturer, Airbus Military, a start is due to be made on the long-term test, more precisely known as the fatigue and damage tolerance test. A residual strength test will also be carried out in addition to the static measurements during the flight-by-flight simulation, which will comprise 25,000 flight cycles.

Prominent Guests Stream In and Out

Dresden International Airport has created an excellent reputation for itself when it comes to flexibility and its readiness to provide services: prominent guests from all over the world regularly use the airport as the gateway to

the region.

The former General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and first President of Russia flew to Dresden International Airport on 13 February. The Nobel peace prize winner, who gained fame through his policies of glasnost (literally “openness”) and perestroika (literally: “restructuring”), was personally welcomed by the Nobel prize winner for medicine, Günter Blobel.



Mikhail Gorbachev (right)
and Nobel prize winner
Günter Blobel

Mikhail Gorbachev received a newly instituted prize from the “Friends of Dresden Deutschland“ Association for the first time to mark the 25th anniversary of the reopening of the Semper Opera House in the city on 13 February; the award is worth EUR 25,000. During the presentation ceremony in the opera house, which provided a rich traditional setting, speakers honoured his services in connection with bringing the Cold War to an end the next day.

The Olympic contenders Aljona Sawtschenko and Robin Szolkowy also had every reason to be happy. They returned home from the Winter Olympic Games in the Canadian city of Vancouver with their long-standing trainer, Ingo Steuer, on 18 February – carrying their bronze medal with them.

The airport was able to welcome members of the Rammstein rock band a few days earlier. The controversial cult musicians used the airport to travel to concerts in Dresden and Chemnitz.

From the Region

Runway Extension at Leipzig/Halle Airport Uncovers New Stone Age Well

A special exhibition organised by the District Administrator’s Office for Archaeology in the Municipal History Museum in Leipzig provides information about spectacular finds from Saxony related to linear and stroked pottery dating back to the New Stone Age period. The exhibition is open until 11 April.

The starting point for the exploration work was the excavations required before constructing the southern runway at Leipzig/Halle Airport. By chance, archaeologists uncovered an early Neolithic settlement with middle to late linear pottery (approx. 5200 – 5000 BC). Because of the time pressure involved, a quick decision was made to retrieve a block weighing more than 90 tonnes, in which the wood remains of a well constructed in block form were discovered.

The seven metre deep construction with a diameter of almost three metres was transported to Dresden as a special heavy load, cleared of sediment that had built up over several periods of time and was then examined with great precision in conditions similar to those in laboratories. The archaeologists discovered many ceramic containers, bone tools and stone devices in the

sediment starting at a depth of about four metres below the former edge of the plot. The wooden well with an inner span of 100 – 110 centimetres consists of oak planks that are up to 40 centimetres thick; it is one of the oldest wooden constructions in the world.

The “Türkische Cammer” (Turkish Chamber) Opens at Dresden’s Royal Palace

Visitors to Dresden Royal Palace will be able to admire one of the most magnificent collections of Oriental art in the Electoral Saxon Armoury from 7 March onwards. Most of the items have never been seen in public before.

The “Turkish Chamber” is not a new museum that is part of the Dresden State Art Collections, but consists of one section of the historical collection that has not been put on display before. About 600 Oriental and orientalising objects are presented in a manner that is absolutely unique at a site measuring 750 square metres. The exhibition is part of a permanent display on the second floor and has been designed by the Peter Kulka Architektur Dresden GmbH architect’s office.

The exhibits have been put on display in a night atmosphere in front of dark blue walls with individual and impressive lighting. The main attractions are magnificent parts of an Ottoman state tent and extensive Ottoman riding equipment for grand occasions placed on life-size Arabian stallions specially carved for this purpose. The highly impressive state tent is 20 metres long, eight metres wide and six metres high, it has magnificent decorations made of silk and gilded leather and it has been elaborately restored for more than EUR 3.6 million.

The exquisite works of art also include coats of mail, helmets, flags, weapons and garments. They were collected by the Saxon rulers over a period spanning several centuries, as the result of their cultural understanding of other lifestyles and Oriental art. The items show the interaction of cosmopolitan cultures in the Renaissance and Baroque periods and are mainly diplomatic gifts, loot that has been seized from historic battles or deliberate purchases of exotic items.

Imprint

Published by: Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Edited by: Felix Zimmermann (chief editor)
Evelyn Schuster, Petra Siebert, Christina Friede, Uwe Schuhart, Christian Adler,
Sandra Hamann, Michael Hempel, Christoph Tichelkamp

Photos: Archives at Flughafen Leipzig/Halle, Archives Flughafen Dresden,
Archives Air Dolomiti

Please send any queries, comments or suggestions to:
Felix.Zimmermann@mdf-ag.com, phone: +49 (0) 341-224-10 86

In case the newsletter is not shown correctly, please klick [here](#).

For cancelling the newsletter please klick [here](#).