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Central German Airports Group

▶ New Summer Services Increase Popularity of Central German Airports

The positive trend is continuing – and the Central German airports Leipzig/Halle and Dresden are becoming increasingly attractive. Thanks to the millions of euros invested in these two airports in recent years, the airlines using them can now offer passengers and freight clients an even bigger range of flights and destinations this summer.



The extended flight schedules benefit not only holidaymakers but also business travelers seeking to get quickly from Leipzig/Halle or Dresden to meetings elsewhere in Germany and Europe. The two airports in Central Germany are connected by daily or even more frequent flights organized by prestigious carriers to the major European hubs like Munich and Frankfurt – from where they can then fly to almost anywhere in the world. For example, there are now daily services to London

The airlines extend their flight schedules at Central German airports

from both Leipzig/Halle and Dresden, while Paris can be reached from Leipzig/Halle non-stop.

Leipzig/Halle Airport has welcomed the summer season with an even more packed schedule of flights and destinations in Europe, Africa and the Caribbean. Every week, the 28 airlines operating there now run 341 flights to 76 destinations – that's 13 more flights and four more destinations than last year. The new flight schedule will apply until October 27.



As far as Dresden is concerned, the new summer timetable provides for 308 departures every week (15 more than last year) to 51 destinations in 15 countries in Europe, Africa and Asia. New routes include a daily service to London with British Airways and a weekly non-stop flight to Djerba off the coast of Tunisia.

Flight schedule highlights

▶ Services from Dresden

- ▶ **British Airways** is now flying daily non-stop from Dresden to Gatwick Airport in London, using a Boeing 737-400 with room for 147 passengers.
- ▶ Tour operators Thomas Cook and Neckermann will be flying every Wednesday from May 16 non-stop with **Tunis Air** to Djerba – the first direct route for four years to this Tunisian island.
- ▶ From July 9, **Air Berlin** will be flying to Palma in Majorca daily. And on arrival, passengers will (with the exception of Saturdays) be able to fly on to a total of 16 other destinations in Spain and Portugal – something that previously was only possible four days a week.
- ▶ Low-cost carrier **Germanwings** is now departing for Cologne/Bonn in the evening every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This brings its total weekly flights to Cologne/Bonn to 17, including sometimes three daily.
- ▶ Back in January **Cirrus Airlines** launched an additional service to Hamburg, bringing the number of connections on weekdays between these two sister cities to four.
- ▶ Every week there are now 52 non-stop connections by **Lufthansa** and **dba** to Munich, making it the number one domestic destination. It's followed by Frankfurt (47 flights with **Lufthansa**), Düsseldorf (39 with **Lufthansa** and **dba**), Hamburg (21 with **Cirrus Airlines**), Cologne/Bonn (17 with **Germanwings**), Stuttgart (13 with **Germanwings**) and Friedrichshafen (four with **Intersky**). The Dortmund service (10 flights with **LGW Walter**) calls in at Leipzig/Halle on the way.
- ▶ The airlines are now flying non-stop to 28 cities and holiday destinations abroad – two more than in summer 2006. The destinations served by the most non-stop flights per week are Zurich and Antalya (14 each), Palma (13), London (7) and Vienna (6).



► Services from Leipzig/Halle

- **TUIfly** is continuing to raise the number of routes from Leipzig/Halle, its new destinations including Venice, Milan and Naples. Budget airline TUIfly will also be flying to Rijeka, the principal seaport of Croatia, for the first time. All in all, TUIfly is running 70 flights a week to 17 destinations from Leipzig/Halle during the summer season.
- **Air Berlin** has increased its weekly flights to Majorca by two to 13. On arrival at this aviation hub, passengers can then continue to any of 15 Spanish and Portuguese destinations.
- **LTU** has announced its new fortnightly flights from Leipzig/Halle to Varadero in Cuba and Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic.
- **Austrian Airlines** flies to Vienna 18 times a week.
- **Air France** operates 14 flights a week from Leipzig/Halle to Paris.
- **Air Berlin** flies from Leipzig/Halle to London-Stansted every day.
- Just as in Dresden, there are more flights from Leipzig/Halle Airport to Munich than any other destination in Germany. In fact every week **Lufthansa** and **TUIfly** operate 44 flights to the capital of Bavaria. In addition, **Lufthansa** flies to major aviation hub Frankfurt Airport 39 times a week. Meanwhile, **Germanwings** offers 12 flights a week from Leipzig/Halle to Cologne/Bonn. And Stuttgart can be reached 11 times a week with **TUIfly**.

Central German Airports Group

► **Boosting Mobility: Ministers Adopt Ideas from Central Germany**

With regions all over the world competing with each another, mobility has become one of the most important locational factors.

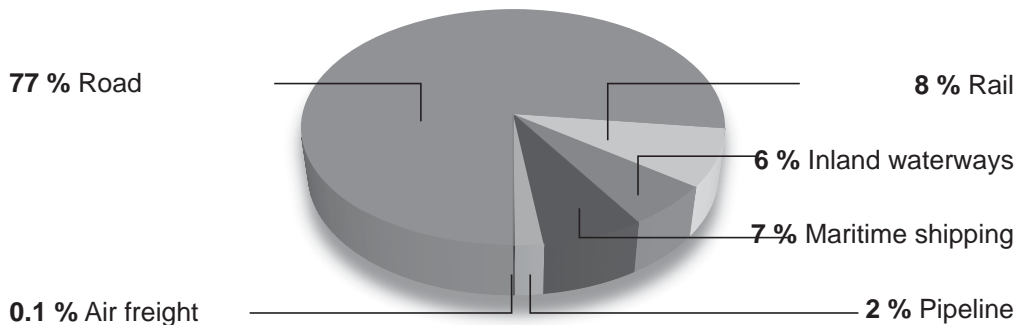
Transport and logistics are vital for business centers. Meanwhile the logistics sector in Germany has annual turnover of about €178 billion and is only outnumbered by a handful of other industries.

The German government is looking to join forces with business and employers' associations to boost the country's reputation as a center for logistics. To this end, a master plan entitled 'Cargo Traffic and Logistics' is to be drawn up by the end of 2007. And with Markus Kopp, director of the Central German Airports Group, supporting the Mobility Campaign initiated by the German government, the German Ministry of Transport will be paying particular attention to experience from Central Germany.



By investing millions of euros at the two airports in Central Germany – Dresden and Leipzig/Halle – a powerful infrastructure has been created in next to no time. Leipzig/Halle Airport for example represents a superb combination of rail traffic, motorways and aviation.

In 2005, freight was transported as follows:



Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ Second Intercontinental Freight Route Ready for Take-Off

Leipzig/Halle Airport now has a second Intercontinental scheduled freight service. Jade Cargo International from China began flying cargo from Shenzhen via Leipzig/Halle to Stockholm in mid-March.



This makes Leipzig/Halle the first German airport to feature in Jade's scheduled services – and a new Boeing 747-400ERF freighter carrying up to 110 tons of cargo now lands there every Tuesday and Thursday.

According to Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle Airport, Jade Cargo's decision to fly to Leipzig/Halle underlines the airport's growing importance as a competitive transshipment center within European air freight traffic. "This new cargo route, which also offers access to the burgeoning markets in Asia, will benefit not just the airport but also the entire logistics region of Central Germany."

Leipzig/Halle is the first German airport to feature Jade Cargo's schedule

Jade Cargo

- ▶ Jade Cargo International is a joint venture between Shenzhen Airlines (51 %), Lufthansa Cargo (25 %) and German investment and development company DEG (24 %).
- ▶ Jade Cargo is the first air freight company in China with foreign involvement.



- ▶ The airline is based in Shenzhen, a city in southern China with a population of 6 million. The city's Baoan Airport – the fourth largest in the People's Republic of China – is the main aviation hub used by Jade Cargo.

Tesis, a Russian air freight company, has already been flying to Leipzig/Halle Airport with a Boeing 747 for six months. The freighter flies back and forth between Nanjing in China, Leipzig/Halle and Moscow-Sheremetyevo.

Air freight at Leipzig/Halle Airport is booming. Last year, 29,330 tons of cargo was loaded and unloaded – a huge increase of 143.3% on 2005.

www.jadecargo.com

Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ Southern Freight Zone Grows: Investor Builds Hangar

The first investment in the Southern Freight Zone near Schkeuditz at Leipzig/Halle Airport is taking shape.



The outline of the new air freight hangar measuring 20,000 square meters is now clearly visible. The prefabricated concrete pillars for the walls are in place and the first main trusses spanning the hangar have also been positioned on top of them.

World-Cargo-Center GmbH – a joint venture between Garbe Logistic AG from Hamburg and GeoMar B.V. from the Netherlands – announced back in September 2006 that it would be using a site measuring 35,325 square meters on the

The Southern Freight Zone at Leipzig/Halle Airport takes shape

Southern Freight Zone. Its new €30 million air freight hangar where more than 200,000 tons of cargo can be loaded and unloaded annually will be completed by the middle of this year.

An area 38 hectares in size has now been improved south-west of the new south runway. The airport's Southern Freight Zone has land available for use by companies in the aviation and logistics sector. The 12-hectare apron directly linked to the Southern Freight Zone can accommodate up to six large air freighters such as the Antonov An-124. An improved area 26 hectares in size harbors outstanding development opportunities for investors. It's directly adjacent to the B6 federal road from Leipzig to Halle as well as the A9 interstate from Munich to Berlin.



Dresden Airport

► New Runway Construction Gets Underway

The extensive preparations for the refurbishment of the runway at Dresden Airport are now complete – and building work itself began in mid-March.



This is one of the most challenging construction projects in the history of the airport. The worn runway – first built in 1955 and refurbished several times since – is to be completely renewed and extended by September. And with most construction work taking place at night, careful coordination is required.

Between shortly before midnight and 6 a.m., the builders take over the site northwest of the old runway when the airport has shut down for the night. The first stage of the work involves

Construction work for the new runway has started

excavating some 800,000 cubic meters of soil. Of course, the airport has to meet aviation safety standards again every morning to allow normal flying operations to resume. The work involves up to 300 builders, delivery personnel and security staff being on the construction site at the same time.

The new runway will be surfaced with concrete in June. This will force the airport to shut down on four weekends with all air traffic being switched to Leipzig/Halle Airport (although the travel agents, shops, cafés and restaurants in the terminal will stay open). The first aircraft is due to land on the new runway on September 6. Once the new runway goes into service, the old one will be removed.

The new runway – facts and figures:

- The new runway's axis runs 70.5 meters northwest of the old one.
- The runway will be stretched by 350 meters to a length of 2,850 meters, while its width will be reduced by 20 to 60 meters.
- The runway will have a total thickness of 1 meter.
- The paved surface will be 40 centimeters thick and require 90,000 cubic meters of concrete.
- The frost blanket will have a volume of 115,000 cubic meters while the base course will amount to 36,000 cubic meters.



Dresden Airport

► Modern Helicopter Hangar for Safety and Rescue Duties

Taking nine months to build, the new hangar for four helicopters at Dresden Airport was recently completed.



The hangar is almost 10 meters tall, and is used by the Saxon police helicopter squadron and the DRF German Air Rescue. Costing about €3 million, the hangar is another milestone in the development of the infrastructure at Dresden Airport.

Previously, the four helicopters owned by the police and the air rescue service were housed in another hangar in the northeastern area of the airport. However, they had to move out into the new hangar to allow EADS Elbe Flugzeugwerke to be able to convert two passenger aircraft into cargo planes simultaneously.

Since March Dresden Airport has a new helicopter hangar

The part of the hangar used by the police is 40 meters wide and accommodates three helicopters. The section used to park the Christoph 38 rescue helicopter is 15 meters wide. The hangar also contains recreation rooms, offices, workshops, refueling and washing bays, and a helicopter pad.

Construction work for the hangar began in April 2006, and the foundation stone was laid just a month later. The building was ready by mid-December 2006 and has been fitted out by its users over the past few weeks.

Dresden Airport

► Polish Travel Agents Look to Dresden Airport

In March, Dresden Airport teamed up with partners from ten different airlines and tour operators to stage a road-show in the city of Wroclaw attended by 115 representatives of Polish travel agencies (one more than in 2006).

The popularity of the road-show, which like last year was held in Breslau's old town district, demonstrated continuing Polish interest in Dresden Airport. Dresden has now created a name for itself among Polish business travelers and holidaymakers as the nearest airport to Lower Silesia. New routes such as its daily non-stop flights to London are proving especially popular among the Poles.



Dresden Airport

▶ Panther 8X8 Debut with European Airport Fire Service

The internal fire department at Dresden Airport is now better prepared for emergencies than ever before thanks to the arrival of its brand new Panther 8x8 fire appliance – the first to go into service at a European airport.



Measuring 12 meters long, weighing in at 40 tons, and with 1,000 horsepower, it makes a valuable addition to the fire service's fleet of eleven vehicles, including five fire trucks.

In addition to 12,500 liters of water, the red and charcoal grey Panther can also carry 1,500 liters of foaming agent and a ton of extinguishing powder. Despite its considerable weight, this eight-wheel drive vehicle can reach a top speed of 135 km/h – that's 84 mph!

Dresden Airport is the first European airport using a Panther 8x8

The water and foam cannon on the roof can squirt and spray up to 6,200 liters of water per minute over a distance of up to 95 meters. Two more cannons (one for water and foam, the other for powder) have been fitted on the front. Beneath the fire appliance are seven ground nozzles which are used to protect it from flames – and which can even spray a small foam carpet.

The fire station was opened in the eastern part of Dresden Airport in 2003 and is manned by 47 fire-fighters. Last year it was involved in about 2,500 operations, most of which involved not fire-fighting but helping handicapped people get out and about.

www.dresden-airport.de

▶ Miscellaneous

▶ Tourists Flock to Saxony-Anhalt and Saxony

Although the German soccer team didn't quite manage to win the World Cup last year, the tournament gave an enormous boost to the tourist industry in Germany.

The German state with the biggest rise in the number of arrivals and overnight stays was Saxony-Anhalt, up by 6.7%. And Saxony wasn't far behind with 6.3%, according to the Sparkasse tourism barometer. Throughout Germany, arrivals increased by 3.9% while overnight stays were up by 2.1%.

German cities were clearly the main winners. With overnight stays in Hamburg rising by 1.5% and in Berlin by 8.8%, Dresden celebrated a massive increase of 20.3% compared to the previous year.



Moreover, the region of Central Germany is evidently becoming increasingly popular among foreign visitors. The number of overnight stays by people from abroad rose by 25.4% in Saxony-Anhalt and 13.5% in Saxony. In fact double-digit growth in this regard was recorded by half the 16 states making up Germany.

The two airports in Dresden and Leipzig/Halle benefited from this development, both experiencing a record year in 2006.

www.s-tourismusbarometer.de

► Industry Meets Theater

Once again the arts are about to take over Vockerode Power Plant in the Dessau–Wörlitz Garden Realm.



Photo: J. Pohl, M. Warmuth

A production of Marquis de Sade will be staged in this 'industrial cathedral' on the Elbe River by 75 actors and another 200 people behind the scenes. This new production – a stunning combination of artistry, dance and theatre by director and choreographer Gregor Seyffert – will open on May 25 and continue every weekend including Fridays for a ten-week season.

Marquise des Sade is regarded as one of the most controversial figures in European social and cultural history. The French aristocrat spent half his life in prison and mental asylums and was notorious for writing often violent pornography.

Marquise de Sade at Vockerode Power Plant

Vockerode Power Station was opened in 1937 and closed down in October 1994. The silhouette of this industrial structure adjacent to the bridge crossing the Elbe at Rosslau was dominated by its four prominent chimneys until they were demolished in September 2001.

www.de-sade-spektakel.de



▸ Regional Economic News

▸ Goodbye Bottleneck

A14 Interstate between Halle and Schkeuditz Intersection Widened.

Another bottleneck is about to disappear on the A14 interstate from Dresden to Magdeburg. Over the next two years, the stretch between Halle and Schkeuditz Intersection of this north–south artery will be widened from currently two to three lanes on either side. Measuring about 10km long, the section is scheduled for completion in summer 2009. A budget of some €58 million has been earmarked for this project.

During the first phase begun in March and lasting until summer 2008, the carriageway heading for Magdeburg will be widened. It will then be the turn of the other carriageway towards Schkeuditz Intersection to be given an additional lane.

The section of the A14 interstate between Halle and Magdeburg was opened in the year 2000. The work recently begun is designed to bring part of the freeway built in the 1930s up to scratch. In addition to making the road wider, the junctions for East Halle and Gröbers will also be altered.

www.a14.sachsen-anhalt.de

▸ LIDL Logistics Center in Bernburg Opens

Central Germany is increasingly emerging as a center of the logistics industry. Its reputation was enhanced recently by the opening of Lidl Vertriebs GmbH & Co. KG, a logistics depot in the town of Bernburg in Saxony-Anhalt.

Measuring 125,000 square meters, this new central warehouse is used by Lidl to supply its supermarkets in the regions of Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt.

Several logistics operations such as mail-order company Otto and the Rossmann chain of drugstores in Landsberg just outside Halle have chosen to set up shop in Saxony-Anhalt. For example, Swiss mail-order chemists “Zur Rose” have also opened a center in Halle. Meanwhile a degree program in engineering logistics was recently unveiled at the Otto von Guericke University in Magdeburg, the region’s capital.

**▶ 400 New Call Center Jobs in Dresden**

Transcom WorldWide, the world's biggest operator of call centers, has announced it will be creating 400 new jobs in the city of Dresden by the end of the year.

Transcom, a Luxembourg company, will be starting its operations in Dresden with 50 members of staff. Originally founded in Sweden back in 1995, this will be Transcom's fourth branch in Germany.

Transcom has decided to move to Dresden in response to rising demand on the German market and the sustained growth of telecoms operator Tele2 in Germany, one of WorldWide S.A.'s biggest customers. Altogether, WorldWide employs some 12,200 personnel at its more than 50 service centers in 28 countries – and assists about a hundred clients.

www.transcom.com

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