



Tuesday, 28 October 2025

First ever direct service to Christchurch takes off from Adelaide

Adelaide Airport is celebrating the departure of the first ever direct service to Christchurch, New Zealand.

The seasonal Air New Zealand service will operate twice weekly on Tuesday and Saturday between now and March 2026, with about 15,000 seats available.

The inaugural flight from Christchurch arrived in Adelaide on Monday 27 October and departed Adelaide for the return flight on Tuesday 28 October.

The service is operated by a narrowbody Airbus jet and is the latest milestone for Adelaide Airport as it gears up for its highest ever number of international services by the end of the year.

Adelaide Airport Managing Director Brenton Cox welcomed the commencement of the new service.

“We’re proud to celebrate the launch of Adelaide’s first direct flight to Christchurch this morning — a milestone that responds to strong demand between our sister cities,” Mr Cox said.

“Nearly 50,000 people travel between Adelaide and the South Island each year, primarily for holidays or to visit family.

“This new non-stop service offers a seamless gateway to world-class destinations on both sides of the Tasman, making travel more convenient and appealing for South Australians and New Zealanders alike.”

Tourism Minister Zoe Bettison said the launch of a direct flight from New Zealand’s South Island was terrific news for tourism in South Australia.

“More direct flights into Adelaide from New Zealand – currently our State’s fourth largest tourism market – means more potential visitors coming to experience all our State has to offer,” Minister Bettison said.

“The direct Air New Zealand service from Christchurch is the first in a series of exciting arrivals of new routes and new airlines through to the end of the year – strengthening the world’s connection to South Australia and seeing more international airlines servicing Adelaide than ever before.”

Air New Zealand General Manager Short Haul, Lucy Hall, said the new service was about more than just connecting two cities.

“We’re excited to welcome more Australians to explore our beautiful South Island, from its world-class food and wine to its adventure and nature experiences,” Ms Hall said.

“At the same time, this route gives Cantabrians even more convenient access to Australia – our most popular international destination – for holidays, events, and reconnecting with friends and family across the Tasman.”