

For Immediate Release:

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American Airlines Launches Service to 2 New European Destinations

PHILADELPHIA — The inaugural flights to Prague and Budapest serviced by American Airlines departed PHL after a celebration this evening. International destinations and passenger numbers continue to increase at PHL with services provided by American Airlines.

The ambassadors to the United States from the Czech Republic and Hungary as well as officials from the New York Consulates of their respective countries attended the gate event with Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney and American Airlines executives. Passengers and guests enjoyed cuisine inspired by traditional food served in the respective countries.

“We are very pleased that our hub carrier American Airlines has introduced service to these wonderful cities,” said Airport CEO Chellie Cameron. “International destinations are a priority and we are proud to see that American Airlines is using PHL to expand its service.”

“American is excited that our customers will now be able to experience the unique cultures of these two prominent European cities,” said Olympia Colasante, American’s Vice President – PHL Hub Operations. “In addition, Hungarian and Czech nationals can more easily connect from our historic city to anywhere in the United States.”

Budapest and Prague share with Philadelphia the distinction of being recognized as World Heritage cities because they each boast at least one UNESCO World Heritage Site.

With the two new daily flights to Prague and Budapest, PHL offers service to 36 international destinations, including 16 capital cities.

“The numbers speak for themselves: Czech Republic, a population of 10 million people in central Europe, regularly receives around 12 million visitors every year.” stated Hynek Kmoníček, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States. “You can explore this dynamic, yet historic jewel in Europe on your next family vacation.”

“American Airlines’ new direct service between Philadelphia and Budapest will open up a new era in Hungarian-American relations,” said Dr. Laszlo Szabó, Ambassador of Hungary. “This new infrastructure will allow Hungarian and American businessmen to trade and invest more efficiently, and help tourists experience the best of both countries with speed and comfort.

“Hungary has one of the fastest growing economies in the European Union, based on exceptionally talented and qualified workers, and an attractive investment environment, which is actively supported by the Hungarian government. This direct physical connection will enhance the flow of people, products, investment, and innovation between our nations. I am confident that the Philadelphia-Budapest service will take Hungarian-American relations to new heights.”

Philadelphia – Budapest (daily)

The PHL-BUD (AA#96) flight departs PHL on a Boeing 767-300 at 6:15 p.m. and arrives 9:35 a.m. (next day) The BUD-PHL flight (AA#97) departs BUD at 11:35 a.m. and arrives at PHL at 4:05 p.m.

Philadelphia – Prague (daily)

The PHL-PRG (AA# 52) flight departs PHL on a Boeing767-300 at 6:25 p.m. and arrives PRG at 9:20 a.m. (next day). The PRG-PHL (AA#53) flight departs PRG at 11:30 a.m. and arrives at PHL at 3:15 p.m.

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$15.4 billion in spending annually and supporting more than 96,300 full-time jobs for the 11-county Philadelphia MSA.