

## **Media Release | 3 March 2016**

# **Auckland Airport congratulates Air NZ on its Osaka service**

Auckland Airport has welcomed today's announcement by Air New Zealand that it will recommence three flights per week to Osaka, Japan in November 2016. The service will use a B767-300 aircraft and operate until March 2017.

Norris Carter, Auckland Airport's general manager – aeronautical commercial, says, "This new seasonal service between Osaka and Auckland will provide a great addition to our tourism industry next summer."

"The Japanese market has recovered well following its currency depreciation in 2014. In the 12 months to January 2016, the total number of Japanese visitor arrivals increased by 8.6%, with holidaymakers growing by 13.9%."

"Auckland Airport estimates the new Air New Zealand seasonal service to Osaka will deliver an additional 14,040 seats between New Zealand and Japan and contribute \$24 million to the New Zealand economy, during the season."

"We congratulate Air New Zealand on this announcement, which shows its ongoing commitment to develop new routes, services and capacity, and we look forward to the 2015/2016 Osaka summer service being a great success," says Mr Carter.

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