

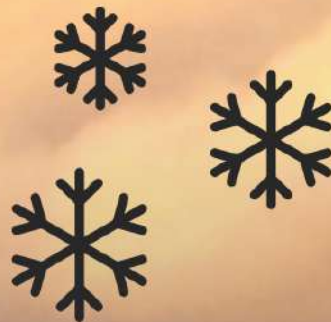


planeopedia
recap.

December 2023



Merry
Christmas



ISSUE #2

Planeopedia Recap



Your monthly aviation scoop!

Chaos Ensues As Airports Worldwide Plagued By Weather

The final month of the year is notorious for its unstable weather causing disruptions across the world, especially in aviation. Just on the second day of the month, two airports were hit with severe snowy conditions which delayed, diverted and cancelled hundreds of flights. Due to “heavier than forecasted snow”, Glasgow airport shut down on 2 December from 7.24am to noon, and Munich airport was forced to close for nearly 24 hours that same day.



Munich Airport covered in snow | © Munich Airport

On December 5th, the disruptions continued at Munich, with another closure till 12pm local time. At the same time, Chennai airport was hit with a cyclone and was shut down for 16 hours due to flooding.

EVA Air Orders 33 A350-1000s and A321neos



EVA Air's A350 Order | © Airbus

Taipei, 7 Nov

Taiwanese carrier, EVA Air announced an order with Airbus for 18 Airbus A350-1000s, and 15 A321neos in a deal worth up to USD \$10.1 Billion. Since June this year, the airline had been eyeing new widebody aircraft such as the A350 or the Boeing 777X, and has since come to a decision to pick the largest variant of the Airbus A350.

Alaska Air Group Purchases Hawaiian Airlines For \$1.9 Billion

Seattle, 4 Dec

Alaska Air Group- consisting of Alaska Airlines and regional carrier Horizon Air has announced the acquisition of Hawaiian Airlines in a deal worth USD 1.9 Billion- including around \$900 million of Hawaiian Airlines' debt.



Hawaiian Airlines' new Boeing 787 | © Hawaiian Airlines

While Hawaiian Airlines will integrate into Alaska Air Group, all airlines will retain their original branding and products, but with an integrated loyalty programme and a single operating platform. In total, the airlines' combined network will consist of 1,340 daily departures, 365 aircraft, and 138 destinations.

Air India Express Launches Premium Vista VIP Class

India, 6 Dec

Air India Express has announced the introduction of a premium class product, similar to Premium Economy on their fleet of Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft- known as Vista VIP.

This new class comes with many perks and benefits, including wider seats, more legroom, increased baggage allowance, gourmet hot meals and priority services.

These premium seats are readily available on AIX's 737 MAX 8 fleet as the airline's MAX jets were originally destined for Chinese carriers, which previously installed 4-8 business class type seats.

2023 in Aviation:

This year has been another exciting year in aviation. Lets take a review of the key events that happened in 2023, month by month!

January

- Flybe 2.0 ceases operations
- Disruption to NOTAM service cancels and delays thousands of US flights
- Yeti Airlines flight 691 crashed in Nepal
- The final Boeing 747 was delivered
- Flyr files for bankruptcy
- Bonza conducts maiden flight



February

- Air India places largest order in aviation history for up to 470 Airbus and Boeing aircraft

March

- Virgin Atlantic joins SkyTeam alliance
- Saudi Arabia's newest flag carrier, Riyadh Air, unveiled alongside order for up to 121 B787s
- Emirates unveils iconic new livery
- Singapore's Changi Airport wins World's Best Airport 2023



April

- Marabu Airlines launches operations
- Berlin Airport strike led to massive disruptions

May

- GoFirst ceases operations
- COMAC C919 enters commercial service
- UK's Global Airlines purchases A380, announces bold startup plan
- First 787 delivered in 3 years
- Singapore Airlines and Garuda Indonesia begin discussions for joint subsidiary airline



June

PARIS AIR SHOW 2023

- IndiGo tops Air India with largest ever commercial order for 500 A320neo family aircraft

July

- Boeing delays delivery of first 737 MAX 7 due to certification issues

August

- Air India unveils new modern branding



September

- Air China A320 suffers engine fire and emergency lands in Singapore
- Ural Airlines A320 emergency lands in a field in Russia following hydraulic system failure



October

- Alaska Airlines off-duty pilot facing attempted murder charges after trying to crash aircraft
- MyAirline abruptly ceases operations
- Air India Express reveals new branding



November

DUBAI AIR SHOW 2023

- Norse Boeing 787 lands in Antarctica
- Qantas unveils stunning A220 livery
- Virgin Atlantic 787 completes transatlantic flight with 100% SAF



December

- Alaska Air Group purchases Hawaiian Airlines for \$1.9 Billion
- Lufthansa kickstarts subsidiary Lufthansa City Airlines with A220 order
- Air India Express launches premium Vista VIP class



A lot has happened in the aviation community this year, with more in store next year!

Cathay Pacific Orders 6 A350 Freighters

Hong Kong, 8 Dec

Hong Kong based Cathay Pacific announced an order for 6 new Airbus A350 Freighters (A350F). The A350F will join the airline's cargo division, Cathay Cargo, and will become a central element in its future fleet, bringing new levels of efficiency across its extensive network.

ICAO's enhanced CO₂ emissions standards, which comes into effect in 2027, has led to the rise of new freighters such as the A350F or B777XF as airlines renew their freighter aircraft fleet.



Cathay Cargo's new A350F | © Airbus

Akasa Air Secures Dubai Slots

14 Dec

India's Akasa Air will likely begin international operations in Summer 2024 with direct services to Dubai as the airline has successfully secured daily slots to Dubai (DXB).

The airline has been eyeing international operations for quite some time, as they recently took delivery of their 20th aircraft, allowing them to begin operations to destinations outside India.

However, one more hurdle is left before the airline can begin Dubai services, which are bilateral rights. All bilateral rights to the UAE have been exhausted, but with the ceasure of Go First's operations, the rights will likely be reassigned to Akasa Air shortly.

Nonetheless, the airline was previously granted rights to other destinations in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar earlier in October, which could kickstart their international operations.



Akasa Air's 737 MAX | © Reuters

Lessor Avolon Orders 140 New Aircraft

12 Dec

Aircraft lessor, Avolon has agreed to purchase a total of 140 new aircraft from Airbus and Boeing, including 100 Airbus A321neos and 40 Boeing 737 MAX 8 jets. Deliveries for these aircraft are expected up till 2032.



Avolon's A321 | © Avolon

Turkish Airlines Confirms Order For 220 Airbus Aircraft

15 Dec

Turkish Airlines has confirmed an order with Airbus for 220 new aircraft. This brand-new order consists of 150 A321neos, 50 A350-900s, 15 A350-1000s and 5 A350F (Freighters). This follows two orders from the airline for 10 A350-900s in September and four A350-900s in July 2023.



Turkish Airlines' Massive Airbus Order | © Airbus

Azul Orders 4 A330neos

Sao Paulo, 15 Dec

Azul has added on to its order of A330neos, with a firm order for 4 additional A330-900s from a purchase agreement in June 2023. With these aircraft, the airline will expand its fleet and international route offering. These new aircraft will replace their 4 A330-200s and 2 A350-900s in their fleet.



Azul adds on to A330neo order | © Airbus



Garuda's Pokemon Jet | © Garuda Indonesia

Garuda Indonesia Reveals Pokemon Jet

17 Dec

Garuda Indonesia has revealed their first of 2 Pokemon Jets, a 12 year old Boeing B737-800NG with registration PK-GMX. The airline joins Skymark Airlines, China Airlines, Scoot, T'way Air and ANA with special Pokemon-themed liveries.

Singapore Airlines Launches London-Gatwick Service

Singapore, 18 Dec

World's best airline- Singapore Airlines has announced the launch of a new nonstop route from Singapore to London-Gatwick from June 21, 2024. The route will be operated 5x weekly, alongside the airlines' 4x daily London-Heathrow service, and will be operated by the A350-900.

Lufthansa Orders 80 Narrowbody Jets

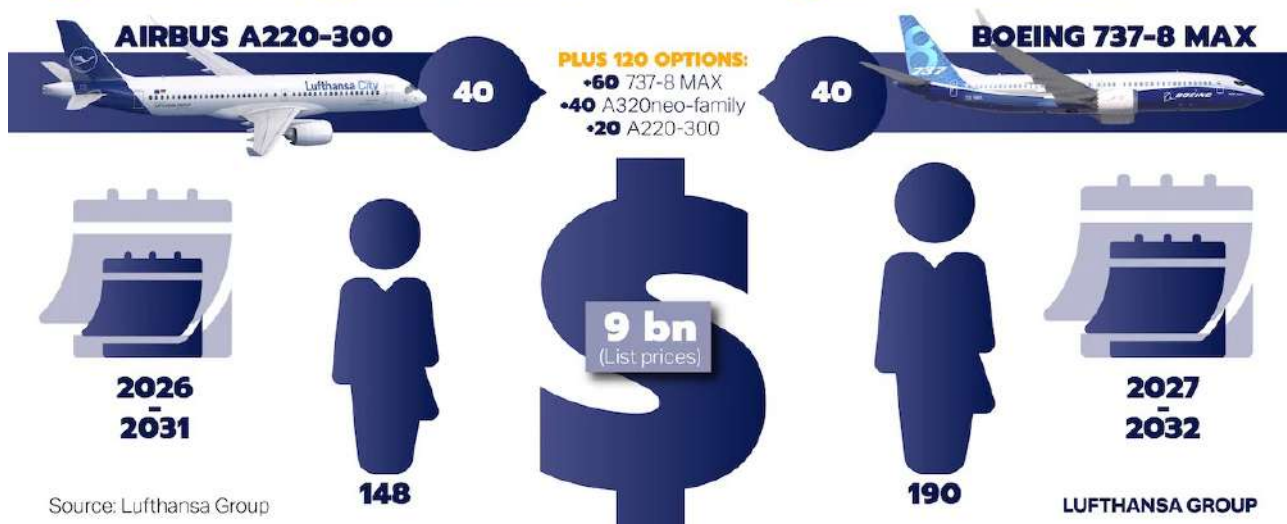
Germany, 19 Dec

Lufthansa Group has announced an order with Boeing for 40 737 MAX 8 jets, and with Airbus for 40 A220-300 aircraft. The new A220s will operate with Lufthansa’s new subsidiary, Lufthansa City Airlines with deliveries from 2026 to 2031. On the other hand, the operator for the Boeing 737 MAX 8 is unknown as the Lufthansa Group comprises of many different airlines including SWISS, Austrian and Brussels Airlines. Deliveries for the Boeing aircraft are from 2027 to 2032.

80 NEW AIRCRAFT FOR LUFTHANSA GROUP

Facts and Figures on the Airbus A220 and Boeing 737-8 MAX order

● Number of aircraft 📅 Delivery period ⓘ Number of seats 💰 Total volume (List prices)



Lufthansa Group’s new order | © Lufthansa Group

easyJet Orders 157 A320 Family Jets

19 Dec

easyJet has confirmed an order with Airbus for 157 A320 Family aircraft, including 56 A320neos and 101 A321neos, enabling the airline to replace its older aircraft with more efficient ones.

Thank you for reading!

Written by Sohail Sawlani