# **PRESS RELEASE**













Best Airline in Africa for 6 Years in a Row

Best Business and Economy Class Airline in Africa for 5 Years in a Row

Best Business Class Onboard Catering in Africa for 2 Years in a Row

Cleanest Airline in Africa

#### Ethiopian Adds London-Gatwick to its UK Network

#### Addis Ababa, 14 August 2023

<u>Ethiopian Airlines</u>, the largest network operating carrier in Africa is pleased to announce that it will commence a thrice weekly services <u>to/from London-Gatwick</u> starting from November 21, 2023.

The new service will be operational every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday as per the below schedule.

Flight Number	Frequency	Departure Airport	Departure time	Arrival Airport	Arrival Time	Sub Fleet
ET 718	Tue, Thu, Sun	ADD	00:15	LGW	05:15	359
ET 719	Tue, Thu, Sun	LGW	10:10	ADD	20:40	359

Regarding the commencement of the flight Ethiopian Airlines Group CEO Mr. Mesfin Tasew said, "We have a 50-year relation with UK. We give high regards to our Heathrow services and now we are excited to add Gatwick to our vast global network. We are ready to stretch our reach to Gatwick and provide our renowned, award-winning services. History has it that we last served Gatwick in 2005 and 2006 using the Boeing 757. Now the route will be served by the most modern Airbus A350-900 aircraft. Over the years, we have established commendable partnerships with over 100 UK based companies in the aviation sector. Our expansion in the UK, among others, will enable us to nurture this cooperation and partnership to a higher level."

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The new service by Ethiopian will offer a direct flight between London-Gatwick and Addis Ababa onboard Airbus A350 with Business Class and Economy cabins, providing seamless connectivity to Ethiopian Airlines' vast global networks stretched across Africa, Far East, the Americas and Asia.

Mr. Henock Woubishet, Area Manager UK & Ireland commenting on the new service said, "The UK is a strong and important market for Ethiopian. Adding London-Gatwick to our UK schedule is truly great news as it will enable us to provide much-needed capacity not only for our passengers but also for our cargo services carried in the belly hold. Ethiopian will now serve London Heathrow, Gatwick, and Manchester Airports."

Stephanie Wear, VP Aviation Development, London Gatwick said, "We are delighted to welcome Ethiopian Airlines back to London Gatwick this winter. As the largest carrier in Africa, this is an excellent addition to our network and adds a valuable, direct connection to Eastern Africa. Ethiopian Airlines is the latest in a number of carriers looking to operate long-haul routes from Gatwick, which further highlights the strong demand for slots at our airport. It's also fantastic news for passengers across London and the South East to have more choice and direct services to Addis Ababa, as well as greater opportunities for onward connections across Africa, Asia and the Middle East."

The service will complement the airlines daily non-stop A350 flights from T2 <u>London Heathrow to Addis Ababa</u> and 5 x weekly A350 service from T2 <u>Manchester to Addis Ababa</u>, with connections to more than 60 African destinations across East, South, Central and West Africa and connections to the Far East & Asia.

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#### **About Ethiopian**

Ethiopian Airlines Group (Ethiopian) is the fastest-growing airlines brand globally and the continent's largest airline brand. In its seventy-seven years of successful operations, Ethiopian, the fastest growing airline, has become one of the continent's leading carriers, unrivalled in efficiency and operational success. In addition to its main hub in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, it is also pursuing its multi-hub strategy through a hub in Lomé, Togo with ASKY, in Lilongwe, Malawi with Malawi Airlines and in Lusaka, Zambia with Zambia Airways. Ethiopian commands the lion's share of the African passenger and cargo network operating the youngest and most modern fleet to more than 150 domestic and international passenger and cargo destinations across five continents. Ethiopian's fleet category consists of ultra-modern and environmentally friendly aircraft such as Boeing 737s, 777s, 787s, Airbus A350-900 and Bombardier Dash 8-400 double cabin with an average fleet age of seven years. In fact, Ethiopian is the first airline in Africa to own and operate most of these aircraft.

Having achieved its strategic plan (Vision 2025) ahead of time, Ethiopian is currently implementing a 15-year strategic plan called Vision 2035 that will see it become one of the top 20 most competitive and leading aviation groups in the world by providing safe, secured, market driven and customer focused Passenger and Cargo Transport and Logistics, Aviation Training, Airport Management and Ground Services, MRO and Aerospace Manufacturing and Travel and Tourism Services. As a multi-award-winning airline, Ethiopian has been the champion in various coveted awards including Skytrax's 'Best Airline in Africa Award' for six consecutive years among others. The airline has been a Star Alliance member since 2011 and has been registering more than threefold growth in the past 10 years.

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Social Media

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EthiopianAirlines.official

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