

Lugano, 29 March 2016

## **Etihad Regional launches flights from Paderborn-Lippstadt Airport to Venice**

**Etihad Regional will start connecting Paderborn-Lippstadt Airport with Venice from July 2016 onwards. As a result, for the first time there will be a direct flight from PAD to the Italian lagoon city. The new service is also attractive for cruise passengers, as Venice is the starting point for many cruises to the Mediterranean Sea and South Africa.**

Venice is the first Italian destination for Paderborn-Lippstadt. “We are really delighted for Etihad Regional operated by Darwin Airline to be the new airline for this project. Cruise companies and tour operators have recognised the enormous potential in our region. The service to Venice is an attractive extension to our range of flights and opens up opportunities for the booming cruise market,” said Airport CEO, Dr Marc Cezanne, at the contract signing ceremony on the sidelines of the ITB.

Maurizio Merlo, Etihad Regional’s Chief Executive Officer, said: “We are delighted to begin operation on our PAD-Venice route, increasing our network offering in Europe, and connecting Paderborn-Lippstadt with Venice, a key touristic destination as well as starting point for exciting Cruise destinations in the Mediterranean and beyond”.

Flights will take off for Venice every Saturday at 12.35 pm from 9 July 2016 onwards. The Paderborn-Lippstadt return flight leaves Venice at 10.15 am. Etihad Regional will operate the route with its Saab 2000 aircraft with 50 seats. The services will be operated under flight numbers F71291 and F71290.

Cruise passengers from the airport’s catchment area will benefit from this new flight from PAD: the Vision of the Seas operated by the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line starts to countries like Greece, Turkey and Croatia from Venice. Tour packages consisting of the

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flight and cruise are possible without any difficulties as a result of the coordinated flight and ships' departure times.

The cruise service from Paderborn-Lippstadt Airport can be booked via the websites [www.royalcaribbean.de](http://www.royalcaribbean.de) or at any travel agency.

### **About Etihad Regional, operated by Darwin Airline**

Etihad Regional is the European brand operated by Switzerland's leading regional carrier, Darwin Airline, founded in 2003. Etihad Regional, a full service airline, currently operates with a fleet of six 50-seat Saab 2000 turboprop aircraft and four 68-seat ATR 72-500s, serving several destinations in four European countries: Switzerland, France, Italy, and Spain.

Besides serving a range of key secondary cities in Europe, Etihad Regional also offers international destinations around the world through its 33.3 per cent shareholding equity and codeshare partner, Etihad Airways.

Through this partnership, all Etihad Guest, MilleMiglia, topbonus and JetPrivilege members can earn and redeem miles on all eligible Etihad Regional flights.

The airline's head office is located in Lugano with major operational hub in Geneva.

For more information, please visit [www.etihadregional.com](http://www.etihadregional.com).

### **About Paderborn-Lippstadt Airport:**

Paderborn-Lippstadt Airport is the regional base for holiday and business travellers from Eastern Westphalia and the adjacent regions in Hessen, North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony. Its range of services includes business and private charter traffic, in addition to scheduled and tourist flights.

The flights available during the current winter timetable include seven direct services to popular holiday destinations in southern Europe and on the Black Sea. Paderborn-Lippstadt also guarantees that the region has links to global air traffic through the regular services to the main hub in Munich.

772,000 passengers passed through the airport in 2015; the airport registered approx. 36,500 take-offs and landings.

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