



BOLOGNA AIRPORT: 550 THOUSAND PASSENGERS IN MARCH

Three quarters of pre-Covid passenger traffic was regained, cargo traffic on the rise

Bologna Airport has been steadily regaining the passenger traffic figures that had been missed as a result of pandemic. In March, with **557,907** passengers, the gap with pre-Covid period was furtherly reduced, reaching **-23.6%** on **March 2019** (last "normal" year). A high growth is recorded on 2021 (+680.2%), but last year's month of March was being struck by the pandemic's second wave, severely reducing traffic possibilities.

March performance showed two different trends, with domestic passengers on the rise even on 2019, while international traffic, though on the rise versus the previous months, is being more impacted by the global situation. In detail, in March **165,743 domestic passengers were recorded** (+2.7% on 2019 and +438.9% on 2021) and **392,164 international passengers** (-31.1% on 2019, +862.4 on 2021).

Flight movements were 4,571, a reduction of 20.8% on 2019 (but a growth of 316.7% on 2021), while **air freight was 3,876 tons**, an increase of 8.2% on 2019 and 16.0% on 2021.

According to the **most-popular-destination ranking**, Catania, Palermo and Barcelona rank in the first three positions followed by Madrid, Bari, Paris Charles de Gaulle, Brindisi, Tirana, Valencia and Bucharest.

In the first term of 2022, decreased passenger traffic and flight movements were reported **on 2019**, whereas a **substantial growth versus 2021** was recorded. **Cargo is on the rise both versus 2021 and 2019.**

In detail, in the first term, 1,268,521 passengers were recorded (-35.3% on 2019 and +504.6% on 2021), 11,609 flight movements (-28.1% on 2019 and +274.5% on 2021) and 10,503 tons of air freight (+4.2% on 2019 and +15.7% on 2021).

If, on the one hand, Covid has loosened its grip, on the other hand great concern is being aroused by the **war of aggression against Ukraine** which, besides the terrible loss of human lives and the destruction of whole cities, has been causing **a stop to flights to Ukraine, Moldova and Russia** and spreading considerable uncertainty for the potential development of the conflict.

Bologna, 5th April 2022

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***Aeroporto Guglielmo Marconi di Bologna**, classified as a "strategic airport" in the centre-north area of the National Airports Plan prepared by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, recorded in 2021 - a year affected by the global pandemic – 4.1 million passengers, ranking as the eighth biggest Italian airport by number of passengers (Source: Assaeroporti – Aeroporti2030). Located in the heart of the Emilian food valley and the automotive and packaging industrial districts, the airport has a catchment area of about 11 million inhabitants and around 47,000 companies, with a strong propensity to exports and internationalisation and with commercial expansion policies to Eastern Europe and Asia.*

As for airport infrastructure, the airport has among its strategic objectives in the next few years an important development plan that mainly concerns the expansion of the terminal, particularly in the parts of security checks and gate area. The company's aim is to make Bologna Airport one of the most modern and functional in Italy, an important gateway to the city and region.

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