



**Newcastle™
Airport**

Connecting People.
Connecting Places.

Media release

Newcastle 500 drives record passengers into region through Newcastle Airport

Friday 14 December 2018

Newcastle Airport has broken its highest-ever daily passenger record for the second consecutive year.

Friday 23 November 2018 saw more than **5,270** passengers travel through Newcastle Airport. The record-breaking single day result was achieved on the first day of the Coates Hire Newcastle 500, which draws thousands of visitors to the region annually.

Contributing to the year-on-year increase was 26 additional flights provided by Virgin Australia and a new domestic direct route servicing Adelaide.

22,202 travellers passed through the Airport over the five-day period including the inaugural international flights servicing Auckland.

Passenger throughput	
Thursday 22 November 2018	4,361
Friday 23 November 2018	5,272 <i>*highest ever daily passenger result*</i>
Saturday 24 November 2018	3,848
Sunday 25 November 2018	4,178
Monday 26 November 2018	4,543

Newcastle Airport CEO Dr Peter Cock said Newcastle Airport is thrilled to bring more travellers than ever to the Hunter to support the success of major regional events.

"The Newcastle 500 showcases our world-class tourism destination and draws travellers from across Australia and the globe. With the establishment of two new routes this year, including our first international route in over a decade, we are delighted more and more visitors are choosing to visit and experience the region. More flights and increased visitation to our region as untold benefits on the local economy," added Peter.

In August, Newcastle Airport reported its busiest financial year to date, with over 1.27 million travellers passing through the terminal in FY17/18. More recently, in November the Airport welcomed its 18 millionth passenger.

Peter said the region growth is helping shape Airport and has thanked the community for its ongoing support.

"Newcastle and the entire Greater Hunter region is making great strides across several industries, including tourism and defence. Newcastle Airport is very proud to play a part in this growth by opening new doors for direct travel and, with the announcement of a world-leading aerospace commercial Astra Aerolab, industry innovation.



**Newcastle™
Airport**

Connecting People.
Connecting Places.

“How we build on the support we receive and maintain momentum will be important in how we deliver on the promise of being the airport of the region deserves. I believe that by continuing to listen and collaborate with our community, the Greater Hunter as a whole will prosper.”

Ends.

Media contact

Stephen Crowe, Newcastle Airport, Executive Manager Corporate Affairs

02 4928 9813 or 0439 426 443

<http://www.newcastleairport.com.au/>



**Newcastle™
Airport**

Connecting People.
Connecting Places.

Notes for the Editor:

Newcastle Airport <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/>

Newcastle Airport Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ntlairport/>

Newcastle Airport Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/NTLairport>

Newcastle Airport Master Plan: <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/corporate/about/masterplan>

Astra Aerolab: <https://astraerolab.com.au/>

About Newcastle Airport

- > Named 'Major Airport of the Year' at the 2018 Australian Airports Association Industry Awards.
- > Newcastle Airport is the second international gateway into New South Wales and the second busiest airport in the state.
- > Serviced by Jetstar, Virgin Australia, QantasLink, Regional Express, and FlyPelican to nine direct domestic destinations and onward to more than 65 worldwide destinations.
- > Direct international flights to Auckland New Zealand will operate 22 November 2018 - 17 February 2019. Operated by Virgin Australia, the 13-week seasonal service is the first international route in 16 years.
- > In March 2018, a direct service to Adelaide commenced operated by FlyPelican. Adelaide represents the first new major city route since the introduction of Gold coast in 2004.
- > FY17/18 passenger results saw Newcastle Airport break its all-time FY record with 1,272,634 travellers passing through the terminal.
- > The record throughput is a result of 25-month consecutive year-on-year monthly passenger growth recorded up until December 2017.
- > A record-breaking 5,272 passengers travelled through Newcastle Airport on Friday 23 November 2018 (the first day of Newcastle Supercars). The same weekend (Thurs-Mon), saw more than 22,000 through the Airport.
- > In February 2018, Newcastle Airport welcomed its 17 millionth passenger through the terminal since 1995. 2018 will see the 18 millionth passenger.
- > Newcastle Airport is the gateway to Australia's largest regional economy, with more than \$43 billion annual output and 48,500 businesses.
- > A significant economic driver, Newcastle Airport contributes more than \$1.1 billion to the state's economy each year. Of this, \$300 million is direct to the visitor economy, supporting 3,300 jobs.
- > In its 70th anniversary year, Newcastle Airport continues to work with its airline partners to increase the number of flights to our current destinations, to add direct flights to even more destinations, and to work tirelessly to secure more international destinations.
- > The more people that choose to fly from Newcastle Airport will provide evidence to the airlines that the demand truly exists and that our region deserves more.
- > On 22 March 2018, Newcastle Airport released its 60-year Master Plan, which includes a 20-year blueprint for growth, projections and business development of the Airport.
- > 30 minutes north of Newcastle, Newcastle Airport is located adjacent to RAAF Base Williamtown on land leased from Department of Defence.
- > Newcastle Airport Pty Ltd is jointly owned by City of Newcastle and Port Stephens Council and is governed by an independent, skills-based Board of Directors.