

airBaltic

#TMPRIX2017

Route Launch Party

23.3.2017



PRESS RELEASE 27 March 2017

Tampere celebrates the opening of the new route between Tampere- Riga by airBaltic

#TMPRIX2017 Route Launch Party took place in Tampere, Särkänniemi on 23.3.2017 to celebrate the new route Tampere–Riga by airBaltic. 120 specially invited guests participated in the event. The new flight connection starts from 26.3, linking Tampere-Pirkkala airport to Riga and offering direct flights six times per week, from Monday to Saturday.

During the festive event importance of the new flight connection was acknowledged to wider public by the CEO of Särkänniemi **Miikka Seppälä**, Mayor of Tampere **Anna-Kaisa Ikonen**, Ambassador of Latvia **Uģis Bambe**, Finavia representative **Joni Sundelin**, as well as airBaltic Senior Vice President of E-Commerce, Sales and Marketing **Jouni Juhani Oksanen** and Senior Vice President of Network Management **Wolfgang Reuss**.

"It is important that Tampere will have it's pinpoint on the map and that we are now better connected to the world. Riga is an important link for business, leisure travel and a variety of events" says the mayor of the City of Tampere Anna-Kaisa Ikonen.

"With the opening of the new route we believe the cooperation between Tampere and Riga will be at a whole new level, thus contributing to the well established Finnish – Latvian cooperation" says the Ambassador of Latvia in Finland Uģis Bambe.

Tampere to Riga six times a week – with dozens of connections around the world

The airBaltic flight will operate six times a week, from Monday to Saturday with an early morning connection from Tampere to Riga and with the return flight in the evening. The morning flight will leave Tampere at 5.15 and the return flight will arrive at around midnight. With the new connection, the passengers will have the option to use the transfer flights through Riga to dozens of other destinations globally.

"The long term work has now been rewarded as airBaltic has decided to return to the Tampere- Pirkkala Airport and restart direct flights. The connection to Riga is of great importance. Thus Tampere-Pirkkala now has links to 3 major air hubs – Stockholm, Helsinki and Riga. The morning flight to Riga offers the travellers around 50–60 direct connections to Europe. From Tampere it will now be possible to reach over 300 destinations worldwide" says the Aviation Development director of Tredea **Marja Aalto**.

#TMPRIX2017 route launch was organized by Tampere Trade Fairs event agency Finland Events in co-operation with airBaltic, Tredea, the Embassy of Latvia, Investment and Development Agency of Latvia and Finavia.

Additional Information:

Tampere Region Economic Development Tredea, Marja Aalto, Director air transportation development, Tel. 00358 40 631 9211, marja.aalto(a)tredea.fi

Photos and media materials: <https://turkka.galleria.fi/kuvat/airBaltic+Route+Launch/>

airBaltic started operating TMP–RIX vv route today. Arriving flight from RIX came at 00:25 and departed from TMP 5:25. Link to the airport pictures: https://pasisalminen.1g.fi/kuvat/Finavia/27.3.2017_TMP_airbaltic_rix/

Attached are pictures #TMPRIX2017 Route Launch Party event at the evening and the speakers.

Photos: Turkka Nikula.

Other requests for images and more information about the event: Finland Events, Tanja Järvensivu, Event and Communications Manager, Tel. 00358 50 536 8133, tanja.jarvensivu(a)finlandevents.fi.