



News Release

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ICELAND EXPRESS BEGINS NEW SEASONAL SERVICE FROM O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

CHICAGO – Iceland Express, the Nordic nation's low-fare airline, launched new seasonal service from Reykjavík, Iceland to O'Hare International Airport with the airline's inaugural flight to Chicago on Friday, June 10, 2011. The aircraft was greeted with an airfield water cannon salute by the Chicago Fire Department as it taxied to the gate.

"We welcome and thank Iceland Express for initiating this new international service between Iceland and Chicago," said Chicago Department of Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "Offering additional nonstop international destinations and choices to Chicago passengers is an important part of Mayor Rahm Emanuel's overall vision to increase Chicago's position as a global city."

Flights will operate from International Terminal 5 at O'Hare each Friday through August 31, 2011. Schedules for the duration of the year will be released later this summer.

Iceland Express has offered regular seasonal flights to Newark and periodic service to Winnipeg in the last year and is expanding service to Chicago and Boston this month.

For the duration of the summer, Iceland Express will provide weekly service to Chicago on a Boeing 757, with some flights continuing to cities in Europe after stopovers in Iceland. Regular daily flights will be on the Boeing 737-700 and 757-200 aircraft in Iceland Express' fleet.

During the winter, Iceland Express connects the Icelandic capital of Reykjavík with seven countries – Spain, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, United States and Poland. In the summer, the airline offers 23 routes to passengers.

For more information about Iceland Express and its expanded presence in North America, visit www.icelandexpress.com.

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Photo 1



Caption: Iceland Express inaugural flight taxis to the gate at O'Hare International Airport Terminal 5 on June 10, 2011. Photo courtesy of Steve Starr.

The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, and concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM) Version 2.0, released in November 2010. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit www.airportgoinggreen.org.

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit www.oharemodernization.org to learn more about the OMP.

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