

Ethiopian Commences Passenger Flight to Bulawayo, Third Destination in Zimbabwe

Addis Ababa, 30 October 2022

Ethiopian Airlines, Africa's leading carrier, has launched a new flight to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, via Victoria Falls starting from 30 October 2022. Ethiopian has started four weekly flights to Bulawayo, a third destination city in Zimbabwe after Harare and Victoria Falls and a third new destination opened after the pandemic. With the addition of Bulawayo, Ethiopian global destinations reach 131. The new flight will be operated with B787 on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Bulawayo, also known as "The City of Kings" is rich in cultural history and is the second largest city in Zimbabwe after the capital, Harare.

Ethiopian Airlines Group CEO Mesfin Tasew, said "We are continually growing our network in Africa to provide affordable and convenient air connectivity and facilitate trade within Africa and beyond. The commencement of flights to Bulawayo is crucial in connecting Southern Africa to the world with our 130 destinations in five continents. We are glad to serve Bulawayo, the industrial hub of Zimbabwe and Southern Africa accelerating trade with our cargo and passenger services. Our flights to multiple cities in a country indicate our solid commitment to serve our customers and support our continent as the best pan African carrier."

Bulawayo is an important trade and tourist hub for travelers from all corners of the world and Ethiopian will provide the best connectivity service along with African flavored hospitality. Ethiopian has been flying to two other cities in Zimbabwe –Harare and Victoria falls, with its first flight to Harare in 1980. The airlines' new flight to Bulawayo is aimed at providing convenient and affordable service to the growing post pandemic business and leisure travelers to and from Bulawayo and the Southern African region.

Bulawayo is the second largest city with the second largest airport in the country. The suitable geographical location, road infrastructure and hotel businesses have made the city a center of tourism. The city also hosts international trade fair where people from different parts of the world gather attracting tourists and business travelers. However, the airport is underutilized with only few carriers operating to Bulawayo. Ethiopian Airlines commencement of flights brings about additional connectivity options with competitive fares for the people of Bulawayo and the southern African region.

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Ethiopian Airlines growing connectivity is backing the utilization of the huge potential of the continents tourism industry. The new flight to Bulawayo will add convenience to travelers, thereby activating the trade activities in the industrial hub of southern Africa.

About Ethiopian

Ethiopian Airlines (Ethiopian) is the fastest growing Airline in Africa. In its seventy-five plus years of operation, Ethiopian has become one of the continent's leading carriers, unrivalled in efficiency and operational success. Ethiopian commands the lion's share of the Pan African passenger and cargo network operating the youngest and most modern fleet to more than 130 international passenger and cargo destinations across five continents. Ethiopian's fleet includes ultra-modern and environmentally friendly aircraft such as Boeing 787-8, Boeing 787-9, Airbus A350, Boeing 777-300ER, Boeing 777-200LR, Boeing 777-200, Boeing 737-80, Boeing 737-8, Freighter, Bombardier Dash 8-400 double cabin with an average fleet age of seven years. In fact, Ethiopian is the first airline in Africa to own and operate these aircraft. Ethiopian is currently implementing a 15-year strategic plan called Vision 2025 that will see it become the leading aviation group in Africa with Seven business units: Ethiopian International Services; Ethiopian Cargo & Logistics Services; Ethiopian MRO Services; Ethiopian Aviation Academy; Ethiopian ADD Hub Ground Services, Ethiopian Airports Services and Ethiopian Express Services (Domestic). Ethiopian is a multi-award-winning airline registering an average growth of 25% in the seven years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. For additional information, please visit <u>www.ethiopianairlines.com</u>

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