

Media | Release

Thursday, 1 November 2012

EARLY CHRISTMAS GIFT COMING BY AIR

Christmas shoppers had better watch out, they'd better not cry – Air New Zealand is helping them fly ... into Christchurch.

The airline has just announced it is gifting 1500 free one-way airfares to encourage Christmas shopping in Christchurch, or help Christchurch people take a break.

Christchurch Airport Chief Executive Jim Boulton describes the gesture as a fine example of Christmas spirit.

"Air New Zealand is bringing Christmas to Christchurch early and I'm sure that generosity will be very welcome," he says.

"Christmas is a time for family and friends, so the free flights will make it easy to visit Cantabs. Visitors can use the money saved to fly here with empty suitcases, then fill them with treasures from our stores.

"The airline has shown Christchurch a lot of support over the past couple of years and we enjoy working with them to do the right thing for as many people as possible".

...END

For further comment, please contact:

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Christchurch International Airport – New Zealand’s Tourism Gateway

Christchurch International Airport welcomes almost six million passengers a year, ranking as New Zealand’s second largest airport. The Airport occupies a unique position economically, as the South Island’s busiest and most strategic air connection to the world’s trade and tourism markets. 85% of international visitors to the South Island are welcomed and farewelled at Christchurch Airport.

In addition, the airport plays an important role as the South Island’s major domestic hub servicing all New Zealanders, enabling passengers to connect to a full spectrum of destinations throughout New Zealand. Christchurch International Airport is a major driver of the regional Canterbury economy, generating airport precinct related jobs for nearly 5000 people.

Christchurch International Airport is owned and operated by Christchurch International Airport Limited (CIAL). CIAL was established as a limited liability company in 1988, and ownership of CIAL is now shared by Christchurch City Holdings Limited with 75% and the New Zealand Government with 25%. The company’s vision is to be recognised as New Zealand’s leading tourist gateway.

Christchurch International Airport is a carbon neutral company and has received carboNZero certification from Landcare Research following a detailed measurement and analysis process. CIAL is the first airport company in the Southern Hemisphere to attain certified carbon neutral status and is the second carbon neutral certified airport company in the world.

Visit christchurchairport.co.nz for more information.