

## Media Release | 13 November 2015

## Auckland Airport welcomes Air NZ Ho Chi Minh City route

Auckland Airport welcomes the announcement that Air New Zealand will start a three flights per week direct service from Auckland to Ho Chi Minh City between July and October 2016, using a Boeing 767 aircraft.

Norris Carter, Auckland Airport's general manager – aeronautical commercial, says, "Air New Zealand's decision to fly to this much loved Vietnamese city is great news for both the New Zealand tourism industry and Kiwis who love to travel abroad."

Auckland Airport estimates that the new four-month service will add 23,500 seats and contribute \$9.5 million to the New Zealand economy.

"Holiday visitor arrivals from Vietnam have been increasing at 23% per annum over the last five years, and the number of New Zealanders travelling to Vietnam on holidays has been increasing 14% per annum in same period."

"With a population of 93 million people, including eight million people living in Ho Chi Minh City, this Air New Zealand direct service will provide important access to the emerging Vietnamese market."

"This is yet another great announcement from Air New Zealand and shows it is really living and breathing its 'Where to next?' campaign," says Mr Carter.

## **Ends**

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