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#### British Airways' New Whispering Angel Bar Opens At Heathrow Terminal 5

British Airways has opened its exclusive Whispering Angel rosé bar for customers travelling through its lounge at the B gates at London Heathrow Terminal 5

(Terminal 5B)

The introduction of the new rosé bar marks the first phase of the airline's refresh of the lounge

The airline has also recently introduced Whispering Angel's big brother, Rock Angel, in its First cabin, making an appearance on the British Airways' wine menu British Airways' highly anticipated Whispering Angel bar, located in the airline's lounge in Terminal 5 at the B gates, has opened in time for the peak summer season.

British Airways is the first airline to have a bespoke Whispering Angel bar, allowing customers to enjoy a chilled glass of the infamous rosé that originates in the Provence vineyards of Château d'Esclans before their flight.



The opening of the exclusive bar marks the first phase of British Airways' continued refresh of this lounge over the summer months, which will include new and reupholstered furniture across the lounge, as well as a new layout.

Across the rest of the airline's Club (Business Class) lounges at Heathrow and Gatwick, eligible British Airways customers can enjoy The Pale rosé, which is produced by the same winemakers as Whispering Angel. Whispering Angel is

currently available in British Airways' Concorde, First and Club lounges.

Calum Laming, British
Airways' Chief Customer
Officer, said: "We are really
excited to open the doors on
our new original Whispering
Angel bar, just in time for the
start of the summer season.
What's more, the opening
coincides with the exciting
news that customers now have
the option to pre-order
Whispering Angel across all
short-haul flights, to take the
experience with them, from
more on pg 2

## Star Alliance Named World's Best Airline Alliance at the Skytrax 2023 World Airline Awards

Star Alliance Los Angeles Lounge also won World's Best Airline Alliance Lounge Award for the seventh consecutive year

13 member airlines claim a total of 35 top honours, including Singapore Airlines as World's Best Airline 2023. Star Alliance has once again won the title of World's Best Airline Alliance at the prestigious Skytrax World Airline Awards this year. The Alliance's famed Los Angeles lounge has also maintained its position of World's Best Airline Alliance Lounge for the seventh year running. Star Alliance CEO Theo Panagiotoulias received the awards at a ceremony held at the Paris Air Show. Delighted at the win, Mr

Panagiotou lias said: "Star Alliance offers a robust network and promises seamless journeys. We are very happy

to learn that millions of flyers have recognised the exceptional value our alliance extends. With the skies getting busier, we welcome many more flyers to experience what Star Alliance and its 26 member airlines stand for." Mr Panagiotoulias also congratulated the team and continued: "The resilience and



hard work of every single employee of Star Alliance and its member airlines through a tough 2022 has paid off with this win. I receive this honour on their behalf, and encourage them to strive for more this year and beyond."

Star Alliance, which offers the widest network in the sky, is committed to enhancing the customer experience through a

# Air Canada Announces Prepayment of EDC Financed Loans used to Acquire 19 Airbus A220-300 Aircraft

Air Canada today announced it has prepaid loans of approximately \$650 million from Export Development Corporation (EDC) used by the company to help fund its acquisition of 19 Airbus A220-300 aircraft. The prepayment, which is also subject to accrued interest, was made on June 21, 2023. "One of Air Canada's major financial objectives is to deleverage its balance sheet following the COVID-19 pandemic and prepaying these loans we received for our A220 aircraft is a significant step toward this goal. We appreciate EDC's assistance in purchasing these Canadianbuilt aircraft, which not only advanced our fleet modernization program to improve our fuel efficiency and competitiveness, but also helped to ensure that the investments Air Canada is making directly support jobs in Canada's aerospace industry and contribute to the country's economy," said Amos Kazzaz, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Air Canada.

The prepayment of the loans for 19 Airbus A220-300 aircraft financed through EDC was achieved via:
A full prepayment of Air Canada's 2021 credit facility with EDC for the acquisition of 15 Airbus A220-300 aircraft, and a partial prepayment of Air Canada's 2020 credit facility with EDC for the acquisition of 18 Airbus A220-300 aircraft.

As a result of the prepayment, these aircraft will be added to Air Canada's unencumbered asset pool, bringing the total to approximately \$5.4 billion, excluding Aeroplan.

The amount of debt prepayments now totals approximately \$1.28 billion since and including the repurchase of some of Air Canada's outstanding 4.000% convertible senior notes due



2025 completed last year, leading to a reduction in interest expense of approximately \$115 million (approximately \$72 million in cash) on an annualized basis. Caution Regarding Forward-**Looking Information** This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws. Such statements relate to analyses and other information that are based on forecasts of future results and estimates of amounts not yet determinable. These statements may involve, but are not limited to, comments relating to guidance, strategies, expectations, planned operations or future actions. Forward-looking statements, by their nature, are based on assumptions, are subject to important risks and uncertainties, and cannot be relied upon due to, among other things, changing external events and general uncertainties of the business of Air Canada. Actual results may differ materially from results indicated in forwardlooking statements due to a number of factors, including those identified in Air Canada's public disclosure file available at www.sedar.com and, in particular, those identified in section 18 "Risk Factors" of Air Canada's 2022 MD&A dated February 17, 2023. The forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this news release represent Air Canada's expectations as of the date of this news release (or as of the date they are otherwise stated to be made) and are subject to

change after such date.

### Air Canada Foundation's 11th Annual Golf Tournament Raises Record-Breaking Amount Of Nearly \$1.3 million for Children and Youth Health and Well-Being

The annual golf tournament is the Air Canada Foundation's largest fundraising event In 2022, the Air Canada Foundation donated \$1.6 million to 41 organizations Over the past 11 years, the Air Canada Foundation has raised more than \$10 million for children and youth health and well-being

This year, the Air Canada Foundation raised a record of nearly \$1.3 million during the 11th edition of its annual golf tournament. The event is the Air Canada Foundation's largest fundraising event each year to support charitable organizations dedicated to the health and well-being of children and youth in Canada. "On behalf of the Air Canada Foundation, we thank the participants, sponsors and volunteers, who came together to support the Foundation. Your generous contributions will directly support thousands of children across the country by helping them to reach medical care that is not offered



in their communities, by providing food security and by helping their dreams come true," said Priscille
Leblanc, Chair of the Air
Canada Foundation.
"This year's event would not have been possible without the dedication of Air Canada's employees who managed and hosted the tournament in its entirety. We were also very pleased to showcase our employees' artistic talents in

the evening concert show!" said Michael Rousseau, President and Chief Executive Officer at Air Canada. "I extend a heartfelt thank you to all volunteers, supporters and donors. With your partnership and generosity, the Air Canada Foundation continues its mission of helping children in need from coast to coast."

The Air Canada Foundation's 2023 golf tournament was

held at the Saint-Raphaël Golf Club on Monday, July 10, welcoming approximately 400 guests.

Air Canada Foundation ambassadors Liam and Nolan, representing Starlight Children's Foundation Canada, a partner of the Air Canada Foundation, had a starring role manning the highly coveted lemonade stand. Together, they raised approximately \$13,500. All of the funds raised through this event directly support the health and well-being of kids across Canada. The Air Canada Foundation has raised more than \$10 million over 11 years to help children and youth.

The Air Canada Foundation proudly launched its 2022 Impact Report earlier this week, detailing its impact made across communities in 2022, including through its programs, partnerships, fundraising and employee engagement initiatives.

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the ground to the skies." The Château d'Esclans team said: "We are ecstatic to finally be able to share our beautiful Whispering Angel bar with British Airways' customers, and bring a touch of glamour to Heathrow as the world's most glamorous rosé. We look forward to travellers being able to enjoy a delicious glass of Whispering Angel before they fly, in a space that really embodies the effortlessly chic nature of our brand.' Elsewhere, the airline has introduced a rosé in its First cabin with Whispering Angel's big brother, Rock Angel, now available for customers\* and boasting more structure than its younger sibling. Customers travelling on short-haul flights can also get a taste of Château d'Esclans' creations, as Whispering Angel's Provence rosé is now available to prepurchase through the airline's newly branded High Life Café\*\* (previously Speedbird Café), giving customers the option to taste a hint of summer whether they are travelling to Europe or further afield. The Whispering Angel partnership adds to an expansive premium drinks offering, following British Airways' appointment of a full time Master of Wine, one of only 415 in the world and believed to be the only one appointed by an airline. In elevation of the onboard wine offerings to customers, in March 2023 British Airways introduced four new **English Sparkling** Wines served on board. Each wine is available on a quarterly rotation, changing every three months to customers travelling in Club World, including the current Champagne resident Heidsieck & Co. Monopole Silver Top Non-Vintage Champagne, and now an exclusive English Sparkling Wine option. Château d'Esclans Whispering Angel boasts a delicate Provençal pink hue, spoiling customers with sun-kissed creamy flavours of peach and raspberries, with refreshing citrus undertones and a smooth, dry finish.

## British Airways Helps Former Police Officer Achieve His Ambition Of Flying Again, 15 Years After He Suffered Life-changing Injuries On Duty – Accompanied By His Service Dog Lily

Ahead of Disability Awareness Day, Brian Hickman travelled on his first flight in 15 years with service dog Lily to showcase that flying can be accessible for evervone British Airways carries service dogs free of charge in the cabin of all its flights and customers are able to book this service by contacting the airline's dedicated Accessibility team More than 1,000 customers with service dogs travel with British Airways each year British Airways has proudly assisted customer Brian Hickman to take his first flight in 15 years, accompanied by his service dog Lily, after he got in touch with the airline to ask for help fulfilling his dream of flying again, and showing others that flying can be accessible to everyone. Brian suffered life-changing spinal injuries 15 years ago whilst on duty as a police officer. With the help of the charity Dog A.I.D, Lily the cockerpoo was trained to become a fully qualified and certified service dog. Lily helps Brian with day-to-day practical tasks and supports his independence by alerting him of any nearby dangers

such as trip hazards, meaning Lily is essential to Brian when travelling.

Brian was keen to embark on his first flight since his accident, to understand the end-to-end journey of flying with a service dog, regain his confidence to take to the skies and raise awareness to other service dog users that flying with additional requirements can be a stress-free experience.

Following his successful journey to Newcastle, Brian now has the confidence to fly again with Lily by his side and is planning to go on holiday later this year.

Watch Brian and Lily's iourney here: https://www.youtube.co m/watch?v=VQLo-VgnkSA Speaking about his journey, Brian Hickman says it has opened up a whole world of opportunities for him to travel: "Everyone from British Airways was so nice and helpful from start to end of our journey. It was a day to remember for all the good reasons. Lily and I had a great day out and I now know we can fly whenever we want to." Calum Laming, British Airways' Chief Customer Officer, said the BA team was proud to help make Brian's

a reality:
"We
believe
our
original
British
Airways
service
should be
accessible
to
everyone,
we know
there is

ambition

more to do and we're working hard to continuously improve to become the airline of choice for all customers with visible and non-visible disabilities.

"Seeing Brian gain the confidence to fly again after 15 years was really heartening and his journey with Lily really sums up what we're striving for at British Airways – to ensure that our customers who require additional assistance can travel safely, with dignity and in comfort." More than 1,000 British Airways customers travel with a service dog each year, with service dogs travelling free of charge in the cabin of all flights. All customers need to do to book the service is to contact the airline's dedicated Accessibility team in advance

of their journey. British Airways carries more than half a million customers who require additional assistance every year. The airline has invested in a range of services to support customers with accessibility requirements and has a dedicated Accessibility team to provide specialist support for anyone who needs it. The airline offers assistance with mobility, visual impairments, hearing impairments and nonvisible disabilities

The team can also help customers make new flight, hotel and car hire bookings, arrange bespoke assistance, pre-book seating, inform airport staff and Cabin Crew about specific requirements, and provide information and support to empower customers to have the confidence to fly.

## Air Canada Opens First Maple Leaf Lounge at San Francisco International Airport

Exclusive 165-seat space located in Terminal 2, features airline's first outdoor terrace, range of premium amenities Lounge provides elevated comfort and convenience to departing San Francisco customers 28th lounge globally with more to come, including at Newark Terminal A this week Air Canada has opened its brand-new Maple Leaf Lounge at San Francisco International Airport (SFO), the airline's 28th lounge worldwide, and its third Maple Leaf Lounge in the U.S. The modern and exclusive respite, located in Terminal 2, features Air Canada's first outdoor lounge terrace, together with a range of premium amenities, food and beverages, making the travel experience for eligible customers even more comfortable and convenient before their flights to Canada and beyond.



"We're thrilled to bring our Maple Leaf Lounge experience to San Francisco International Airport, giving our Bay Area customers a way to enjoy Air Canada's award-winning product and glowing hearted hospitality from the moment they arrive," said Jacqueline Harkness, Managing Director, Products and Services at Air

Canada. "It's one more way we're investing to become San Francisco's favourite way to travel internationally. In addition to the range of services and amenities the airline's Maple Leaf Lounges are known for, the newest Lounge features an expansive outdoor terrace with aircraft and runway views. The 165seat, 8168 square ft. (761

square metre) airport retreat elevates Air Canada's flight and airport experience for customers travelling from California to Canada or through

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to Europe, Asia and Australia via three of the airline's main hubs: Toronto Pearson, Montreal Trudeau, and Vancouver International Airports.

The new Maple Leaf Lounge at SFO will pay homage to its California location both through its design and decor, and the food and beverage selections presented, which highlight local makers and flavours. Unique seafood offerings, including the iconic San Francisco fish stew cioppino, will be on offer alongside a selection of California wines, and beer from Sierra Nevada Brewing Company and Anchor Brewing—America's first craft beer.

Additional details include: Premium Food and Beverage Offerings

Self-serve (hot and cold) buffet, showcasing local

#### Summer Ready: British Airways To Offer Ice Cream And Other Treats For Customers As Part Of Its "british Original" Summer Offering

British Airways is offering summer treats on board, including ice cream and seasonal menus The airline is re-introducing sparkling wine in World Traveller Plus pre-take off It's also showing a dedicated 'Summer Fun' channel for families on its inflight entertainment British Airways continues to offer customers 'top tips' for

summer travel to ensure a smoother and more seamless journey for everyone ahead of the holidays British Airways is introducing holiday treats for its customers

to enjoy this summer, including refreshing ice-cream, pre-take off bubbles in World Traveller Plus, seasonal menus and brand-new inflight entertainment as part of its ongoing commitment to customers.

From tomorrow, the airline is offering complimentary ice cream on daytime flights departing London Heathrow and London Gatwick before 5pm UK time, partnering with fellow British brand, Jude's, to offer a range of flavours from very vanilla, strawberries and cream, truly chocolate and salted caramel. The treats, produced less than 60 miles from Heathrow in Hampshire, will be available for customers to enjoy over the coming months when travelling in World Traveller Plus (premium economy) and World Traveller (economy)\*. British Airways is also reintroducing sparkling wine in its World Traveller Plus cabin from mid-July as part of its pre-take off drink offering. Those travelling in Club World (business class) can savour a unique glass of British bubbles during their flight with the Balfour Rosé de Noirs, made only from red grapes. This lighter rosé English Sparkling wine is an exclusive blend for British Airways, making it the perfect tipple ahead of summer travels.

The airline is also introducing a rosé blend for the first time in its First cabin. Whispering Angel's big brother, Rock Angel is making an appearance on board, with more structure and oaky flavours than its younger sibling. Customers travelling on short-haul flights can also get a taste of Château d'Esclans' creations, as Whispering Angel's Provence rosé is now available to prepurchase through the airline's newly branded High Life Café\*\* (previously Speedbird Café), giving customers the option to taste a hint of



summer whether they are travelling to Europe or further afield.

Customers can also enjoy a range of summer-inspired menus across its cabins, available until September. Travellers in First can choose from lighter dishes including a classic prawn cocktail, grilled fillet of Atlantic halibut and British summer staple, berry bread and butter pudding. Meanwhile those travelling in World Traveller Plus can delve into a fresh calamarata pasta followed by a raspberry panna cotta.

British Airways' Chief Customer Officer, Calum Laming, said: "We know that so many of our customers

have been looking forward to their summer holidays, so we've added these extra touches in time for summer to make their trips even more special.

'Each and every one of our customers are unique and have their own original reasons for travelling, so our fantastic colleagues will be on hand to bring some summer joy to our customers, whether they're visiting family, exploring a new part of the world or heading to the beach for a week in the sunshine.' Elsewhere, British Airways is also kicking off summer with a wide range of seasonal entertainment content, with its brand-new 'Summer Fun'

comprehensive strategy focusing on digitalising the journey, extending unparalleled loyalty benefits, and launching industry-first innovations such as the Intermodal Partnership model with the German rail network, Deutsche Bahn, and the HSBC Star Alliance Credit Card for the Australian market recently. The Star Alliance Los Angeles Airport lounge is one of most highly rated airport lounges bagging several prestigious awards consistently. With an outdoor terrace that offers enviable views, the lounge is a visual delight by the day and a vibrant energetic space by the evening. The Skytrax World Airline Awards are known as "the Oscars of the aviation industry", as they are decided through impartial international customer voting. This year, 20.23 million eligible entries were counted in a survey that ran from September 2022 to March 2023, representing passengers with over 100 nationalities. The survey was also provided in six major international languages. Since its introduction in the award categories in 2005, the World's Best Airline Alliance award has witnessed multiple victories by Star Alliance. Edward Plaisted, CEO of Skytrax said: "We congratulate Star Alliance on this fabulous double achievement in the World Airline Awards, receiving both the World's Best Airline Alliance, and for having the World's Best Airline Alliance Lounge. The Star Alliance lounge in the Tom Bradley International Terminal has long been a customer favourite having previously been recognised as an award-winning lounge.' In addition to the Alliance awards, 13 Star Alliance member airlines received 35 additional awards this year, including the coveted World's Best Airline award for Singapore Airlines. Other awards range from World's Cleanest Airline and World's Best Premium Economy Class to several best regional airline awards

#### Etihad Says Olá To Portugal As Inaugural Flight Lands In Lisbon



Airline launches new yearround service between Abu Dhabi and Lisbon Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, touched down for the first time in Lisbon on Sunday, marking the launch of regular services between Abu Dhabi and the Portuguese capital.

The inaugural flight, EY63, was celebrated at Abu Dhabi Airport before take-off with His Excellency Fernando d'Orey de Brito e Cunha Figueirinhas, Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal to the UAE and Chris Hedlin, Etihad's Vice President Network Planning.

On arrival in Lisbon, Etihad's captains waved UAE and Portuguese flags from the cockpit to celebrate the new air link.

The new service will be operated on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays using a state-of-the-art Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft, offering 28 seats in Business and 262 seats in Economy, entertainment systems, in-seat power, and in-flight Wi-Fi

connectivity.

Antonoaldo Neves, Chief Executive Officer, Etihad Airways, said: "As we continue to expand our global network, we're thrilled to be flying for the first time to Lisbon. We look forward to welcoming guests to visit the historic city of Lisbon while also connecting the people of Portugal with the UAE and destinations across the Middle East, Asia and Australia."

Initially announced as a seasonal route, Etihad Airways has extended the service through to the winter season to make it a year-round operation, as a result of strong travel demand.

To celebrate the first flight, guests on board were offered special menu items including custard tarts, a traditional Portuguese delicacy. All guests were treated to gifts including luxury chocolates by Emirati brand Mirzam in Business class and a unique commemorative luggage tag for guests in Economy.

Lisbon was recently voted as the "Leading City Break Destination" and "Leading Seaside Metropolitan Destination" at the 2022 European edition of the World Travel Awards, proving its appeal to holidaymakers. Lisbon is Europe's second oldest capital city and offers visitors a rich history, picturesque beaches,



breathtaking architecture and a vibrant nightlife.

The inaugural flight to Lisbon coincides with the launch of

Etihad's summer season flights to the Greek island of Mykonos which commenced on 16 June and Málaga on 18 June. Guests flying on the inaugural flights to each destination were treated to commerorative gifts from Etihad to mark the occasion.

Tickets to Lisbon, Málaga and Mykonos are now available to book on etihad.com.

from pg 3 category on its inflight entertainment channel for families and children to enjoy at 35,000ft. Blockbuster movies include Mummies, Luca, Avatar: The Way of Water as well as a special Barbie channel. For sports fans, the airline has also introduced a dedicated 'Women in Sport' movie category, with a wide range of sporting highlights, just in time for the football summer season.

British Airways continues

to offer customers 'top tips' for summer travel to ensure a smoother and more seamless journey, including how to check-in online, advice on what to pack, as well as letting customers know how the airline can help with family travel and requesting additional assistance. The airline continues to invest and deliver a premium customer experience, and most recently announced plans for an exclusive Whispering Angel rosé bar at its home, Heathrow Terminal 5, for customers to enjoy a refreshing glass of the French tipple at a specially designed bar ahead of their flight.

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flavours Bar with bartender serving a selection of wines (including from Canada and Californi a), in addition to local craft beers, a curated cocktail menu, and espresso Amenities and Space The Lounge, designed with San Francisco-based architectural firm Gensler, is the first of its kind with an outdoor terrace, featuring two vapor fireplaces produced by Canadian company CF + D 165 seats (135 interior + 30 exterior) E-Gates and biometric identification for seamless, hands-free lounge entry Showers with heated towel racks VIP room for up to 10 people Collection of multidisciplinary art that reflects and pays homage to California and Canada Artists featured include Canadian painter Shawn Evans, and a custom mural from California artist Amo s Goldbaum The new space is Air Canada's latest addition to its growing lounge network. Air Canada has

also re-introduced Newark Liberty International Airport to its roster of lounges with the opening of the new United ClubSM location in Newark Terminal A. In this new location, Air Canada will be uniquely co-located within the United Club, offering a dedicated Air Canada customer service desk and an access policy consistent with Air Canada's Maple Leaf Lounges. Air Canada's Maple Leaf lounges, including San

United ClubSM in Newark Terminal A, are available to Air Canada customers who are Aeroplan 50K, 75K, and Aeroplan Super Elite Status members, Star Alliance Gold members, Aeroplan premium co-

Francisco and the new

brand cardholders, and customers departing on a business class ticket with Air Canada or another Star Alliance member.

