

July 24, 2018

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Qatar Airbus 350-1000 Makes U.S. Debut at Philadelphia International Airport

PHILADELPHIA — Qatar Airways' Airbus 350-1000, billed as the world's most technologically advanced passenger aircraft, made its U.S. debut yesterday when it landed at Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). The aircraft arrived as a special charter carrying the German national soccer team, FC Bayern Munchen, to the U.S. for the 2018 Audi Summer Tour. FC Bayern is scheduled to play Italian soccer club Juventus at Lincoln Financial Field on July 25.

Qatar Airways, the global launch customer of the A350-1000, plans to add routes to the U.S. on the aircraft, which currently serves Doha-London. The airline's regular PHL-Doha service will continue on the A350-900.

Yesterday's arrival marked the second time Qatar Airways debuted the latest Airbus aircraft in the United States on its Doha-PHL route. On January 1, 2016, the A350-900 landed in the U.S. for the first time on Qatar's Doha-PHL route.

"Seeing this marvelous aircraft land on U.S. soil for the first time at PHL is not only exciting but a proud moment for Philadelphia," said Airport CEO Chellie Cameron. "We're honored that Qatar has chosen PHL to debut its newest Airbus in the United States and we are hopeful to see the A350-1000 serving the PHL-Doha route in the near future."

In a press release issued by the airline, Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, His Excellency Mr. Akbar Al Baker noted: The arrival of our state-of-the-art A350-1000 in the U.S. for the first time is truly a monumental moment in our industry, and we are thrilled to transport the eminent FC Bayern Munchen team to the U.S. for their 2018 U.S. tour."

Qatar launched the A350-1000 in February. It offers 327 seats across two cabins with 46 award-winning Qsuite Business Class seats and 281 18-inch extra wide Economy Class seats. The aircraft offers enhanced levels of passenger comfort with the lowest twin-engine noise level of any aircraft, advanced air conditioning technology and full LED mood lighting. The aircraft also features distinctive six-wheel main landing gear and four percent larger wings.

Qatar Airways launched service to PHL in 2014, becoming the first airline to offer non-stop service between Philadelphia and the Gulf region. The award-winning carrier was named "World's Best Business Class" by the 2018 World Airline Awards, managed by international air transport rating organization Skytrak, as well a "Best Business Class Seat," "Best Airline in the Middle East," and "World's Best First Class Airline Lounge."

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$15.4 billion in spending annually and supporting more than 96,300 full-time jobs for the 11-county Philadelphia MSA.