

New Air China Connection to Milan, Italy

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Chinese flag carrier Air China is to launch a new non-stop service from Shanghai to Milan, effective from March 30, 2008.

The new service will operate on Airbus 340 with a newly built premium-cabin service, "Forbidden Pavilion" First Class and "Capital Pavilion" Business Class, and will be offered 4 times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. The outbound flight (CA973) will depart Shanghai at 1:30 am, arriving in Milan at 8:05 am local time. The returning flight (CA974) will leave Milan at 12:30 pm, arriving in Shanghai at 6:00 am the following day.

"The new connection will fly more passengers between China and Italy. It will also create more potential for growth and open up a channel for travelling and trading," said Mrs. Zhang Lan, Senior Vice President of Air China. "The upgraded premium-cabin service on Airbus 340 integrates the typical Chinese elements - "Forbidden City" and "Capital City", featuring spacious seats, various on-board entertainments and catering, aiming to create a superior on-board experience for European passengers."

Currently, Air China provides up to 14 flights per week from Beijing or Shanghai, going to Milan or Rome, the two most famous tourist cities in Italy. Also, Air China's strategic cooperation with some Italian airlines such as Alitalia and Air One enables passengers to enjoy more convenience by flying with partner airlines to other Italian cities.

Starting from March 31, 2008, Air China will be increasing the frequency of the Beijing-Paris route and providing two flights everyday during peak time. The service has been created to cater to the passengers' needs during the summer months.

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