

Source: Esperance Express, 9 December 15

Esperance's 2016 Rex flight details have been confirmed

<http://www.esperanceexpress.com.au/story/3548971/esperances-2016-flight-details-confirmed/>

THE flight schedules for the Perth to Esperance air route, operated by Regional Express (Rex) for 2016 has been confirmed.

A total of 18 flights will operate from Esperance to Perth and another 18 flights will operate from Perth to Esperance every week from February 28, 2016.

The prices had not yet been announced but Rex general manager for network strategy and sales Warrick Lodge said it was important to "highlight that current airport charges at Albany and Esperance are significantly higher than in Rex's eastern network".

"Rex will work hard with the councils to reduce this cost but if this is not successful then inevitably ticket prices will have to reflect this," Mr Lodge said.

The Western Australian (WA) Government today announced Regional Express (Rex) as the operator of two routes in its review of regulated Regular Public Transport (RPT) air services in the state. including Perth to Esperance and Perth to Albany. This confers on Rex the sole right to operate on these routes for the next five years beginning on February 28, 2016.

The deed of agreement to operate the routes was signed on Monday 7 December and results in the nation's largest independent regional airline operating in WA for the first time.

Rex senior executives were visiting Esperance today in conjunction with the Minister for Transport to meet with all local stakeholders to understand the local issues and to explain Rex's proposal as well as to work out a partnership approach to bring the best possible outcome for the travelling public.

Flights will be on sale after agreement has been reached with the councils on airport charges via rex.com.au, on 13 17 13 or via travel agents.

Mr Lodge said Rex was "honoured to be selected by the WA State Government to provide essential regional air services between Perth and the regional communities of Albany and Esperance".

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"We have noted in the public media and the parliamentary debates the considerable dissatisfaction and disquiet of the WA public over its regional air services. Rex is without doubt Australia's most efficient and trusted regional airline and we pledge to live up to our reputation for safe, reliable and affordable air service with country hospitality from the very first day of operations on 28 February 2016."

This announcement follows the recent award to Rex of five of the seven regulated routes in Queensland and eight of the ten regulated routes in New South Wales.

Formed in 2002 following the Ansett Collapse, but having a history that extends for more than 40 years through Hazelton Airlines and Kendell Airlines, Rex provides safe, reliable and affordable regional air services to 54 destinations throughout New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Queensland on some 1,400 weekly flights.

Rex is a publicly listed company on the ASX with more than 1,000 employees. The Rex Group comprises Regional Express, air freight and charter operator Pel-Air Aviation and Dubbo-based regional airline Air Link, as well as the pilot academy Australian Airline Pilot Academy.

Esperance to Perth:

Depart at 6.30am, arrive at 8.05am - Monday to Saturday.

Depart at 10.10am, arrive at 11.45am - Monday to Saturday.

Depart at 4.15pm, arrive at 5.50pm - Monday to Friday, and Sunday.

Perth to Esperance:

Depart at 8.15am, arrive at 9.50am - Monday to Saturday.

Depart at 2.20pm, arrive at 3.55pm - Monday to Friday, and Sunday.

Depart at 6.25pm, arrive at 8pm - Monday to Friday, and Sunday.

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