

## News Release

### REX ANNOUNCES EXTRA FLIGHTS FOR NORTHERN RIVERS

**9 February 2004:** Australia's largest independent regional airline, Rex, has announced a major increase in services to the Northern Rivers region.

Passengers can look forward to more convenient travel between Sydney and Ballina and Sydney and Lismore with all weekday flights now direct under the new schedules starting today.

The new schedules follow the success of the joint promotions between Rex and the Lismore and Ballina Councils, which have seen a significant increase in passengers with the introduction of new fares starting from \$99.

The promotions have involved Councils reducing their local head taxes and a matching financial commitment from Rex to further lower ticket prices.

Rex's head of commercial, Hans van Pelt, said the increase in services could largely be attributed to the efforts of both councils.

"The Lismore and Ballina Councils have taken a pro-active approach to encourage people to use their local airports and our new schedule reflects the success of the joint initiatives," Mr van Pelt said.

"In December alone, passenger numbers in and out of the Northern Rivers were up by 60% on the same month in 2002. Even allowing for the extra flights we have added over the last 12 months, this is an excellent result.

"The end product is a more substantial air service for both centres, with customers now enjoying direct flights to both Ballina and Lismore on weekdays. Most weekend flights also operate direct.

"This provides greater flexibility for corporate travellers and also a greater availability of discount seats for both local customers travelling to Sydney or people visiting the Northern Rivers region.

"We thank our customers for their positive response as we have upgraded our schedules to Lismore and Ballina over the last year and I am confident that they will appreciate the new services that start today," Mr van Pelt said.

The new schedules include an extra 884 seats each week between Sydney and the Northern Rivers, an increase of 41% on the previous schedule.

Passengers can get further information on fares at [rex.com.au](http://rex.com.au), by calling Rex on 13 17 13, or through their local travel agent.

See following page for new schedules.

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## *New Ballina schedule effective Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2004*

Flight	Depart Ballina	Arrive Sydney	Days available	Stops
ZL 232	8.55am	10.35am	Monday-Saturday	0
ZL 232	9.30am	11.10am	Sunday	0
ZL 234	10.55am	12.35pm	Saturday	0
ZL 234	11.55am	1.35pm	Monday-Friday	0
ZL 236	12.20pm	2.35pm	Saturday	1
ZL 236	3.20pm	5.00pm	Sunday	0
ZL 238	6.15pm	7.55pm	Sunday-Friday	0

Flight	Depart Sydney	Arrive Ballina	Days available	Stops
ZL 231	7.00am	8.35am	Monday-Saturday	0
ZL 233	9.00am	10.35am	Saturday	0
ZL 233	10.00am	11.35am	Monday-Friday	0
ZL 235	10.30am	12.05pm	Saturday	0
ZL 235	1.25pm	3.00pm	Sunday	0
ZL 227	3.05pm	4.40pm	Saturday	0
ZL 237	4.20pm	5.55pm	Sunday-Friday	0

## *New Lismore schedule effective Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2004*

Flight	Depart Lismore	Arrive Sydney	Days available	Stops
ZL 220	6.50am	8.30am	Monday-Saturday	0
ZL 222	8.25am	10.05am	Monday-Friday	0
ZL 232	9.00am	11.10am	Sunday	1
ZL 224	9.55am	11.35am	Saturday	0
ZL 226	10.55am	12.35pm	Monday-Friday	0
ZL 236	12.55pm	2.35pm	Saturday	0
ZL 226	3.00pm	4.40pm	Sunday	0
ZL 228	5.10pm	6.50pm	Sunday-Friday	0

Flight	Depart Sydney	Arrive Lismore	Days available	Stops
ZL 221	6.30am	8.05am	Monday-Friday	0
ZL 223	7.50am	9.25am	Saturday	0
ZL 225	9.00am	10.35am	Monday-Friday	0
ZL 235	10.30am	12.35pm	Saturday	1
ZL 225	1.05pm	2.40pm	Sunday	0
ZL 227	3.05pm	5.10pm	Saturday	1
ZL 227	3.05pm	4.40pm	Sunday-Friday	0
ZL 229	6.20pm	7.55pm	Sunday-Friday	0