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MEDIA RELEASE

REX RETURNS TO MERIMBULA AFTER EXTENDED AIRPORT CLOSURE

Rex today resumed flights to Merimbula from both Sydney and Melbourne and announced the airline was also scheduling additional services over Easter, the Anzac Day long weekend and the upcoming school holidays.

Bega Valley Shire Council closed Merimbula Airport for infrastructure works on January 31.

The airport's re-opening this morning heralds the resumption of Rex's 18 return Merimbula-Sydney services and up to 10 return Merimbula-Melbourne flights each week.

Rex offers the greatest frequency of any airline operating to Merimbula, giving passengers the widest possible choice and providing them with safe, reliable and affordable travel options.

Indeed, there are no Qantas flights to Merimbula for the next two weeks and when they eventually re-start the cheapest available fare is \$193, according to the airline's website.

This is nearly 40% more expensive than Rex's \$139 Community Fare from Merimbula to both Melbourne and Sydney which represents extraordinary value. The Rex Community Fare can be booked outside of 30 days prior to departure subject to availability and all remaining unsold seats are made available as Community Fares within 24 hours prior to travel.

"We have re-instated our flights just as soon as the airport re-opened as we know the importance of these vital regional air links, particularly for tourism-dependent holiday destinations," Rex's General Manager Network Strategy, Warrick Lodge, said

"Rex's Merimbula to Sydney schedule also allows for day return travel from both Sydney and Merimbula with excellent connectivity to our domestic jet services, particularly to Brisbane and the Gold Coast."

Images appended below.

Rex is Australia's largest independent regional and domestic airline operating a fleet of 60 Saab 340 and 6 Boeing 737-800 NG aircraft to 62 destinations throughout all states in Australia. In addition to the airline Rex, the Rex Group comprises wholly owned subsidiaries Pel-Air Aviation (air freight, aeromedical and charter operator) and the two pilot academies, Australian Airline Pilot Academy in Wagga Wagga and Ballarat.

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