

SriLankan Airlines returns to Moscow with direct flights

A Monitor Report

Date: 16 September, 2021



Colombo : SriLankan Airlines announced the commencement of direct flights between Sri Lanka and Russia. The inaugural flight was ceremonially greeted with a water salute at Domodedovo Airport (DME) in Moscow. The airline is resuming flights to the Russian capital after a break of 6 years, between Colombo's Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) and Moscow's Domodedovo Airport (DME).

Accordingly, SriLankan would operate its flights to Russia every Friday using an Airbus A330 configured for 269 economy and 28 business class seats. The frequency of operation will be once a week, having a flight time of around 08 hours and 25 minutes. Flight UL533 will depart Colombo at 22:20 hrs, landing at Moscow Domodedovo Airport at 04:30 hrs, with the return leg UL534 leaving Moscow at 19:15 hrs the next day and landing back into Colombo at 06:05 hrs on Sunday.

SriLankan Airlines is the flag carrier of Sri Lanka and a member airline of the Oneworld airline alliance. It is currently the largest airline in Sri Lanka by number of aircraft and destinations and was launched in 1979 as Air Lanka following the termination of operations of the original Sri Lankan flag carrier Air Ceylon. Following its partial acquisition in 1998 by Emirates, it was re-branded and the current livery was introduced. In 2008, the government of Sri Lanka acquired all

the shares of the airline from Emirates. After ending the Emirates partnership, it retained its re-branded name and logo. SriLankan Airlines operates over 560 flights per week across Asia.

The airline operates to 113 destinations in 51 countries (including codeshare operations) from its main hub located at Bandaranaike International Airport near Colombo. SriLankan Airlines joined the Oneworld airline alliance on May 1, 2014.