

## US-Bangla to launch flights on seven new int'l routes in 2022

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Dhaka : 2022 will be a challenging year for US-Bangla as the largest private carrier of the country will be introducing flights from Dhaka to seven new international destinations: Jeddah, Dammam, Medina, Riyadh, Sharjah, Abu Dhabi and Colombo. Kamrul Islam, General Manager, Public Relations, US-Bangla Airlines said this while addressing a press conference held on November 1 at a hotel in Cox's Bazar. He also added that if Bangladesh manages to earn Civil Aviation Category-1 by 2022, US-Bangla will plan to commence direct flights on Dhaka-New York route from 2023.

The airline is also eyeing to launch flights to many destinations in Europe such as London, Amsterdam, Rome and Paris, Kamrul mentioned, adding, US-Bangla will be adding eight new Airbus 321-LR to its fleet by 2023.

Kamrul further claimed that worldwide airlines have self-check-in system at airports. However, in Bangladesh, such facilities are unavailable until now, as US-Bangla is soon introducing self-check-in system for the first time at the country's airports.

There is a separate check-in counter at Dhaka Airport dedicated for US-Bangla's frequent flyers. Moreover, the airline has taken up initiatives to provide frequent flyers with such separate check-in counters at all airports of the country, mentioned

the General Manager.

The airline now is operating flights to Kolkata, Chennai, Dubai, Doha, Muscat, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, and Guangzhou. Soon, the airline will launch flights to Bangkok as well, said Kamrul Islam.

Currently, US-Bangla has 14 aircraft in its fleet including four Boeing 737-800s, and seven brand new ATR 72-600s.

The carrier is now operating flights from Dhaka to Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Jashore, Saidpur, Rajshahi and Barishal with seven ATR 72-600s and three Dash8-Q400s. The airline is also utilising its Boeing 737-800 for flights from Dhaka to Chattogram and Cox's Bazar.

In addition, the airline also operates cross country long haul domestic flights from Jashore to Chattogram/Cox's Bazar, and Saidpur to Chattogram.

Kamrul Islam said soon the airline will be introducing flights from Saidpur to Cox's Bazar, and Sylhet to Chattogram/Cox's Bazar as well.

Moreover, on November 19, the airline will be adding a new destination to its international network with the launch of direct flights to the popular holiday destination Male in Maldives.

To expand services further in both domestic and international routes, the airline will be adding three more Boeing 737-800s and four more brand new ATR 72-600s to its fleet by early 2022, concluded the airline's General Manager Public Relations Kamrul Islam.