

## **Air Canada introduces 20 new routes for summer 2026, boosting capacity by 15%**

- A Monitor Desk Report

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**Dhaka: Air Canada announced its largest summer network expansion in recent years on February 20, adding 20 new routes and increasing overall capacity by 15% compared to summer 2025.**

Bookings are now open for travel beginning in June 2026, with most seasonal services operating through October 23, 2026.

The expansion covers departures from Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Halifax, and Calgary. The new services focus primarily on leisure markets in Southern Europe and Mexico, alongside select long-haul business routes.

Toronto will gain six new nonstop destinations, including Dubrovnik, Budapest, and Ponta Delgada, alongside a year-round return to

Shanghai Pudong. The China route marks the carrier's renewed expansion to the Chinese mainland following pandemic-era reductions.

Montreal will see seven new European links, such as Marrakech, Catania, Mallorca, Berlin, and Nantes. In Mexico, the airline will introduce year-round Guadalajara service while boosting frequencies to Cancún, Monterrey, and Puerto Vallarta.

Vancouver's Bangkok service will shift to year-round operations, restoring pre-pandemic levels. The carrier will also launch seasonal service to Nashville and increase frequencies to Mexico City.

Halifax is set to receive new seasonal flights to Brussels. Meanwhile, Calgary will add winter 2026/27 services to Cancún and Puerto Vallarta, operated by Air Canada Rouge Boeing 737 MAX aircraft between December and April.

The airline confirmed one suspension: Montreal-Seattle nonstop flights will be paused for May and June. Affected passengers will be rerouted through Toronto or Vancouver, adding approximately two to three hours to total travel time.

Air Canada stated that all schedules remain subject to government approval.

The expansion positions the carrier as North America's second-largest transatlantic operator by destinations, behind United Airlines. The move comes as several U.S. competitors scale back European and Mexican capacity for summer 2026.

Introductory round-trip economy fares on new seasonal routes such as Toronto-Dubrovnik are expected to range between CAD 700 and CAD 900. Prices may rise to CAD 1,100-1,400 as peak summer demand strengthens.

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