

Malaysia Airlines receives first A330neo

- A Monitor Desk Report

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Kuala Lumpur : Malaysia Airlines has taken delivery of the first of 20 Airbus A330neo aircraft it has on order.

The aircraft departed from Toulouse, France, and arrived at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) escorted by RMAF Sukhoi Su-30MKM fighter jets and landing to a grand water salute.

The A330neo features 28 state-of-the-art business class seats, offering fully-flat beds, direct aisle access, and 17.3-inch high-definition entertainment screens.

The economy class cabin features 269 ergonomically designed seats equipped with 13.3-inch HD entertainment systems with 4K content capabilities.

Compared to the previous generation A330ceo, the A330neo has an increased range of over 13,300km (7,200 nautical miles) and 25 per cent

lower fuel consumption and emissions.

Malaysia Airlines is the 20th airline to operate the A330neo.

The addition of the aircraft and subsequent deliveries will facilitate an increase of flight frequencies, including from double to triple daily to Melbourne and Sydney, and to up to double daily to Auckland, ahead of its return to Paris from March 2025.

The delivery of Malaysia Airlines' first A330neo has been pushed back several times owing to delays caused by manufacturer Airbus and their supply chain. This, coupled with delays also on the airline's Boeing 737 Max aircraft deliveries, has been wreaking havoc with the current schedule, prompting flight cancellations and causing "great disappointment" to the oneworld alliance member.

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