

Vistara begins flights to Middle East

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Vistara, a joint venture of Tata group and Singapore Airlines, launched daily non-stop flights between Mumbai (India) and Muscat (Oman) earlier this week, making it the airline's fourth destination in the Gulf region.

Muscat is the third Gulf city that Vistara has added to its network over the last six months. The inaugural flight departs from Mumbai at 2000 and arrives in Muscat at 2135. Vistara is the only carrier offering the choice of premium economy class on the route, in addition to business and economy class.

There has been a substantial increase in travel demand between India and the Gulf region, prompting the airline to focus on expanding its presence this year by launching services to Jeddah and Abu Dhabi in August and October, respectively. Vistara also operates daily flights from Mumbai to Dubai.

Vistara chief executive officer Vinod Kannan said: "The launch of operations to Muscat is in line with our goal to steadily enhance our footprint in the Middle East. Healthy bilateral relations and robust cultural and economic ties between India and states in the Gulf region have given great impetus to our growth plans."