

Tiger Airways to Call Melbourne Home

Premier Steve Bracks announced this morning that Melbourne will host Tiger Airways' new Australian head office, facilities for aircraft maintenance and crew training, and its start-up fleet.

At the joint announcement by the Premier and CEO of Tiger Airlines, Tony Davis, the move was dubbed "good for the State, tourism and consumers".

The introduction of the new low cost carrier to Melbourne will result in the creation of over 1,000 local Victorian jobs, extra air services and an increase in international visitors to the State.

"Victoria won the right to host Australia's newest low-cost airline thanks to our excellent aviation facilities, economic climate and government support." Mr Bracks said.

With seventy per cent of Victoria's tourism growth expected to come from international markets by 2016 and Asia accounting for 40 per cent of all international arrivals, Tiger Airlines will allow Victoria to capitalise on this huge growth.

"This is a great opportunity for Victoria and will help to strengthen both our tourism and aviation industries." said Nicholas Hunt, Tourism Alliance Chief Executive.

"Not only will this move create tourism jobs but it is also predicted an additional two million passengers will be flown into Victoria on Tiger Airlines." Mr Hunt said.

All flights will arrive and depart from Melbourne Airport. Tiger Airlines route network and commencement date will be announced in coming months.

Tiger Airlines currently flies from Singapore to South East Asia, China, Darwin and Perth and is the fastest growing low cost Asian-based carrier.

Tourism Alliance Victoria was pleased to attend the announcement today to express our continued support for increased aviation access into Melbourne and looks forward to working with Melbourne Airport and Tiger Airlines into the future.