

DESTINATIONS

AVIATION | NEW ROUTES



NEW ROUTES FOR 2020

Wondering which short-haul spots to suggest next year? **Phil Davies** picks some of the top new flights



MANCHESTER-RIGA

The dynamic Latvian capital of Riga will be served from Manchester airport with the start of AirBaltic flights from March 29, 2020. Latvia's flag-carrier is to run four flights a week, opening access to the Baltic Sea city, a cultural spot renowned for its medieval old town, wooden buildings and art nouveau architecture. Bars and nightclubs are located around busy Livu Square, part of the pedestrian-only centre, and it's worth making time for Riga Central Market, the largest in Europe.

Book it: Return fares flying on AirBaltic's new Airbus A220-300 aircraft start at £69. Expect to pay about £200 for a two-night hotel stay in June. airbaltic.com

LUTON-ST PETERSBURG

The Russian city of St Petersburg is gaining budget Wizz Air flights from Luton airport – a useful option for clients in the Midlands who don't fancy the extra couple of hours' drive to Gatwick. The historic city is home to the vast Hermitage Museum, the glistening Winter Palace and the domed Russian Orthodox church of the Savior on the Spilled Blood.

Book it: Basic single fares start at £49 for departures after the Easter holidays in April. Seven-night B&B stays start at £257. wizzair.com



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STANSTED-TERCEIRA

Ryanair will serve the Azores island of Terceira with weekly direct flights from Stansted from April, avoiding the need to fly via mainland Portugal. Known as the Lilac Island, Terceira was hit by an earthquake in 1980, but the capital, Angra do Heroísmo, was reconstructed and its historic centre is recognised by Unesco. The island is also known for its bull runs.

Book it: Flights lead in at £114 and will be operating from April 1. ryanair.com



STANSTED & MANCHESTER-TIVAT

Tivat in Montenegro is a summer addition to Jet2.com's expanding network, with flights and holidays from Stansted and Manchester airports. The new services are the airline's first direct to Montenegro, opening up resorts such as stylish Budva, chilled-out Becici and the stunning Herceg Novi. The classy coastal town of Tivat is located on the Bay of Kotor and is already a regular Adriatic cruise destination.

Book it: Package holiday prices start at about £650 for seven nights in a hotel with breakfast from Manchester in May 2020.

jet2holidays.com

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UK AIRPORTS-SKIATHOS

The demise of Thomas Cook has seen both Tui and Jet2.com add 2020 departures from UK regional airports to Skiathos. Vibrant nightlife and beautiful beaches are the draws, and favourite resorts include Achladies, Kolios, Koukounaries, Skiathos Town and Agia Paraskevi.

Book it: Jet2holidays' prices start at £282 for seven nights' self-catering at the Manos Studios in Kolios, flying from Stansted on May 9. jet2holidays.com

PICTURES: Shutterstock