Credit: Chris Futcher

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Norwegian to launch new route from Dublin to Hamilton, Canada

- Airline to expand transatlantic route network from Dublin to Canada for the first time
- Four weekly flights to serve a new gateway to Toronto and Niagara Falls

Norwegian is delighted to commence its first-ever route between Europe and Canada this weekend by revealing the top five reasons to visit its newest destination this summer.

From 31 March, Norwegian will commence a new service from Dublin to Toronto's Hamilton John C. Munro International Airport offering consumers an affordable brand-new link to Canada at www.norwegian.com/ie.

Voted Europe's Best World Low-cost Long-haul airline by Skytrax, Norwegian operates several transatlantic flights from Dublin, Shannon and Cork to the USA. These flights offer consumers affordable access to popular destinations on the US east coast by serving New York's Stewart International Airport and Providence, Rhode Island nearby Boston.

Norwegian's new route is the airline's first-ever transatlantic service to Canada and the only direct flights between Ireland and Hamilton in Ontario. This summer, Hamilton will join Norwegian's existing services to New York and Providence.

Hamilton Airport is conveniently located in the Greater Toronto area with

good road links to major tourist attractions such as Niagara Falls, offering holidaymakers a range of attractive places to see and experience.

With the route launching on 31 March, Norwegian reveals the reasons to visit Hamilton this summer:

1. Fantastic for Foodies

The culinary culture in Hamilton is at an all-time high. Local eateries are attracting national attention for delicious reasons. With many talented chefs, brewers and baristas setting up shop in Hamilton, it's hard to decide what to try first. Find out how to eat like a local with help from <u>Tourism Hamilton's insider guest bloggers</u>.

2. Family Star Attractions

Among the city's must-experience attractions is the <u>African Lion Safari</u>, a perfect family destination where visitors can get closer than ever to some of the world's most exotic creatures. <u>Art Gallery of Hamilton</u> is the region's largest and oldest public gallery, home to historic and modern works by Canadian and international artists.

3. Blockbuster Arts and Cultural Events

If you're planning a visit in September, be sure to catch <u>Supercrawl</u> (13-15 September 2019) - the mother of all block parties and Hamilton's most popular festival. The free arts festival shuts down James Street North for three days of live music, art installations, food and fun. Visitors should expect the unexpected as they receive the perfect introduction to Hamilton's vibrant arts scene. <u>Explore Tourism Hamilton's guide to Supercrawl</u>.

4. For Nature lovers

A little known fact about Hamilton is the city's incredible access to nature, most of it minutes from the city's bustling downtown area. Highlights include: the <u>Royal Botanical Gardens</u>, the largest botanical gardens in Canada home to 2,700 acres of flower gardens, trails and nature sanctuaries; more than <u>100</u> waterfalls, hiking along the many trails off the Niagara Escarpment that cuts through the city, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.

5. Heritage for history and flight enthusiasts

Much of what makes Hamilton distinct can be traced to its roots. In addition

to beautiful architecture throughout the city, heritage highlights include: <u>Dundurn Castle</u>, a majestic, historic lakeside estate and the <u>Canadian</u> <u>Warplane Heritage Museum</u>, the country's largest flying museum and home to the historic Avro Lancaster bomber, located nearby Hamilton Airport.

Matthew Wood, SVP Commercial at Norwegian said: *"We're delighted to build on our popular services to the USA and offer Irish consumers another destination with our first-ever route from Dublin to Canada.*

"Customers now have an affordable option to explore a brand-new destination this summer whether visiting Hamilton, Toronto or witnessing the beauty of nature at Niagara Falls with the flexibility of a daily schedule."

Sharon Murphy, Acting Manager at Tourism Hamilton said: "We can't wait to introduce new travellers to Hamilton's many tourist attractions and events. While the city is an affordable and ideally located alternative entry and departure point for international travellers in the busy south western Ontario travel hub - our fascinating, comeback city is also well worth a few days of exploration. Genuine and always welcoming, we've got breathtaking natural beauty including endless trails and waterfalls as well as a bustling and historic downtown core."

Norwegian will operate flights to Hamilton on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday using a Boeing 737-800 aircraft.

ENDS

Norwegian in the UK and Ireland:

- Norwegian carries almost 6 million UK passengers each year from London Gatwick, Edinburgh and Manchester Airports to 30 destinations worldwide
- Norwegian is the **third largest airline at London Gatwick**, with 4.6 million yearly passengers, and with more than 1,000 UK-based pilots and cabin crew
- In 2014, Norwegian introduced the UK's first low-cost, long haul flights to the U.S. - the airline now flies to 12 U.S destinations, Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro from London Gatwick
- In 2017, Norwegian also launched affordable transatlantic flights

from Edinburgh, Dublin, Cork and Shannon to the US East Coast, using the brand new Boeing 737 MAX aircraft

- Norwegian is the only airline to offer **free inflight WiFi** on UK flights to more than 30 European destinations
- The airline has one of the **youngest aircraft fleets in the world** with an average age of 3.8 years, including next-generation Boeing 787 Dreamliner, Boeing 737 MAX and Boeing 737-800s
- Norwegian has been voted 'Europe's best low-cost carrier' by passengers for six consecutive years at SkyTrax World Airline Awards from 2013-2018, along with being awarded the 'World's best low-cost long-haul airline' in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018
- Norwegian Reward is the airline's free to join awardwinning loyalty programme offering members CashPoints and Rewards that reduce the cost of Norwegian flights

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