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Norwegian more than quadruples its current long-haul fleet with new order of 19 Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners

Norwegian, Europe's third largest low-cost airline, is continuing to expand its international operations by signing an agreement to purchase 19 new Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners – the order will help more than quadruple its current long-haul fleet to 38 aircraft within the next five years.

The agreement is the largest single order of 787-9s in Europe and includes purchase options for an additional ten aircraft of the same type. The new order will enable the company to launch even more long-haul routes and

expand its existing network in the coming years.

Norwegian already operates Dreamliner aircraft from its **London Gatwick base**, serving the UK's only low-cost long-haul flights to US – Dreamliners are used on services to New York, Los Angeles and Fort Lauderdale with fares from just £149. A further low-cost route from Gatwick to Boston will be launched in May 2016, while next month will see the launch of low-cost Caribbean flights with the UK's only direct route to Puerto Rico – both new routes will also be served by Dreamliner aircraft with fares from £179.

Norwegian currently operates eight 787-8 Dreamliners and has 11 of the bigger 787-9 on order. With today's order, Norwegian's long-haul fleet will consist of 38 Dreamliners by 2020. The first deliveries from the new order will commence in 2017.

The 787-9 complements and extends the 787 family. With a longer fuselage, the 787-9 will fly 53 more passengers than the 787-8. Norwegian's asset company, Arctic Aviation Assets Limited (AAA), will own the aircraft.

Norwegian CEO Bjørn Kjos said: "This order of 19 new Dreamliners is a major milestone and enables Norwegian to offer a wide range of new routes to travellers worldwide. After two years of operating low-cost long-haul flights, our load factors have averaged over 90 per cent, which proves the demand for affordable flights between Europe and the US and Europe and Asia. The fuel-efficient, state-of-the-art 787 Dreamliner will be crucial to our future growth and competitiveness in the long-haul market and in offering the best possible passenger experience."

Todd Nelp, Vice President of European Sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes said: "Norwegian has led the way in utilising the exceptional performance of the 787 to develop a successful low-cost long-haul operation. The addition of 787-9s to the Norwegian fleet will enable it to grow its route structure, while providing more range and capacity with outstanding passenger comfort."

Norwegian's version of the 787-9 has 344 seats with 35 in premium and 309 in economy. With today's order for 19 787-9s, Norwegian has more than 150 unfilled orders from Boeing, including 100 737 MAXs. In addition, the company has 100 Airbus A320neos on order.

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Norwegian in the UK

- Norwegian first launched UK flights in 2003 and now operates from London Gatwick, Edinburgh, Birmingham and Manchester Airports to **34 destinations worldwide**.
- Norwegian is the **third largest airline at London Gatwick**, with 3.4 million yearly passengers as of June 2015, and with 130 pilots and 300 cabin crew working from its Gatwick base
- In 2014, Norwegian introduced the **UK's first low-cost, long haul flights to the U.S.** flying directly from Gatwick to New York, Fort Lauderdale and Los Angeles
- Norwegian is the only airline to offer **free in-flight WiFi on UK flights** to 29 European destinations
- The airline has one of the **youngest aircraft fleets in the world** with an average age of four years, including next-generation Boeing 787 Dreamliners and Boeing 737-800s
- Norwegian has been **voted 'Europe's best low-cost carrier'** by passengers for three consecutive years at SkyTrax World Airline Awards, and was also the first airline to be awarded the **'World's best low-cost long-haul airline'** in 2015 by SkyTrax.

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