

Hubs and Network Planning

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1 Hub Structure

Sochi (AER) is the Airline's base and connecting hub. Krasnodar (KRR) and Nalchik (NAL) are focus cities, holding direct routes of their own without based crew or equipment. Sukhum (SUI) is connected to Sochi through a dedicated high-frequency shuttle operated by the DHC-6 Twin Otter, and becomes the Airline's second hub as the fleet expands. Krasnodar is connected to Sochi by the same type on the coastal routing, giving the two focus cities and the Abkhazian spoke a common short-haul channel into the connecting bank.

The coastal shuttle stands one aircraft overnight at Sukhum and one at Krasnodar. This gives each coastal point an early morning departure into Sochi rather than a first service timed by when an aircraft can arrive from base, and it places one aircraft outside the air navigation region that contains every other point in the network.

2 Domestic and Regional Network

The domestic and regional feeder tier connects Nalchik, Mineralnye Vody (MRV), and Beslan (OGZ) to Sochi. Mineralnye Vody and Beslan are operated by Embraer E175 aircraft. Nalchik is operated by the Embraer E195 on the days that aircraft is on the ground at Sochi either side of the Moscow rotation, and by the E175 otherwise, so the largest home constituency in the network draws the larger aircraft wherever the fleet allows it. Beslan opens once Nalchik and Mineralnye Vody are established.

Sukhum and Krasnodar are served from Sochi by the DHC-6 Twin Otter on the coastal routings. The type flies no route that crosses the main Caucasus divide.

3 Russia Network

The Airline serves Moscow through Vnukovo (VKO), with Domodedovo (DME) as a secondary gateway, and St. Petersburg through Pulkovo (LED). These routes are operated by Embraer E195 aircraft.

Sochi holds direct services to both cities. Krasnodar and Nalchik are served together on a single tagged rotation, Krasnodar to Nalchik to Moscow and back, with the aircraft remaining overnight at Krasnodar to hold an early morning departure. St. Petersburg is served on the same pattern.

4 Turkey and Middle East Network

In Turkey, the Airline serves Istanbul-Sabiha Gokcen (SAW) and Kayseri (ASR), reaching diaspora communities across the region. Kayseri serves the Uzunyayla settlement in Central Anatolia. In the Middle East, the Airline serves Amman (AMM) and Damascus (DAM). Istanbul and Amman are operated by Embraer E195 aircraft, Kayseri and Damascus by the Embraer E175.

Nalchik holds standalone diaspora rotations to Istanbul-Sabiha Gokcen, operated separately from the Sochi network.

Damascus is operated on the smallest jet in the fleet so that a suspension of Syrian air access withdraws the smallest block of capacity in the international network. Where that access is suspended, Damascus service is withdrawn and its capacity is redeployed to Amman, which carries the Middle East network in its absence.

5 Seasonal Religious Charter Service

The Airline operates seasonal Hajj and Umrah charter service to Jeddah (JED) and Medina (MED), using Embraer E195 aircraft, during the pilgrimage season.

6 Operating Schedule

The route table, weekly frequency plan, timetable and fleet utilisation matrix are published in the Network Schedule, GOV-03A.

7 Network Overview

IATA	ICAO	Airport Name	City	Network Role
AER	URSS	Sochi International Airport	Sochi	Base and hub
KRR	URKK	Krasnodar International Airport	Krasnodar	Focus city
NAL	URMN	Nalchik Airport	Nalchik	Focus city
SUI	URAS	Sukhum International Airport	Sukhum	Spoke, second hub as the fleet expands
MRV	URMM	Mineralnye Vody Airport	Mineralnye Vody	Spoke
OGZ	URMO	Beslan Airport	Vladikavkaz	Spoke
VKO	UUWW	Vnukovo International Airport	Moscow	Russia gateway
DME	UUDD	Domodedovo International Airport	Moscow	Russia gateway
LED	ULLI	Pulkovo Airport	St. Petersburg	Russia gateway
SAW	LTFJ	Sabiha Gokcen International Airport	Istanbul	Turkey gateway
ASR	LTAU	Erkilet International Airport	Kayseri	Turkey gateway
AMM	OJAI	Queen Alia International Airport	Amman	Middle East gateway
DAM	OSDI	Damascus International Airport	Damascus	Middle East gateway
JED	OEJN	King Abdulaziz International Airport	Jeddah	Seasonal religious charter
MED	OEMA	Prince Mohammad bin Abdulaziz International Airport	Medina	Seasonal religious charter

Sukhum's ICAO location indicator was withdrawn in 2006. URAS is Russian-assigned and is the code under which the airport operates and under which the Airline files. It is not an indicator recognized by ICAO, and its recognition follows international recognition of Abkhazian sovereignty rather than any operating deficiency at the airport.