Rongotai Airport became an aerodrome in 1929, but the Wellington Airport we know today opened officially on 24 October 1959 with thousands of spectators there to witness the event.

The opening of the airport went ahead with a temporary terminal, affectionately called the “tin shed”, it ended up being a little more than temporary – lasting until 1999 when the new terminal was finally built in its place.

Today, we help take nearly 6 million passengers direct to 25 destinations around the world every year.

### Wellington Airport at a Glance

| **25** | Direct destinations from Wellington Airport |
| **6M** | Total passengers a year |
| **9** | Direct destinations from Wellington Airport |
| **85,000** | Aircraft movements (number of flights arriving and departing) |
| **7.6M** | Total number of aircraft seats |
| **250** | Average daily flights |
| **70+** | Flights per week to Australia, Fiji, and Singapore totalling 1.1 million seats |
| **+27%** | Increase in Asian visitors from Singapore Airlines (fastest growing new international route) in the first 6 months of operation |
| **4,000T** | Asphalt replaced on the runway each year |
| **110ha** | Built on 110 hectares of land |
| **60** | Volunteer ambassadors assisting passengers |
| **27** | Qualified firefighters in the Emergency Service Team – fully equipped land and sea-based firefighting and rescue vehicles |
| **66/34** | Owned by Infratil and Wellington City Council |
In the last 5 years numbers have soared and we reached the six million passenger mark in 2017. Passenger numbers have been lifted by new Jetstar, Fiji Airways and Singapore Airlines routes, increases in capacity from both Air New Zealand and Qantas and new services from Sounds Air.

**Passenger Profile**

- **Domestic passengers**: 5.1M
- **International passengers**: 900,000
- **International arrivals**: 20%
- **International leisure arrivals**: 80%

**Passenger age groups:**
- 20-34 yrs: 24%
- 35-49 yrs: 25%
- 65+ yrs: 12%

**International arrivals nationality**:
- New Zealand: 50%
- Overseas: 50%
  - Australian: 36%
  - European: 6%
  - Asian: 3%
  - North American: 2.5%
  - Pacific Islands: 0.5%
  - Other: 2%

**Domestic destinations**
- Auckland
- Hamilton
- Tauranga
- Rotorua
- Taupo
- Gisborne
- Napier
- New Plymouth
- Palmerston North
- Picton
- Blenheim
- Nelson
- Takaka
- Westport
- Christchurch
- Timaru
- Dunedin
- Queenstown
- Invercargill
- Chatham Islands

**Airlines & Destinations**

- **25 Destinations directly served**
- **9 Airlines**
  - AirNZ
  - Qantas
  - Virgin
  - Singapore Airlines
  - Fiji Airways
  - Jetstar
  - Sounds Air
  - Air Chathams
  - Golden Bay Air

**Wellington Airport – A View from Above 2017**

*Represents passengers flying International directly to Wellington Airport excludes via connecting domestically via Auckland or Christchurch.

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**Runway and airfield development programme**

We have some 40ha of asphalt, including the critical 80m wide runway ‘pavement’. It is expertly designed and managed to ensure maximum safety in all conditions thanks to our runway maintenance programme. We spend $6 million a year on pavement maintenance and improvements. If the surface of State Highway 1 is the Toyota Corolla of pavement, then Wellington Airport is the Tesla. In 2017, we’ll be undertaking the full reconstruction of our main taxiway.

**Main terminal extension**

The extension of the main terminal was completed in 2016. There is an extra 6000sqm of space, new seating, more food and shopping choices and a convenient centralised screening point. Plus, there are twice as many toilets. The middle of the terminal is being opened up to provide a hub of natural light. Once complete there will be additional seating and many more food & beverage and shopping choices featuring the best of Wellington and the world.

**Transport hub**

The 8 storey multi-level transport hub will add 1,089 covered parking spaces right outside the terminal. This upgrade will bring expanded pick-up and drop-off area, undercover bus area, bicycle parking, real-time display of available spaces, charging ports for electric cars and more. This is set to complete in mid 2018.

**Integrated domestic and international terminal**

(domestic terminal expanded in 2016).

- 30 stands in total for aircraft parking from Code E to Code B with international and domestic swing capability.
- Single runway 2000m long by 45m wide.
- Runway surface is grooved for its full length, aiding surface water to flow off and improve friction for aircraft wheel braking capable of supporting a 350 ton aircraft.
- Main terminal includes 11 retailers and 14 food and beverage outlets (including 2 cafés).
- Largest aircraft with regular passenger service is a B777-200.
- Runway designators 16 and 34 relate to compass bearings, i.e. 160 degrees and 340 degrees.
- Grass around the runway is special Avanex endophyte grass, which deters birds and helps prevent any wildlife incidents with aircraft.
- The runway has a special heavy duty pavement, capable of supporting a 350 ton aircraft.
- Airport curfew operates from 0100hrs to 0600hrs.
- Runway capacity average 30 aircraft movements per hour.
- Peak aircraft movements was 135,700 in 1997, aircraft movements in 2017 was 99,444.

**Rydges**

Construction of the four star hotel commenced May 2017. This will be accessed from within the terminal and will offer 134 rooms, along with conference facilities, a restaurant and bar. Completion in 2018.

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**Transport**

- **Wellington Airport is 6km away from Wellington CBD**, making it easily accessible by public buses, shuttles, taxis and personal cars, motorcycles and bicycles.
- **2200 public car park spaces** (additional 1089 after completion of Transport Hub).
- **11 rental car/camper-van operators and facilities for tour buses**.
- **Airport Flyer bus** – express service from within the airport campus to the Hutt Valley, through Wellington CBD every 20 minutes.

**Technology**

- **Free wireless internet access for travellers and visitors** – on average 10,000 daily users.
- **Truly diverse high-speed fibre connections**, including 1 microwave link – provides greater resilience in the event of a major disaster.
- **E-Gates at international departures and arrivals** – 20 seconds to scan passport and check for facial recognition.
- **CUTE (Common Use Terminal Equipment) technology** – common use platform for airlines to use for check-in and boarding control.
- **Self-boarding gates for regional flights** – at the new automated gate, passengers can simply scan their boarding pass to board the aircraft.

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**Emergency Services**

Wellington Airport has an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), providing a command centre during emergencies or significant disruptions. The EOC is coupled with an Airport Emergency Response app.

Along with 27 qualified firefighters, the following emergency land and sea vehicles are operated:

- Two 2013 Rosenbauer Panther VO12 – Major Foam Vehicles.
- One 2001 Mills Tui Striker 6-6500 – Major Foam Vehicle.
- One 2006 Mitsubishi Challenger – Crew Chief/Command & Control.
- Two marine vehicles – Cougar Cat & 2007 Senator RH750.
Every year the Airport is proud to play a supporting role in the region’s events and community endeavours.

- World of WearableArt
- Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards
- Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park
- Lyall Bay Surf Life Saving Club
- CubaDupa
- Life Flight Trust
- Wellington on a Plate
- New Zealand Festival
- New Zealand Fringe Festival
- Marine Education Centre
- Surf Life Saving Clubs
- Wellington Phoenix
- Victoria University Tourism Scholarship

“We are proud to be able to bring such a vibrant street arts festival to Wellington and are honoured to be recognised alongside other amazing movers and shakers in our community. So many people contribute to this event with their time, energy, creativity and enthusiasm to make Wellington’s CubaDupa such an extraordinary experience for all. A huge thank you to everyone who becomes part of our community in delivering this event.”

Kate Louise Elliot
General Manager CubaDupa