

Media release

Virgin Australia boosts Newcastle flights for Supercars

Friday, 17 November 2017

Newcastle Airport is excited to welcome 26 additional Virgin Australia flights around the Coates Hire Newcastle 500 that runs from 24-26 November in Newcastle.

Fans will have the benefit of over 3,000 additional seats in and out of the region on existing routes between Melbourne and Brisbane, as well as dedicated same-day Sydney services. This is on top of the normal schedule of over 50 flights.

The extra flights have been scheduled to help fans attend what promises to be one of the most exciting season finishes in the Virgin Australia Supercars Championship history.

Six-time title-winner and Virgin Australia Ambassador Jamie Whincup leads rising star Scott McLaughlin by just 30 points with just the two races in Newcastle left to decide this year's champion.

Airport CEO, Dr Peter Cock, said the addition of thousands of extra seats emphasised that Newcastle Airport was the major gateway to events in the Hunter.

"This allows more people to fly direct trackside, it is definitely the smarter choice to travel through Newcastle Airport," he said.

"We know that our region is growing in terms of both tourism and business. The major event is a great opportunity for us to demonstrate the capacity of the airport, and also the propensity of Australian's to travel to and from the region. We have a lot to offer."

Dr Cock added, "We are ready to welcome more flights. The team has completed detailed planning around transport options for our passengers and has measures in place that will make travelling as seamless as possible."

Virgin Australia Airlines Acting Group Executive, Rob Sharp said as the Naming Rights Sponsor of the Virgin Australia Supercars Championship, he was delighted to increase flights to and from Newcastle to support the season finale and the local economy.

"It is a great opportunity for motorsports fans to enjoy the Virgin experience and book flights with Virgin Australia to Newcastle to watch the race and we hope they enjoy the action," Mr Sharp said.

Transport Information

A Skybus shuttle will run from Thursday, 23 November to Monday, 27 November, between Newcastle Airport and Stockton Ferry terminal, which provides direct access track side to Queen's Wharf in Newcastle's CBD.

At \$12 one-way or \$20 return, Skybus shuttle tickets will be available from the Transport Information Desk in the arrivals hall at Newcastle Airport by phoning 4928 9822 or by emailing nais@newcastleairport.com.au.

To book head to the dedicated travel page www.virginaustralia.com/supercarsflights Bookings are essential.

Additional flights from 22.11.17 – 27.11.17

Melbourne, 16 additional services; Brisbane, 6 additional services; Sydney, 2 additional services.

Ends.

Further information

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