

Island Travel & Tours, Ltd. to Offer Air Service to Cuba from BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport

Charter Flights from BWI Marshall to Havana Set to Start in March

Island Travel & Tours, Ltd. today announced that charter flights from Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport to Cuba would begin in March 2012. The charter service will be operated by Island Travel & Tours, Ltd., along with its partner, Sky King, Inc. The weekly service will start on March 21, 2012. The charter flights are scheduled to depart mid-afternoon.

“We’re extremely excited about serving the Baltimore and Washington community with new, historic, direct flights to Cuba,” said William Hauf, President of Island Travel & Tours. “These flights will greatly expand opportunities for increased engagement between the two countries and facilitate legal travel to Cuba for business leaders, government officials, diplomats, academics, cultural groups, agricultural interests, performing arts groups, and Cuban-Americans wishing to reconnect with their families and their country.”

Earlier this year, BWI Marshall received federal approval from U.S. Customs and Border Protection to handle passenger charter air service to and from Cuba. This official designation allowed BWI Marshall Airport to move forward in the process to offer charter service to Havana. The Cuban government recently approved Island Travel & Tours, a licensed charter operator, to offer the service from BWI Marshall.

“We look forward to this charter service, which will provide new travel and exchange opportunities with Cuba,” said Paul J. Wiedefeld, Executive Director of BWI Marshall Airport. “There are many organizations and institutions in Maryland and the National Capital region that will benefit from this direct access to Cuba and the Cuban people.”

BWI Marshall Airport joins a short list of U.S. markets to offer service to Cuba, including New York, Miami, Atlanta, Chicago, and Tampa. Following recent federal regulations that encourage further “purposeful” travel to Cuba, charter service to the island nation has opened to new markets, including BWI Marshall Airport. The federal government has worked to support additional educational, religious, academic, journalistic, cultural, and agricultural travel between the United States and Cuba.

For additional information and booking opportunities, customers may contact Island Travel & Tours at 202-558-2136 or www.islandtraveltours.com.

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