



**Syd Stirling**  
ACTING MINISTER FOR TOURISM

20 December 2005

## **TIGER TERRITORY AS AIRLINE TOUCHES DOWN IN DARWIN**

The first Tiger Airways flight into Australia arrived in Darwin today marking the beginning of a new regular international service that will link Darwin into South East and North East Asia and transform the Territory into the new value priced gateway.

Acting Tourism Minister Syd Stirling said that Tiger Airways will begin with four weekly return services between Singapore and Darwin utilising new Airbus A320 aircraft that take up to 180 passengers.

“The Tiger Airways services are terrific news and will deliver more tourists to the Territory,” he said.

“There will be an extra 720 seats a week, or 37,000 seats a year, between Singapore and Darwin.

“This represents an increase of almost 40 per cent in weekly international seat capacity into Darwin and is the highest international seat capacity into Darwin since April 2001.

“Singapore will also grow as a major supplier of international travellers to the Territory from our key European markets, such as the UK and Germany, as Singapore is already a major destination for many European airlines.

“Territorians are also the big winners as they will now be able to take advantage of low cost fares to Singapore and onto 11 other Tiger Airways destinations in Asia, to take holidays and catch up with friends and relatives.”

Approximately 110 people will arrive on the first flight to Darwin this morning and 180 people, mostly Territorians, will depart the first flight to Singapore soon after for Christmas holidays.

Mr Stirling said the new services will open up new business opportunities for local operators and the Northern Territory Tourist Commission (NTTC) is working closely with Tiger Airways on a range of co-operative advertising and marketing opportunities for Territory businesses.

“Tiger Airways and Government have agreed to a three-year joint marketing plan to promote the service and the Territory has committed \$350,000 a year over the three years,” he said.

“I congratulate Tiger Airways CEO Tony Davis and his team on their hard work and vision in developing this new service to Darwin.

“My thanks also to NT Airports for their efforts and the NTTC for their ongoing commitment to work with Tiger Airways and Territory operators on a range of cooperative advertising and promotional activities to help make this service an ongoing success.”

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