

24 May - Volcanic Disruptions - Scotland

UPDATED: 13:00hrs (Tues 24 May)

NEXT UPDATE: 15:00hrs (24 May)

Ryanair was advised by the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) late on the 23rd May that we may not operate flights to/from Glasgow Prestwick, Edinburgh or Aberdeen until 13:00hrs on Tuesday 24th May 2011 - see list of flight cancellations below.

From 13:00 hrs (UK local time) onwards Ryanair will be operating flights to/from the above airports as scheduled.

Ryanair has strongly objected to the decision to close Scottish airspace this morning and believes there is no basis for these flight cancellations. Ryanair met with the IAA this morning to have this restriction on flights removed as a matter of urgency.

Ryanair confirms that it operated a one hour verification flight up to 41,000 feet in Scottish airspace this morning (24th May). The aircraft took off from Glasgow Prestwick, flew to Inverness, on to Aberdeen and down to Edinburgh - all of which according to the UK Met Office charts were in the "red zone" of "high ash concentration".

During the flight there was no visible volcanic ash cloud or any other presence of volcanic ash and the post flight inspection revealed no evidence of volcanic ash on the airframe, wings or engines. The absence of any volcanic ash in the atmosphere supports Ryanair's stated view that there is no safety threat to aircraft in this mythical "red zone" which is another misguided invention by the UK Met. Office and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Ryanair has received written confirmation from both its airframe and engine manufacturers that it is safe to operate in these so called "red zones" and, in any event, Ryanair's verification flight this morning confirms that the "red zone" over Scotland is non-existent.

Ryanair has renewed its calls on both the UK CAA and the IAA to reopen the airspace over Scotland and allow airlines to operate flights safely following this morning's verification flight which has demonstrated that the UK Met Office's "red zone" forecasts are totally unreliable and unsupported by any evidence of volcanic ash concentrations whatsoever.

The below listed flights have been cancelled as a result of the volcanic ash.

[CLICK HERE FOR LIST OF CANCELLED FLIGHTS: 24 May 2011](#)

Passengers who were booked to travel on a cancelled flight can apply online for a refund of their unused flight(s) OR transfer to the next available flight free of charge online, or by calling our reservation centre (subject to opening hours).

[CLICK HERE TO REBOOK FREE ONLINE:](#) to rebook to an alternative Ryanair flight free of charge, subject to seat availability.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR A REFUND ONLINE:](#) to cancel your flight(s) and claim a full refund of the unused flight(s), simply click on the link and enter the required details. Refunds will be processed within 14 working days back to the original form of payment.

[CLICK HERE FOR RESERVATION CENTRES NUMBERS](#)

Click [HERE](#) for a written notice setting out the rules for compensation and assistance in line with EU Regulation 261/2004. This EU261/04 notice is also available at all Ryanair Ticket Desks at all airports.

Ryanair sincerely apologises for what we believe are unnecessary flight cancellations.