



Finnair to Launch Seasonal Service to Chicago for Summer 2015

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Finnair is launching non-stop service between Helsinki and Chicago in June, operating the flights on a seasonal basis throughout the summer of 2015.

The carrier will operate three round-trips a week on the Helsinki-Chicago route, using [Airbus A330-300](#) widebodies.



Finnair operates eight Airbus A330-300s on long-haul routes. Five are configured to seat 263 passengers, with the other three aircraft each configured to seat 285

[Finnair](#) will operate its Chicago service from June 13 through October 17.

Its schedule for the Helsinki-Chicago route calls for the Finnair flight to depart Helsinki-Vantaa Airport (IATA code HEL) at 5:25 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays from June 13 and arrive at [Chicago O'Hare International Airport](#) (ORD) at 6:40 p.m. local time.

In the other direction, Finnair's flight will leave ORD at 10:00 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays from June 13 and reach HEL at 2:50 p.m. the following day, local time.

Chicago is eight hours behind Helsinki in terms of time-zone difference. This means that Finnair's Helsinki-Chicago sector is scheduled to have a block time of nine hours 15 minutes and the Chicago-Helsinki flight is scheduled to have a block time of eight hours 50 minutes.



Finnair Airbus A330-300 OH-LTS taxis in towards Gate 4 at American Airlines' Terminal 8 at New York JFK after completing Finnair's daily flight from Helsinki. Finnair's New York flight nearly always uses Gate 4 at the terminal

Finnair's Chicago service will be included in the joint transatlantic business operated by [oneworld](#) alliance partners British Airways, Finnair, Iberia, American Airlines and American's merger partner US Airways, which eventually will be fully merged operationally into American under the American Airlines name.

Chicago O'Hare International Airport is a hub for American Airlines, which Finnair says will provide its passengers with quick codeshare connections to destinations throughout the United States, including San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The joint transatlantic business between the cooperating oneworld airlines also gives customers the possibility to mix and match flights on different carriers for the best pricing and scheduling, according to Finnair.

For example, an itinerary could include a non-stop flight to Chicago in one direction, but a return flight connecting through another transatlantic hub if the timing is more convenient.



A Finnair Airbus A330-300 lands at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport on the afternoon of June 8, 2012, after completing a long-haul flight from Asia

“Chicago is a great addition to our summer destinations, and is in demand with leisure travelers from Northern Europe,” says Petri Vuori , Finnair’s VP global sales.

“Finnair’s timetable allows for easy connections to Chicago from throughout our extensive network in Europe and even Asia,” adds Vuori. “Chicago, as a hub of our one world partner American Airlines, also offers excellent onward connections in America.”

The carrier’s decision to launch service to Chicago will mean the carrier dropping its seasonal summer service to Vietnam’s capital Hanoi.

The airline has previously announced Athens, Dublin, Malta and Split as new summer destinations for 2015.