

oystin

TRAVEL DISTRIBUTION AND RETAILING UPDATES

WEEKS 25 & 26, 2026

THIS EDITION CONTAINS NEWS ON:

Air Europa | AirCairo | All Nippon Airways | British Airways | China Airlines | LOT Polish Airlines | Lufthansa Group | Norwegian | Southwest Airlines | United Nigeria Airlines | Virgin Australia



AIR EUROPA RENEWS DISTRIBUTION PARTNERSHIP WITH SABRE

Air Europa (UX) and Sabre have agreed on distribution terms ensuring continued access from July 1, when the airline's new Distribution Channel Fee (DCF) comes into effect. The agreement follows UX's announcement from earlier this year, whereby the carrier had notified travel agents that its distribution agreement with Sabre would expire at the end of June.

The DCF will be applied equally across all three major GDSs, while bookings through UX's direct AEA Direct channels (AEA Direct API, AEA Direct Partner, and AEA Direct Web) remain exempt.

Additionally, UX's content has also gone live on Wings, an NDC platform operated by Starlings Technologies.

DCF per direction applied to GDS tickets issued from July 1, 2026

12.00 EUR | 14.50 USD | 11.00 GBP | 11.00 CHF

dependent on Point of Commencement



LOT POLISH AIRLINES NDC CONTENT NOW LIVE ON TRAVELPORT

LOT Polish Airlines' NDC content is now live on Travelport+, covering 63 countries across Europe, North America, Africa, Asia, Australia and the Middle East. The deal was first announced in February 2026, allowing Travelport-connected agents to access LOT's full range of ancillaries and unsurcharged fares, bypassing the airline's 16 EUR GDS EDIFACT surcharge.

Recent distribution updates from LOT Polish Airlines



JUL 2023

EDIFACT surcharge of 10 EUR, content withdrawal, and differentiation announced



FEB 2025

GDS EDIFACT surcharge increased to 16 EUR



JUN 2026

Go-live of NDC content on Travelport across 63 countries



NOV 2021

NDC and IT deal with Amadeus announced



NOV 2023

NDC integrated with ARC; NDC content go-live on Sabre



FEB 2026

NDC deal announced with Travelport; expected go-live in Q2 2026



BRITISH AIRWAYS MOVES TO AMADEUS ALTÉA NDC

British Airways (BA) is transitioning its NDC from its in-house NDC 17.2 platform to Amadeus Altéa NDC 21.3.

The shift is part of BA's broader 7 billion GBP business transformation and deepens the airline's long-standing relationship with Amadeus, which includes Altéa PSS, Amadeus Revenue Management, and offer-order capabilities via Nevio. BA's NDC content has been available through the Amadeus GDS since 2023.

Selection of British Airways' Amadeus ecosystem





LHG REACHES 50% NDC SHARE IN INDIRECT BOOKINGS

Lufthansa Group (LHG) has announced that 50% of its indirect bookings are now made through NDC channels, partially attributed to accelerating NDC adoption by TMCs.

77.5% of LHG's bookings, including direct channel bookings, now sit outside the traditional EDIFACT environment, as the group rolls out NDC 24.1 and implements Offer and Order.

ANA MIGRATES DOMESTIC OPERATIONS TO ALTÉA PSS

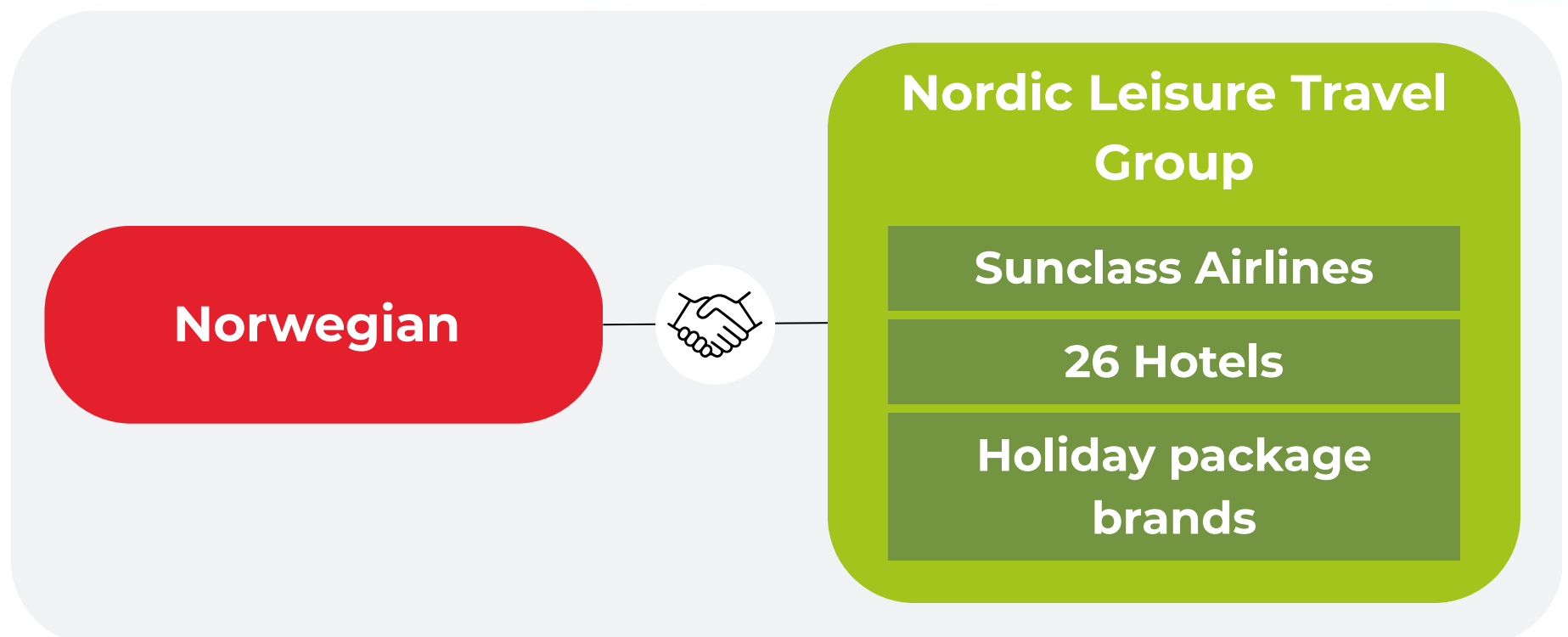
All Nippon Airways (ANA) has completed its migration of domestic flight operations to Altéa PSS, decommissioning its in-house PSS. The carrier had been using Altéa PSS for international flights since 2015 and signed an expanded PSS deal including domestic operations in 2023. The cutover went live across five major Japanese airports.



NORWEGIAN ACQUIRES NORDIC LEISURE TRAVEL GROUP

Norwegian (DY) has acquired Scandinavian Nordic Leisure Travel Group for 843 million USD in cash and stock. The deal is expected to boost DY's revenue by 50% and drive a 2% margin improvement by 2027 through cross-selling between the group's airline and leisure businesses.

This acquisition adds Sunclass Airlines, a charter carrier operating a fleet of 12 Airbus aircraft, to DY's growing group.





CHINA AIRLINES RAISES GDS BOOKING SERVICE CHARGE IN JULY

China Airlines will increase its GDS Booking Service Charge, a cost-recovery fee applied to all GDS-issued tickets and passed to passengers, from 28 USD to 30 USD per segment effective July 9.

This marks the airline's second increase of the charge this year, having raised the fee from 25 USD to 28 USD in March, following similar moves by fellow Taiwanese carriers EVA Air and Starlux Airlines. Tigerair Taiwan has not increased the GDS Booking Service Charges.

Increase in China Airlines' GDS Booking Service Charges (USD per segment)

Fee before 27 March 2026	Fee as of 27 March 2026	Fee as of 9 July 2026
25	28	30



AIRLINE AI UPDATES

Southwest Airlines has announced a partnership with AWS as its preferred cloud provider, targeting a fully cloud-based, AI-enabled architecture by 2028. The transition will affect core airline systems, including distribution and retailing infrastructure, and aims to automate development workflows.

Virgin Australia has launched flight search inside ChatGPT, becoming the first Australian airline to offer flight discovery through the platform. Travelers can describe a trip in natural language and receive matching Virgin Australia flight options, including Velocity Frequent Flyer Reward Seats. The launch follows Virgin Atlantic's earlier move to become the first airline globally to launch an official app within ChatGPT, with bookings in both cases completed through the airline's own channels.



MORE AIRLINE UPDATES

United Nigeria Airlines has gone live on the Amadeus GDS, giving connected agents access to the airline's inventory and fares. The move follows the airline's Sabre distribution partnership announced last year, further expanding its global distribution footprint.

Trans Anguilla Airways, a regional carrier in the Eastern Caribbean, has gone live on GDS for the first time. The airline's flights are now searchable and bookable under code W2 across Amadeus, Sabre, Travelport, Apollo and Worldspan.

Aero Nomad Airlines, a Kyrgyz carrier founded in 2021, has partnered with Hahnair to make its flights bookable across all major GDS. They are now available in over 190 markets under platform code HR-169, with Hahnair handling ticketing and settlement as the legal ticket issuer.



TPCONNECTS EXPANDS NDC AND ONE ORDER CAPABILITIES

TPConnects has launched Iris Express API, a lighter NDC integration tool designed to reduce complexity for travel sellers through smaller data responses and faster load times. Separately, TPConnects has partnered with Ink Innovation to demonstrate practical applications of IATA's One Order framework, connecting commercial offers to the passenger journey across key airport touchpoints.

FLYR AND RES2 PARTNER ON ORDER-BASED AIRPORT DELIVERY

FLYR has partnered with Res2, developer of the iPort airport delivery management system used at over 500 airports worldwide. The collaboration addresses the airport delivery layer, which has traditionally lagged behind offer-and-order adoption. The combined solution runs alongside existing PSS infrastructure.



PAYMENTS UPDATES

IATA has added **Kora**, an African payments infrastructure company, to its Financial Gateway platform. This enables airlines to access Africa's fragmented payment systems through a single integration and removes the need for multiple local payment provider relationships across the continent.

AirCairo has activated **IATA BSP** in India, enabling accredited travel agents across the country to issue tickets through the BSP platform. This is part of AirCairo's broader push to strengthen its distribution presence in the Indian market.

2C2P by Antom, a Southeast Asian payments platform serving over 25 airlines across more than 400 payment methods, has confirmed AWS as its core infrastructure provider. Additionally, 2C2P is employing generative AI to accelerate merchant integration and engineering workflows.



HELPING AIRLINES SUCCEED IN DISTRIBUTION.

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- 1) Distribution Discovery - ORIENTATION AND SCOPING WORKSHOP(S)
- 2) Distribution Strategy - END-TO-END PROJECT
- 3) Distribution as a Service - ONGOING EXPERT SUPPORT

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