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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Denver International Airport and Cayman Airways Celebrate Inaugural Flight to Cayman Islands**

***With nonstop service to this sunny destination, DEN welcomes its 11<sup>th</sup> foreign-flag carrier***

**DENVER – March 2, 2019** – Today, Denver International Airport (DEN) welcomed a new foreign-flag carrier, Cayman Airways, by celebrating the inaugural nonstop flight between Denver and Grand Cayman (GCM). This flight is DEN's fifth new international airline and sixth new international destination since January 2017.

[See photos of the inaugural flight celebration here.](#)

"Denver's global reach continues to expand, and we are very excited to welcome Cayman Airways as the first Caribbean-based airline to serve the Mile High City," Mayor Michael B. Hancock said. "Each new airline or nonstop destination is a new opportunity for our residents and visitors to explore the world."

Denver is a natural addition to the Grand Cayman network, as Colorado boasts the sixth-largest population of scuba divers in the U.S. and ranks as the fastest-growing state for scuba divers since 2010. Grand Cayman is a popular location for scuba diving and is widely considered a world-class diving destination.

"As the National Airline of the Cayman Islands, this is a momentous occasion, and we are very excited about welcoming new and returning visitors to the Cayman Islands from the Mile High City," said Cayman Airways President and CEO Fabian Whorms. "This new Denver nonstop service will reduce the travel time to Grand Cayman from typically between nine and eleven hours using multiple flights, to less than five hours aboard a direct flight on our brand-new state-of-the-art Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft, combined with our renowned Caymankind inflight experience, which includes complimentary Seven Fathoms Rum Punch."

The new service will operate twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, through mid-August, and will return in December 2019. The nonstop flight is approximately five hours each way and will operate using a Boeing 737 MAX 8 with 160 seats, a new addition to the Cayman Airways fleet.

"This is a historic day for air service in Denver," said DEN CEO Kim Day. "Nonstop access to the Caribbean on Cayman Airways is a unique offering we are proud to provide to Colorado's growing and active population."

Currently, Denver ranks as the second-largest U.S. market without nonstop service to an island in the Caribbean, with demand reaching more than 700 passengers per day. Additionally, Denver is the largest U.S. market without nonstop service to Grand Cayman with more than 250 passengers a week traveling to this tropical destination. Travel demand between Denver and Grand Cayman is very strong, recording nearly 20 percent growth over the past year.

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"Home to world-class accommodations, luxury experiences on-land and below sea, the world's best beaches and premier culinary offerings, the Cayman Islands is the idyllic Caribbean island escape," said Deputy Director of International Marketing and Promotions for the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism Oneisha Richards. "Now a direct flight less than five hours away, we look forward to hosting visitors from Denver and the wider West Coast."

With the addition of the flight to Grand Cayman, DEN will be served by 23 airlines, including 11 foreign-flag carriers, that provide service to 26 international destinations in 12 countries and more than 210 total nonstop destinations.

#### **About Cayman Airways**

As the National Airline of the Cayman Islands since 1968, Cayman Airways has been connecting the Cayman Islands with the world for 50 years, providing regular nonstop service between Grand Cayman and: Miami and Tampa, Florida; New York, New York; Kingston and Montego Bay, Jamaica; Havana, Cuba; and La Ceiba and Roatan, Honduras. Nonstop flights are also offered seasonally between Grand Cayman and Chicago, Illinois, as well as Denver, Colorado which launches in March 2019. An ongoing Fleet Modernization Plan will see the airline's current three Boeing 737-300 jet aircraft replaced with brand new Boeing 737 MAX 8 jets, making it the youngest fleet in the region by 2020, and the first in the region to operate Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft. Cayman Airways Express operates multiple daily domestic flights between Grand Cayman and the Sister Islands of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman with two Twin Otter aircraft and two Saab 340B+ aircraft. Corporate headquarters for Cayman Airways is located at 91 Owen Roberts Drive, George Town, Grand Cayman. For more information and bookings call (345) 949-2311, 1-800-422-9626 (within the USA), or visit [www.caymanairways.com](http://www.caymanairways.com).

#### **About the Cayman Islands**

Located 480 miles south of Miami in the vibrant tranquility of western Caribbean, this trio of tiny islands is a premier destination for discriminating travellers, divers, honeymooners and families. World-renowned for its idyllic beaches and recognised as a sophisticated, diverse and memorable tourist destination, the Cayman Islands offers spectacular recreational opportunities along with warm, impeccable service. To learn more about the Cayman Islands, please go to [visitcaymanislands.com](http://visitcaymanislands.com) or [www.divecayman.ky](http://www.divecayman.ky) or call your local travel agent.

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*Denver International Airport is the fifth-busiest airport in the United States. With more than 64.5 million passengers traveling through the airport each year, DEN is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world's largest aviation market. DEN is the primary economic engine for the state of Colorado, generating more than \$26 billion for the region annually. For more information visit [www.FlyDenver.com](http://www.FlyDenver.com), check us out on [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#), and [Instagram](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).*

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