Thousands arrive for Edinburgh's Hogmanay

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This is set to be the busiest Hogmanay yet with Edinburgh Airport welcoming more passengers in the run up to the big night than ever before.

In the week between Christmas Day and the last flight on 31 December Edinburgh Airport will welcome over 86,000 arriving passengers. Up from over 75,000 arriving passengers in the same period last year and up again from the 70,966 who arrived at Edinburgh Airport in the final week of 2014.

Throughout the festive period a dip in passenger numbers happens at all airports but a year-on-year comparison shows Edinburgh Airport is going from strength to strength – and the appeal of both the Capital city and Scotland as a party destination have been cited for this increase.

Welcoming this year's figures Edinburgh Airport's Chief Executive Gordon Dewar said: "The global demand for Edinburgh and the international draw of Scotland has once again surpassed expectations and previous records set last year. New Year 2016 smashed all records of Scottish Airports – so to go one better this year is a great achievement.

"Edinburgh is rightly recognised globally as a world-class city and Scotland is a massive brand. It's easy to see why – our heritage, our culture and our people. People want to visit us – and at this time of year they want to party with us."

Al Thomson Director of Unique Events & Edinburgh's Hogmanay said: "Edinburgh's Hogmanay has seen an annual increase in its international audience and last year we welcomed visitors from over 80 countries to celebrate at Scotland's New Year Festival. Having Edinburgh Airport as the arrival and departure point for our visitors ensures that they are receiving the very best experience on their travels to Scotland, the home of Hogmanay."