

# Highest number of air travellers arrive in Edinburgh for the New Year festival

More than 91,000 revellers fly in for New Year.

It appears that Edinburgh's reputation as one of the party capitals of the world continues to grow as more than 91,000 people fly into the city to bring in 2018.

The number of air passengers arriving in Edinburgh Airport between Christmas Day and the last flight on the 31 December show a rise of 5,000 passengers on the same period last year, continuing the upward trend experienced in recent years.



Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport Gordon Dewar said: "Edinburgh's global brand appeals to people across the world all year round as they come here to find out more about our history, discover our cultural offerings and experience the warm and friendly nature our people are famed for.

"And at this time of year our world-famous Hogmanay celebrations are a massive draw to those seeking to see out 2017 and bring in the new year in style, as our figures show. We've had a fantastic year overall and we're looking forward to what 2018 will bring – Happy New Year to all of our passengers."

Charlie Wood, director Edinburgh's Hogmanay said: "We are delighted that people are travelling from far and wide to join in our internationally famous new year celebration,

Edinburgh's Hogmanay. So far we have bookings from people in more than 70 countries who have or will make the journey to be here.

"This year as Edinburgh's Hogmanay marks its 25th anniversary we are throwing the biggest party yet from a refreshed Torchlight Procession climaxing in the big reveal of #ScotWord, to new family friendly event Bairns Afore, and for the Street Party and the midnight moment an extended fireworks with its first commissioned soundscape, and more than 80 extra performers in the Street Party animating the whole arena with aerialists, acrobats, parkour, musicians and more.

"On the 1 of January the Loony Dook which has attracted dippers from as far afield as Australia, Mexico and Brazil among many other nations will cure hangovers and raise thousands for charities. This will truly be a massive celebration like nowhere else in the world."

*Photo Ian Georgeson*