

## RYANAIR CELEBRATES ITS NEW MILAN BERGAMO – BELFAST CONNECTION

Today (14 September), Ryanair, Italy's no. 1 airline, has celebrated at the Milan Bergamo Airport a new bi-weekly connection to Belfast. Present were Emilio Bellingardi, SACBO Director General, Niamh Kinsella, Tourism Ireland's Manager for Italy, and John Alborante, Sales and Marketing Manager for Italy.

The new flight, with fares starting at €14.99 one way, was welcomed with great interest on the part of passengers. Six months after the announcement of the new route's introduction last March, it has already recorded booming sales, above and beyond expectations.

Thanks to the new Ryanair direct flight, operational since 3 September 2016 with departures on Wednesday and Saturday, passengers can now reach Belfast while taking advantage of the lowest fares in Europe, and discover the cultural attractions and vibrant culinary and artistic scenes of this city in Northern Ireland.

### John Alborante, Sales & Marketing Manager for Ryanair, expressed:

*"We're pleased by the positive response with which our clients have welcomed the new Milan Bergamo – Belfast connection, which in only a few months from its announcement has recorded a boom in bookings. Belfast is the 68th most popular destination served by Milan Bergamo, our main hub in Italy, where we transport over 9 million passengers every year. We're also happy to continue offering to our clients the benefits of the Ryanair Always Getting Better program, which provides new routes, new digital services and even lower fares".*

### Giacomo Cattaneo, SACBO Aviation Director, declared:

*"At the beginning of 2016, SACBO welcomed with great pleasure the announcement of the new route to Belfast and the start of this operation is an opportunity to underscore this confirmation of Ryanair's role in our airport, which, in this case, allows us to broaden the reach of our network of connections to Northern Ireland. Once again, we find great enthusiasm on the part of the Milan Bergamo Airport's clients, who have learned to embrace the opportunity to travel for tourism, work and study".*

Route	Frequency	Start of service
Milan Bergamo - Belfast	2 weekly flights	3 September 2016

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