

Cyprus airports move into Phase B of COVID-19 recovery plan



Cyprus' Minister of Transport Yiannis Karousos and Hermes Airports CEO Eleni Kaloyirou greet the arrival of a Ryanair flight from Thessaloniki at Paphos Airport

Hermes Airports, which operates Larnaca and Paphos airports, moved into Phase B of its recovery plan on June 20, signaling the gradual restoration of air connectivity in Cyprus.

During Phase B, access to the airports will continue to be allowed only to passengers and staff. Upon their entry in the terminal buildings, passengers will go through the thermal screening checks.

The countries which are included in Phase B will be reevaluated regularly by the Ministry of Health and will be classified accordingly in the categories A, B or C, with Category A having the most positive epidemiological status.

During Phase A, from June 9-19, a total of 11,604 passengers traveled to and from Cyprus (4,846 arriving and 6,758 departing passengers). Some 70 arrivals and 72 departures were operated during this period.

On June 21, the first arrival landed at Paphos Airport from Thessaloniki, operated by Ryanair.

The Minister of Transport Yiannis Karousos and the Hermes Airports CEO Eleni Kaloyirou were present for the arrival of the flight.

More flights are expected to be added to the flight schedule of Paphos and Larnaca airports in the near future, Hermes Airports said.

Eleni Kaloyirou, CEO of Hermes Airports, said: "This is a very different restart, after a period of time which was unknown for all of us. Through the measures which are in effect as of June 9 at Larnaca and Paphos airports, we aim to make passengers feel safe and secure during their journey via the airports. At the same time, with the restoration - to a large extent - of the flight schedule, we aspire to give Cyprus tourism the necessary drive to restart and make up for the time lost. We are optimistic that we will make it."