



10 FEBRUARY 2021

## MEDIA RELEASE

### REX TO OPERATE ALBANY AND ESPERANCE ROUTES UNTIL MID-2023

Rex has announced that the Western Australian Government has granted Rex an extension on its current deed of agreement to operate the Perth-Albany and Perth-Esperance routes until 30 June 2023. Rex's current five-year deed to service the two routes was due to expire on 27 February 2021.

Rex will continue to have exclusive rights to operate the two air routes under the deed, with the same terms and conditions.

The extension of the Perth-Albany and Perth-Esperance deeds of agreement to 30 June 2023 aligns the deed with other regulated routes within the state, including the Perth-Carnarvon and Perth-Monkey Mia (Shark Bay) routes, which have also been operated by Rex since July 2018.

Rex General Manager of Network Strategy, Warrick Lodge said, "Rex would like to thank the WA Government for entrusting Rex with the continued provision of essential regional air services on the Perth-Albany and Perth-Esperance routes through until mid-2023. This decision provides increased certainty for the Albany and Esperance communities and the benefits of certainty in the current climate cannot be underestimated".

"I would also like to thank the Hon Rita Saffioti (MLA), Minister of Transport of Western Australia for the proactive Covid-19 assistance since April 2020 that has enabled Rex to rebuild the Perth-Albany route from 4 to 14 weekly return services and the Perth-Esperance route from 4 to 13 weekly return services."

"Rex understands the critical importance of regional air services, particularly when local communities are also dealing with the socio-economic impacts of Covid-19. In partnership with the WA Government, Rex has methodically increased the number of weekly return services to Albany and Esperance while continuing to provide the Rex Community Fare scheme to the direct benefit of the Albany and Esperance communities."

"While Rex's network capacity in NSW, SA and VIC is currently only about 35% of pre-COVID levels, the WA Government actions have resulted in Rex's WA capacity to now be about 70% of pre-COVID levels and we are confident we will be back to full capacity in a few months."

The Rex Community Fares are priced at \$139 for Albany, \$138 for Esperance, \$158 for Monkey Mia, \$199 for Carnarvon and can be booked via [rex.com.au](http://rex.com.au)

**Rex** is Australia's largest and oldest independent regional and domestic airline operating a fleet of 60 Saab340 aircraft (pre-COVID) on 1,500 weekly flights to 59 destinations throughout all states in Australia. Rex will begin its domestic services with six 737-800s in March 2021. In addition to the airline Rex, the Rex Group comprises wholly owned subsidiaries Pel-Air Aviation (air freight, aeromedical and charter operator) and the two pilot academies, Australian Airline Pilot Academy in Wagga Wagga and Ballarat.

**Rex Media Contact: Ben Worsley 0417 585 964, [ben.worsley@rex.com.au](mailto:ben.worsley@rex.com.au)**

Members of the Rex Group

