

**Advertorial** BY SAA

# NEW FLIGHTS STRENGTHEN SAA'S PRESENCE IN WEST AFRICA

SAA has strengthened its position in West Africa with the introduction of a second West African country linking air travel to North America.

"This is a major development and achievement for SAA as part of our Long-Term Turnaround Strategy, where we've set growth on the African continent as one of our key objectives. With a strong presence in West Africa, in the form of non-stop services between Accra and Washington DC and through our airline partnerships, customers will soon have access to further destinations in West Africa," says Nico Bezuidenhout, Acting CEO of SAA.

"SAA's decision to route some of its North American-bound flights to Ghana is based on sound business principles, as there's a considerable demand for such flights."

"Directly connecting the two countries, now made possible with the granting of traffic rights by the Ghanaian government, will aid existing trade relations and further strengthen Ghana's robust economic outlook and its imminent AGOA status," says Kendy Phohleli, SAA Executive: Africa Hub Projects.

Connecting Ghana to the USA isn't the only outcome of this ini-

tiative: SAA's also formed a partnership with a domestic Ghanaian carrier, offering customers more travel options within the West African region.

True to our promise of improving inter-connectivity on the continent, SAA entered into a bilateral code-sharing agreement with Africa World Airlines, the fastest-growing airline in Ghana, which operates domestic and regional flights in West Africa. Based at the Kotoka International Airport in Accra, the airline was recently awarded "Domestic Airline of the Year" in Ghana.

The partnership offers SAA customers from Washington and Johannesburg seamless connectivity via Accra to other destinations in Ghana, such as Kumasi, Takoradi and Tamale, as well as to Lagos, Nigeria.

From Washington, SAA offers convenient connections to and from over 50 markets in the USA and Canada through its airline partners United Airlines, JetBlue Airways and Virgin America.

SAA introduced flights between Johannesburg and Accra, Ghana more than two decades ago and operates daily flights.



Nico Bezuidenhout

**As of August, 2, 2015, the schedule will be reconfigured as follows:**

- Four of the weekly Accra flights (Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday) will continue onwards to Washington on A340-600s aircraft.
- Three of the weekly Accra flights (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday) will continue onwards to Abidjan, Ivory Coast on A330-200 or A340-300 aircraft.
- Three of the current weekly flights to Washington (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday) will continue operating from Johannesburg via Dakar, Senegal on A340-300 or A330-200 aircraft.

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FROM 2 AUGUST

FLIGHT	DAY OF THE WEEK	DEPART	ARRIVE	DEPART	ARRIVE
SA209	Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday	Johannesburg 17:25	Accra 21:45	Accra 22:45	Washington 06:05 the next day
SA210	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday	Washington 17:40	Accra 07:40	Accra 08:40	Johannesburg 16:30
SA052	Saturday	Johannesburg 16:55	Accra 21:15		
SA053	Saturday	Accra 22:30	Johannesburg 06:20 the next day		
SA056	Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday	Johannesburg 12:50	Accra 17:10	Accra 18:10	Abidjan 19:10
SA057	Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday	Abidjan 20:10	Accra 21:25	Accra 22:30	Johannesburg 06:20 the next day

\* Schedule is subject to Ghana CAA government approval

