

= Air Norway =

Air Norway AS is a virtual , regional airline with its head office in the town of Brekstad , the administrative centre of the municipality of Ørland , in Sør @-@ Trøndelag county , Norway . It operates seven round trips a week from its hub at Ørland Airport to Oslo Airport , Gardermoen , and a single , weekly round trip from Oslo to Aalborg Airport , Denmark , using a wet leased Fairchild Metro aircraft from North Flying . The airline was established in 2003 . Following the bankruptcy of Coast Air in January 2008 , the airline stepped in and was serving Fagernes Airport , Leirin with two daily flights to Oslo , and one daily flight to Trondheim , but these were terminated in 2009 .

= = Operations = =

The airline is owned 40 % by Nordic Air , 40 % by the Municipality of Ørland and 20 % by North Flying . All operations are flown by North Flying , who operate a 19 @-@ seat Fairchild Metro 23 in Air Norway livery . The municipality subsidizes the route with NOK 1 million per year . The company has a managing director in a 20 % position , plus one person who coordinates booking on an hourly basis . In 2008 , the airline had a revenue of NOK 16 million and made NOK 800 @,@ 000 in profit . Ørland Airport is the civilian section of the military Ørland Main Air Station . Traditionally , the main customer group for Air Norway has been military personnel .

= = Destinations = =

The airline operates seven weekly round trips from Ørland to Oslo , with weekday flights leaving Ørland at 7 : 40 and returning from Oslo at 18 : 00 . No flights are made on Saturdays , but there are two round trips to Oslo on Friday , and to Ørland on Sunday . A single , weekly round trip is made to Aalborg from Oslo , leaving on Friday evening and returning Sunday afternoon .

= = History = =

Air Norway was founded in 2003 by Gunnar Hagsveen . Scheduled services from Ørland to Oslo commenced on 23 May 2003 . The company had originally planned to also operate aircraft between Ørland and Bodø Airport , to two main air stations of the Norwegian Air Force , but these plans were abandoned . Just after the route commenced , the owner became seriously ill , and marketing and sales efforts were neglected , causing a less @-@ than @-@ predicted cabin load . Hagsveen died on 26 December , and his heirs encouraged local businesses to purchase shares in the company . Air Norway commenced weekly flights from Oslo to Aalborg Airport in Denmark from 31 January 2004 . In February 2004 , the company received a loan for NOK 650 @,@ 000 from the municipality to operate pay off other debt . At the same time , the airline was sold to Sven Rosenvinge .

By 2005 , the airline was still losing money . On 21 February , the Municipality of Ørland bought shares for NOK 1 million , while North Flying bought the remaining half of the company . Mayor Hallgeir Grøntvedt (Center Party) stated that while it was a risky investment for a municipality with limited budget , the airline was of great strategic importance for Ørland and Fosen . When the European Union introduced new security rules for airports from 1 January 2005 , Ørland Airport was exempt , because of the small size of the aircraft . By April , the airport had received notice that 100 % security control would still have to be introduced , costing the municipality NOK 465 @,@ 000 per year . At the same time , Air Norway was still losing money , and applied to the municipality to not be charged landing fees at the airport . When this was granted , it saved the company NOK 540 @,@ 000 per year . In July , Air Norway transported its 10,000th passenger and signed a new contract with the Air Force , which was responsible for more than half the ridership . In November , the administration of the airline was moved from Drammen to Ørland and Fosen Næringsshage . Snorre Hvitsand was then hired as managing director .

In 2006 , the company experienced a 40 % passenger growth , and from 6 September , Air Norway also introduced services on Wednesday . The same year , the municipality started a NOK 1 @.@ 8

million upgrade to the airport . When it opened on 3 September 2007 , it became an international airport and allowed transit for passengers to Aalborg , plus increased security and a general renovation of the terminal building from 1978 .

Following the bankruptcy of Coast Air in January 2008 , Air Norway and North Flying were awarded an interim contract to operate the route from Fagernes to Oslo , with subsidies from the Norwegian Ministry of Transport and Communications . At the same time , the airline started a route from Fagernes to Trondheim Airport , Værnes . In March , they won the public service obligation (PSO) contract , granting them the route until 31 March 2009 . During the first half of 2008 , ridership at Fagernes Airport was reduced by 27 % , compared with the first half of the previous year . From 1 April 2009 , the Fagernes PSO contract was lost to DOT LT , and Air Norway terminated those routes .

In 2009 , Air Norway lost 1 300 passengers after the Norwegian Air Force decided to not permit their employees to travel from Ørland , but instead have to take cheaper flights from Trondheim , located about a two - hour drive away . The reduction in ridership , along with a strengthening of the Danish krone in relation to the Norwegian , caused Air Norway to lose NOK 100 000 by August 2009 . The mayor of Ørland stated at that he was working to make the route receive state grants as a PSO . In February 2010 , the municipality granted NOK 62 500 for Air Norway to run a television commercial during the semi - final of Melodi Grand Prix .