

= Kenya Airways =

Kenya Airways Ltd . , more commonly known as Kenya Airways , is the flag carrier of Kenya . The company was founded in 1977 , after the dissolution of East African Airways . The carrier 's head office is located in Embakasi , Nairobi , with its hub at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport .

The airline was wholly owned by the Government of Kenya until April 1995 ( 1995 @-@ 04 ) , and it was privatised in 1996 , becoming the first African flag carrier to successfully do so . Kenya Airways is currently a public @-@ private partnership . The largest shareholder is the Government of Kenya ( 29 @-@ 8 . % ) , followed by KLM , which has a 26 @-@ 73 % stake in the company . The rest of the shares are held by private owners ; shares are traded on the Nairobi Stock Exchange , the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange , and the Uganda Securities Exchange .

Kenya Airways is widely considered as one of the leading Sub @-@ Saharan operators ; as of January 2013 , the carrier was ranked fourth among the top ten ones that operate in Africa by seat capacity , behind South African Airways , Ethiopian Airlines and EgyptAir . The airline became a full member of SkyTeam in June 2010 ( 2010 @-@ 06 ) , and is also a member of the African Airlines Association since 1977 . As of March 2015 , the company had 3 @-@ 986 employees .

= = History = =

Kenya Airways was established by the Kenyan government on 22 January 1977 ( 1977 @-@ 01 @-@ 22 ) , following the break @-@ up of the East African Community and the consequent demise of East African Airways ( EAA ) . On 4 February 1977 ( 1977 @-@ 02 @-@ 04 ) , two Boeing 707 ? 321s leased from British Midland Airways inaugurated operations , serving the Nairobi ? Frankfurt ? London route . On internal and regional flights , the carrier deployed aircraft formerly operated by the EAA consortium , such as one Douglas DC @-@ 9 @-@ 52 and three Fokker F @-@ 27 @-@ 200s . In late 1977 , three Boeing 707s were acquired from Northwest Orient . The following year , the company formed a charter subsidiary named Kenya Flamingo Airlines , which leased aircraft from the parent airline in order to operate international passenger and cargo services . Aer Lingus provided the company with technical and management support in the early years .

In July 1980 ( 1980 @-@ 07 ) the airline had 2 @-@ 100 employees and a fleet of three Boeing 707 @-@ 320Bs , one Boeing 720B , one DC @-@ 9 @-@ 30 and three Fokker F @-@ 27 @-@ 200s . At this time , Addis Ababa , Athens , Bombay , Cairo , Copenhagen , Frankfurt , Jeddah , Kampala , Karachi , Khartoum , London , Lusaka , Mauritius , Mogadishu , Rome , Salisbury , Seychelles and Zurich were part of the airline 's list of international destinations , whereas domestic services radiating from Nairobi to Kisumu , Malindi , Mombasa and Mumias were also operated . A Nairobi ? Bombay nonstop route was launched in 1982 using Boeing 707 @-@ 320B equipment . A year later , the company commenced serving Tanzania . Flights to Burundi , Malawi and Rwanda were launched in 1984 . Capacity on the European routes was boosted in November 1985 ( 1985 @-@ 11 ) with the incorporation of an Airbus A310 @-@ 200 leased from Condor . Kilimanjaro was first served in March 1986 ( 1986 @-@ 03 ) . That year , the airline ordered two Airbus A310 @-@ 300s . Kenya Airways became the first African carrier in acquiring the type , and they were the first wide @-@ bodies ordered by the company . Funded with a US \$ 20 @-@ 000 @-@ 000 ( equivalent to \$ 43 @-@ 175 @-@ 471 in 2015 ) loan , the delivery of these two aircraft took place in May and September 1986 ( 1986 @-@ 09 ) . They were put on service on the Kenya ? Europe corridor , and permitted Kenya Airways to return the A310 @-@ 200 to the lessor . In early 1988 , the carrier ordered two Fokker 50s ; aimed at operating domestic routes , the airline received the first of these aircraft at the end of the year . Also in 1988 , the lease of a third A310 @-@ 300 was arranged with the International Lease Finance for a ten @-@ year period ; the aircraft joined the fleet in November 1989 ( 1989 @-@ 11 ) . Leased from Ansett Worldwide , the first Boeing 757 @-@ 200 was handed over to the company in January 1990 ( 1990 @-@ 01 ) , whereas a third Fokker 50 was incorporated in October the same year . By late 1991 , two Boeing 737 @-@ 200s had been leased from Guinness Peat Aviation .

In 1986 , Sessional Paper Number 1 was published by the Government of Kenya , outlining the

country 's need for economic development and growth . The document stressed the government opinion that the airline would be better off if owned by private interests , thus resulting in the first attempt to privatise the airline . The government named Philip Ndegwa as Chairman of the Board in 1991 , with specific orders to make the airline a privately owned company . In 1992 , the Public Enterprise Reform paper was published , giving Kenya Airways priority among national companies in Kenya to be privatised . Ndegwa was succeeded by Isaac Omolo Okero . In September 1992 ( 1992 @-@ 09 ) , Brian Davies , was appointed as the new managing director of the company . Davies had been previously hired to carry out a study of viability on privatisation , working for British Airways ' Speedwing consulting arm . Swissair was the first company that provided Kenya Airways with privatisation advice . In the fiscal year 1993 to 1994 , the airline produced its first profit since the start of commercialisation . In 1994 , the International Finance Corporation was appointed to provide assistance in the privatisation process , which effectively began in 1995 . A large aviation industry partner was sought to acquire 40 % of the shares , with another 40 % reserved for private investors and the government keeping the remaining stake . The government would absorb almost US \$ 90 million in debts and would convert another US \$ 31 million it provided in loans into equity ; after reorganisation , the company would have a debt of approximate US \$ 78 million . British Airways , KLM , Lufthansa and South African Airways were among the airlines that expressed interest in taking a stake in Kenya Airways .

KLM was eventually awarded the privatisation of the company , which restructured its debts and made a master corporation agreement with the Dutch airline that bought 26 % of the shares , becoming the largest single shareholder since then . Shares were floated to the public in March 1996 ( 1996 @-@ 03 ) , and the airline started trading on the Nairobi Stock Exchange . The Government of Kenya kept a 23 % stake in the company , and offered the remaining 51 % to the public ; however , non @-@ Kenyan shareholders could at most had a participation of 49 % in the airline . Despite 40 % of the shares being kept by foreign investors following privatisation ( including KLM 's 26 % stake ) , top management positions were held by Kenyans . Following the takeover , the government of Kenya capitalised US \$ 70 million , while the airline was awarded a US \$ 15 million loan from the International Finance Corporation to modernise its fleet . In a deal worth US \$ 82 million , two Boeing 737 @-@ 300s were ordered in July 1996 ( 1996 @-@ 07 ) .

In January 2000 ( 2000 @-@ 01 ) , the airline experienced its first fatal accident when an Airbus A310 that had been bought new in 1986 crashed off Ivory Coast , shortly after taking off from Abidjan . By April the same year , the aircraft park consisted of four Airbus A310 @-@ 300s , two Boeing 737 @-@ 200 Advanced and four Boeing 737 @-@ 300s . At this time the company had a staff of 2 @, @ 780 , including 400 engineers , 146 flight crew and 365 cabin crew . From its main hub at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport , scheduled services were operated to Abidjan , Addis Ababa , Amsterdam , Bujumbura , Cairo , Copenhagen , Dar es Salaam , Douala , Dubai , Eldoret , Entebbe / Kampala , Harare , Johannesburg , Karachi , Khartoum , Kigali , Kinshasa , Lagos , Lilongwe , Lokichoggio , London , Lusaka , Mahe Island , Malindi , Mombasa , Mumbai , and Zanzibar . In 2002 , an order for three Boeing 777 @-@ 200ERs was placed with Boeing ; an additional aircraft of the type was acquired in November 2005 ( 2005 @-@ 11 ) . In March 2006 ( 2006 @-@ 03 ) , six Boeing 787 @-@ 8s were ordered ; the first two examples would be delivered in 2010 and the rest in 2011 . The original Boeing 787 order was amended nine months later to include three more aircraft of the type .

In June 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 06 ) the company announced the issuance of rights worth KSh20 billion , aimed at increasing capital to support expansion plans . Following the allocation of shares , KLM increased their stake in the company from 26 % to 26 @. @ 73 % , while the Kenyan government boosted their participation into the company from 23 % to 29 @. @ 8 % , becoming the new major shareholder of the carrier .

= = Corporate affairs = =

= = = Key people = = =

As of February 2016 , Kenya Airways ' Managing Director and chief executive officer ( CEO ) positions were held by Mbuvi Ngunze . Ngunze , who had been appointed CEO in June 2014 ( 2014 @-@ 06 ) , was the company 's former chief operating officer . Dennis Awori was the airline 's chairman , as of July 2016 .

== Subsidiaries and associates ==

The cargo handling company African Cargo Handling Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kenya Airways ; partly owned companies are Kenya Airfreight Handling Limited , dedicated to the cargo handling of perishable goods ( 51 % -owned ) and Tanzanian carrier Precision Air ( 41 @. 23 % -owned ) . A new low @-@ cost subsidiary named Jambojet was created in 2013 .

== Business trends ==

The key trends for the Kenya Airways group over recent years are shown below ( as at year ending 31 March ) :

== Destinations ==

== Alliances ==

KLM sponsored the process of the company joining SkyTeam in mid @-@ 2005 . In September 2007 ( 2007 @-@ 09 ) , the alliance welcomed Kenya Airways as one of the first official SkyTeam Associate Airlines . SkyTeam upgraded the status of the company to a full membership in June 2010 ( 2010 @-@ 06 ) . The alliance provides Kenya Airways ' passengers with access to the member airlines ' worldwide network and passenger facilities .

== Codeshare agreements ==

As of January 2015 , the carrier has codeshare agreements with the following companies , which are the actual operators on the routes specified in parenthesis :

== Future plans ==

In April 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 04 ) , the airline launched a plan named Project Mawingu ( the Swahili word meaning Clouds ) to add 24 destinations by 2021 , including the start of services to Australia , and North and South America , and expanding its presence in Asia as well . The carrier intends to add new flights to São Paulo ( FY2014 / 15 ) , Toronto ( FY2015 / 16 ) , and Perth ( FY 2016 / 17 ) , and to build up a network in Mainland China consisting of eight cities by 2021 , adding seven new destinations ( Beijing , Chengdu , Chongqing , Kunming , Shanghai , Ürümqi , and Xiamen ) to Guangzhou , the only city served in the region , as of April 2012 . In June 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 06 ) , the carrier announced the suspension of services to Rome and Muscat as part of cost @-@ cutting measures , following a 50 % fall in profit for FY2011 / 12 .

In October 2013 ( 2013 @-@ 10 ) , the airline reaffirmed its intention of expanding its route network with the addition of six new destinations every year , following the delivery of Boeing 777s and 787s the carrier has on order . Beijing and Shanghai are expected to be included in the airline 's route network by the end 2014 .

== Fleet ==

== Recent developments and future plans ==

The first of five Embraer 190s ordered in 2010 was incorporated into the fleet in December 2010 ( 2010 @-@ 12 ) . An additional order for ten aircraft of the same type was placed in August 2011 ( 2011 @-@ 08 ) ; the carrier took delivery of the first and second of these fully owned aircraft in September 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 09 ) . In October 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 10 ) , the airline took possession of the 900th E @-@ Jet manufactured by Embraer .

The company announced in late February 2011 ( 2011 @-@ 02 ) its intention of acquiring a freighter aircraft to boost cargo capacity on African operations . Until February 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 02 ) , when a joint freighter service with KLM was launched , the carrier 's cargo division has been using belly capacity on its operations ; there are plans to buy and lease more freighter aircraft in order to boost capacity in the growing cargo market between Africa and Asia . Furthermore , the airline announced in October 2012 ( 2012 @-@ 10 ) the conversion of some Boeing 737 @-@ 300s into freighter aircraft to complement the Boeing 747 @-@ 400F service , jointly operated with KLM and Martinair Cargo . The first of four converted Boeing 737 @-@ 300s was delivered to the company in April 2013 ( 2013 @-@ 04 ) ; Kenya Airways will fly this aircraft on routes to eastern , central and southern Africa that are served by the Embraer 190s , in order to boost cargo capacity . The company took delivery of its first Boeing 777 @-@ 300ER , on lease from GECAS , in October 2013 ( 2013 @-@ 10 ) . It had been previously announced that this aircraft would be deployed on a new route to Guangzhou in November .

Kenya Airways had nine Boeing 787 Dreamliners on order , as of April 2011 , although the company considered cancelling the order after systematic delays with the delivery dates . The airline received some compensation , in cash and in kind , from Boeing for the delays . Afreximbank are financing the acquisition of the 20 aircraft the airline has on order . The handover of the first Boeing 787 took place on 4 April 2014 . On 4 June 2014 ( 2014 @-@ 06 @-@ 04 ) , Nairobi ? Paris became the first route that was served using the Boeing 787 . In August 2014 ( 2014 @-@ 08 ) , Dreamliners were also deployed on the Nairobi ? Johannesburg route .

As of April 2015 , the carrier was set to sell some aircraft , including four Boeing 777s , following a decrease in passenger traffic .

== Current fleet ==

As of May 2016 , the carrier 's fleet consists of the following aircraft :

== Retired fleet ==

The company has previously operated the following equipment :

== Livery ==

In 2005 , Kenya Airways changed its livery . The four stripes running all through the length of the fuselage were replaced by the company slogan Pride of Africa , whereas the KA tail logo was replaced by a styled K encircled with a Q to evoke the airline 's IATA airline code .

== Services ==

== Frequent flyer programmes ==

Former Kenya Airways ' frequent flyer programme Msafiri was merged with KLM 's Flying Dutchman in 1997 , which was in turn merged with that of Air France and rebranded as Flying Blue in 2005 , following the fusion of both companies . Gold Elite and Platinum Elite members of the Flying Blue programme are offered the JV Lounge . This service is provided to Kenya Airways

passengers , and to passengers flying with its partner airlines as well . Simba Lounge is a service provided to Kenya Airways Business passengers only . Both lounges are located at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport .

= = = In @-@ flight entertainment = = =

Different in @-@ flight entertainment is available depending upon the aircraft and the class travelled . The airline 's in @-@ flight magazine is called Msafiri , and is distributed among the passengers in all aircraft , irrespective of the class .

= = Accidents and incidents = =

As of October 2014 , Kenya Airways has had two fatal accidents and two hull loss accidents .

10 July 1988 : A Fokker F27 @-@ 200 , registration 5Y @-@ BBS , approached the runway too fast and made a belly landing at Kisumu Airport inbound from Nairobi as Flight 650 , skidding down the runway for some 600 m ( 2 @, @ 000 ft ) .

11 July 1989 : A Boeing 707 @-@ 320B , registration 5Y @-@ BBK , overran the runway at Bole International Airport following a brake failure . The aircraft had departed from the same airport , and the non @-@ retraction of the landing gear prompted the crew to return .

30 January 2000 : Flight 431 was a scheduled Abidjan ? Lagos ? Nairobi service , operated with an Airbus A310 @-@ 304 , registration 5Y @-@ BEN , that plunged into the Atlantic Ocean and broke up , about a minute after it took off from Abidjan 's Félix Houphouët @-@ Boigny International Airport . There were 179 people aboard , of whom ten were crewmembers ; most of the occupants were Nigerians . 169 people perished in the accident . This was the carrier 's first fatal accident .

5 May 2007 : Flight 507 , operated with a Boeing 737 @-@ 800 , tail number 5Y @-@ KYA , crashed into a mangrove swamp immediately after takeoff for Nairobi , about 5 @.@ 5 kilometres ( 3 @.@ 42 mi ) southeast of Douala International Airport . The flight originated in Abidjan , with a stopover in Douala to pick up passengers . There were 114 people on board , 105 passengers from 23 countries ? the majority of them Cameroonians ? plus 9 crew members ; all of them perished in the accident .