



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Assistance to the Aviation Sector

Tourism Aviation Network Support (TANS) Program

November 2021

Purpose

The Tourism Aviation Network Support (TANS) Program is driving tourism demand for interstate travel, supporting jobs and having an economic multiplier effect, as travellers spend money on accommodation, food and activities in nominated regions under the Program.

It is also supporting increased domestic aviation activity, improving airline sustainability and increasing employment opportunities.

Who

TANS provides a 50 per cent reduction on over 800,000 economy tickets to and from a range of regions (see below) most reliant on tourism and impacted by COVID-19.

Where

The TANS program reduces the cost of flying to the following regions:

- Broome
- Avalon
- Kangaroo Island
- Lasseter and Alice Springs
- Merimbula
- Launceston
- Devonport and Burnie
- Gold Coast
- Sunshine Coast
- Tropical North Queensland (Cairns)
- Whitsundays and Mackay (Proserpine and Hamilton Island)
- Adelaide
- Darwin
- Townsville, and
- Hobart

Design

Travellers are able to access reduced ticket prices at the time of booking.

Tickets are available through the usual booking channels including airline websites and travel agents, noting the distribution of tickets amongst these channels will be at the discretion of the airlines and the capability of their booking platforms.

Timing

Discount tickets went on sale from 1 April 2021. Tickets will need to be booked by 28 February 2022 (unless sold out earlier) for travel also by 28 February 2022.

Contact

For more information, please contact tans@infrastructure.gov.au

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Which airlines are participating?

Airlines that have participated in the program:

- Qantas and Jetstar
- Virgin Australia
- Rex
- Airnorth
- Alliance
- Fly Pelican
- Link Airways

Airlines are able to offer discounted tickets on direct, interstate routes to the targeted regions that the airline served over the last two years, or that the airline had previously announced it would be operating during the program period.

How were the regions selected?

The regions selected:

- Have been hit by the loss of international tourists;
- Are economically dependent on tourism – for jobs and GDP;
- Are dependent on aviation for tourists; and
- Are particularly reliant on tourism during the period April to September.

In addition, Kangaroo Island's tourism sector was impacted by bushfires prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and Merimbula's tourism sector was impacted by the bushfires and the Victorian border closures.

How many discounted tickets will be made available?

Over 800,000 economy tickets have been made available across the travel period until sold out, distributed among the participating airlines and eligible regions. Tickets under the program will be available for economy class fares only.

Are discounted tickets available in both directions? Does a return ticket need to be purchased?

Discounted tickets are available in both directions enabling consumers to book flights that are convenient to them, including choosing to fly with different airlines on different journey legs.

Will there be enough accommodation?

All the regions are heavily reliant on international and interstate tourism, and have been impacted by COVID-19. While accommodation infrastructure is in place, it is the responsibility of travellers to confirm availability.

What happens if borders close? Am I able to get a refund?

Tickets are sold with the airlines' usual terms and conditions. Travellers should carefully consider these conditions and take out travel insurance as appropriate.

How do airlines get involved?

Applications from airlines to participate in the Scheme were open until 30 June through the Australian Government's Grantconnect portal. Further details including program guidelines are available on the GrantConnect website at <https://www.grants.gov.au/>