

24 March 2026

Yamato Group launches freighter operations at KIX - In anticipation of increased air cargo demand -

Kansai Airports is pleased to announce the Yamato Group's launch of freighter operations between Kansai and New Chitose starting 24 March 2026.

This freighter operation, to be handled by Spring Japan, a JAL Group company, is intended to ensure stable transportation capacity and enhance service quality as a new mode of transportation. It responds to the recent rise in logistics volume and labor shortages, as well as increasing risks from climate change and disasters. This marks the first freighter operation by Yamato Group at Kansai International Airport (KIX) and is expected to strengthen KIX's capacity to meet future cargo transportation demand.

Kansai Airports Group will continue contributing to the economic development of the Kansai region and its flight destinations by improving convenience for cargo owners and logistics providers through the enhancement and expansion of our air cargo network.

Launch date:

Tuesday, 24 March 2026

Flight schedule:

Flight	Schedule	Frequency
IJ438	New Chitose (07:40) ^{*1} → Kansai (10:15)	Daily ^{*2}
IJ439	Kansai (11:30) → New Chitose (13:30)	Daily ^{*2}

The schedule above and aircraft are subject to change without notice.

*1 The departure time for New Chitose will change to 7:45 from 31 March.

*2 The operation of these flights will be suspended on 29 and 30 March.

Aircraft:

A321-200P2F

Load capacity: 28 tons



Image courtesy of Yamato Holdings Co., Ltd

Contact

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Shaping a New Journey



Kansai Airports was established by a consortium made up of VINCI Airports and ORIX Corporation as its core members. Kansai Airports took over the operations of Kansai International Airport (“KIX”) and Osaka Itami Airport (“ITAMI”) from New Kansai International Airport Company (“NKIAC”) and has been operating the two airports since 1 April 2016.

Kansai Airports Kobe, Kansai Airports’ wholly-owned subsidiary, took over the operations of Kobe Airport (“KOBE”) from Kobe City and started its business as an operating company on 1 April 2018.

Under the concept of “One Kansai Airports Group”, Kansai Airports group strives to continuously improve its services for all airport guests through appropriate investments and efficient operations, with safety and security being the top priority. Kansai Airports group aims to maximize the potential of the three airports, for the benefit of the communities they serve.

For more information, please visit : <http://www.kansai-airports.co.jp/en/>

Kansai Airports

Location	1-banchi, Senshu-kuko kita, Izumisano-shi, Osaka	Shareholders	ORIX 40%, VINCI Airports 40%, Other investors 20% ¹
Company Representatives	Representative Director and CEO:Yoshiyuki Yamaya Representative Director and Co-CEO: Benoit Rulleau		
Business Scope	Operation and management services, etc. of Kansai International Airport and Osaka Itami Airport		

Kansai Airports Kobe

Location	1-ban, Kobe-kuko, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo	Shareholder	Kansai Airports 100%
Company Representatives	Representative Director and CEO: Yoshiyuki Yamaya Representative Director and Co-CEO: Benoit Rulleau		
Business Scope	Operation and management services, etc. of Kobe Airport		



ORIX Group was established in 1964 and is a corporate group active around the world in financing and investment, life insurance, banking, asset management, real estate, concession, environment and energy, automobile-related services, industrial/ICT equipment, ships and aircraft. We operate in around 30 countries and regions with approximately 36,000 people. We unite globally around our Purpose: “Finding Paths. Making Impact.”, combining diverse expertise and innovative thinking to help our world develop in a sustainable way. For more information: <https://www.orix.co.jp/grp/en/>



VINCI Airports, as the leading private airport operator in the world, manages the development and operation of more than 70 airports located in 14 countries. VINCI Airports draws on its expertise as a comprehensive integrator to develop, finance, build and operate airports, leveraging its investment capability and know-how to optimise operational performance and modernise infrastructure while bringing about their environmental transition. In 2016, VINCI Airports became the first airport operator to commit to an international environmental strategy, setting itself the aim of reaching zero net emissions (scope 1 and 2) across the network by 2050 while supporting its stakeholders’ transition.

For more information: www.vinci-airports.com

¹ ASICS Corporation; Iwatani Corporation; Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.; Obayashi Corporation; OMRON Corporation; The Kansai Electric Power Company, Incorporated; Kintetsu Group Holding Co., Ltd.; Keihan Holdings Co., Ltd.; Suntory Holdings Limited; JTB Corp.; Sekisui House, Ltd.; Daikin Industries, Ltd.; Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd.; Takenaka Corporation; Nankai Electric Railway Co., Ltd.; NTT WEST, Inc.; Panasonic Holdings Corporation; Hankyu Hanshin Holdings, Inc.; Rengo Co., Ltd.; The Senshu Ikeda Bank, Ltd.; Kiyo Holdings, Inc.; The Bank of Kyoto, Ltd.; THE SHIGA BANK, LTD.; The Nanto Bank, Ltd.; Nippon Life Insurance Company; Mizuho Bank, Ltd.; Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited; MUFG Bank, Ltd.; Resona Bank, Limited; and the Private Finance Initiative Promotion Corporation of Japan.