

## Le Touquet Airport Translation

With the agreement of King Charles III, the international airport du Touquet Paris-Plage will now carry the name of Elizabeth II.

The mayor of Le Touquet Paris-Palge, Daniel Fasquelle, has just officially obtained the agreement of King Charles III to naming the airport after Queen Elizabeth II.

### International du Touquet Paris-Plage

Le Touquet-Paris-Plage International Airport will soon experience a historic turning point by taking the name "Elizabeth II du Touquet-Paris-Plage International Airport". The agreement having been given by King Charles III, a date for the inauguration remains to be set. A tribute to a Great Queen and her Uncle who loved France and recognition for the "most British French stations"

The proposal had been made to the British crown barely six days after the death of Elizabeth II, in order to pay tribute to the exceptional life of Her Majesty, while evoking her uncle Edward VIII, who, by plane, loved coming to the resort to practice horse riding and chariot riding in particular sailing, sometimes accompanied by her niece, the young Élisabeth who was not still queen at the time. That King Charles III accepted the proposal of the mayor of Le Touquet further strengthens the strategy of the latter who wants to assert le Touquet as "the most British of French resorts".

"It is with deep pride that we announce that His Majesty granted his authorization for the naming of our airport in" International Airport Le Touquet-Elizabeth II" Daniel Fasquelle.

### A History of Aeronautical Excellence

The airport was designed in the 1930s to accommodate, by plane, British customers who love travel. In the 1950s it became a strong link between Britain and the continent, the airport of the "most elegant of French beaches" even asserting itself as the third airport in France in terms of passengers, after Orly and Nice. In the coming years, the Elisabeth II international airport is destined to further strengthen the link between Le Touquet and Great Britain. After restoring the chime of the belfry of the town hall identical to that of Big Ben in London, after welcoming the Red Arrows for the airshow of 2022 and before receiving the England rugby team at base camp, the news of the agreement given by King Charles III is part of the municipality's desire to ensure that, tomorrow, the airport remains a strong instrument of the link with the British, in particular by welcoming tourist planes coming from overseas.

### International Airport

#### Le Touquet-Elizabeth II

The glorious past of Le Touquet-Paris-Plage International Airport is a mosaic of significant events which have shaped its importance in the history of our resort.

On April 6, 1936, Le Touquet-Paris-Plage made its entrance in the world of aviation with a notable event. The festivities began with the arrival of the first British aircraft, the "Scylla" (G-ACJJ) of the Imperial Airways. Carrying 42 passengers, this true masterpiece of flying offered a bar and restaurant on board, adding a touch of glamor to the heavens.

### End of the 1940s:

#### Cross the Channel

The 1940s saw the emergence of a revolutionary idea: crossing the Channel with cars. The Bristol 170 Freighter, specially designed for this challenge, opened an air bridge between the airports of Touquet and Lypne, then Lydd. This line, operated from 1948 to 1958 by a British company, completed more

than 125,000 connections and transported 759,000 passengers, marking an essential step in the history of aviation.

#### 1940 - the Royal Air Force

On April 6, 1940, the Airport welcomed the first aircraft of the Royal Air Force (RAF), providing for imminent offensives. A squadron of fighters, British Expeditionary Force Hurricane, stationed to support the French Air Force in case of German attack, symbolizes courage and determination. On May 10, 1940, the Luftwaffe bombed the airport, destroying British planes. An anecdote relates that the majority of pilots British were at the Algys café-bar at the time of the attacks.

#### 1971 - The Silver Arrow: Historical Link

On June 10, 1971, a new era began with the inauguration of the direct railway line from the airport du Touquet-Paris-Plage, by "la Flèche d'Argent". This SNCF service, linking the French capital to England, helped to strengthen the notoriety of our seaside resort. Initially, the traveller left Paris and, after a stopover at Etaples-sur-Mer station, joined the tarmac of Le Touquet, before reaching its plane. The railway line was finally inaugurated directly on the airport tarmac in 1971, shortening the duration of the Paris-London journey is less than 4 hours.

1980 - today: The history of the International Airport du Touquet-Paris-Plage continues to be written.

#### The Duke of Edinburgh crosses the Channel in 1956

On April 5, 1956, Prince Philip, amateur pilot, landed at Le Touquet airport for its first flight across the Channel.

#### Princess Anne on May 14, 2022

One hundred years after his great-grandfather's pilgrimage George V, Princess Anne lands on the tarmac of Le Touquet airport before going to meditate on the graves of the largest cemetery in the Commonwealth in France.