

Press Release – For immediate release 07.09.2017

## ETRC welcomes confirmation that new Ryanair and easyJet baggage policies still allow passengers to bring airport shopping onboard

Ryanair and easyJet have in the last week both announced changes to their hand luggage policy. ETRC welcomes the clarification from both airlines that passengers will still be allowed to take one bag of airport shopping on board for free, regardless of the hand luggage allowance passengers have opted for.

Ryanair confirmed that all passengers will still be allowed to "take one duty free bag on board for no charge" while easyJet website lists that passengers can bring "one standard shopping bag of duty free goods bought at the airport".

ETRC urges retailers and airports to communicate this information to their passengers over the next weeks to avoid customer confusion.

"We welcome that Ryanair and easyJet have both recognised that airport shopping is a key element of the passenger experience. To limit any uncertainty arising from changes in baggage allowances, we encourage our airport and retail partners to inform and reassure passengers that they are allowed to bring one bag of airport shopping on Ryanair and easyJet flights," commented ETRC President, Sarah Branquinho.

## Background:

Ryanair announced yesterday (07 September) that from November 1st, non-priority passengers will only be allowed to carry one small bag onboard the aircraft – i.e. which can fit under the seat in front – and have their wheelie bags or backpacks taken at the aircraft and put in the hold at no extra cost. Priority passengers will still be allowed to bring two pieces of hand baggage onboard, having purchased Priority Boarding for  $\ell$ £5 at the time of booking or for  $\ell$ £6 when purchased later and up to one hour prior to scheduled departure.

This follows easyJet's announcement last week of their new 'Hands Free' policy proposing to charge passengers  $\pm/\pm 4$  to check their cabin baggage in the hold before going through security, and only travel with one small hand bag.

Both airlines have since confirmed that there will be no change to the rules for airport shopping – passengers will still be allowed to bring one bag of airport shopping onboard free of charge.





## **Recent Media reporting:**

Ryanair press release

Ryanair to cut carry-on allowance to one item – <u>The FT</u> Ryanair: pay £5 for priority boarding to carry on wheelie bags – <u>The Guardian</u> Ryanair baggage changes: everything you need to know – <u>The Irish Times</u> Ryanair Q&A: What does the new cabin bag policy mean for me? – <u>The Independent</u> easyJet <u>website</u>

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Note to the editor:

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## About the European Travel Retail Confederation

The European Travel Retail Confederation (ETRC) is an industry association for the duty free and travel retail industry in Europe, serving the industry and its members to help create the right environment to allow the industry to achieve its potential and protect it when challenges arise.

ETRC is composed of national and regional affiliated trade associations representing over 200 European companies, Tax Free World Association (TFWA) representing 500 brand companies, and direct corporate membership from individual companies working in the duty free and travel retail trade across Europe and beyond. The European Travel Retail Confederation's operations are directed by its Supervisory and Managing Boards and carried out by a full-time secretariat. For more information about the organisation, please see our website – <u>www.etrc.org</u>

