

Source: The Guardian {Main}
Edition:
Country: UK
Date: Wednesday 30, November 2022
Page: 32
Area: 70 sq. cm
Circulation: ABC 109243 Daily
Ad data: page rate £11,400.00, scc rate £42.00
Phone: 020 3353 2000
Keyword: Easyjet

EasyJet peak bookings back to pre-Covid levels as it cuts losses

Julia Kollewe
Gwyn Topham

Bookings at easyJet for Christmas, the ski season and other peak periods have bounced back to pre-pandemic levels, the airline said after it reduced its full-year loss to £178m.

“Peak holiday weeks this winter, such as October half-term and Christmas week in the UK, are back

to normal levels of volume,” easyJet said, although its chief executive, Johan Lundgren, warned that in quieter periods the airline was still struggling to get enough passengers. It expected to have fully returned to 2019 capacity levels by next summer.

Lundgren said the carrier was seeing strong demand in peak periods, noting a survey showing 75% of people wanting to travel next year despite the cost of living crisis.

EasyJet has increased ticket prices as jet fuel and other costs have risen, with fares for the Christmas period up by 18% so far. The airline’s headline pre-tax loss of £178m for the year to 30 September is a big turnaround from last year’s £1.1bn loss. It had nearly 70 million passengers onboard its aircraft in the past year compared with 20 million in 2021.

