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Contact: Hilarie Grey, Dept. of Aviation
(702) 261-3094
Rob Powers, LVCVA
(702) 892-7663
Irene Jackson, Japan Airlines
(212) 310-1225

LAS VEGAS WELCOMES RETURN OF JAPAN AIRLINES

Service From Tokyo Resumes Friday, March 1; Phased Reinstatement of Prior Schedule to Follow

Las Vegas will welcome the return of an important air travel route when Japan Airlines resumes service from Tokyo this Friday, March 1, 2002. The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors' Authority (LVCVA) and McCarran International Airport will hold a special welcome reception for passengers arriving on Japan Airlines flight #26, scheduled to arrive at McCarran's Terminal 2 at 8:20 AM.

"The return of Japan Airlines' non-stop service between Tokyo and Las Vegas is an important milestone in Las Vegas' ongoing recovery process," said Manny Cortez, president and CEO of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA).

The March 1 flight will kick off a phased reinstatement of Japan Airlines' prior schedule of five weekly flights between Las Vegas and Tokyo. The airline temporarily suspended this service in response to the September 11 terror attacks on America and subsequent impact on Asian travel to the United States.

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Las Vegas Welcomes Return of Japan Airlines

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“We never intended that our withdrawal from Las Vegas be anything but short-term, and we are delighted to resume service,” said Shuta Saito, Japan Airlines’ Vice President, Passenger Marketing & Sales, The Americas. “However, Japanese tourists are still somewhat hesitant about coming here, and we need everyone’s support in building this market back up. We’ll have five weekly flights by mid-July; I trust that with our joint efforts, we can fill them.”

“McCarran has enjoyed a productive and strong partnership with Japan Airlines,” said Clark County Director of Aviation Randall H. Walker. “We are looking forward to the resumption of this important air service route.”

Media: *Welcome festivities for Japan Airlines flight #26 will be held in the U.S. Customs Greeter Lobby at the south end of McCarran Airport’s Terminal 2 (follow the orange overhead road signs). Media parking will be available in the public parking lot at Terminal 2. Clearly marked news media vehicles may park in this area free of charge for this event.*