

AIR ALGÉRIE PLACES MAJOR ORDER FOR 16 NEW ATR 72-600S

News / Airlines, Manufacturer



ATR announced a major order from its long-standing partner Air Algérie for 16 brand new ATR 72-600 aircraft, reaffirming a trusted relationship that spans over two decades. This strategic acquisition also includes an ATR 72-600 full-flight simulator – the first of its kind in Africa – marking a significant milestone in regional aviation training on the continent.

Air Algérie, ATR's largest customer in Africa, has been operating ATR aircraft since 2003, with previous acquisitions in 2008 and 2014 and currently operates 12 ATR 72-500s and 3 ATR 72-600s. As the airline gradually commits to reducing its carbon footprint, this new order highlights Air Algérie's continued confidence in ATR's efficient aircraft and proven technology.

Hamza Benhamouda, Chief Executive Officer of Air Algérie, commented: “The ATR 72-600 is the right aircraft to help us connect all regions of our country and support national development through reliable and efficient air transport. Its performance on short and thin routes makes it an essential part of our strategy while its fuel efficiency also supports our goal of reducing emissions and building more sustainable operations. By investing in this new fleet and the first ATR 72-600 simulator in Africa, we are also reinforcing our commitment to regional connectivity, operational excellence, and the future of regional aviation in Algeria.”

Nathalie Tarnaud Laude, Chief Executive Officer of ATR, stated: “This order is a powerful endorsement of the ATR 72-600’s capabilities and the value it brings to foster regional connectivity. With its exceptionally low operating costs, fuel efficiency, and ability to perform reliably in diverse and demanding environments like the Algerian climate, the ATR 72-600 is uniquely suited for low-density routes and remote regions. These advantages are precisely why Air Algérie continues to place its trust in ATR after more than 20 years of partnership – our aircraft consistently delivers the performance and adaptability needed to connect communities and support sustainable regional growth.”

In addition to the aircraft, the acquisition of the ATR 72-600 simulator – to be installed in Air Algérie’s existing training centre – will enhance pilot training capabilities and support the airline’s high standards in operational safety and maintenance excellence.

This order – the largest one from an African operator in ATR history – highlights the long-standing partnership between the manufacturer and Air Algérie in shaping the future of aviation on the continent. ATR stands alongside Air Algérie as they launch their new subsidiary – not only as the ideal manufacturer for an efficient and low-emission regional aircraft, but also as a trusted partner supporting this important new chapter in their development.

Deliveries of the new aircraft are scheduled between 2026 and 2028. Equipped with latest generation PW127XT engines, the 72-seats ATR 72-600s will be operated by a newly created regional subsidiary of Air Algérie – Domestic Airlines. It will be focused on enhancing connectivity across the nation, especially in the southern regions of the country – areas where air travel is essential for economic and social growth. This further sets ATR as the leader of regional connections and a powerful asset to bring people, businesses, and communities together.

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