

## Alotting green routes for annual Santa Claus flights – Lapland Axis

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Every Christmas period thousands of Britons visit the “home of Santa Claus” in Rovaniemi, Finland. To enable this, an ATFCM-scenario called "Lapland Axis" has been developed.

Previously, most of the Santa Claus flights had to fly point-to-point routes, which often took them through Danish airspace on their way up to Finland. International cooperation by Norway, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and the UK has now paved the way for shorter travel routes in Norwegian airspace and on to Finland.

With most of the Santa Claus flights taking place during weekends, Avinor set up December weekend shift schedules so that staffing matches the heaviest traffic times.

With around 47 flights in each direction daily at this time of the year, the reductions in distance travelled will result in CO<sub>2</sub>-savings of around 15-20 tonnes each day.



– Contact point, Avinor: Olav Mosvold Larsen

*AVINOR is responsible for planning, developing and operating the Norwegian airport network. AVINOR operates 46 airports in Norway, with 12 airports operated in cooperation with the armed forces. Operations also include: air traffic control towers, control centres, and technical infrastructure for aircraft navigation. AVINOR is committed to maintain the highest level of safety in all operations. AVINOR works continuously to limit environmentally harmful emissions from air and ground operations, and towards reducing aircraft noise.*