

Asian Breeze (65)

(亜細亜の風)

Happy Summer Vacation to you

5 August 2019

Greetings from Hot and Humid Tokyo. Are you enjoy the summer vacations?

Originally used to ward off evil spirits, fireworks (花火, Hanabi) have a long history in Japan and are an integral part of Japanese summers. Hundreds of firework displays are held every year across the country, mainly during the summer holidays in July and August, with some of them drawing hundreds of thousands of spectators.

Japanese firework shells range in size from smaller ones to the world record holding Yonshakudama shells which are 1.2 meter in diameter and weigh several hundred kilograms. The most common are star mines, which are spherical shells that have a variety of burst patterns. Other unique fireworks include

Niagara sparklers that are set under bridges and resemble the famous water falls, and formed shells that burst into familiar shapes such as hearts, smiley faces and cartoon characters.

For this issue, I have received a wonderful contribution as a second round from Ms. Sirima Chuensomboon, Head Coordinator, the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) featuring Chiang Mai International Airport (CNX), Chiang Rai International Airport (CEI) and U-Tapao International Airport (UTP). I hope you will enjoy reading them.



Chiang Mai International Airport (CNX)

Chiang Mai International Airport (IATA: CNX, ICAO: VTCC) is an international airport serving Chiang Mai, the capital city of Chiang Mai Province in Thailand. It is a major gateway to Northern Thailand, and currently the fourth busiest airport in the country.

As a result of the temporary closure of Suvarnabhumi Airport in 2008 due to the protests, Chiang Mai International Airport became the alternative stop-over for China Airlines' Taipei-Europe flights and for Swiss International Airlines' Singapore-Zurich flights in the interim. On 24 January 2011, the airport became a secondary hub for Thai



AirAsia.

In 2018, 31 airlines operated at CNX, serving more than 10.9 million passengers, 78,210 flights. Upgrades in 2014 included expanding the apron for larger planes and enlarging the international arrival hall and domestic departure hall.

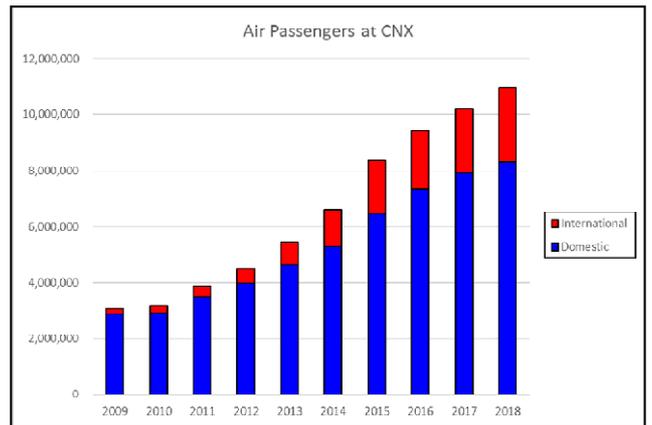
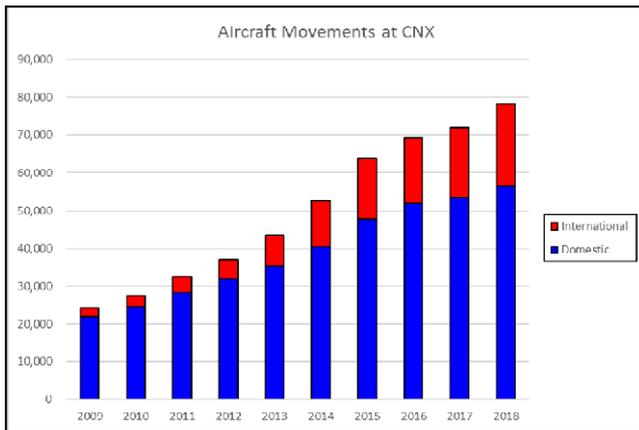
Air Transport Statistics

(1) Aircraft Movements

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	21,758	24,608	28,440	31,886	35,395	40,424	47,707	51,939	53,412	56,520
International	2,504	2,877	4,005	5,095	7,971	12,218	16,136	17,263	18,582	21,690
Total	24,262	27,485	32,445	36,981	43,366	52,642	63,843	69,202	71,994	78,210

(2) Air Passengers

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	2,864,868	2,914,620	3,494,495	3,968,557	4,629,768	5,306,946	6,457,242	7,348,715	7,926,369	8,314,066
International	215,831	263,431	384,119	520,618	814,009	1,321,118	1,906,856	2,078,017	2,278,494	2,667,920
Total	3,080,699	3,178,051	3,878,614	4,489,175	5,443,777	6,628,064	8,364,098	9,426,732	10,204,863	10,981,986



Air Route Network



Airport Infrastructure



The airport is at an elevation of 316m above mean sea level. It has one runway designated 18/36 with an asphalt surface measuring 3,100m by 45m.

Passenger Terminal

There are two terminals, one for domestic passengers and the other for international flights



Chiang Rai International Airport (CEI)

Mae Fah Luang - Chiang Rai International Airport (IATA: CEI, ICAO: VTCT) is in the city of Chiang Rai in northern Thailand. The airport is about 8 km from the city center. It was auspiciously granted the name “Mae Fah Luang – Chiang Rai International Airport by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great to live legacy on Her Royal Highness Prince Srinagarindra.

Since 1998 it has been managed by the Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited (AOT). In 2018 the airport handled over 2.8 million passengers and 20,000 passenger flights. The airport has international flight facilities and serves three international routes to Hong Kong International Airport, Kunming Changshui International Airport, and Haikou Meilan International Airport.

In 2018, AOT developed Mae Fah Luang – Chiang Rai International Airport Master Plan, which will cover the 2019 – 2038 period and further increase its capacity to serve up to 5.2 million passengers. This plan includes the terminal renovation and expansion, the utility system improvement, aircraft stands and parallel taxiway construction.

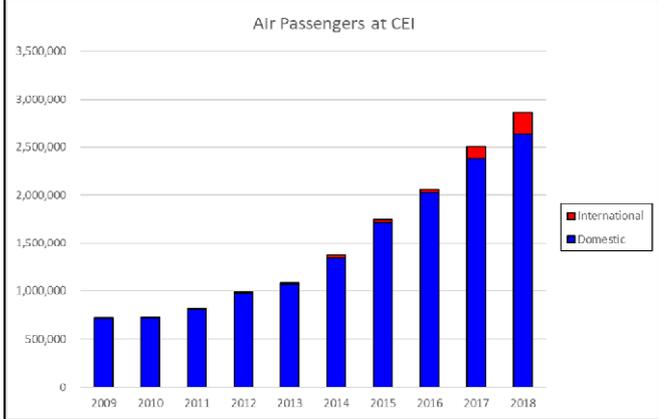
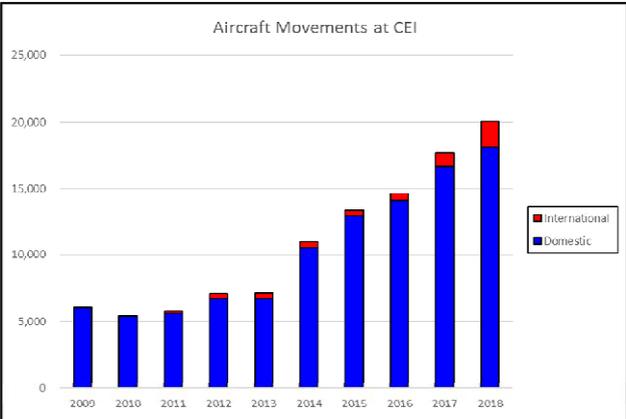
Air Transport Statistics

(1) Aircraft Movements

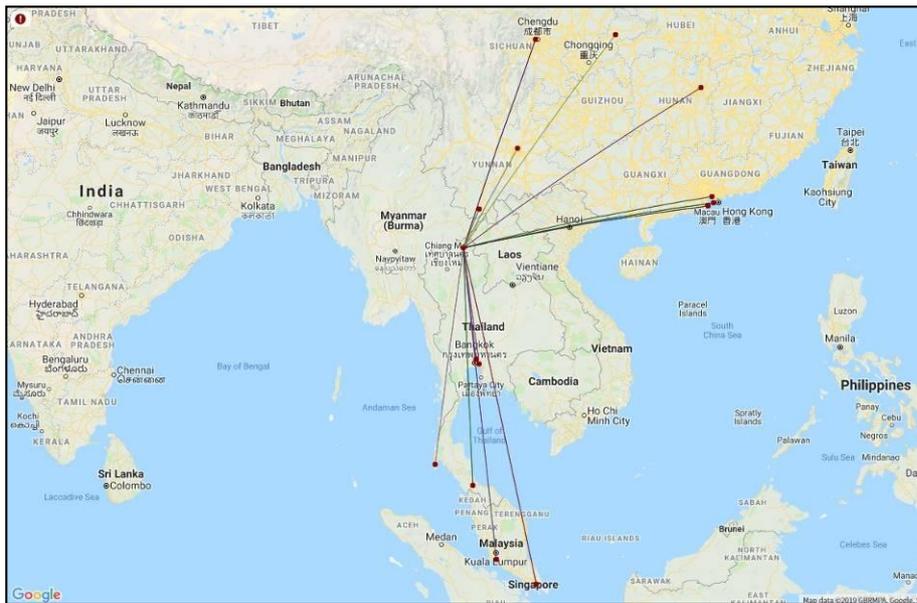
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	6,075	5,406	5,669	6,803	6,802	10,529	12,868	14,092	16,657	18,152
International	31	52	150	335	379	456	534	498	1,004	1,920
Total	6,106	5,458	5,819	7,138	7,181	10,985	13,402	14,590	17,661	20,072

(2) Air Passengers

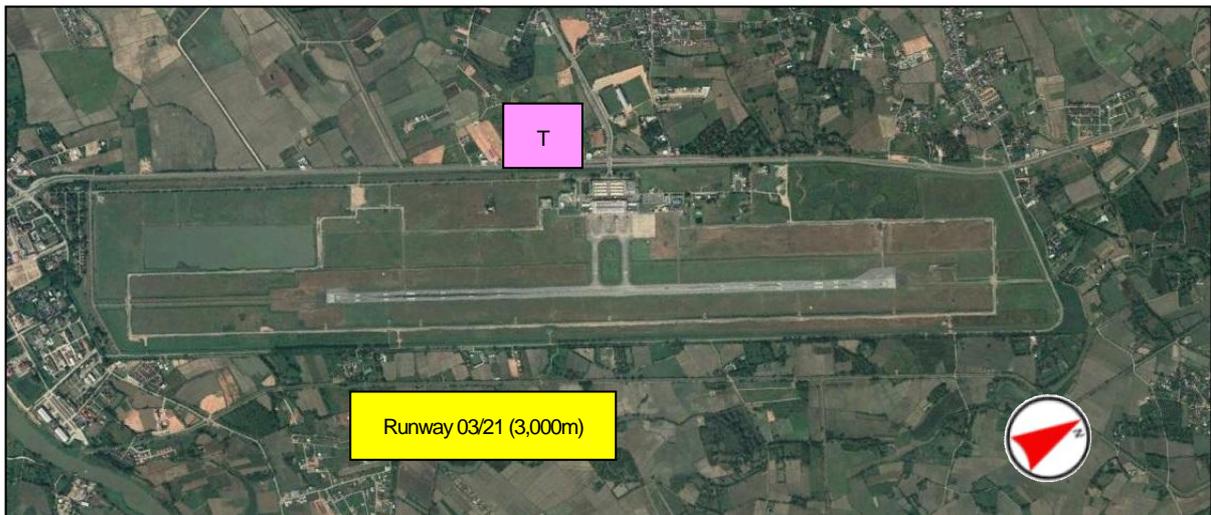
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	718,054	724,932	808,892	978,636	1,072,268	1,349,687	1,718,643	2,028,691	2,383,164	2,637,480
International	352	915	9,262	7,607	16,621	29,179	26,428	30,984	119,785	228,556
Total	718,406	725,847	818,154	986,243	1,088,889	1,378,866	1,745,071	2,059,675	2,502,949	2,866,036



Air Route Network



Airport Infrastructure



The airport is at an elevation of 390m above mean sea level. It has one runway designated 03/21 with an asphalt surface measuring 3,000m by 45m.

Passenger Terminal



U-Tapao International Airport (UTP)

U-Tapao International Airport (IATA: UTP, ICAO: VTBU) also spelled Utapao and U-Taphao, is a joint civil-military public airport serving Rayong and Pattaya cities in Thailand. It is in Ban Chang District of Rayong Province. Its official name is "U-Tapao Rayong Pattaya International Airport".

It also serves as the U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Airfield, home of the Royal Thai Navy First Air Wing. U-Tapao is the home of a large Thai Airways maintenance facility, servicing that airline's aircraft as well as those of other customers. Due to the blockade of Bangkok's airports by opposition protesters, U-Tapao briefly became the main air gateway to Thailand between 26 November and 5 December 2008. As both of Bangkok's international airports essential to the country's tourist boom are operating beyond capacity as of 2015, U-Tapao in particular has been eyed as an alternate international gateway due to relative proximity to the capital.

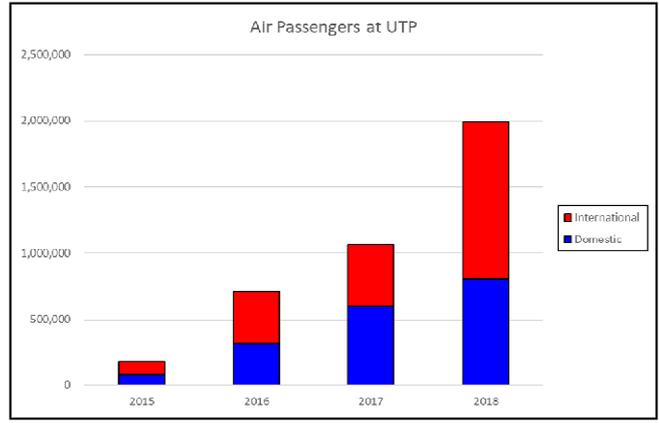
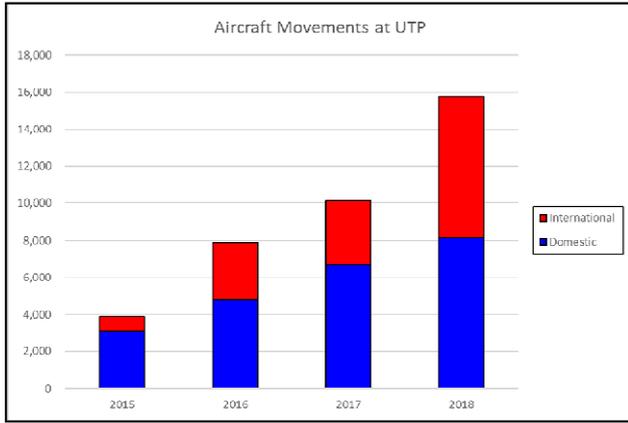
Air Transport Statistics

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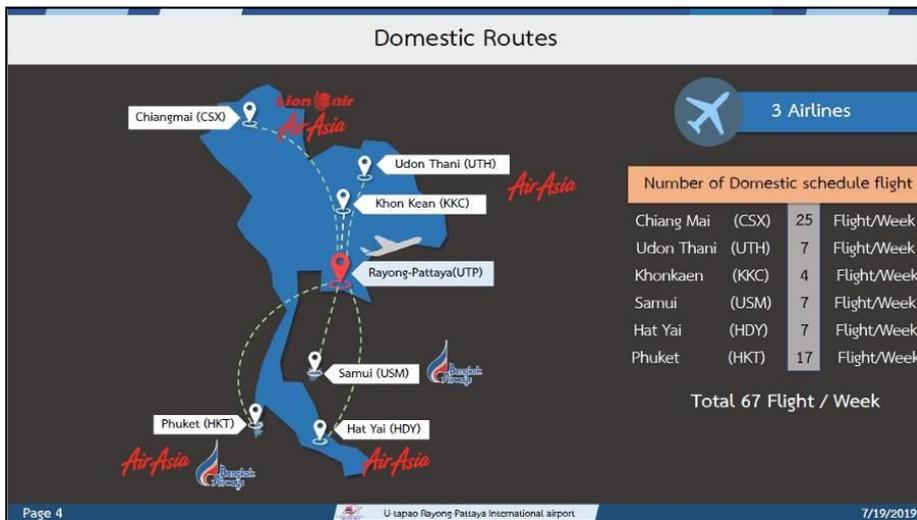
Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	3,090	4,771	6,695	8,138
International	818	3,117	3,420	7,629
Total	3,908	7,888	10,115	15,767

(2) Air Passengers

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	80,111	318,516	598,339	808,104
International	97,009	393,468	460,644	1,187,259
Total	177,120	711,984	1,058,983	1,995,363



Air Route Network





Airport Infrastructure



The airport is at an elevation of 13m above mean sea level. It has one runway designated 18/36 with an asphalt surface measuring 3,505m by 45m.

Terminal Building

As Bangkok's two international airports are operating beyond capacity, the government intends to turn U-Tapao into a third major destination for airlines. A new second terminal, which will increase airport capacity from 800,000 to three million persons per year. Terminal 2 was partially opened in November 2018 and will be officially opened in February 2019.

There are also 41 direct flights landing from China weekly with more airlines scheduled to announce soon. Airport director, Rear Adm Worapol Tongpricha, said the 620 million baht terminal is the start of a three-year, first-phase development. In the second phase, the government will boost the capacity further to 15 million people.



Good Memories of Cape Town (SC144)



Asian Tea Gathering in Cape Town





From the Chief Editor

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. Sirima Chuensomboon for her second round of contribution. I learnt a lot from this article.

In summer, there are so many summer festivals in different places and different time in Japan. Japan looks gorgeously breathtaking with its mind-blowing festivals & events. Summer is a great time to take a stroll in the streets, wearing summer yukata, viewing fireworks, dancing in the parade, and tasting delicious local foods. Usually, Japan's official period of summer season begins in early June and ends in late August with three to four weeks of rainy season.

Except the rainy days, the country offers you a lovely sunny weather to experience the popular summertime festivals. You can really enjoy the summertime by visiting the country around this time of the year.

Having finished this issue, I am planning to go back to my hometown to enjoy the summer festival and appreciate the fireworks there. (H.T.)



