

Naples Airport ordered to close airspace from 25-27 September for the NATO Defence Ministers Summit.

The Chiefs of Staff - Italian Joint Operations - have requested the Naples Prefecture to order a no fly zone for the Naples Airport from 1 a.m. the morning of 25 September until 11.59 p.m. the night of 27 September effective for all commercial air traffic while official, government and military flights will be authorised.

In light of the international situation which has evolved following the terrorist attacks in the United States, the ordinance was adopted by Government Authorities in order to guarantee the security of airspace during the NATO summit.

Gesac, the Naples International Airport operator, anticipates that the three-day shutdown will cause the cancellation of approximately 225 flights, the equivalent of 450 movements (landings and takeoffs), of which 150 are domestic, 60 international, 10 charter, 3 postal and 2 cargo.

A reduction in passenger traffic of nearly 34,000 is expected and includes 22,000 on domestic scheduled flights, 9,000 on international scheduled flights and 3,000 on charter flights. These figures are a conservative estimate because it may be necessary to cancel additional flights during the hours immediately before and after the indicated period of airspace closure.

The airline companies obliged to cancel flights to and from Naples are: Air France, Air Littoral, Air One, Alitalia, Alitalia Team, Alpi Eagles, British Airways, Go, Lufhansa, Meridiana, Olympic Airways, Sabena, Transavia e Volare Group. Charter traffic is less effected and involves the following carriers: Azzurra, City Bird, Futura, Spanair, Tuninter e Tunisair.

Gesac will adopt all necessary measures to ensure essential services (e.g. assistance for authorised flights), in compliance with the guidelines set up by the Prefecture which have also been sent to government authorities for formalisation so that the operational details entailed can be made available to all interested parties.