Analyst Meeting

Bangkok Airways Pcl (BA TB) - BUY

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Supply shortage looks to continue next year

- BA's current forward booking is 12% higher than last year.
- It forecasts airfares to sustain high next year as...
- ...supply chain disruptions have continued.
- Samui Airport's capacity expansion is expected next year.
- We joined BA's analyst meeting yesterday and the key takeaways are as the following.
- BA expects air travel demand to continue to grow next year and it saw its forward booking during Nov. 24 – Jun. 25 was 12% higher than its forward booking during Nov. 23 – Jun. 24.
- It also expects the airfares to sustain high next year (vs. our forecast of a 5% y-y fall) as supply chain disruptions have continued to limit airlines' capacity ramp-up. The prices of some aircraft spare parts have rose twice.
- It plans to lease 2 more airplanes for a short-term period starting from December 2024 and running throughout the winter season to meet rising international travel demand. It has also started to hedge its fuel costs. Currently, it hedged around 30% of its fuel consumption at US\$84-86/bbl.
- BA is waiting for the government's official approval for Samui Airport's capacity expansion from 50 flights/day to 73 flights/day. However, instead of an immediate increase, BA will gradually add its flights in and out of Samui to match with demand. It also plans to improve facilities, including commercial areas, at Samui Airport's terminals. The plan will take three years with the investment cost of Bt1.5bn. This will increase airport's capacity to 6m passengers (vs. 2.1m passengers in 9M24, up 21% y-y and 111% of the 9M19 level).
- Even though we forecast BA's earnings to fall next year due to our view on more intense competition after its competitors ramp up their capacity, we reiterate our BUY call on BA given 1) its strategy of focusing on its monopolistic Samui routes where it can demand premium pricing and 2) its business diversification into the airport and airport-related businesses which are more stable and less competitive than the airline business.

Key Valuations

Y/E Dec (Bt m)	2023A	2024F	2025F	2026F
Revenue	19,681	23,912	23,870	23,812
Net profit	3,110	3,470	3,122	2,902
Norm net profit	1,390	3,470	3,122	2,902
Norm EPS (Bt)	0.7	1.7	1.5	1.4
Norm EPS gr (%)	na	149.7	(10.0)	(7.1)
Norm PE (x)	36.4	14.6	16.2	17.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	22.5	12.6	14.0	15.3
P/BV (x)	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.3
Div. yield (%)	2.1	3.4	3.1	2.9
ROE (%)	8.2	19.1	15.5	13.5
Net D/E (%)	78.7	51.4	39.9	29.9

Source: Thanachart estimates

Stock Data

Closing price (Bt)	24.10
Target price (Bt)	27.00
Market cap (US\$ m)	1,458
Avg daily turnover (US\$ m)	3.6
12M H/L price (Bt)	25.75/14.00

Price Performance



Source: Bloomberg

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