



AIRLINES + AIRPORTS

10 of the Most Over-the-Top Flight Amenities Available in First Class

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by Judy Koutsky

Airlines are one-upping each other in order to attract first and business class passengers who demand [one-of-a-kind inflight service](#), high-end amenities, and [cuisine from award-winning celebrity chefs](#). And that's just the beginning.

Take Etihad, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates. For travelers with deep pockets, it offers [The Residence](#), a three-room suite including a living room, a separate bedroom with a double bed pristinely tucked in Pratesi fine linens, and a private bathroom complete with an en-suite shower. If that weren't enough, the cabin comes with your very own personal chef—meals will be served on 24-karat gold-plated tableware as well as crystal glassware designed by Vera Wang for Wedgwood—and a dedicated butler. Said butler will be in constant contact with a concierge team on the ground that can book tables at top restaurants in [London](#) or hard-to-get theater tickets in [New York City](#). If you're traveling with kids, the Flying Nannies program—entertaining kids with crafts, magic tricks, and more—is sure to appeal.

Read on for 11 more airlines that make flying something to be enjoyed, not just endured.

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High-Design Tableware

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If top-tier design is what you're after, Finnair's Airbus A350—which flies between Helsinki and [Beijing](#), [Bangkok](#), and [Hong Kong](#)—is worth checking out. The tableware and textiles are designed by iconic Finnish design house Marimekko, giving business class a distinct Nordic touch. For the ultimate in mood lighting, the LED glow in the cabin gradually changes to suit the time of day, destination, or season. This upgrade from shades of grey allows for a choice of up to 16.8 million colors and custom programs—including one inspired by the [Northern Lights](#). You'll be breathing comfortably, too, as the air filtration system refreshes the cabin air every 2-3 minutes.

Are you one of those people who is always hot (or cold)? Well, the individual adjustable temperature zones were made for you. Another perk of business class? Female passengers have a dedicated ladies' room, which is stocked with cosmetics and other supplies. Also, when you're in Helsinki, make sure to drop by the traditional Finnish sauna in the premium lounge—a layover never felt so relaxing.