

Air France adds 2-metre bed and enhances business class

AIR France, which recently signed a code-share agreement with Qantas, has enhanced its first and business class cabins in a move it says will “give our Australian passengers a luxury travel experience that is distinctly French”.

France’s national flag carrier says the agreement will allow it to offer greater choice and flexibility for both corporate and leisure travellers with 34 weekly code-share services from Australia.

While many carriers airlines have scrapped first class cabins, Air France has made key changes that include:



Air France's L'Espace Premiere seat converts to a real bed.

- Eight first class seats instead of 12.
- An extra 50 per cent personal space.
- A real bed with a proper mattress.
- An exceptionally refined service.

The airline says its L'Espace Premiere seat — inspired by a lounge-chair design — converts into a real bed, which is two metres long and, according to the carrier, offers unparalleled privacy. The base is a rigid shell in which the seat swivels and reclines, while its ergonomic structure provides integrated, adjustable lower back support and even has a massage function for maximum relaxation.

The carrier also has further enhanced its business class, guaranteeing passengers 27 per cent more privacy.

Its new L'Espace Affaires cabin offers “lie flat” beds that recline to 180 degrees. In the heart of the cabin are two exclusive bar areas, where passengers can relax, have something to eat, unwind and chat without disturbing other travellers. A buffet is available on flights of more than 10-and-a-half hours.

Air France's ‘New Travel Concept’ cabins are featured on its B777-300 aircraft, now positioned on its Singapore-Paris route. It was the first carrier in the world to operate the new Boeing aircraft.



In the heart of the business class cabin are two exclusive bar areas.

Two flyer programs combine

FOR the first time, the frequent flyer programs of two major European airlines have merged into one.

Air France's Frequence Plus and KLM's Flying Dutchman programs have joined forces to give birth to Flying Blue - the new joint frequent flyer program for the 66.3 million customers of the Air France-KLM group, which has a global network of 18,000 flights and 900 destinations.

With 10 million members, the purpose of Flying Blue is to become the leading frequent flyer program in Europe. It enables its members to earn and spend miles on the combined networks of Air France and KLM, and also on flights operated by SkyTeam member carriers — Korean Air, Delta Air Lines, Aeromexico, Alitalia, CSA Czech Airlines, Northwest Airlines and Continental Airlines — and other airline partners making 30 in total.

As well, about 100 non-airline partners have joined the program.



Structured in four membership levels — Ivory, Silver, Gold and Platinum — the program makes it possible to track the flight behaviour of each of its customers and rewards them with miles accordingly. Frequent travellers on any of the nine SkyTeam member airlines and Kenya Airways accrue miles, enabling them to move up to the next highest tier.

As well, Air France and KLM offer Platinum members the possibility of becoming lifetime Flying Blue Platinum members, with all the privileges that come with it.

Flying Blue offers passengers the freedom to manage their accounts how and when they want on the www.airfrance.com/au or www.klm.com/au websites.