



# The longest flights around the world 2025

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The concept of the "longest non-stop flight" has long been the gold standard for measuring the technological capabilities of airlines and manufacturers alike. In 2025, the race is still heating up, with companies such as Singapore Airlines, Qantas, and Qatar Airways competing to connect the farthest geographical points in the fastest way possible. These flights, which exceed 17 hours in the air, represent more than just an engineering feat; they represent a fundamental change in the global travel paradigm, reducing overall travel time and increasing the efficiency of business and personal movement.

These monstrous flights are primarily operated by highly fuel-efficient, ultra-long-range aircraft, such as the Airbus A350-900ULR (designed specifically for long-range operations) and the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner.

Advances in engine and fuselage design have allowed aircraft to carry greater fuel capacity and achieve unprecedented aerodynamic efficiency, making these vast distances commercially and economically feasible.

Despite current achievements, the aviation industry is cautiously awaiting Qantas' ambitious Project Sunrise, which aims to launch direct flights from Sydney to London and New York. Although these flights were originally scheduled for 2025, recent updates indicate that the actual launch has been

Ultimately, the primary goal behind these long-haul flights isn't just record-breaking, but rather a radically improved passenger experience. Airlines are encouraged to design comfortable interiors, spaces for relaxation and stretching, and services designed to combat travel stress and jet lag.

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## Top 10: Sky Giants of 2025

Specific flight routes top the list globally, often connecting major financial centers in North America to Australia or Southeast Asia:

### Asia-America Dominance: Singapore Airlines

Singapore Airlines continues to consolidate its position as the leading ultra-long-haul airline, dominating the first and second places:

New York (JFK) - Singapore (SIN): This flight (SQ23) is the longest, • covering over 15,349 kilometers (9,537 miles) and lasting approximately 18 hours and 50 minutes. Operated by an Airbus A350-900ULR, this flight features only Business and Premium Economy cabins, without a regular economy cabin.

18 hours and 45 minutes.

## Pacific-Gulf Axis

Flights connecting the Gulf countries, Australia, and New Zealand rank next, given the vast distances involved:

Auckland (AKL) - Doha (DOH): This flight, operated by Qatar Airways • (QR921), was once the world's longest, covering a distance of 14,535 kilometers (9,032 miles), with a flight time of approximately 17 hours and 15 minutes.

Perth (PER) - London Heathrow (LHR): This is currently Qantas' • longest flight, covering 14,499 kilometers (9,009 miles) and taking approximately 17 hours and 45 minutes. It is the first direct flight connecting Australia and the United Kingdom.

## New competitors in the long-haul race

: 2025 saw the introduction of new and significantly longer routes, particularly those connecting Asian and American destinations:

NEW YORK (JFK) - FUZHOU (FOC): Xiamen Airlines recorded a very long flight time of 19 hours and 20 minutes, although the distance in kilometers (11,390 km) may be less than some other flights due to the specific air route, which puts it among the longest in some classifications.

World (2025)

| main plane   | Estimated duration (hour) | Distance (approximately kilometers) | Air carrier        | Track (nor                          |
|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A350-900ULR  | 18:50                     | 15,349 km                           | Singapore Airlines | New York (JFK) - Singapore          |
| A350-900ULR  | 18:45                     | 15,344 km                           | Singapore Airlines | Newark (EWR) - Singapore            |
| us A350-1000 | 17:15                     | 14,535 km                           | Qatar Airways      | Auckland (AKL) - Doha               |
| Boeing 787-9 | 17:45                     | 14,499 km                           | Qantas             | Perth (PER) - London                |
| Boeing 787-9 | 17:35                     | 14,472 km                           | Qantas             | Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) - Melbourne |

Beyond the Numbers: Sustainability and Passenger Experience

The significance of these flights goes beyond the record-breaking feats, as well as the logistical and environmental challenges. Ultra-long-haul flights place enormous pressure on logistical planning, including fuel requirements, pilot and crew rotation (which can be as many as four per flight), and passenger fatigue management.

The shift toward aircraft such as the A350 and B787 reflects an increasing commitment to fuel efficiency, which reduces the carbon footprint of a

zones that allow passengers to stand and stretch to combat fatigue and reduce the risk of deep vein thrombosis (DVT), making long-haul flights more tolerable and comfortable.

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