

News Releases

Star Alliance Again Voted Best Alliance at Skytrax World Airline Awards

Star Alliance Los Angeles Lounge Retains Best Alliance Lounge Award Five Star Alliance Airlines ranked among the Top 10 17 Member Carriers Claim a Total of 49 Awards

LONDON, July 20, 2018 /CNW Telbec/ - Star Alliance has claimed the Best Airline Alliance title at the Skytrax World Airline Awards for the third year running, with the Alliance's prestigious Los Angeles Lounge retaining the Best Airline Alliance Lounge Award for the fourth year in a row.

"Receiving the Best Alliance accolade from Skytrax for a third consecutive time is a significant achievement. It recognises our focus on improving the customer journey and providing a better digital alliance travel experience", said Jeffrey Goh, CEO Star Alliance. "I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our more than 700 million annual passengers for their continued loyalty to our 28 member airline network and acknowledge the work and professionalism of the more than 420,000 member airline employees, who deliver the alliance travel experience on a daily basis".

The base of its digital transformation is the Star Alliance Digital Services Platform (DSP), which was launched earlier this year. It is the first step to an overall enhancement of digital and mobile services offered to customers travelling across the network. The DSP can connect digital services of one member airline or third-party and make it available to all members, enabling them to build it into their own customer-facing digital applications. The longer-term aim is to allow customers to use any member airline's website or mobile application to obtain all the information they need for travel on several Star Alliance member airlines.

Through DSP, United Airlines currently offers advance seat reservations on Singapore Airlines flights and Lufthansa provides baggage tracking information on journeys which include flights on other Star Alliance airlines. Additional features will be made available across the Alliance progressively.

The <u>World Airline Awards</u> were introduced in 1999 to provide a customer satisfaction study that was truly global. Travellers across the world vote in the largest airline passenger satisfaction survey to decide the award winners.

Star Alliance was the first airline alliance to receive the Best Alliance Award from Skytrax when the category was first introduced in 2005 and has since held the award nine times.

Over 100 customer nationalities participated in the latest survey with 20.36 million eligible entries counted in the results. 335 airlines are featured in the survey results.

Edward Plaisted, CEO of Skytrax said: "Star Alliance can be very proud of its continued popularity and support amongst its frequent flyer members. The flagship lounge in Los Angeles continues to be a favourite amongst survey respondents".

The online survey operated from August 2017 to May 2018, together with invitations sent to previous year respondents in the survey database (total 24.45 million customers). Customer survey forms were offered in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Japanese and Chinese. The highest nationality increase in the 2018 survey was Chinese customers with an additional 3.5 million entries.

In total, 17 Star Alliance member carriers also received a combination of 49 individual and regional awards, with the following five carriers ranked in the top 10 in the Best Airline Category: Singapore Airlines (1), ANA (3), EVA Air (5), Lufthansa (7) and THAI (10).

As selection of the awards are listed below with a full list available at: https://www.worldairlineawards.com/a-z-airline-awards-winners-2018/

Air Canada	Best Airline in North America Best Business Class in North America Best Airline Cabin Cleanliness in North America
Air New Zealand	Best Premium Economy Class Best Premium Economy Seat Best Airline Cabin Cleanliness in Australia / Pacific
ANA	World's Best Airline Cabin Cleanliness Best Airline Staff in Asia Best Cabin Crew in Japan
Asiana	Best Cabin Crew in South Korea
Austrian Airlines	Best Airline Service Staff in Europe Best Business Class Onboard Catering
Avianca	Best Airline in South America Best Economy Class in South America
COPA Airlines	Best Airline in Central America / Caribbean Best Airline Staff in Central America / Caribbean
Ethiopian Airlines	Best Airline in Africa Best Business Class in Africa Best Economy Class in Africa
EVA Air	World's Best Airport Services
Lufthansa	Best Airline in Europe Best Airline in Western Europe
Singapore Airlines	World's Best Airline World's Best First Class Best Airline in Asia Best First Class Seat Best First Class Lounge in Asia Best Business Class Lounge in Asia Best First Class in Asia Best Business Class in Asia Best Premium Economy Class in Asia
South African Airways	Best Airline Staff in Africa Best Business Class Lounge in Africa Best Cabin Crew in Africa Best Airline Cabin Cleanliness in Africa

ТНАІ	World's Best Economy Class Best Economy Class Onboard Catering World's Best Airline Lounge Spa Best Cabin Crew in Thailand
	Best Economy Class in Asia
Turkish Airlines	Best Airline in Southern Europe Best Business Class Lounge Best Business Class Lounge Dining
United Airlines	Best Business Class Lounge in the USA

About Star Alliance:

The Star Alliance network was established in 1997 as the first truly global airline alliance to offer worldwide reach, recognition and seamless service to the international traveller. Its acceptance by the market has been recognized by numerous awards, including the Air Transport World Market Leadership Award and Best Airline Alliance by both Business Traveller Magazine and Skytrax. The <u>member airlines</u> are: Adria Airways, Aegean Airlines, Air Canada, Air China, Air India, Air New Zealand, ANA, Asiana Airlines, Austrian, Avianca, Avianca Brasil, Brussels Airlines, Copa Airlines, Croatia Airlines, EGYPTAIR, Ethiopian Airlines, EVA Air, LOT Polish Airlines, Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines, Shenzhen Airlines, Singapore Airlines, South African Airways, SWISS, TAP Air Portugal, THAI, Turkish Airlines, and United. Overall, the Star Alliance network currently offers more than <u>18,800 daily</u> flights to 1,317 airports in 193 countries. Further connecting flights are offered by Star Alliance Connecting Partner, Juneyao Airlines.

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