

British Airways

British Airways

IATA BA	ICAO BAW; SHT	Callsign SPEEDBIRD; SHUTTLE
Founded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As Aircraft Transport and Travel Limited on 25 August 1919; 105 years ago• As British Airways on 31 March 1974; 50 years ago	
AOC #	441	
Hubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• London-Heathrow• London-Gatwick	
Frequent-flyer program	Executive Club/Avios	
Alliance	Oneworld	
Subsidiaries	BA CityFlyer	
Fleet size	254	
Destinations	183	
Parent company	International Airlines Group	
Headquarters	London , England, UK	
Key people	\Sean Doyle (chairman and CEO) ^[1] Stephen William Lawrence Gunning (CFO and director)	
Revenue	Increase £13,020 million (2018) ^[2]	
Net income	Increase £1,952 million (2018) ^[2]	
Website	britishairways.com Edit this at Wikidata	

British Airways (sometimes known as just "**BA**") is the [United Kingdom](#)'s largest airline, and is the UK's [flag carrier](#). It was formed in 1974 when the UK's two government owned airlines, the British Oversea Airways Corporation and British European Airways were joined. It is now owned by a company called International Airlines Group, which also owns [Iberia Airlines](#), and is one of the largest companies in the United Kingdom. It operates [domestic](#) flights within the UK as well as [international](#) flights to [Europe](#) and the rest of the world.

British Airways has a large fleet of aircraft, including planes built by [Boeing](#), [Airbus](#) and [Embraer](#). They are now operating the [Airbus A380](#), the largest passenger plane ever built. For a while during the 1990s British Airways' planes had tails each painted in a design to symbolize a country of the

world. This was called the World Tails scheme, and it wasn't very popular. However, they now have tails that are based on the [Union Jack](#).

British Airways also flew the [Concorde](#), one of only two aircraft types that could fly faster than the speed of sound. However, this plane was taken out of the fleet in 2003 after the crash of Air France flight 4590, after being used for 27 years.

Heathrow Airport

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

Terminal 5 in July 2006. Here, it is still being built; now it is open.

British Airways has its own terminal at [Heathrow Airport](#) in [London](#) called Terminal 5 or T5. It was opened on 14 March 2008 by the UK monarch [Queen Elizabeth II](#), and cost [£4.3 billion](#) ([\\$6.2 billion](#)) to build. It is between Heathrow's two [runways](#)- 27L/09R and 27R/09L. The site is 260 [hectares](#) in size, and has its own train station. It also has over 100 shops and restaurants.

The only airlines to use terminal 5 are British Airways and [Iberia Airlines](#). Not all of British Airways' flights go through T5. Some flights, such as those to [Thailand](#), [Singapore](#) and [Sydney](#) in [Australia](#) depart from Terminal 3.

In 2011, 26.3^{[3][4][5]} million passengers and 184,616 flights departed from Terminal 5.

Other Airports

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

British Airways also has many flights from [Gatwick Airport](#), and [London City Airport](#) which are both in London. These two airports, along with Heathrow Airport, are British Airways' main airports.

Aircraft

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British Airways has a fleet of 253 planes:

British Airways Fleet

Aircraft	Number in fleet	Number on order
Airbus A319-100	35	—
Airbus A320-200	67	-
Airbus A321-200	18	—
Airbus A380-800	12	-

Boeing 777-200ER	43	-
Boeing 777-300ER	16	-
Boeing 787-8	12	-
Boeing 787-9	18	-
Boeing 787-10	2	10
Total	253	42

Pictures

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

- [A British Airways A318.](#)

A British Airways A318.

- [A British Airways A319.](#)

A British Airways A319.

- [A British Airways A320.](#)

A British Airways A320.

- [A British Airways A380.](#)

A British Airways
A380.

- [A British Airways
737.](#)

A British Airways
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- [A British Airways
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- [A British Airways
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- [A British Airways
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- [A British Airways
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BA CityFlier and OpenSkies

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British Airways also owns two other smaller airlines called BA CityFlier and OpenSkies, which run different services than the large airline.

BA CityFlier runs flights from [London City Airport](#) to other major cities in the UK (such as [Edinburgh](#) and [Glasgow](#)) and the rest of Europe (such as [Nice](#) in [France](#), [Dublin](#) in [Ireland](#), [Frankfurt](#) in [Germany](#), [Madrid](#) in [Spain](#) and [Zurich](#) in [Switzerland](#)). It began flying passengers in March 2007. It is also a much smaller airline than British Airways, and has 14 [Embraer E-Jet family](#) planes.

OpenSkies is an even smaller airline with only two aircraft- old [Boeing 757s](#) from that used to belong to British Airways. At the moment, the airline only flies to/from [Paris](#) in [France](#) and [New York](#) in the [United States of America](#). The two Boeing 757s have enough room for 110 passengers, and have 20 [Business class](#) seats, 24 Premium Economy class seats and 66 [Economy](#) class seats.

Oneworld

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British Airways A319 At Paris.

British Airways is a member of Oneworld. Oneworld is a partnership between 11 airlines: [American Airlines](#), [Cathay Pacific](#), [Finnair](#), [Iberia Airlines](#), [Japan Airlines](#), [LAN](#), [Malaysia Airlines](#), [Qantas](#), [Royal Jordanian Airlines](#), [S7 Airlines](#) and British Airways. Smaller airlines that are owned by these 12 member airlines are also part of Oneworld- for example BA CityFlier. There is one exception- OpenSkies however is not part of Oneworld.

Being part of Oneworld means that the airlines sell tickets for their own flights as well as for other members' flights (for example, British Airways sells tickets for American Airlines flights). This is good for the airlines

because the customers can get their tickets in one place and it lets the airlines use flights that they wouldn't normally have. Also, Oneworld has a frequent flier program, where all the separate member airlines' airmiles can be used, so they can be used across all the member airlines. The three levels are Oneworld Ruby (lowest), Oneworld Sapphire (middle) and Oneworld Emerald (highest). It is up to the airlines to decide how many air miles a passenger needs to get rewards from their own scheme. A passenger is awarded one air mile for each mile that they fly with the airline for.

Other facts about British Airways

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British Airways [Boeing 747-400s](#) at [London Heathrow Airport](#).

- It was the first airline to introduce flat beds in Business Class, although many airlines now have this feature
- It is shown in the [James Bond](#) movie series.
- The airline was awarded 'Airline of the Year 2015'
- It formerly operated more Boeing 747s than any other airline (however with the introduction of the B777 and the A380 that number is predicted to drop). As a result of the global COVID-19 Pandemic and subsequent drop in air travel, British Airways permanently retired its 747 Fleet in 2020.
- In 1989, the airline launched a 90-second advert known as *Face* which has become a classic. It features groups of people in the shape of parts of the face which forms together by the end of the advert, as well as scenes of people uniting. Other versions of the advert soon followed.

References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

1. [↑](#) Davies, Rob (12 October 2020). "[BA chief Alex Cruz steps down as airline reels from pandemic](#)". *ft.com*. Retrieved 12 October 2020.
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3. [↑](#) "[YouTube](#)". *www.youtube.com*.
4. [↑](#) "[Timetables for Cruises From Bristol, England during January 2019 \(06 Jan\)](#)". *www.cruisetimetables.com*.
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Other websites

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

- [British Airways Official Site](#)

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