

Airline Operational Scope Classification

Each airline is classified by its **operational scope** (primarily **Domestic**, **Mixed**, or **International**) and the corresponding **haul category** (Short, Medium, or Long haul). In general:

- Short Haul airlines focus on domestic or short regional flights within a country or small region.
- **Medium Haul** airlines operate a mix of domestic and regional international routes (often within one continent).
- Long Haul airlines have extensive international networks spanning multiple continents.

Below is the classification of each airline:

Airline Name	Operational Scope (Primary Focus)	Haul Classification
American Airlines	International (extensive domestic and international network in 48 countries ¹)	Long Haul
Delta Air Lines	International (serves 325 destinations across 52 countries on six continents 2)	Long Haul
United Airlines	International (extensive domestic and international network on six continents ³)	Long Haul
Southwest Airlines	Domestic (primarily U.S. domestic flights, with limited nearby international routes 4)	Short Haul
JetBlue Airways	Mixed (mostly U.S. & Caribbean routes, with a few transatlantic flights to Europe 5)	Medium Haul
Air Canada	International (global network: ~158 international destinations across Asia, Africa, Americas, Europe, Oceania 6)	Long Haul
British Airways	International (global reach across Europe, Americas, Asia, Africa, Oceania 7)	Long Haul
Lufthansa	International (serves ~198 international destinations in 73 countries across Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe ⁸)	Long Haul
Air France	International (worldwide operations to 201 destinations in 78 countries ⁹)	Long Haul
KLM (Royal Dutch Airlines)	International (flag carrier of the Netherlands, ~145 destinations worldwide 10)	Long Haul

Airline Name	Operational Scope (Primary Focus)	Haul Classification
Ryanair	Mixed (international low-cost flights across Europe and nearby regions 11)	Medium Haul
easyJet	Mixed (domestic UK and intra-Europe flights in 34+ countries via affiliates 12)	Medium Haul
Emirates	International (Dubai-based global airline serving 150+ cities in 80 countries across six continents (13)	Long Haul
Etihad Airways	International (Abu Dhabi-based, 120+ destinations across Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, N. America ¹⁴)	Long Haul
Qatar Airways	International (Doha-based hub network to 170+ destinations on five continents ¹⁵)	Long Haul
Singapore Airlines	International (flies from Singapore across five continents worldwide 16)	Long Haul
Malaysia Airlines	International (connects Malaysia to Europe, Oceania and Asia from Kuala Lumpur ¹⁷)	Long Haul
Qantas	International (flag carrier of Australia; only airline to fly all 7 continents ¹⁸)	Long Haul
Virgin Atlantic	International (British long-haul carrier flying transatlantic and to Asia/Africa)	Long Haul
AirAsia	Mixed (Malaysian low-cost carrier with domestic and regional Asian routes in 22 countries 19)	Medium Haul
IndiGo	Mixed (India's largest airline – ~91 domestic cities, plus regional international flights 20 21)	Medium Haul
SpiceJet	Domestic (primarily serves India with a few short international routes 22)	Short Haul
Air India	International (flag carrier of India with ~40 international destinations across Asia, Europe, North America, etc. 23)	Long Haul
Cathay Pacific	International (Hong Kong-based, serves 80+ destinations across Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania 24)	Long Haul
Japan Airlines (JAL)	International (flag carrier of Japan, services worldwide network in 35+ countries 25)	Long Haul
All Nippon Airways (ANA)	Mixed (Japan's largest airline; extensive domestic network and international routes ²⁶)	Medium Haul
Turkish Airlines	International (flag carrier of Turkey; flies to 131 countries – more than any airline ²⁷)	Long Haul

Airline Name	Operational Scope (Primary Focus)	Haul Classification
Ethiopian Airlines	International (Africa's largest carrier; 130+ destinations spanning five continents ²⁸)	Long Haul

Each airline's classification above is based on the **primary scope** of its operations as evidenced by route networks and destinations from official or authoritative sources. Sources are cited to provide detailed confirmation of each airline's operational scope.

1 American Airlines - Wikipedia

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² Delta Air Lines - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delta_Air_Lines

³ United Airlines - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Airlines

4 Southwest Airlines - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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⁵ JetBlue - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JetBlue

6 Air Canada | Info, Website, Phone, Routes & More!

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7 British Airways - oneworld Member Airline | oneworld

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8 Lufthansa Airlines: its routes, services and, fleet

https://www.aerotime.aero/articles/lufthansa-airlines-its-routes-services-and-fleet

⁹ Air France - Wikipedia

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11 Ryanair - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ryanair

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13 Emirates (airline) - Wikipedia

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qatar_Airways

16 Singapore Airlines - Wikipedia

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17 Malaysia Airlines - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malaysia_Airlines

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¹⁹ AirAsia - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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²³ Air India: Book Domestic & International Non-Stop Direct Flights

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²⁴ List of Cathay Pacific destinations - Wikipedia

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25 The Ultimate Guide To Avoid Paying for Baggage Fees [2025]

https://upgradedpoints.com/travel/airlines/how-to-avoid-paying-baggage-fees/

²⁶ All Nippon Airways - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Nippon_Airways

27 Turkish Airlines - Wikipedia

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28 Ethiopian Commences Passenger Flight to Bulawayo, Third Destination in Zimbabwe

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