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A Story About Bypassing Air Canada's In-flight Network Restrictions

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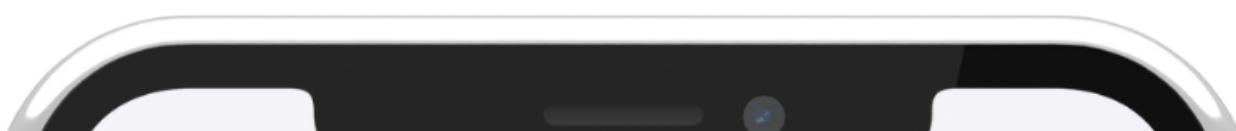
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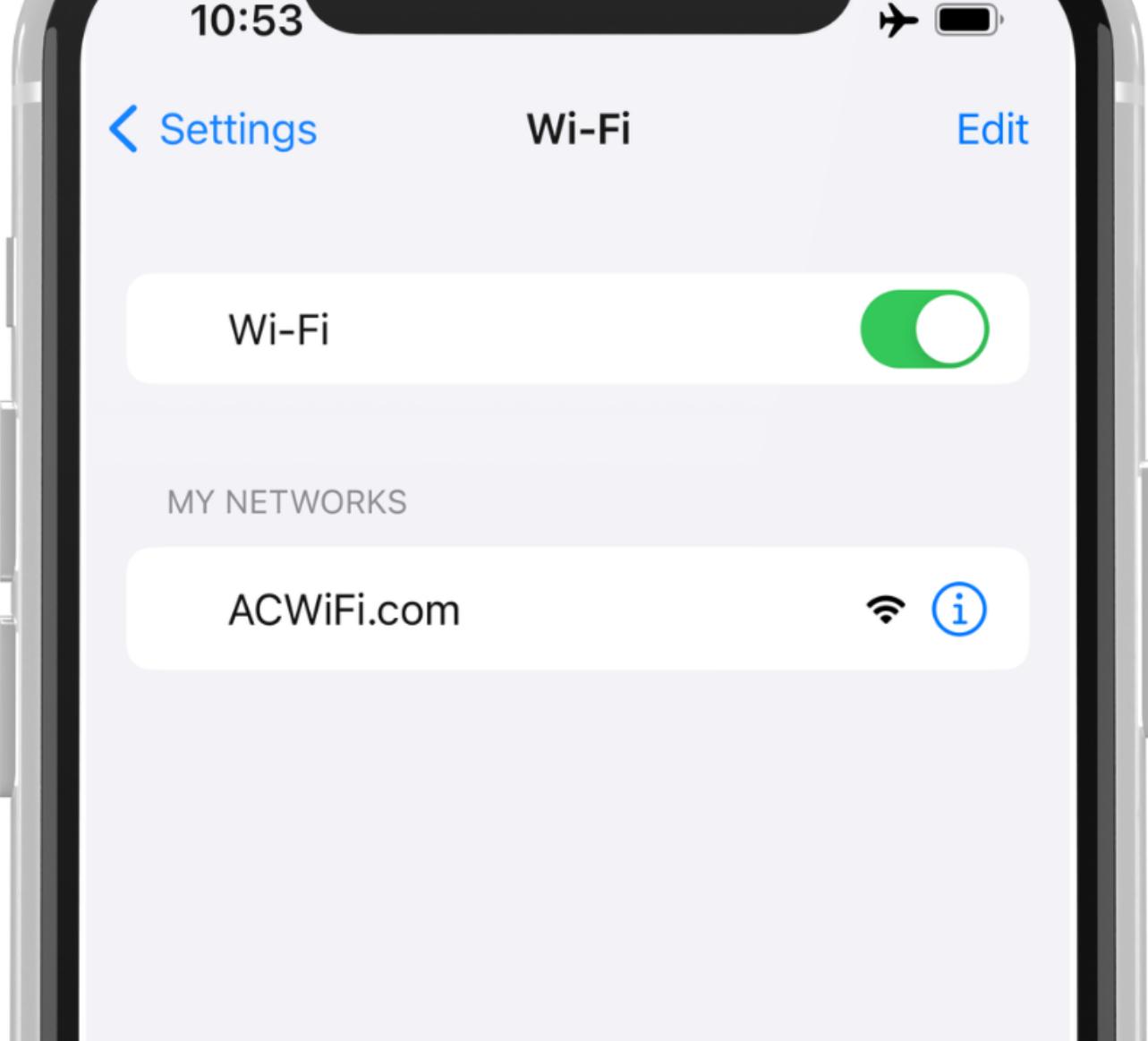
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1 Prologue

A while ago, I took a flight from Canada back to Hong Kong - about 12 hours in total with Air Canada.

Interestingly, the plane actually had WiFi:





However, the WiFi had restrictions. For Aeroplan members who hadn't paid, it only offered Free Texting, meaning you could only use messaging apps like WhatsApp, Snapchat, and WeChat to send text messages, but couldn't access other websites.

If you wanted unlimited access to other websites, it would cost CAD \$30.75:

A screenshot of the Air Canada in-flight entertainment system. At the top, it says "You're connected to Free Texting! Wi-Fi sponsored by Bell". The Air Canada logo is in the center. Navigation icons include a menu, help, transfer Wi-Fi, language selection (English), and sign in. Below this, flight information shows "Time remaining 7h 26m", "Route YVR -> HKG", and "Weather at destination 29°C". The main content area has three sections: "Onboard Wi-Fi" (sponsored by Bell), "WIFI PASSES & PLANS" (listing "Stream Pass" and "Ultimate Pass"), and a link to "Have a pass? Sign in to your Wi-Fi Onboard account". The Stream Pass section includes a note about faster speeds for streaming and browsing.