

= Oneworld =

Oneworld (marketed as oneworld ; CRS : * O) is an airline alliance founded on 1 February 1999 . The alliance 's stated objective is to be the first @-@ choice airline alliance for the world 's frequent international travelers . Its central alliance office is currently based in New York , New York , in the United States . Its member airlines include Air Berlin , American Airlines , British Airways , Cathay Pacific , Qantas , Iberia , Finnair , Japan Airlines , LATAM Brasil , LATAM Chile , Malaysia Airlines , Qatar Airways , Royal Jordanian , S7 Airlines , and SriLankan Airlines , plus some 30 affiliated airlines . As of 31 March 2016 , Oneworld is the third largest global alliance in terms of passengers with more than 537 million passengers carried , behind Star Alliance (637 M) and SkyTeam (587 M) . Its slogan is " An alliance of the world 's leading airlines working as one . "

As of October 2013 , its member airlines collectively operate a fleet of 2094 aircraft , serve about a thousand airports in more than 150 countries , carrying 475 million passengers per year on 14 @,@ 000 daily departures , generating annual revenues of more than US \$ 140 billion .

= = Management = =

Oneworld announced the formation of a central alliance team , the Oneworld Management Company (oMC) , in February 2000 , to mark the alliance 's first anniversary . The oMC was established in May 2000 in Vancouver , Canada , and in June 2011 relocated to New York City . It acts as the alliance 's central secretariat , with responsibility for driving future growth and the launch of new customer services and benefits . The oMC was first led by Managing Partner Peter Buecking , previously Director of Sales and Marketing at Cathay Pacific ; followed by John McCulloch , previously the alliance 's Vice @-@ President for Marketing ; and since December 2011 by Bruce Ashby , who previously held roles of CEO of Saudi Arabia 's SAMA Airlines , CEO of India 's IndiGo , and Executive Vice @-@ President for US Airways . Reporting to the CEO are Vice @-@ Presidents for Commercial ; Membership and Customer Experience ; and Corporate Communications , a Chief Financial Officer and an IT Director .

The CEO reports to the Oneworld Governing Board , which is made up of the chief executives of each of the member airlines . The Governing Board meets regularly to set strategic direction and review progress . Chairmanship of the board rotates among the alliance members ' chief executives . Cathay Pacific CEO Ivan Chu currently has the role .

= = = Headquarters = = =

In 2011 , the alliance headquarters relocated to Park Avenue in New York City , sharing premises with the local offices of a number of Oneworld member airlines including American Airlines , British Airways , Cathay Pacific , Finnair , Japan Airlines , and Qantas .

= = Membership history = =

= = = New global alliance = = =

Oneworld was unveiled by its founding members , American Airlines , British Airways , Canadian Airlines (which left the alliance a few years later on merging with Air Canada) , Cathay Pacific , and Qantas at a press conference in London , United Kingdom , on 21 September 1998 . Oneworld was officially launched and became operational on 1 February 1999 . The alliance outlined its services and benefits as including :

Smoother transfers for passengers travelling across all member airlines

Greater support to passengers regardless of which member airline they are travelling with

Greater range of round @-@ the @-@ world products

Enhanced co ? operation in the member airlines ' frequent @-@ flyer programs to provide more

rewards

Wider recognition and access to more airport lounges .

Ahead of the official launch , the alliance embarked on an extensive employee communications and training programme , involving virtually all of the 220 @, @ 000 staff employed by the five member airlines , to ensure they could deliver what the alliance brand promised . At its launch in 1999 , Oneworld 's member airlines and their affiliates served 648 destinations in 139 countries , and carried 181 million passengers with a fleet of 1 @, @ 577 aircraft .

= = = = First additional members = = = =

Finnair , Finland 's largest airline and flag carrier , was the alliance 's first new recruit on 9 December 1998 . The alliance welcomed Iberia , Spain 's flag carrier , as its second recruit on 15 February 1999 . Both airlines , together with Iberia 's franchisee , Iberia Regional Air Nostrum , joined the alliance on 1 September 1999 , adding more than 50 destinations to the Oneworld network .

On 19 May 1999 , LanChile (now known as LAN) became a member @-@ elect , the alliance 's first representative from Latin America . LanChile 's two subsidiaries , LAN Express and LAN Perú , would also join the alliance . Irish carrier Aer Lingus was formally elected on board and confirmed as the ninth member of the alliance on 2 December 1999 . As LanChile and Aer Lingus joined on 1 June 2000 , Canadian Airlines left the alliance , following the airline 's purchase by Air Canada , a member of the rival Star Alliance .

Swiss International Air Lines (Swiss) accepted an invitation to join Oneworld in September 2003 , after signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on 23 September 2003 to establish a wide @-@ ranging commercial agreement with British Airways . However , Swiss later decided not to proceed with key elements of its agreement with British Airways and was therefore released from its commitment to join Oneworld . Swiss was later taken over by Lufthansa in 2005 and joined Star Alliance in 2006 .

= = = = 2005 ? 2006 : The first big expansion drive = = = =

The mid @-@ 2000s saw Oneworld undertake one of the biggest expansions in its history . Hungarian flag carrier Malév signed an MOU in May 2005 as a precursor to a formal invitation to join , extended in November 2005 . On 17 October 2005 , the alliance signed as a member @-@ elect Royal Jordanian , the first airline from the Middle East to accept an invitation to join any global airline alliance .

Japan Airlines (JAL) , then Asia 's largest airline group , applied to join the alliance on 25 October 2005 . JAL and Oneworld exchanged an MOU on 8 February 2006 , setting out a framework for the remaining steps to be taken before the airline could be formally invited to join . On 5 June 2006 , JAL accepted a formal letter of invitation to join the alliance , along with five members of the JAL Group as affiliate members , including J ? Air , JAL Express , JALways , Japan Asia Airways , and Japan Transocean Air .

All three of these airline groups ? Japan Airlines , Malév , and Royal Jordanian ? joined as full members and started offering the alliance 's full range of services and benefits on 1 April 2007 , along with , as Oneworld affiliate members , Japan Airlines ' subsidiaries J ? Air , JAL Express , JALways , Japan Asia Airways and Japan Transocean Air , and LAN 's subsidiaries LAN Argentina and LAN Ecuador . They expanded the Oneworld network to almost 700 airports in nearly 150 countries served by 9 @, @ 000 daily departures , carrying around 315 million passengers per year with a fleet of almost 2 @, @ 500 aircraft , with top @-@ tier frequent flyers able to access 400 airport lounges worldwide .

On the same day , Aer Lingus voluntarily exited the alliance due to a fundamental change to its business strategy . The Irish carrier was repositioning itself as a low fares point @-@ to @-@ point carrier , while Oneworld 's focus was on the multisector , premium , frequent international travellers ' market . Although no longer a Oneworld member , Aer Lingus maintained frequent @-@ flyer

program partnerships with some of the alliance members and continued to participate in the alliance's Global Explorer round @-@ the @-@ world fare product .

Malév suspended all services indefinitely in February 2012 , citing financial difficulties . Its participation in Oneworld ended when the airline was wound up in the following weeks .

=== 2009 ? 2011 : New recruits and expansion ===

On 26 May 2009 , Russian airline S7 Airlines was unanimously elected to the alliance . It became a full member on 15 November 2010 , adding to Oneworld one of the most extensive networks covering Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) . It expanded the Oneworld network to another 54 cities , 35 of them in Russia . The airline 's subsidiary Globus Airlines joined Oneworld at the same time as an affiliate member .

On 10 November 2009 , Oneworld welcomed Mexicana and its subsidiaries , MexicanaClick and MexicanaLink , after the airline accepted a formal invitation to join the alliance on 9 April 2008 . Mexicana and its affiliates added 26 destinations to the alliance map . Mexicana was a former member of Star Alliance , leaving the group in March 2004 when it terminated its codeshare agreement with United Airlines and opted for bilateral agreements with Oneworld members American Airlines and Iberia . On 2 August 2010 , Mexicana filed for insolvency proceedings in Mexico and bankruptcy protection in the United States with its financial situation deteriorating . The airline suspended all operations from 28 August 2010 . With the group under Mexican court protection , it has remained an inactive member of Oneworld since then .

On 23 February 2010 , India 's Kingfisher Airlines took its first step to joining Oneworld with its chairman Vijay Mallya and chief executives from the alliance 's existing member airlines signing a memorandum of understanding , subject to Indian regulatory approval . The airline gained approval to join the alliance from the India 's Ministry of Civil Aviation and started participating in the alliance 's Global Explorer round @-@ the @-@ world fare product . However , on 3 February 2012 , just a week before it was due to join the alliance , Kingfisher Airlines ' entry was put on hold to give it more time to strengthen its financial position . Kingfisher Airlines suspended operations on 20 October 2012 and finally ceased operations in February 2013 .

On 26 July 2010 , Air Berlin , Germany 's second @-@ largest airline , accepted an invitation to join Oneworld and joined the alliance on 20 March 2012 .

On 6 June 2011 , Malaysia Airlines became a new member designate on the sidelines of the IATA World Air Transport Summit in Singapore . Malaysia Airlines became a part of Oneworld on 1 February 2013 .

=== 2012 ? present : The second big expansion ===

On 11 June 2012 , SriLankan Airlines became Oneworld 's latest member @-@ elect , on the sidelines of the IATA World Air Transport Summit in Beijing . Cathay Pacific is serving SriLankan Airlines as its sponsor through its alliance implementation programme . Its membership implementation was expected to take around 18 months . On 1 May 2014 , SriLankan Airlines became a full @-@ member of the alliance making it the first airline in the Indian subcontinent to join any alliance .

On 8 October 2012 , Qatar Airways became a member @-@ elect of Oneworld . Qatar Airways was one of the fastest growing airlines worldwide ? adding 15 destinations in 2012 alone ? and one of the most highly regarded , having been named Airline of the Year by the Skytrax independent airline quality ratings agency in both 2011 and 2012 . The agreement to join was widely reported in the media as a coup for Oneworld , with Qatar Airways the first among the " Big Three " carriers in the Persian Gulf to sign for any global airline alliance . The airline joined the alliance on 30 October 2013 .

On 14 February 2013 , American Airlines began plans to merge with US Airways . Following U.S. Federal Aviation Administration approval , the merger was completed on 9 December 2013 . US Airways left Star Alliance on 30 March 2014 , and joined Oneworld as an affiliate member the

following day .

On 7 March 2013 , LATAM Airlines Group chose Oneworld as its alliance , and that LAN subsidiary , LAN Colombia , plus TAM Airlines and its subsidiary TAM Paraguay will join Oneworld . LAN Colombia joined the alliance on 1 October 2013 .

On 31 March 2014 , TAM Airlines and US Airways joined Oneworld after leaving Star Alliance on 30 March 2014 .

= = = Subsidiaries and franchises = = =

Besides its full member airlines , Oneworld also includes around 30 " affiliate " members . These are generally regional airlines that are either owned by or have strong commercial links with the alliance 's full members . For customers , they further extend the network the alliance can offer . In governance terms , these affiliates are represented in Oneworld affairs by their " parent " airline .

Air Liberté ceased to be an affiliate member of Oneworld when the French airline was sold by British Airways to French investment group Taitbout with the UK carrier explaining that it had been unable to receive adequate returns on its investment in the business . Kenya @-@ based Regional Air joined the alliance on 1 July 2001 , following its franchising agreement with British Airways . British Airways terminated its franchise agreement with Regional Air when the African carrier suspended flights in mid April 2005 , ending its affiliate membership of Oneworld . TWA 's regional carriers , which operated under the Trans World Express brand , became Oneworld affiliate members , as their name changed to AmericanConnection on 2 December 2001 , following TWA 's acquisition by American Airlines . Three airlines operated under the AmericanConnection brand at that time : Chautauqua Airlines , Corporate Airlines , and Trans States Airlines .

The alliance further strengthened its network in Latin America when LAN 's two subsidiaries , LAN Argentina and LAN Ecuador , became the alliance 's newest affiliate members . LAN Argentina launched passenger and cargo services in June 2005 from its home base in Buenos Aires , while LAN Ecuador launched its services in April 2003 from its home base in Guayaquil . Both airlines officially joined their sister airlines and offer alliance 's services and benefits on 1 April 2007 . Additionally , Cathay Pacific 's newly acquired , wholly owned subsidiary Dragonair , became an affiliate member of the alliance on 1 November 2007 .

Conversely , on 5 March 2007 , the alliance ended its relationship with affiliate member and British Airways subsidiary , BA Connect . BA Connect 's UK regional operations were sold to Flybe on 3 November 2006 , in return for a 15 % stake in the latter . Approximately 50 UK regional routes are affected by the sale ; however , Belfast and Southampton would remain linked to the alliance network through other British Airways and alliance members . BA Connect 's operations from London City Airport and between Manchester and New York were retained and operated by another British Airways subsidiary , BA CityFlyer , and the airline itself , respectively .

The alliance ended its relationship with affiliate member and British Airways franchisee BMED on 27 October 2007 , following the purchase of the airline by one of British Airways ' UK rivals , BMI . Four days later , Oneworld welcomed its latest affiliate member and Cathay Pacific wholly owned subsidiary Dragonair to the alliance on 1 November 2007 . Dragonair had the biggest network into mainland China for a non @-@ mainland based carrier , with about 400 departures a week .

In 2008 , the alliance lost another two affiliate members as British Airways continued the strategy of reducing its UK franchises . The first franchisee , GB Airways , exited the alliance on 30 March 2008 , following its purchase by EasyJet . British Airways intended to start services from London Heathrow to Faro , Portugal , and Málaga , Spain , and from London Gatwick to Faro , Gibraltar , Ibiza , Málaga , Palma , and Tunis , which were operated under the franchise . The alliance bid farewell to one of its affiliate member Japan Asia Airways on 31 March 2008 , following the airline 's consolidation into its parent , Japan Airlines . The second British Airways franchisee , Loganair , left the alliance on 25 October 2008 , following the ending of its franchise agreement with the airline . A separate agreement for codesharing on some Loganair services replaced the previous franchise , for British Airways passengers connecting through Aberdeen , Edinburgh and Glasgow .

===== Tenth anniversary =====

In February 2009 , Oneworld celebrated its tenth anniversary with its ten @-@ member airlines ? American Airlines , British Airways , Cathay Pacific , Finnair , Iberia Airlines , Japan Airlines , LAN , Malév , Qantas , and Royal Jordanian . In the past decade , membership has doubled from an initial five members to ten members now ; its member airlines carried a total of 2 @.@ 5 billion passengers and generated almost \$ 500 billion , ? 450 million in revenue from passenger activities . Alliance fares and sales products generated \$ 5 billion , ? 2 @.@ 5 billion in revenue alone , with two @-@ thirds or almost \$ 3 billion , ? 1 @.@ 5 billion would not have been generated if the alliance did not exist . As part of the celebration and to increase awareness of the 10 ? member alliance , all the alliance member airlines decorated a proportion of their aircraft fleets in a new standard Oneworld livery ? around 40 aircraft in total , mainly types that fly on international routes . The alliance also unveiled a special version of its logo , featuring the text " 10 years " printed behind the word Oneworld as a watermark on its round blue orb .

== Member airlines ==

===== Full members and their affiliates =====

A Founding member.B Independently operated franchise carriers using the British Airways name , livery and flight code.C Only on routes operated by Flybe Finland on behalf of Finnair.D Air Berlin flights may be operated by TUIfly , LGW and Belair using the Air Berlin name , livery and flight code.E Qantaslink uses the services of Airlink , Eastern Australia Airlines , National Jet Systems and Sunstate Airlines.F American Eagle flights are operated by Air Wisconsin , Compass Airlines , Envoy Air , ExpressJet , Mesa Airlines , Piedmont Airlines , PSA Airlines , Republic Airlines , SkyWest Airlines and Trans States Airlines.G Iberia Regional flights are operated by Air Nostrum .

===== Inactive member and member affiliates =====

A Suspended operations indefinitely on 28 August 2010 due to financial collapse . Has not left the alliance yet , but it is listed as an inactive member .

===== Former members and member affiliates =====

A Founding member and was acquired by Air Canada , a Star Alliance memberB Left the alliance after suffering financial collapse

===== Former member affiliates of current member airlines =====

A Founding member affiliateB AmericanConnection flights were operated by Chautauqua AirlinesC Merged with American Airlines on 17 October 2015D US Airways Express flights were operated by Air Wisconsin , Mesa Airlines , Piedmont Airlines , PSA Airlines , Republic Airlines and SkyWest Airlines

===== Future members =====

After the buyout by the International Airlines Group , Aer Lingus will rejoin the alliance at an unconfirmed date .

===== Future member affiliates =====

===== Possible future members =====

In 2014 , several Oneworld airlines signed codeshare agreements with Mexican carrier Interjet . Oneworld has stated that it is interested in recruiting an airline from Mexico , preferably Interjet . This would fill in the void left by Mexicana de Aviación in 2010 . LAN Airlines is among the airlines supporting Interjet to join the alliance .

In November 2014 , Senior Vice President of Royal Air Maroc Habiba Laklalech told media she " believes Oneworld is the alliance which appears most compatible with Royal Air Maroc 's developments " and the airline is exploring alliance options .

In March 2015 , the Minister of Tourism for French Polynesia , Jean @-@ Christophe Bouissou , has told Tahiti Nui Télévision that Air Tahiti Nui is " about to join the Oneworld alliance " and hopes that it would happen " this year " .

Meridiana has several codeshare agreements with members such as Iberia , Air Berlin , and S7 . Meridiana 's frequent flyer club is a member of Avios , which is used by the International Airlines Group (all Oneworld members) . The airline is also a member of the Global Explorer Program . Oneworld member Qatar Airways announced on July 14 , 2016 , that it would purchase a 49 % stake in Meridiana .

===== Benefits and services =====

===== Premium status =====

Oneworld has three premium status levels ? Ruby , Sapphire , and Emerald ? based on the customer 's tier status in the member airline 's frequent @-@ flyer program . Emerald status is the highest level in each member 's programme , and all of the statuses are recognised by each of the member airlines . The premium statuses have no specific requirements of their own ; membership is based solely on the frequent @-@ flyer programs of the individual member airline . Alliance benefits are only available to passengers on scheduled flights that are both operated and marketed by a member airline .

===== Alliance fares =====

Alliance fares include :

oneworld Explorer : Prices are based on class of travel (Economy , Premium Economy where available , Business , or First) and , uniquely , the number of continents visited , rather than mileage of the overall trip , to keep journey planning as simple and flexible as possible . Flights can be on any of the Oneworld carriers. oneworld Explorer was the first multi @-@ airline round @-@ the @-@ world fare bookable online .

Global Explorer : Another round @-@ the @-@ world fare , but based on the distance flown . It includes some airlines that are not members of Oneworld , like members elect Qatar Airways and SriLankan , plus Aer Lingus , Air Pacific , Alaska Airlines , Bangkok Airways , Meridiana , WestJet , and some flights operated by Air Tahiti Nui , Jetstar , South African Airlines , and Vietnam Airlines , extending the destinations covered still further .

Circle Explorer : Similar to oneworld Explorer , but does not require travel to North or South America , so you can fly halfway around the globe and then back again , without actually circumnavigating the planet (for example , London @-@ Hong Kong @-@ Sydney @-@ Johannesburg @-@ London) .

Circle Pacific : Another Explorer variant . This one is for trips around the Pacific Ocean , covering Australia / NZ , Asia , and North and South America (for example , Los Angeles @-@ Tokyo @-@ Sydney @-@ Los Angeles) .

Circle Asia and South West Pacific : Covers Northeast and Southeast Asia , as well as the Southwest Pacific .

Circle Atlantic : Covers Europe , the Middle East , and North and South America .

Visit Passes : Offers multi @-@ sector flights on any Oneworld carrier in a specific continent and also within Japan and Malaysia .

= = = Co @-@ location = = =

Co @-@ location provides alliance customers with smoother transfers between member airlines ; and better facilities than any of the member airlines could justify on their own . The alliance has combined ticket offices , check @-@ in facilities and lounges at some 50 airports worldwide .

= = = Alliance initiatives and performance = = =

= = = Customer service initiatives = = =

= = = Interline electronic ticket = = =

On 21 April 2005 , Oneworld became the first airline alliance to enable its customers to fly throughout its members ' network on electronic tickets (e @-@ tickets) only , with the completion of interline e @-@ ticketing (IET) links between all its member airlines .

= = = Awards and recognitions = = =

= = Livery and logo = =

All alliance members ' aircraft bear a small Oneworld logo , 30 centimetres (12 in) in diameter , on the right of the first set of entry doors behind the cockpit .

= = = Japan Airlines ? 2007 special Oneworld livery = = =

In 2007 , Japan Airlines (JAL) painted two of its Boeing 777 aircraft , a Boeing 777 @-@ 200ER (JA704J) and a Boeing 777 ? 300 (JA8941) , in a special Oneworld livery to mark its entrance into the alliance . The first aircraft (JA704J) took off from the airline 's main international hub Tokyo Narita International Airport as Japan Airlines Flight 441 bound for Moscow on 16 April 2007 . The design featured " a huge globe in the distinctive horizon blue of Oneworld , painted on the centre of the aircraft , with a stylised motif to symbolise the convenience , comfort , value and choice available to passengers throughout the alliance 's comprehensive global network " .

= = = Standard Oneworld livery = = =

The new (optional) standard Oneworld livery was introduced as part of the alliance 's tenth anniversary celebration in February 2009 . It features the alliance name in large letters that are almost 2 metres (6 @.@ 6 ft) tall and the alliance logo along the side of their fuselage , against a white or a polished metal background . The name of the operating member airline will be placed in smaller lettering in a standard position at the front of the aircraft below the alliance name and logo . Each member airline will also retain its regular tailfin design .