



# KOREAN AIR WELCOMES AIRBUS A350 TO ITS FLEET

News / Airlines



**Korean Air introduced Airbus A350-900 into service on January 27. The first aircraft operates two daily flights between Seoul Incheon and Osaka, while a second A350-900 will serve the daily route between Seoul Incheon and Fukuoka. The A350-900 is a state-of-the-art aircraft that combines optimum comfort with an enriched travel experience. Thanks to its exceptional fuel efficiency and reduced carbon emissions compared with other similar aircraft, it supports Korean Air's sustainable development initiatives.**

The introduction of the A350-900 into Korean Air's fleet meets growing passenger demand and strengthens the airline's capacity as it continues its merger with Asiana Airlines. After an initial phase on short-haul routes to Japan, the A350-900 will extend its services to Taipei from March, before serving long-haul destinations such as Madrid and Rome in the second half of the year.

The A350-900 embodies Airbus' most advanced technological innovation, offering exceptional performance for long-haul flights while retaining great versatility for regional routes. With a range of over 12,000 kilometers, this aircraft allows direct flights to all European destinations and the vast majority of major North American cities.

The A350 redefines standards of environmental performance and efficiency with its carbon composite structure and Rolls-Royce Trent XWB engines. More than 50% of the fuselage is made of composite materials, making the aircraft considerably lighter and more durable. Innovations include biomimetic morphing wings, designed to reduce aerodynamic drag and guarantee optimized flight performance. In addition, lower cabin pressure reduces passenger fatigue, while its acoustic design allows a noise reduction of 4 to 6 decibels compared with other aircraft in the same category.

Korean Air was also a key player in the development of the A350. The design and manufacture of the aircraft's three cargo doors - front, rear and center - were carried out by the company's aerospace division, highlighting its advanced manufacturing skills.



The A350-900 can accommodate 311 passengers, including 28 seats in Prestige class and 283 in Economy class. Prestige class features a staggered 1-2-1 configuration, guaranteeing free access to the aisles. These seats are 56 cm wide and extend up to 195.5 cm in bed mode, offering privacy and comfort. Prestige class seats are equipped with 18.5-inch screens and touch-screen remote controls for improved accessibility. Economy class is equipped with Panasonic's eX3 entertainment system, offering a wide choice of films, music and TV programs.

Economy class features an optimized 3-3-3 configuration with ergonomic seats designed to maximize personal space. Seats adapt to passenger movements for enhanced comfort, with generous 81-83 cm spacing and 45 cm width throughout the cabin.

Korean Air has put together a team of highly qualified pilots to operate the A350, choosing experienced professionals with solid expertise on various Airbus aircraft. The crews underwent an

intensive six-month training program at Airbus Asia's training center in Singapore, including instructor qualification sessions to reinforce in-house training capabilities. “Our in-depth training program incorporates high-intensity intervention scenarios that go beyond standard protocols, illustrating our ongoing commitment to operational excellence,” said a Korean Air representative.

As part of its A350 operations, Korean Air has put in place a comprehensive technical maintenance program. Maintenance teams have completed three EASA-certified training courses, and an in-house maintenance training program is planned for this year. The airline is also finalizing maintenance agreements for Trent XWB engines with Rolls-Royce.



27 JANUARY 2025

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