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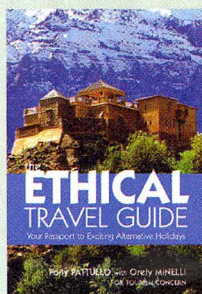
The definitive guide for British Airways travellers
Edited by Kate Chambers

THE GREEN PAGE



ECO RETREAT LEFAY RESORT AND SPA, ITALY

The family-run Lefay Resort and Spa nestles in a private estate of gentle hills and olive groves overlooking Italy's majestic Lake Garda. Less than 90 minutes from Verona airport, the resort is easily accessible but feels a world away. Built on a philosophy of eco-sustainability, Lefay is integrated into the hillside to minimise environmental impact and has constructed its own biomass plant to reduce daily carbon emissions. A luxurious variety of spa treatments echo these natural principles, as does the restaurant, which offers a lighter menu for the more abstemious guest. A great place to chill. lefoyresorts.com



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Send Willie Walsh your questions on the effects of aviation on the environment, and he'll do his best to answer them. Published letters will receive a copy of *The Ethical Travel Guide* (worth £14.99). Please email him at willie.walsh@bahighlife.com or write to Willie Walsh, High Life magazine, Cedar Communications, 85 Strand, London WC2R 0DW. We regret that Willie Walsh is unable to enter into any personal correspondence.

YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS



Your chance to quiz chief executive **Willie Walsh** on British Airways' environmental credentials

Should rail replace short-haul flights?

Laura Williams, Basingstoke

British Airways strongly supports high-speed rail links, and I would very much welcome a high-speed rail hub at Heathrow. This would reduce the need for flights to some of the nearest destinations and increase travel to and from Heathrow by public transport. However, high-speed rail cannot be a complete substitute for flying. There are relatively few destinations in Continental Europe to which it would be practical to travel and return by rail in a day. And rail will never provide an alternative to intercontinental flights. Therefore aviation will always remain the preferred form of transport for millions of travellers.

Do short-haul flights have more effect on the environment than long-haul?

Lenny Osterberg, by email

This is a more complex issue than some people might think. A great deal depends on the carbon efficiency of the aircraft flying a particular route, as well as other factors such as weather and the directness of the routing. New British Airways aircraft produce significantly less CO₂ than the older generation planes they replace flying on the same routes. Equally, some of the environmental claims made for high-speed rail need to be treated with caution. Emission levels can vary hugely depending on the source of power for the rolling stock and passenger loads.

DID YOU KNOW...

- By offsetting the carbon emissions from your flight on ba.com, you will join the many passengers who have contributed £1.5 million to support renewable energy projects in China and Brazil among others.
- By carrying less in your luggage, you can save emissions. If every passenger carried 1kg less, the total carbon emissions could be reduced by more than 13,500 tonnes each year.
- None of BA's waste from London Heathrow and Gatwick goes to landfill. You can help with the recycling by placing your used newspaper at the front of the aircraft on short-haul flights.
- BA supports around 100 community projects in the countries it flies to. Visit ba.com/onedestination to view projects at your destination.
- To reduce water, our Terminal 5 lounges use vacuum-flush toilets, which require only 1.2 litres of water rather than the usual six.
- BA recycles up to 85 per cent of aircraft seats at the end of their life.
- From 2014, BA will begin to use sustainable, alternative fuel derived from half a million tonnes of landfill waste. This produces 16m gallons of green jet fuel, making a 95 per cent saving in greenhouse gases compared to conventional aviation fuel.