



## Frequent Flyer news released on April 15, 2009

United was responsible for this year's resurrection miracle, one week before Easter: **Mileage Plus** members can now, after a break of almost two years, use their miles again for upgrade awards on selected Star Alliance partners! *Air China* and *Shanghai Airlines* have also become new members of this circle of upgrade airlines. However, it is far from being achieved that everybody cooperates with everybody, even among those 15 airlines offering actually these upgrade awards. Moreover, there are five members - without counting the regional members -, which are not yet integrated to the program at all, including such heavy weights as *Air Canada*, *US Airways* or *South African*. In one word, it still takes a few more Heavenly miracles until this project can be considered as terminated.

Singapore Airlines is not the only airline that is currently faced with a falling demand in Business Class, but tries to find a more innovative response to it than many others: **KrisFlyer** members receive Special Upgrade Points for all flights with *Singapore Airlines* from April 01 to June 30, in parallel to miles. One receives thereby the same number of points as miles. 25,000 Upgrade points entitle to a complimentary roundtrip upgrade on Singapore Airlines. However, it becomes really interesting primarily thereafter: Because after 25,000 points, an additional complimentary upgrade is earned for every 5,000 points, up to a maximum of five upgrades in total. Approximately 25,000 Upgrade points/miles are earned with one roundtrip in Business Class from Europe to Australia. Miles collected on Star Alliance partners are not taken into account under this promotion. It should also be noted that the lowest Economy booking classes on Singapore Airlines don't qualify for any mileage accrual.

Other than what we've feared, Emirates has nevertheless extended the 10% discount for online booked award flights in its **Skywards** program beyond March 31. Currently, members can benefit of it through December 31, 2009, further extensions not to be ruled out. Moreover, the program continues to offer double miles in Economy Class as well as triple miles in Business Class on most *Emirates* flights until June 30.

Even in the comfort of Qatar Airways' Business Class, 16 hours and 20 minutes can be a long time. That's how long its latest flight from Doha to Houston takes. At one point, you're not hungry anymore, don't feel sleepy anymore and don't feel like watching any more movies either. That is the moment to realise that you are about to earn more than 2,200 miles per hour in its **Privilege Club**. Thanks to a promotion running until May 31, one receives 20,000 bonus miles in Business Class per sector (10,000 in Economy Class) and collects like that, together with the regular miles, more than 72,000 miles per roundtrip in Business Class, even as base member.

Instead of the usual 500 miles per rental, members of the program **Voyage+** of Kaliningrad-based KD Avia get 2,000 miles for all rentals with *Sixt* and even 4,000 miles for rentals of at least seven days until May 31. How attractive this promotion is can be seen when you put the low award tables next to it: A one-way award flight from Germany or Austria to Kaliningrad costs 7,000 miles only, from the UK, France or Italy 9,500 miles. One-way award prices increase to 10,000 and 14,000 miles respectively if a connecting flight beyond Kaliningrad to Moscow or St Petersburg is used. And the lucky person becoming the 10,000<sup>th</sup> member in

this less than one-year old program gets a gift of 3,000 bonus miles. The program does currently not yet have any airline partners.

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