

Air New Zealand trials Starlink connectivity onboard



Air New Zealand is trialling Starlink Wi-Fi onboard

[Air New Zealand](#) is trialling Starlink high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity on two domestic aircraft. From today, passengers flying on ZK OXE, one of the airline's A320 domestic jets will have access to high-speed, low-latency internet connectivity throughout their journey. An ATR will join the trial later this month. Wi-Fi will be accessible for free as part of the trial.

Starlink's low Earth orbit (LEO) satellites enable passengers to access the internet quickly and smoothly, whether for business, entertainment or keeping in touch with loved ones.

Air New Zealand Chief Digital Officer Nikhil Ravishankar said the airline is always looking for new and innovative technology to improve its onboard experience.

"We're committed to providing an exceptional experience for all our passengers, and this innovative technology could pave the way for more seamless, high-speed connectivity in the skies for Air New Zealand," Ravishankar commented. "We look forward to hearing from our customers as they test out onboard Wi-Fi. Their feedback will help guide our decision-making as we consider connectivity options for our domestic fleet."

The airline will also expand the trial to its regional aircraft later this month, installing Starlink on one of its ATR turboprop aircraft. This expansion will also give regional travelers a chance to experience the same connectivity.

"Being the first airline in the world to trial Wi-Fi on a turboprop aircraft is a proud moment for us. Our goal is to explore the potential of this technology and understand how it can enhance customer journeys," said Ravishankar.

Air New Zealand is currently in the test phase of Starlink's onboard connectivity, seeking to understand how it performs in real-world conditions and to assess passenger feedback.