

Emirates to offer Starlink Wi-Fi onboard A380

- A Monitor Desk Report

Date: 29 April, 2026



Dubai: Emirates has upgraded its flagship Airbus A380 with next-generation Starlink Wi-Fi, marking a world-first for the aircraft type. The first retrofitted A380 has returned to Dubai after installation in the UK, offering dramatically improved onboard connectivity, up to 1,000 times faster than earlier systems, with total bandwidth exceeding 2 Gbps.

Passengers across all cabin classes will enjoy free, high-speed internet, enabling streaming, gaming, browsing, and work at 40,000 feet. Future upgrades include live TV streaming, initially on personal devices. The system uses three antennas and enhanced access points to support the A380's large capacity and double-deck design.

Emirates plans to accelerate Starlink installation across more A380s throughout 2026, alongside its Boeing 777 fleet—25 of which are already equipped. Over 650,000 passengers have experienced Starlink-

enabled flights so far.

This initiative builds on Emirates' broader investment in customer experience, including a major retrofit programme covering 93 aircraft, upgraded cabins, and improved inflight entertainment. The airline also launched a \$8 million hospitality training centre in 2025 to enhance service quality for its 25,000-cabin crew.

-N