

## Emirates 'working on en-suite bathrooms in first-class suites'

- A Monitor Desk Report

Date: 25 April, 2026



**Dhaka: Emirates President Tim Clark has announced the Dubai-based carrier is developing en-suite bathrooms for its first-class suites, further elevating an in-flight experience already considered among the most premium in commercial aviation.**

Clark made the revelation April 23 while speaking by video at the 2026 Capa Airline Leader Summit in Berlin. "I'm working on en-suite bathrooms in first-class suites," he said, adding that he wanted the news public so competitors would scramble to match the offering.

Clark, who has been with Emirates since its founding in 1985 and became president in 2003, emphasized the airline is "constantly refining the product" to prevent it from "going stale."

Currently, Emirates offers first-class cabins on all Airbus A380s and

Boeing 777s. On the A380, first-class passengers enjoy two shared shower spas, an onboard lounge and bar, luxury amenities, and sliding-door cabins.

The Boeing 777 provides a more secluded experience, featuring fully enclosed, floor-to-ceiling suites with more extensive entertainment and technology, though without shower spas.

No commercial airline currently offers private en-suite bathrooms for every first-class passenger. The closest equivalent is Etihad's The Residence, a three-room suite, often described as an apartment in the sky, that includes a private bathroom and shower. Introduced in 2014, The Residence is available on select A380 flights, where first-class is also offered.

The announcement reflects a broader industry trend of rethinking passenger comfort across all cabin classes. Both Emirates and Etihad now allow economy passengers to purchase adjacent seats for added space.

Other carriers are also innovating at the economy level. Air New Zealand introduced Skynest bunk beds for ultra-long-haul operations, while United Airlines has unveiled its Relax Row concept, featuring sofa-style seating arrangements.

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