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## The world's best first-class cabin? I've flown in most of them and this is my verdict

## Singapore Airlines

Pros: With only six suites, Singapore Suites is the most exclusive first-class cabin in the sky (until Qantas's Airbus A350 launches next year).

Cons: No chauffeur drive and no arrivals lounges at any airports, even Changi.

How much? Return fare from London to Singapore: £10,785. Passengers booked in Suites Singapore Airlines' primo cabin have their own terminal building with a private immigration desk at Changi Airport, Singapore's home hub. After clearing check-in and immigration, an escalator leads directly up to the Private Room. Total time from kerbside to a Dom Perignon 2009 apéritif is less than five minutes.

The A380 superjumbo is the only plane big enough to accommodate Singapore Suites. A private corridor on the upper deck leads to a cabin with just six of them.

A Singapore Suite on the A380 superjumbo Credit: Singapore Airlines

Each has a sliding door, which has a cupboard in its frame big enough to store hand luggage and with enough hangers for a jacket, trousers and coat. If you travel with a companion, the divider between two of the suites can be lowered to create a double bed.

The seat is upholstered in tobacco-brown Poltrona Frau leather and set, facing forward for take-off, in front of a wall-mounted TV screen. After take-off, it swivels through 360 degrees, so passengers can choose the view they want while they enjoy the latest dishes from Monica Galetti, who learnt her trade at Le Gavroche and is a judge on MasterChef: The Professionals.

She creates four seasonal menus which fuse her South Pacific roots with her classical French training.

Each dish can be enjoyed with 2015 Louis Roederer Cristal Millesime Brut champagne, as well as 2023 Deep Woods Hillside Chardonnay and 2002 J. de Villebois Touraine Sauvignon Blanc. On the list of reds are 2012 Bouchard Pere &

**Sauvignon Blanc**. On the list of reds are 2012 Bouchard Pere 8 Fils Corton Grand Cru and 2020 Kaesler The Bogan Shiraz, Barossa Valley.

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There's a separate 6ft 3in-long bed that drops down from the wall between each suite. Turn down comes with Lalique-branded sheets and duvet and pyjamas. Don't expect to enjoy a shower to help you to wake up.

Singapore Airlines thinks they are a marketing gimmick. Emirates and Etihad beg to differ. But the bathrooms on either side of the nose of the aircraft are vast and come with a full-length mirror and vanity table, just in case the vanity mirror in the suite is not big enough.