

A330 - 200 fleet to be placed in extended storage until 2022

May 7, 2020

All PHL based flight attendants

Last week we announced the retirement of five aircraft from our fleet. Yesterday, we announced our A330-200 fleet will go into extended storage into 2022. For years the A330s have been a widebody workhorse on international flights out of PHL and CLT, but given the current depressed demand for air travel, we're having to make some difficult choices. With these fleet simplifications, we'll be down to just two types of widebody aircraft (777 and 787) and two narrowbody (Airbus A320 family and the Boeing 737).

While these moves will affect pilot bid statuses in both CLT and PHL, they should not affect the size of the PHL and CLT flight attendant bases. With the resumption of limited widebody service out of PHL later this summer, we plan to offer training on the Boeing 787— which is planned to do all long-haul flying through October. The 777 will then cover LHR flying system-wide, starting in PHL in October 2020 and the A321neo is planned to cover the PHL-KEF flight when that route returns summer 2021.

What does simplifying our fleet mean for me?

There is some upside to this news. A simple fleet is cost effective and means less aircraft to be qualified on. Just think.... fewer online lessons and fewer drills next year at CQ! However, while we're working on getting the 757, 767 and E190 qualifications removed as soon as possible, you may still be required to go through the A330 at CQ since this aircraft is grounded but not retired.

How soon can I get qualified on the 787?

787 aircraft training courses are offered on a monthly basis. While May training classes have already been awarded, you are welcome to reach out to the Training Support Desk to inquire about any potential openings. June aircraft training ballots will remain open until 05-11-20. Please make sure to complete and submit the online ballot if you are wishing to attend a 787 class during June. Training will be awarded in seniority order and placed on your schedule by 05-13-20, prior to PBS opening.

What if I am on a leave?

It's important to qualify those flight attendants that are active and could potentially fly these trips first. If you are on a leave, enjoy your time off and we'll let you know how to get qualified closer to your return to work.

Please continue to check your CCI messages for more information on upcoming training and thank you for your continued commitment to taking care of our customers and each other.

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