

BUDGET AIRLINES GREENER THAN OTHERS?



In the age when customers are very interested in the environment, it is certainly worth knowing that according to a research budget airlines are much greener than regular airlines. This means that the budget travellers are able to board not only with fuller wallets, yet also with a clearer conscience.

The most important things to know about the difference between budget airlines and regular airlines are that low cost airlines are naturally cheaper and that there are no get out clauses for being late or changing dates. Well actually: the differences go a little further than that. For the greener minded passengers, it is worth bearing in mind that budget airlines do much less damage to the environment and are a lot friendlier to the planet.

According to the company that published the analysis Liligo, by choosing to take low cost budget flights, instead of business class on traditional airlines, **people could reduce their own flight carbon footprint by over 30%**. The authors state the following reasons for such finding. The first and perhaps most logical reason is that budget airlines tend to carry more passengers. This naturally leads to the fact that the planes emit less carbon dioxide per capita. Budget airlines function on the quantity and not quality principle so fuller planes are to be expected.

On a similar note, budget planes tend to fill more seats than regular airlines so the savings are even more recognisable. Whereas British Airways tends to fill 75% of its available seats, budget airlines are renowned for selling more seats than there are available and giving out compensation to those checking in late.

Furthermore, low cost airlines tend to focus upon short haul, which mean a lower average carbon emission. Maybe one of the most important reasons is the fact that the budget airlines use newer planes, which thoroughly exploit fuel efficiency and are better at avoiding waste. To compare: the average British Airways plane is 3 years older than the planes used by e.g. Ryanair.

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