



### 1. Etihad changes SA schedule

**ETIHAD AIRWAYS** has made changes to its daily Johannesburg service with new morning and evening departure options from both Abu Dhabi and Johannesburg.

The new flight timings will offer passengers more flexibility and better connections to the airline's global network.

Under the new schedule, all Etihad flights to South Africa will terminate in Johannesburg, and will no longer continue to Cape Town. The carrier is looking at other methods of serving Cape Town using connections with local carriers.

As calm returns to Libya, Etihad will also start flights to Tripoli from January 17, offering three return flights a week using an Airbus A320. For more information, see [www.etihadairways.com](http://www.etihadairways.com).

### 2. US airline giant files for bankruptcy protection

**AMERICAN AIRLINES** has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection as it attempts to restructure its debts and reduce costs, The Telegraph reports.

The airline's parent company, AMR Corp, is burdened with \$29.6-billion of debt. Meanwhile, the airline has sought to reassure customers that flights will continue as usual and that all new and existing bookings will be honoured.

The world's airlines are struggling to cope with rising oil prices and reduced demand as global economic turmoil continues.

### 3. Do good with your baggage allowance

**NEXT TIME** you fly somewhere exotic, why not use some of your airline baggage allowance to carry much-needed items for schools and clinics close to your destination?

One of the great problems of getting equipment donations to the people who need it is the cost of transporting it. Enter Pack for a Purpose, a non-profit organisation that encourages people to set aside just 2.27kg worth of their baggage allowance for things such as pencils for schools, stethoscopes and deflated soccer balls. Founded in 2009, Pack for a Purpose has already delivered more than 1 200kg of items — from bandages to pencils and solar calculators — worldwide. To help, visit the website and click on the country to which you are travelling to see what programmes participating lodges and hotels are involved in and what is required. Go to [www.packforapurpose.org](http://www.packforapurpose.org).

### 4. Chancellor 'crashes' aircraft

**UK CHANCELLOR** George Osborne "crashed" a passenger aircraft while flying a simulator at Flybe's £12-million training centre earlier this year, The Telegraph reports. The airline had invited Osborne to carry out a simulated landing at Manchester Airport, part of which lies in his constituency. On the first attempt, he pancaked onto the runway, but his second attempt, under the guidance of an instructor, resulted in a perfect landing.