

Approaching promotion: July 2018 –2020

China July 2018 (page 1 of 4)

MCI-IAH-PEK-CSX-URC-CSX-NKG-CSX-PEK-SFO-MCI

I had the opportunity to visit my good friend, colleague, and previous graduate student Dr. Shu Yang in Changsha at Hunan University, attended his wedding outside of Ürümqi, and spent one day in Nanjing – what a treat! Upper left: I started in Kansas City, my CRJ700 which took me to Houston. Going downward, some spotting in Houston, an Air New Zealand B789, and my Air China B77W in Beijing. I love disembarking at a stand, as I turned around and saw the Air China B789. Some spotting in PEK, an Air China B748 and a Pink Peony Livery Air China B737-700. Finally, boarding my Air China B737-8 MAX to Changsha!





Top – landing in Changsha (长沙), with a Sichuan Airlines A320 and Spring Airlines A320 taxiing. I love how China has large signs with the city names in red on the terminal. On the left, some gentlemen enjoying the shade of a Sichuan A320. Bottom row on left, our Hainan Airlines B738 from Changsha to Ürümqi, with a Jiangxi Air B738 on the ground at URC and our Tianjin Airlines A320 back to CSX. Immediately below, a 9air B738 and Shenzhen Airlines A320 in Nanjing.





Top: leaving CSX, an SF Airlines B733(SF) arriving, and my Air China B737-8 MAX in PEK. Next, a Delta A359, a Shandong Airlines B738 and a China Eastern B739 both taking off in PEK. Along the left moving downward, an Air China B77W in the standard livery, with a “Love China” special livery Air China B77W. An Air China A359 and Singapore Airlines A388. Finally, my Air China B748 below, preparing for the long trip to San Francisco!





As always, a lot going on in San Francisco. On the left moving down, an Air Canada A320 in my favorite light turquoise color, and a B737-8 MAX in the newest livery. A United B788, B789, and B77W all lined up. Above, a WOW A333 (purple!). Just below, a United E175LR and a British Airways A388 both taxiing, and a Virgin Atlantic A320 and United B738 performing a parallel takeoff. Below, my United A320 facing the gate, with a United B772 lurking behind.



Australia: August 2019 (Page 1 of 3)

TUL – IAH – SFO – AKL – MEL – SYD – MEL – AKL – IAH – TUL

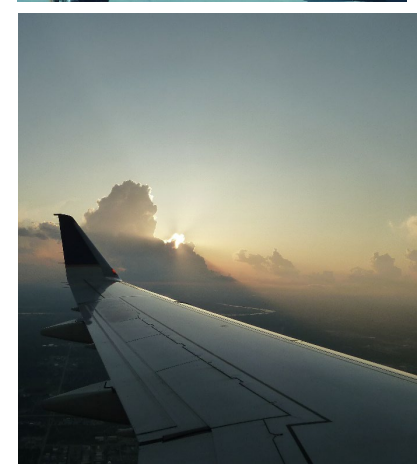
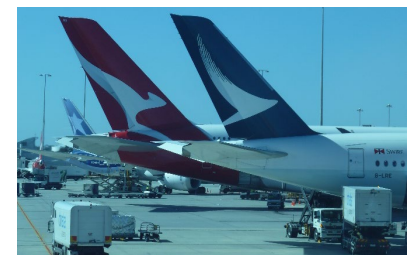
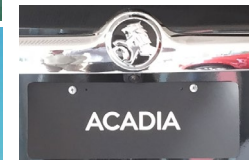
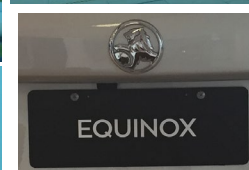
Heading to Australia to visit some colleagues and friends. On the left, moving down, a Star Alliance United B738 in Houston. Heavy central in SFO, with a Lufthansa A388, an Air China B748, a Singapore Airlines A359, and my Air New Zealand B77W that would take me to Auckland. Directly below, a United B772 and B77W facing off. A bit further down, an El Al B789, and a loooooong United B753, with a China Airlines Cargo B744 taking off in the background. Finally, below right, a Breast Cancer Awareness pink tug in Houston, pretty cool!





My first time in Auckland! Above, quite the diverse set of planes, with a Latam B789 and Qatar B772. On the left, an Air New Zealand B789 and Eva Air B777W. On the bottom row, the right, I was able to fly on the “All Blacks” Air New Zealand B777W, a tribute to their rugby team, from Auckland to Melbourne. On the left bottom, a Xiamen Air B789 in Melbourne, and in the center bottom, my Quantas B738 that took me from Sydney to Melbourne, at the gate in Sydney.



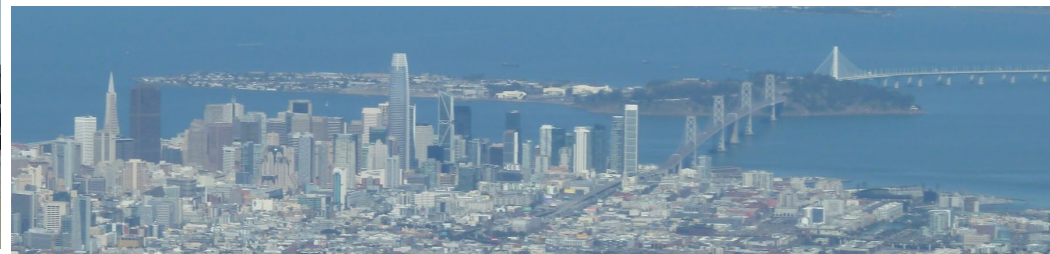
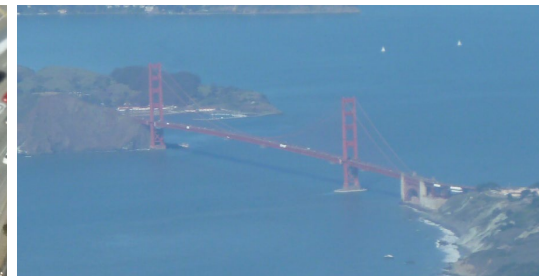
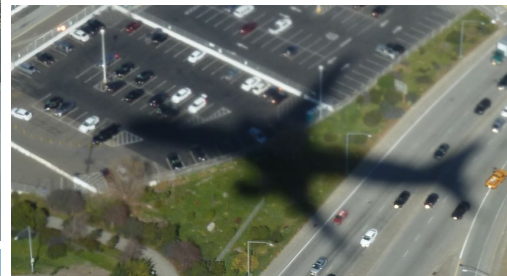


Coming home and starting in MEL, A359 heaven! On the left moving down, a Vietnam Airlines, China Airlines, and Thai Airways. Next a Jetstar B788, and finally a retro Qantas B738. On the top, a Virgin Australia B77W, with my Air New Zealand B77W that would take me to Auckland. A bit out of order, but heading down on the right: my departure out of IAH (note the Emirates A380), a nice lineup of Air Chile, Qantas, and Cathy Pacific tails in MEL, and the view from my United E175 IAH-XNA. Tucked in the middle – a bit of car spotting at the Holden dealership in Melbourne ☺

Taiwan: February 2020 (page 1 of 5)

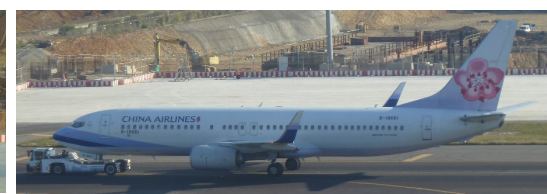
XNA – SFO – TPE – SFO – DEN - XNA

Headed to Taiwan for a visit to a colleague and friend; again, SFO! Top left: an ANA B77W, an Air Canada B789, my United B77W that would take me to TPE, and a United B77W pushing back. On takeoff, a fantastic variety of jets (2xB772 United, 3xB789 United, 1xB788 United, 1xB752 United, and 1xB77W Philippine Airlines), our shadow while climbing out, the Golden Gate Bridge, and San Francisco's skyline.



I splurged and got a room at the Novotel Taipei Taoyuan Airport Hotel, known for its view's of TPE. I was not disappointed, and they were kind enough to give me a north-facing room toward the airport. Top right clockwise: an Eva Air B788; a China Airlines A359; one Air France B788, one China Airlines A359, one China Airlines B773, one China Airlines A330, one Eva Air A330, and one Eva Air B773 lined up at remote stands; an Eva Air B773; an Eva Air A332 (with two Eva Air A321s in the background); and a China Airlines A333 with an Eva Air A321 in the background. Note, that you can see the construction on TPE's new Terminal 3 in several of the pictures.





Even more goodies from the Novotel Taipei Taoyuan Airport Hotel! Starting below: a Uni Air A321; a JAL B738 with an Evan Air A321 in the background, a Starlux A321NEO (!); a Hello Kitty Eva Air B773; a China Airlines A333. with an Eva Air B788 taxiing in the background, and a China Airlines A330 lifting off; a Star Alliance Eva Air A321, and a China Airlines B738. Great mix!





Taipei Taoyuan also has a very nice viewing deck on top of Terminal 2, providing some great view without any glass! Below clockwise: a JAL B788; a rotating China Airlines B773; a China Airlines Cargo B744; a Scoot B788, the special paint scheme China Airlines A359 (encore!); two China Airlines B738, and an Eva Air A332 with a sister B773 in the background.



I ventured into Taipei City to see Taipei 101 (left counter-clockwise). On the subway, I got some bonus views of the ramp of Taipei Songshan airport. From inside the terminal back at Taipei Taoyuan, the Sanrio Character Eva Air A333; the Boeing China Airlines B773; an Air Asia A320; an Eva Air B788; two Tiger Air A320s. Back in the US, my United B753 (SFO-DEN) – my first time on a 753! Finally, on the right, my United B77W from Taoyuan that took me from TPE-SFO. What a great trip!



June 20-21, 2020: Driving to Tulsa to see Air Force One (page 1 of 2)



All good spotters must eat their vegetables to get a feel for the location before the main event, and what tasty veggies! Above: a retro AA "Astrojet" B738, a Delta 712, and a B737-8MAX.

Below: the surprise of the day, Air Force Two arrived with Pence on board, a Boeing C-32A (reg. 98-0001).



The main event! Air Force One arrives (Boeing VC-25A, reg. 82-8000). The police were very gracious to let us spotters watch in peace, the angle was perfect except for the backlighting. Trump passed high to the east over the Port of Catoosa, circled over downtown, and looped around to land. My friend Richard was able to join me.



Over Catoosa



Final turn





As I mentioned, both AF2 and AF1 were backlit on landing, so I went down to Fine Airport Parking, paid \$7.50, and took some much better photos from the 4th floor. Note, without the vice president (Pence) and president (Trump) on board, these are no longer AF1 and AF2, they are a Boeing VC-25A and Boeing C-32A.

I spent the night, and the next day drove around to take some pictures of the dozens of AA planes stored at TUL. Below, clockwise from the upper right: a B789 and B788, a B789 and B788 (with tractor), a B737 tail outside of Lufthansa Technik, three of many grounded Boeing 737-8MAX, and four B777. I've wanted to go to Tulsa to see the grounded planes, and with AF1, the decision was set! What a WONDERFUL two days of spotting in Tulsa!

