

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Air France pours craft cocktails for La Premire cabin

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Air France's La Premire cabin is found on Boeing 777-300 and Airbus A380 (pictured) planes. Image credit: Air France

By STAFF REPORTS

Air France is taking the art of mixology to the skies through a collaboration with the Ritz Paris hotel's Bar Hemingway.

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The French airline has a stronghold on in-flight culinary offerings with Michelin-star chef Daniel Boulud preparing the meals for business and La Premire passengers on United States flights into Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport with return journeys catered by a rotating roster of top French chefs. As for its wines, the airline works with renowned sommelier Paolo Basso and authors Michel Bettane and Thierry Desseauve to serve passengers the best vintages France has to offer.

Shaken, stirred and turbulence

With gastronomy and fine wine covered, Air France is extending its in-flight food and beverage program to include cocktails.

Starting in July a cocktail created by the Ritz Paris' head bartender Colin Field will be served to passengers in Air France's La Premire cabin on the Boeing 777-300 and Airbus A380.

Mr. Field's cocktails will be refreshed every three months and will include ingredients such as calvados, cognac or armagnac, apple juice and Champagne.

As with the chefs and sommeliers Air France currently partners with, Mr. Field is an "ambassador of his trade" and has been named "Best Barman in the World" by Forbes magazine, first in 1997 and again in 2004.



Colin Field will prepare cocktails to be served onboard Air France flights; Image credit: Air France

Mr. Field has worked for the Ritz Paris since 1994 at its infamous Bar Hemingway, renowned for its cocktails. The hotel reopened last year after a four-year, \$450 million renovation ([see story](#)).

Air France's cocktail program will highlight French know-how and culture through the art of mixology. The airline has trained its 1,150 flight attendants, dedicated to La Premire service, to prepare Mr. Field's cocktails to perfection.

The program also recalls Air France's early years, when the airline recruited staff from luxury hotels, including the Ritz Paris, to ensure a high level of service onboard its flights.

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