# British Airways crew member arrested after naked dancing incident mid-flight sparks drug misuse concerns



A British Airways cabin crew member has been arrested following an extraordinary incident that took place during a flight from San Francisco to London Heathrow. The crew member was found dancing naked in the business class toilet, reportedly after a suspected drug binge. Colleagues became concerned when he failed to assist with meal service and subsequently searched for him on the aircraft. His boss ultimately discovered him “completely naked and dancing up and down” in the lavatory. One colleague expressed disbelief at the episode, stating, “We think the guy popped pills when he was meant to be working. It is an extraordinary thing to do.”

The flight was cruising at 37,000 feet when this incident occurred, with another crew member quipping that the steward "seemed to be higher than anyone else." His colleagues quickly responded by throwing him a spare set of pyjamas, which are typically reserved for First Class passengers, before escorting him to that section of the plane. He remained there for the duration of the ten-and-a-half hour flight. Upon landing, he was taken for medical attention and, notably, was wheeled off the aircraft before being arrested by airport police. British Airways has since stated that the matter is now in the hands of the police, confirming that the crew member has been suspended pending an investigation.

This incident is not the first time British Airways crew members have found themselves in the spotlight for inappropriate behaviour. A similar occurrence took place in 2019 when three British Airways crew members were suspended for allegedly running naked through a Singapore hotel after smuggling alcohol from their flight. The airline has consistently affirmed its commitment to maintaining high standards of conduct among its employees, stating it expects professionalism at all times.

Moreover, the airline's history is not devoid of other controversies. In 2018, a stewardess gained notoriety after a video surfaced of her unbuttoning her blouse and sniffing her tights, an action that also led to her suspension. The company has often reiterated its expectations of exemplary behaviour and has taken appropriate actions when incidents arise.

Interestingly, incidents involving nakedness amongst cabin crew are not unheard of in the industry. Back in 1999, a British Airways stewardess, Andrea O'Neill, made headlines after losing a bet regarding flight delays and famously sprinted around the airplane half-naked. Initially met with disapproval from the airline, the event later garnered positive media attention, highlighting the occasional levity within the confines of rigorous flight protocols.

Amidst these extravagant episodes, another recent news snippet reveals the plight of a young British former flight attendant, Charlotte May Lee, who has been accused of attempting to smuggle £1.2 million worth of cannabis into Sri Lanka. Arrested upon arrival with a substantial haul of drugs in her suitcase, her claim of being framed has drawn further media interest. The Foreign Office in the UK is reportedly assisting her, drawing attention to the serious nature of drug smuggling and its consequences, juxtaposed against the more light-hearted, if problematic, antics of cabin crew.

Such incidents prompt a broader discussion about workplace culture within airlines and raise questions about the pressures faced by cabin crew members. As they navigate the complex dynamics of international travel and customer service, the importance of maintaining professionalism becomes increasingly paramount. Airlines may need to reassess their approach to crew welfare, training, and the management of personal conduct to avert future crises, as the balance between a rigorous work environment and personal freedom remains delicate.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14766723/British-Airways-cabin-crew-member-dancing-high-naked-business-class.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/british-airways-hostess-suspended-over-13099670)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14766723/British-Airways-cabin-crew-member-dancing-high-naked-business-class.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/1999/may/06/ameliagentleman), [[3]](https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/british-airways-crew-ran-naked-in-singapore-hotel), [[6]](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/three-crew-members-of-british-airways-suspended-after-running-naked-in-singapore-hotel-119070800516_1.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14766723/British-Airways-cabin-crew-member-dancing-high-naked-business-class.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[5]](https://www.foxnews.com/travel/british-airways-suspends-flight-attendant-over-racy-video-of-her-stripping-off-tights-smelling-them), [[3]](https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/british-airways-crew-ran-naked-in-singapore-hotel)
* Paragraph 4 – [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/1999/may/06/ameliagentleman), [[5]](https://www.foxnews.com/travel/british-airways-suspends-flight-attendant-over-racy-video-of-her-stripping-off-tights-smelling-them)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14766723/British-Airways-cabin-crew-member-dancing-high-naked-business-class.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[3]](https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/british-airways-crew-ran-naked-in-singapore-hotel)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14766723/British-Airways-cabin-crew-member-dancing-high-naked-business-class.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/three-crew-members-of-british-airways-suspended-after-running-naked-in-singapore-hotel-119070800516_1.html)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14766723/British-Airways-cabin-crew-member-dancing-high-naked-business-class.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk/1999/may/06/ameliagentleman> - In 1999, British Airways stewardess Andrea O'Neill stripped off her uniform and sprinted around the plane half-naked after losing a bet that the flight would be delayed. Initially, BA officials were displeased, but later praised her for the positive publicity generated by the incident. O'Neill expressed embarrassment and apologised, stating it was a one-time occurrence and not part of her training.
3. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/british-airways-crew-ran-naked-in-singapore-hotel> - In 2019, three British Airways crew members were suspended after allegedly running naked through a Singapore hotel. The crew had smuggled alcohol from the plane during a layover and engaged in a drinking game that led to the incident. British Airways stated they expect the highest standards of behaviour and are investigating the matter.
4. <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/british-airways-hostess-suspended-over-13099670> - In 2018, a British Airways stewardess was suspended after a video surfaced showing her peeling off her tights and sniffing them. The video, which also featured her unbuttoning her blouse, was circulated online, leading to her suspension. British Airways emphasised their high standards and stated they would take appropriate action.
5. <https://www.foxnews.com/travel/british-airways-suspends-flight-attendant-over-racy-video-of-her-stripping-off-tights-smelling-them> - In 2018, a British Airways flight attendant was grounded after a video emerged of her removing and smelling her uniform's tights and shoes. The video, likely intended for a fetishist, led to her suspension. British Airways stated they hold their colleagues to high standards and would take appropriate action when necessary.
6. <https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/three-crew-members-of-british-airways-suspended-after-running-naked-in-singapore-hotel-119070800516_1.html> - In 2019, three British Airways crew members were suspended after allegedly running naked through a Singapore hotel. The crew had smuggled alcohol from the plane during a layover and engaged in a drinking game that led to the incident. British Airways stated they expect the highest standards of behaviour and are investigating the matter.
7. <https://coconuts.co/singapore/news/3-british-airways-crew-members-suspended-for-running-naked-through-singapore-hotel-on-a-dare/> - In 2019, three British Airways crew members were suspended after allegedly running naked through a Singapore hotel. The crew had smuggled alcohol from the plane during a layover and engaged in a drinking game that led to the incident. British Airways stated they expect the highest standards of behaviour and are investigating the matter.