# British Airways steward suspended after naked dancing and suspected drug use mid-flight



A British Airways steward's unusual mid-flight antics have garnered attention after he was discovered dancing naked in a business class toilet on a flight from San Francisco to London. The incident reportedly unfolded during the in-flight meal service when the crew member went missing, prompting a search by colleagues. A senior crew member eventually found him undressed and “jigging up and down” in the Club World toilet, raising concerns about his state of mind and wellbeing.

Upon his retrieval, the steward was clothed in a spare pair of First Class pyjamas and relocated to a luxury seat for the remainder of the ten-and-a-half-hour flight. The circumstances surrounding his behaviour have led to suspicions of drug use prior to the incident. Witness reports suggest that crew members speculated he had consumed pills rather than fulfilling his duties, with one colleague exclaiming, "This bloke seemed to be higher than anyone else." British Airways has since classified the situation as a police matter, resulting in the steward’s suspension.

This incident is part of a troubling trend involving British Airways crew members, which has raised questions about workplace conduct and drug use within the airline industry. In a similar incident in July 2019, three crew members were suspended for reportedly running naked through a hotel in Singapore during a layover after smuggling alcohol on board. The airline emphasised the importance of maintaining high standards of behaviour among its staff, reflecting a broader commitment to professionalism.

Recently, British Airways has faced further scrutiny following incidents involving crew members in Brazil, where an initial report of robbery transmogrified into allegations of excessive drinking and drug use. These incidents, which led to the cancellation of a flight from Rio de Janeiro to London, highlight a pattern of troubling behaviour among some crew members that could undermine the airline’s reputation and operational integrity.

Adding to these concerns, a recent case involving a British Airways pilot underscores the gravity of substance abuse risk in the airline industry. In September 2023, pilot Mike Beaton was sacked after allegedly engaging in drug and alcohol use before a flight, reportedly snorting cocaine off a woman's chest. The incident raised alarms not just for safety but also about the ethical conduct and accountability of staff members, prompting British Airways to reaffirm its zero-tolerance policy towards substance abuse.

Given these incidents, the implications for British Airways are significant. The airline faces the dual challenge of addressing individual misconduct while reassessing supervisory measures to ensure that crew conduct aligns with safety and operational standards. As investigations continue into these behaviours, the need for stricter enforcement of regulations and training on appropriate conduct appears more critical than ever for the air travel industry as a whole.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062516/british-airways-steward-dancing-naked-drugs-binge)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062516/british-airways-steward-dancing-naked-drugs-binge), [[2]](https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/british-airways-crew-ran-naked-in-singapore-hotel)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/uk/british-airways-crew-lied-about-being-robbed-to-cover-up-drink-and-drugs-binge/articleshow/105265913.cms)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://news.sky.com/story/disgraced-pilot-sacked-from-ba-after-cocaine-binge-before-flight-12970783), [[5]](https://www.foxnews.com/world/married-pilot-snorts-cocaine-off-topless-woman-in-booze-fueled-romp-before-flight-report), [[6]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/british-airways-tells-staff-report-31048899), [[7]](https://aviationa2z.com/index.php/2023/09/27/british-airways-pilot-snort-drugs-over-womans-breast/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062516/british-airways-steward-dancing-naked-drugs-binge> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/british-airways-crew-ran-naked-in-singapore-hotel> - In July 2019, three British Airways crew members were suspended after allegedly running naked through a Singapore hotel. The incident occurred during a layover following a 14-hour flight from Heathrow Airport. The crew members reportedly smuggled alcohol from the plane to 'have a good time' and engaged in a drinking session that led to the dare. They were sent home, and British Airways stated they expect the highest standards of behaviour from their teams worldwide and are investigating the matter.
3. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/uk/british-airways-crew-lied-about-being-robbed-to-cover-up-drink-and-drugs-binge/articleshow/105265913.cms> - In November 2023, three British Airways crew members were accused of excessive drinking and drug use in Brazil. Initially, they reported being robbed, but investigations revealed they had lost their phones after a night of drinking and were not truthful about the robbery. The crew members are facing potential charges for falsely reporting a crime. The incident led to the cancellation of flight BA248 from Rio de Janeiro to London's Heathrow Airport on September 5.
4. <https://news.sky.com/story/disgraced-pilot-sacked-from-ba-after-cocaine-binge-before-flight-12970783> - In September 2023, British Airways pilot Mike Beaton was sacked after reports emerged that he snorted cocaine off a topless woman before attempting to fly a passenger plane back to London. Beaton boasted about his actions to a stewardess, who raised the alarm. British Airways confirmed to Sky News that the pilot is no longer employed by the airline.
5. <https://www.foxnews.com/world/married-pilot-snorts-cocaine-off-topless-woman-in-booze-fueled-romp-before-flight-report> - In September 2023, British Airways pilot Mike Beaton was suspended and eventually fired after he was reported for drinking and using cocaine the night before a return flight to London. Beaton, a married father of one, had a night off after a flight to Johannesburg, which he used to indulge in large amounts of alcohol and snort cocaine off the chest of a topless woman. A fellow crew member reported his behavior to the airline, leading to the cancellation of the 12-hour flight to Heathrow Airport in London.
6. <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/british-airways-tells-staff-report-31048899> - In September 2023, British Airways pilot Mike Beaton was sacked after boasting in texts he'd snorted cocaine off a woman's bare breasts in South Africa before attempting to fly passengers back to the UK. British Airways has urged staff to report drug use by colleagues after the incident, reinforcing their zero-tolerance policy to any inappropriate behaviour.
7. <https://aviationa2z.com/index.php/2023/09/27/british-airways-pilot-snort-drugs-over-womans-breast/> - In September 2023, British Airways pilot Mike Beaton was found to have consumed cocaine from a woman’s bare breasts before attempting to operate a fully occupied flight bound for the UK. Beaton openly discussed his involvement in a drug and alcohol-fueled escapade with a stewardess friend, acknowledging his actions with the words, “I’ve been a very naughty boy.” The incident led to his immediate suspension and termination from British Airways.