



As a compliance professional, it's important for me that Key Travel has the expertise and systems to ensure that our air fares are purchased in accordance with the requirements of the Fly America Act, including the many exceptions available to use non-American carriers in some situations.



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KEY TRAVEL

Speak to us to discuss how we can support you to manage a fully compliant travel program.



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This information was correct when going to print and Key Travel takes no responsibility for any omissions or changes.

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Fly America Experts

A quick guide to compliancy with the Fly America Act.

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The Fly America Act: A quick reference

“Federal travelers are required by 49 USC 40118, commonly referred to as the ‘Fly America Act’, to use US air carrier service for all air travel and cargo transportation services funded by the US government”.

General Services Administration, Government agency



Q. Do I have to fly on a US airline?

A. No.

The US Government has entered into several bilateral air transport agreements with other governments, commonly referred to as ‘Open Skies Agreements’ which means travel can be provided by foreign air carriers headquartered in those regions. As of July 2017, these agreements exist with:

- The European Union
- Australia
- Switzerland
- Japan
- Iceland



Q. Can I use ‘codeshare’ flights with non-US airline’s from countries that don’t have a bilateral agreement with the US Government?

A. Yes.

In this day and age the airline industry is complicated, with many airlines sharing planes in order to provide their travelers with additional capacity, routes and to maximize their revenue opportunity. If travel is provided by a foreign carrier that doesn’t have a bilateral agreement with the US Government, it is still Fly America compliant as long as the ticket is booked as using the US airline’s flight number.



Q. Can I book a ticket with the airline sharing the flight using their flight number if it’s a lower price than the US airline’s ticket?

A. No, unless it’s with an airline that has a bilateral agreement with the US Government.

Examples:

1. Washington DC to Addis Ababa – operated by Lufthansa.
Compliant under Open Skies.
2. Washington DC to Addis Ababa – operated by and ticketed as Ethiopian Airlines flight number.
Not compliant.
3. Washington DC to Addis Ababa – operated by Ethiopian Airlines ticketed as United flight number.
Compliant under code share (ticketed on US Airline).

Even if example 2 is lower in price than example 3, which is the same flight, option 3 must be used.

Other exceptions

There are a number of other exceptions to the Fly America Act, including but not limited to the total duration of the flight compared to the US Airline, as well as the number of stops. Other exceptions include medical cases and special arrangements in an emergency situation. **This level of detail is best left for your Travel Consultant to guide you case by case.**

Key Travel’s expertise

Key Travel works **exclusively** with non-profits, including many members of Inside NGO.

Over **80% of the travel we manage** must comply with the Fly America Act. As a result we work with travel requests that are federally funded on a daily basis and our Travel Consultants are **highly trained and experienced** in providing practical, compliant flight options at the lowest possible price.

We have **hosted several symposiums** on the Fly America Act and were invited to speak on the matter at last year’s Inside NGO conference (2016).

We would be delighted to have the opportunity to speak to you about your travel program and how we can help you to be compliant with the Fly America Act. In addition to providing compliant flight itineraries we can also support you with exceptions reporting in readiness for any audits.

