

Focus on world's most turbulent flights

The deadly turbulence on a Singapore Airlines flight has shone a spotlight on the world's most unstable air routes

WHAT IS TURBULENCE?

Aircraft hit by sudden, violent shift in airflow

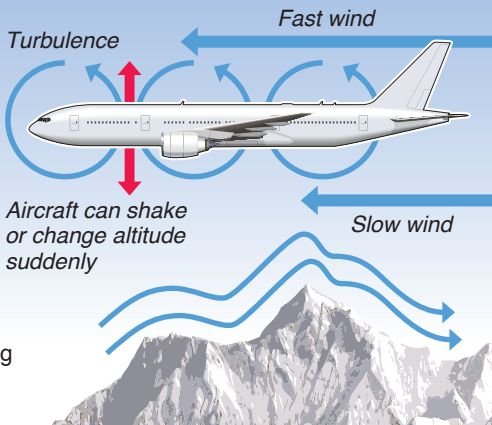
■ Clear-air turbulence

Occurs around jet stream, where high-speed winds meet surrounding air

■ Thunderstorms

Bigger clouds can create severe turbulence up to 30km away – pilots make efforts to fly around them

■ **Mountain waves:** Air flowing over mountain ranges creates turbulence at lower levels



FLIGHTS WITH HIGHEST AVERAGE TURBULENCE IN 2023*

World's most turbulent routes

Santiago – Santa Cruz, Bolivia	17.57
Almaty – Bishkek	17.46
Lanzhou – Chengdu	16.75
Centrair – Sendai	16.58
Milan – Geneva	16.40

Most turbulent long-haul routes

Tokyo – Kathmandu	15.53
Tokyo – New Delhi	14.84
Tokyo – Dhaka	14.80
Seoul – New Delhi	14.70
Tokyo – Mumbai	14.63

*Turbulence strength given in units of eddy dissipation rate (EDR)