

CAHS Air Mail Bags

Unless noted otherwise in the table below all bags are natural cotton approximately 76 x 45 cm, with, on the front, a printed vertical light blue stripe and red, winged crown with the words "AIR MAIL".

Inscription	Flight Details	Notes
Postmaster General Air Mail Australia Official Air Mail First Constellation Service Sydney London 1st December 1947	First all-Qantas service between Australia and England via Darwin, Tengah, Calcutta, Karachi and Almaza. Hudson Fysh handed over the mail to Captain K.G. Jackson, commander of Constellation VH-EAD <i>Charles Kingsford Smith</i> , Sydney-Karachi. Then Captain D.F. McMaster Karachi-London. Eu 1124. TC 4714.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sewn-on blue stripe • crowned wings in light blue
Postmaster General Australia Inaugural Flight Around-the-World Service 14th January 1958 Qantas Empire Airways	Inaugural Qantas around-the-world service. Two aircraft departed simultaneously from Melbourne, travelling in opposite directions. Mail was picked up in Sydney and carried on Super Constellation VH-EAO <i>Southern Aurora</i> flying via Sydney-USA-London-Sydney. A special 2/- stamp was issued and a total of 37,847 items of mail were carried. Eu 1386. TC 5801-3, 5825-6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • slightly wider bag • bag may be unused
Postmaster General Australia 30th Anniversary Tasman Flight Sydney - Christchurch 11th September 1958 Tasman Empire Airways	TEAL carried a commemorative airmail from Sydney to Christchurch in honour of the 30th anniversary of Kingsford Smith's first trans-Tasman flight. A total of 57,053 items of mail were flown Australia-New Zealand. Eu 1394, 1394a. NZAC 469.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bag may be unused
Postmaster General Australia Inaugural Flight Pan-Am Jet Service Sydney - Nadi Airport 17th December 1959 Pan American Airways	Pan-Am first jet service between Sydney and Los Angeles, via Fiji and Hawaii. Eu 1421a.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bag may be unused
Postmaster General Australia Inaugural Flight Pan-Am Jet Service Sydney - Honolulu 17th December 1959 Pan American Airways	Pan-Am first jet service between Sydney and Los Angeles, via Fiji and Hawaii. Eu 1421a.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bag may be unused
Postmaster General Australia Inaugural Flight Pan-Am Jet Service Sydney - Los Angeles 17th December 1959 Pan American Airways	Pan-Am first jet service between Sydney and Los Angeles, via Fiji and Hawaii. A total of 2,126 items of mail were flown from Sydney to Los Angeles. Eu 1420.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bag may be unused

Inscription	Flight Details	Notes
Postmaster General Australia 40th Anniversary of Qantas Winton QLD 16th November 1960 Qantas Empire Airways	A special around-the-world airmail was flown from Winton, QLD to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Qantas. The mail was carried to Sydney, then across the Pacific on the <i>Southern Cross Route</i> to London aboard VH-EBD <i>City of Brisbane</i> . From London the mail was returned to Australia aboard VH-EBB <i>City of Sydney</i> via the Middle and Far East on the <i>Kangaroo Route</i> . A total of 11,473 covers and 908 aerogrammes were carried. Eu 1443, 1443a. TC 6001.	
Postmaster General Australia Inaugural Flight Sydney - New Delhi 6th April 1961 Qantas Empire Airways	Flight does not appear to have operated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 bags • one bag appears used, the other unused
Postmaster General Australia Inaugural Flight Boeing 707 Jet Service Sydney-Bombay 9th May 1962 Air India International	Inaugural Air India service Sydney-Bombay aboard Boeing 707 VT-DNZ, crewed by Captains T.R. Healy and S.F. Peddar. A total of 3,734 items of mail were carried. <i>Note: First Bombay-Sydney service 7 May.</i> Eu 1478.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 bags • blue stripe on back also
Postmaster General Australia First Qantas V-Jet Service Sydney - Tahiti 22nd November 1963	Inaugural Qantas service to Tahiti via Fiji. Flown by Boeing 707-138B VH-EBD <i>City of Brisbane</i> under command of Captain R.F. Uren. Eu 1500. TC 6306.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bag may be unused
Australian Post Office Inaugural Flight Boeing 707 Jet Service Sydney . Mexico . London 26th November 1964 Sydney . London	Inaugural Qantas service from Sydney to London on the <i>Fiesta Route</i> via Fiji, Tahiti, Acapulco and Bermuda. A total of 3,327 items of mail were flown from Sydney to London aboard Boeing 707-138B VH-EBM <i>City of Launceston</i> . Eu 1533. TC 6403.	
50th Anniversary Air Mail Adelaide . Darwin . Adelaide AUG 19 1985 Adelaide 5000 [reverse] Australia Post No.4	Flight to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Adelaide-Darwin service, then operated by Australian Trans-Continental Airways using modified Avro X VH-UXX <i>Faith in Australia</i> . 1985 flight details not known. Eu 2004, 2005.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wider, blue nylon bag with a picture of the <i>Faith in Australia</i>

References:

Eu = The Australian Air Mail Catalogue, 6th Edition.
TC = Qantas Commemorative Airmails, 2nd Edition.
NZAC = The New Zealand Airmail Catalogue, 2nd Edition.

Compiled by Phil Vabre, 9 Feb 2000.