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Airlines in £18million profit thanks to flight extras

AIRLINES made almost £18billion last year globally by charging extra for things like in-flight food.

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This article is based upon a report issued by IdeaWorksCompany

The amount has doubled in three years.

Some airlines average more than £30 a passenger on top of ticket prices.

Ryanair, despite its money-grabbing image, only makes £11 for every traveller.

Extras also include baggage or seat reservation charges, credit card fees, and fines for passengers who forget to print out boarding passes.

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An IdeaWorks analyst

Airlines also coin it in with commission from car rental firms or hotels as well as selling upgrades and taking a cut out of duty-free or other sales.

Analysts IdeaWorks came up with the figures from the revenue records of 53 airlines.

Worldwide, the biggest earner is Aussie-based Qantas, which makes £37 per passenger in extras.

In Europe, the highest earner is budget airline Jet2Com, which makes £30 per person.

Ryanair comes sixth in the European league table.

An IdeaWorks analyst said: “It has become a crucial component of airline income.

“Carriers worldwide rely on this revenue to create profits in an era of high fuel costs while keeping fares modest.”