

America's Most Luxurious Airport Layovers (yes, they exist)



Christopher Janney *Harmonic Convergence*, 2011
MIA Mover Station - Skyride Connector

(CNN) -- Not so long ago, having a layover between flights was like having skin graft surgery between root canals. That's begun to change. With airport amenities classy enough to impress a card-carrying Kardashian, you might even consider yourself lucky to have a few hours to spare between legs these days -- provided you know where to make your next connection.

From bare bones basics like spa services to sustainable gourmet cuisine crafted by celebrity chefs and designer boutiques that wouldn't be out of place on Rodeo Drive, some American airports offer travelers an experience better than certain destinations.

Miami International Airport (MIA)

Taking the museum-in-airport trend to the next level, MIA too boasts an impressive art collection, one that's reflective of the South Florida community. In fact, Americans for the Arts declared it one of the best public art projects in the nation. And while the dining options fall short of "fine," the best offerings are fresh, delicious and capture the city's festive spirit. Casual Cuban spot Ku-Va (Terminal D) is renown for its ropa vieja and mojitos on the go. On the celebrity chef-helmed side, Lorena Garcia Cocina (also Terminal D) offers ceviche, empanadas and other Latin-influenced fare, much of it scratch-made daily.

But where MIA really excels is shopping.

Beyond high-end standbys like Hugo Boss, Emporio Armani and Thomas Pink, Terminal G boasts Jack Georges, purveyor of maniacally handcrafted leather goods. Likewise, Terminal D is home to Coco Bay, where ladies of taste can take some laid-back Miami home to their closets. The piece de resistance is The Shoppes at Ocean Drive.

A first-of-its-kind retail concept, this 10,000-square-foot luxury mini-mall is curated with Miami's iconic Ocean Drive magazine. Inside you'll find the highest-end apparel and accessories to make those last-minute souvenirs seem thoughtful, and an epic gourmet shop that even sells South Florida's famous stone crabs to go.

If all this luxury proves too exhausting, there are three spas on site with services ranging from a 10-minute manicure to a cellulite-reducing galvanic massage at [Jetsetter Spa](#) (Terminal H). **[Continue.](#)**

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