

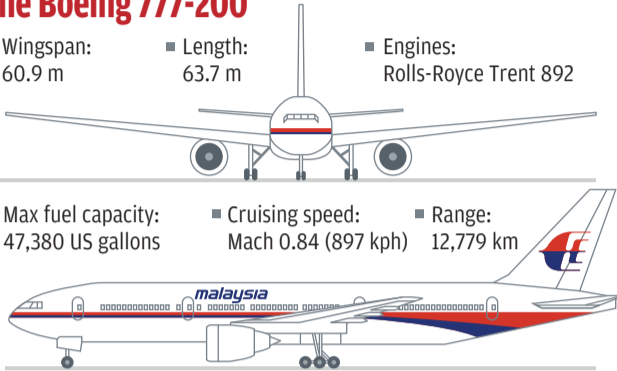
The MH17 Tragedy

Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 was flying from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur on July 17 when it was downed by a missile while cruising at an altitude of about 10,000m. It crashed near the war-torn Russian-Ukraine border. Its 283 passengers and 15 crew members were all killed. Russia and Ukraine are pointing fingers at each other over the shutdown. Both have shot down commercial airliners in the past.



The Boeing 777-200

- Wingspan: 60.9 m
- Length: 63.7 m
- Engines: Rolls-Royce Trent 892



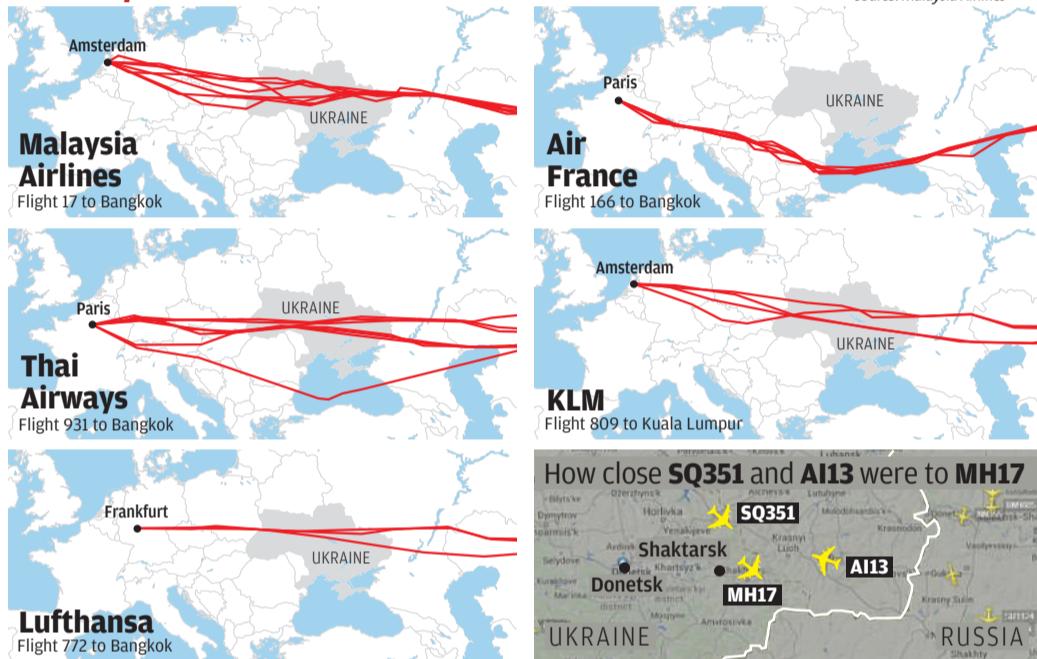
- Max fuel capacity: 47,380 US gallons
- Cruising speed: Mach 0.84 (897 kph)
- Range: 12,779 km

Source: Malaysia Airlines

THE 17 FACTOR

MH17, Boeing 777-2H6ER
Maiden flight: 17-7-1997
Final flight: 17-7-2014
Years of service: 17

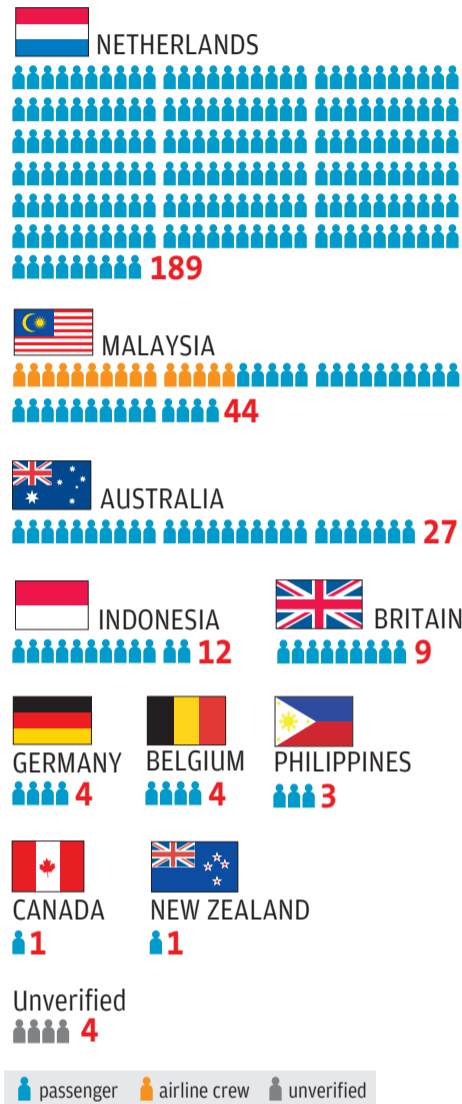
How they all flew



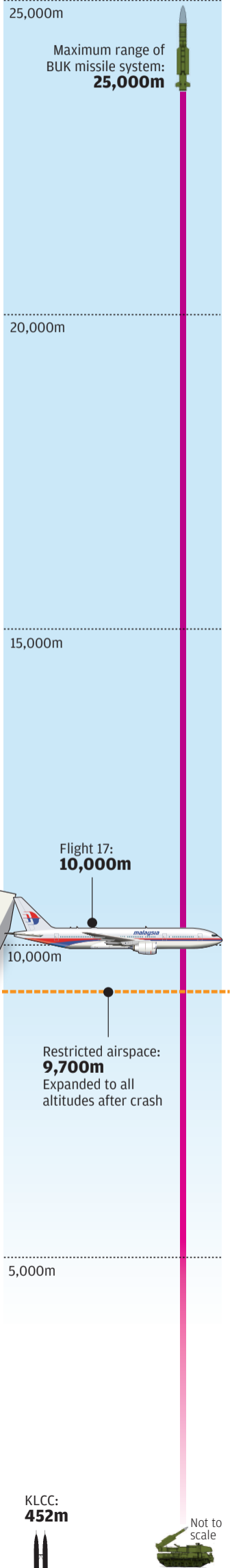
Source: Flight path data from flightradar24.com

Passengers by nationality

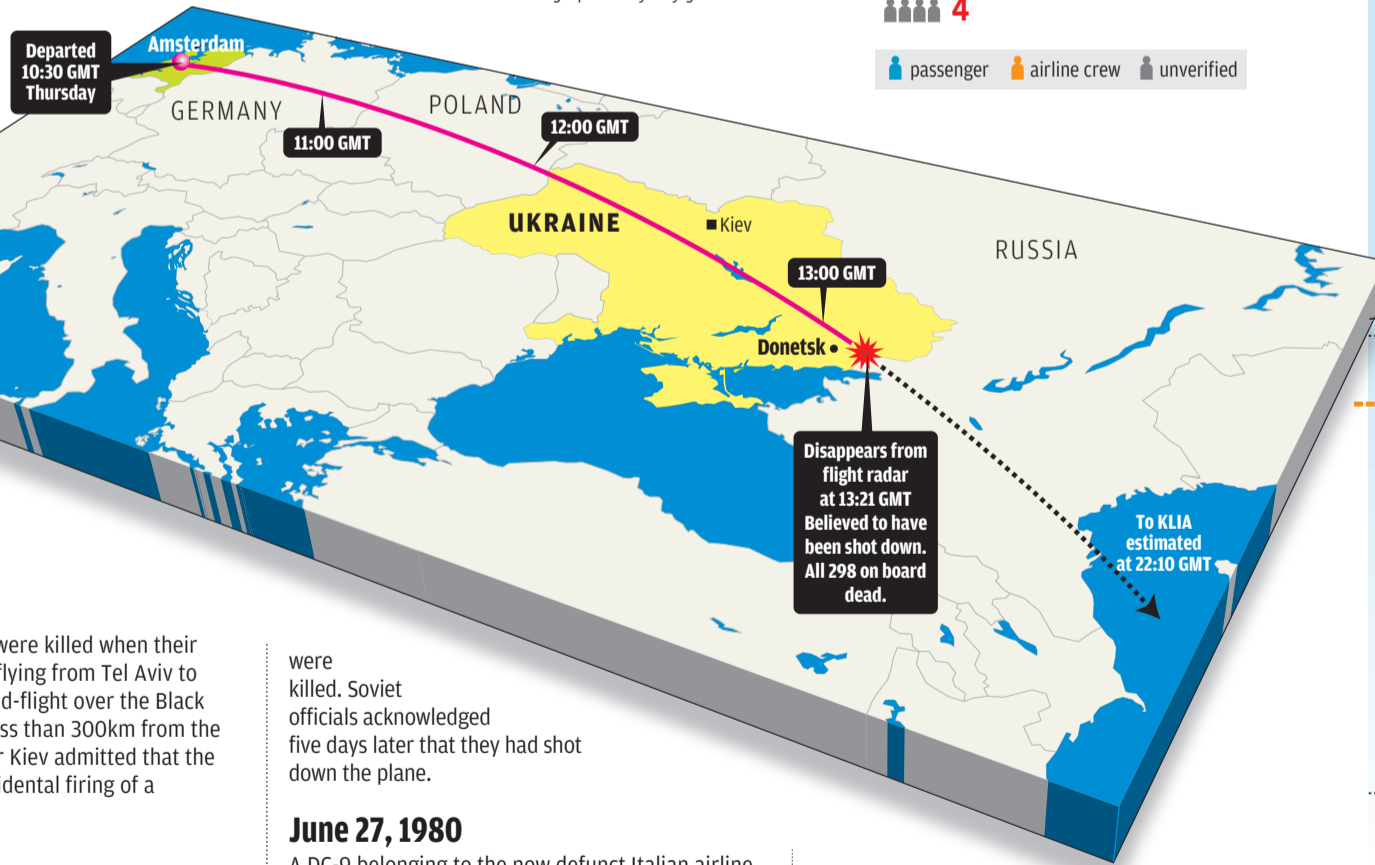
Passengers: 283 Crew: 15



Flight level



The last flight of MH17



Previous downing of civil aircraft

- Oct 4, 2001**
78 people, mostly Israelis, were killed when their Russian Sibir Tupolev-154, flying from Tel Aviv to Novosibirsk, exploded in mid-flight over the Black Sea. The crash happened less than 300km from the Crimean coast. A week later Kiev admitted that the disaster was due to the accidental firing of a Ukrainian missile.
- July 3, 1988**
An Airbus A-300 belonging to Iran Air, flying from Bandar Abbas in Iran to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, was shot down shortly after take-off by two missiles fired from a US frigate patrolling the Strait of Hormuz, apparently after mistaking it for a fighter jet. The 290 passengers on board were killed. The United States paid Iran US\$101.8mil in compensation.
- Sept 1, 1983**
A Boeing 747 of Korean Air was shot down by Soviet fighter jets over the island of Sakhalin, after veering off course. The 269 passengers and crew members

were killed. Soviet officials acknowledged five days later that they had shot down the plane.

June 27, 1980
A DC-9 belonging to the now defunct Italian airline Itavia, flying from Bologna to Palermo with 81 people on board, exploded in mid-flight near the island of Ustica, off Sicily. The hypothesis that a missile was fired in error by American or French fighter jets was denied by Washington, while the French defence ministry refused to comment.

April 20, 1978: Korean Airlines Flight 902 diverted from its planned course on a flight from Paris to Seoul and strayed over the Soviet Union. After being fired on by an interceptor aircraft, the crew made a forced landing on the surface of a

frozen lake. Two of the 97 passengers were killed by the hostile fire.

Feb 21, 1973: A Libyan Arab Airline Boeing 727 flying from Tripoli to Cairo was shot down by Israeli fighter jets over the Sinai desert. All but four of the 112 people on board were killed. The Israeli air force intervened after the Boeing flew over military facilities in the Sinai, then occupied by Israel. The Israeli authorities said the fighters opened fire when the plane refused to land.