

“Window or . . . Window?”



Photo courtesy C. V. Dineley

Forget the carry-on items—but there's great visibility from every seat. Roger Sommer (far left) and five other people got the aerial view of a lifetime on this flight. He also took up seven people for one hour and six minutes on a record-setting flight on October 28, 1911. Inspired by the Wright brothers' success in 1903, pilots were breaking records for distance, altitude, endurance,

and passenger-carrying seemingly every day in the early 1900s. In March 1910, an airplane piloted by famed English airman Henri Farman carried three people for one hour and two minutes. In March 1911, Louis Bréguet took eleven passengers aloft for a three-mile flight. Later that month, Sommer set another record, carrying twelve people 2,625 feet.