



PRESS KIT · UNITED STATES MEDIA EDITION · 2026

Byron Waller

Patient to Pilot

The youngest person in history to pilot a plane around the world.

AGE	AIRCRAFT	DISTANCE	LEGS	DAYS	FLIGHTRADAR24
15	Sling TSi	44,531 km	39	67	#1 globally

MEDIA CONTACT

press@teenpilotdownunder.com · teenpilotdownunder.com

Brisbane, Australia · Available for U.S. broadcast, podcast, and print interviews

AT A GLANCE · THE STORY IN 30 SECONDS

From a hospital bed to the cockpit of a record-setting flight

At 14, Byron Waller flew around Australia. At 15, he became the youngest person in history to pilot a plane around the world — a 67-day, 44,531-kilometer journey across five continents in a single-engine Sling TSi. His final leg into Brisbane on October 15, 2025 became the #1 most-watched flight on Flightradar24 worldwide.

15AGE AT WORLD
FLIGHT**44,531****km**

TOTAL DISTANCE

39

FLIGHT LEGS

67

DAYS

19COUNTRIES &
TERRITORIES**#1**FLIGHTRADAR24
ARRIVAL

WHY THIS STORY TRAVELS

- **A teenager broke a world record** — in a discipline (general aviation) where Americans set the cultural tone. The aircraft is South African; the journey crossed U.S. soil (Anchorage, Seattle, Oshkosh, the Eastern Seaboard); the avionics suite is Garmin.
- **A medical comeback story** — diagnosed with Crohn's disease at 14, Byron trained for and completed the flight inside the same calendar year. He is a credible, articulate spokesperson on teen resilience, chronic illness, and mental health.
- **Built-in visuals** — broadcast-grade cockpit footage, ramp stills from 19 countries, and a published Flightradar24 track. Material is rights-cleared for editorial use.
- **Available now** — Byron is available for U.S. morning shows, late-night, podcasts, aviation press, and youth-focused outlets via satellite or in-studio (U.S. visits scheduled Q1–Q2 2026).

BIOGRAPHY

Byron Waller

Teen and aviation advocate. Record-setting pilot. Australian, 15.



Byron Waller earned his Recreational Pilot Licence before he could legally drive a car. At 14, he became one of the youngest pilots to circumnavigate Australia. A year later, in August–October 2025, he flew a single-engine Sling TSi from Brisbane east across the Pacific, through North America, the North Atlantic, Europe, the Middle East, South Asia and Southeast Asia, returning home on October 15 as the youngest person in history to pilot a plane around the world.

He flew the route inside 67 days, covering 44,531 kilometers across 39 legs and 19 countries and territories — including high-latitude crossings into Anchorage, an Atlantic hop via Greenland and Iceland, and the final 11-hour Pacific run from Pago Pago. The arrival into Brisbane was the most-watched flight on Flightradar24 worldwide that day.

Byron was diagnosed with Crohn's disease at 14. He trained and flew the world route while managing the condition, and now speaks publicly about teen resilience, mental health, and aviation as a pathway. He lives in Brisbane, Australia.

SHORT BIO (60 words — for broadcast intros)

Byron Waller, 15, is the youngest person in history to pilot a plane around the world. The Australian teenager flew a single-engine Sling TSi 44,531 kilometers across five continents in 67 days, returning to Brisbane on October 15, 2025 — the most-watched flight on Flightradar24 worldwide that day. Diagnosed with Crohn's at 14, he is an advocate for teen resilience and aviation.

MICRO BIO (25 words — for chyrons and captions)

Byron Waller, 15, Australian pilot. Youngest person to fly solo-piloted around the world: 44,531 km, 39 legs, 67 days, Sling TSi.

FACT SHEET

The flight, by the numbers

Pilot	Byron Waller, age 15 at completion
Nationality	Australian
Home base	Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Aircraft	Sling TSi — single-engine, four-seat, composite
Avionics	Garmin glass-cockpit suite
Fuel partner	Air BP
Departure	Brisbane, Australia — August 9, 2025
Arrival	Brisbane, Australia — October 15, 2025
Duration	67 days
Distance	44,531 kilometers / approx. 22,500 nautical miles
Legs	39
Continents	5 (Oceania, North America, Europe, Asia, returning via Oceania)
Countries / territories	19
Service ceiling	Up to 18,000 ft (oxygen-supported high-altitude legs)
Notable crossings	Pacific (PHTO, NSTU, Pago Pago); North Atlantic (Greenland, Iceland); Bay of Bengal
Record	Youngest person in history to pilot a plane around the world
Public reach	#1 most-watched flight worldwide on Flightradar24 (final leg, Oct 15, 2025)
Cause	Teen and aviation advocacy; Crohn's disease awareness

ROUTE

Brisbane to Brisbane Brisbane to Brisbane — the long way.mdash; the long way

39 legs across the Pacific, North America, the North Atlantic, Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. Selected waypoints below.

#	FROM	TO	DATE
1	Brisbane (YBBN)	Norfolk Island (YSNF)	Aug 9, 2025
2	Norfolk Island	Pago Pago (NSTU)	Aug 10
3	Pago Pago	Christmas Island (PLCH)	Aug 12
4	Christmas Island	Hilo, Hawaii (PHTO)	Aug 13
5	Hilo	Kahului, Maui (PHOG)	Aug 15
8	Anchorage, AK (PANC)	Whitehorse (CYXY)	Aug 22
12	Oshkosh, WI (KOSH)	Niagara Falls (KIAG)	Aug 30
16	Goose Bay (CYYR)	Narsarsuaq (BGBW)	Sep 5
17	Narsarsuaq	Reykjavik (BIRK)	Sep 6
20	Wick, Scotland (EGPC)	Cambridge (EGSC)	Sep 10
24	Heraklion (LGIR)	Luxor, Egypt (HELX)	Sep 18
28	Muscat (OOMS)	Karachi (OPKC)	Sep 25
33	Bangkok (VTBD)	Singapore (WSSL)	Oct 4
37	Bali (WADD)	Darwin (YPDN)	Oct 12
39	Cairns (YBCS)	Brisbane (YBBN) — arrival	Oct 15

Full 39-leg manifest, GPX tracks, and high-resolution route map available on request.

QUOTE BANK · CLEARED FOR PUBLICATION

In his own words

"I spent a lot of time staring at hospital ceilings. I decided I'd rather be staring at clouds."

— Byron Waller, on the months before he began flight training

"The Pacific is the part nobody talks about. You sit there for eleven hours and the only thing on the radio is your own breathing."

— On the Pago Pago to Hawaii crossing

"A record is just a side effect. The point is to show another kid in a hospital bed that the next chapter hasn't been written yet."

— On the mission behind the flight

STORY ANGLES FOR U.S. EDITORS

- 1. The youngest in history.** Hard news / records desk. Verified arrival Oct 15, 2025; Flightradar24 #1 globally that day.
- 2. From Crohn's diagnosis to cockpit in 12 months.** Health, lifestyle, and morning-show angle. Byron speaks openly about chronic illness and teen mental health.
- 3. A 15-year-old crossed your country alone in a four-seat plane.** Local hooks for Anchorage, Seattle, Oshkosh (EAA), Niagara, and the U.S. East Coast. Ramp stills available for each.
- 4. The next generation of general aviation.** Aviation press, AOPA Pilot, Flying Magazine, AVweb, podcasts. Sling TSi, Garmin avionics, Air BP, real-world weather decision-making.
- 5. What sponsors get for backing a record.** Business / marketing desk. The 2026 mission is open to U.S. title and category sponsors (see Partnership page).

SELECTED COVERAGE

Where the story has run

OUTLET	MARKET	FORMAT
ABC News (AU)	Australia	Broadcast + digital feature
BBC News	United Kingdom	Digital feature
The Guardian	UK / Australia	Long-form digital
Channel 7 News	Australia	Prime-time broadcast
Channel 9 News	Australia	Prime-time broadcast
Channel 10 News	Australia	Prime-time broadcast
Flightradar24 blog	Global aviation	Editorial + track replay
AOPA Australia	General aviation	Member feature

BROADCAST-READY ASSETS · AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

- **Cockpit & ramp video** — 1080p and 4K, multiple legs, color-graded and raw.
- **60-second sizzle reel** — cut for U.S. broadcast windows, with and without VO bed.
- **High-resolution stills** — portrait, cockpit, ramp, in-flight, family. 300 dpi, model release on file.
- **Route map & data** — vector world map, GPX tracks, leg-by-leg manifest.
- **Logo pack** — primary and alternate marks (SVG, PNG transparent).
- **Aircraft technical sheet** — Sling TSi specs, modifications, avionics fitout.
- **Sponsor logos and partner statements.**

To request the press FTP link, raw footage, or an interview booking, contact press@teenpilotdownunder.com. Standard response time: same business day, Brisbane time (AEST, UTC+10).

2026 MISSION · PARTNERSHIP SNAPSHOT

The next chapter is open to U.S. partners

Byron’s 2026 mission extends the platform with new long-distance routes, U.S. school and hospital appearances, and a documentary series. Title, category, and supporting partnerships are available. Price available on negotiation.

TIER	ROLE	INDICATIVE VALUE
Title Partner	Top-tier sponsorship. Lead the mission.	Price on negotiation
Australia Mission	Primary Australia-market partner. AUD \$100k+ tier.	Price on negotiation
USA Mission	Primary U.S.-market partner. USD \$250k+ tier.	Price on negotiation
Category Partner	Avionics, fuel, apparel, insurance, comms, etc.	Price on negotiation
Supporting Partner	Logo placement, content rights, named leg.	Price on negotiation

CURRENT PARTNERS

Main Sponsor: Psychologists & Counsellors Australia — psychologistsandcounsellors.com.au

Fuel: Air BP **Aircraft:** Sling Aircraft **Cockpit Tech:** Cube Pilot

MEDIA & INTERVIEWS	PARTNERSHIPS
press@teenpilotdownunder.com Same-business-day response (Brisbane, AEST UTC+10) Available for U.S. satellite and in-studio, Q1–Q2 2026	partnerships@teenpilotdownunder.com Decks, rate cards, and rights packages on request. teenpilotdownunder.com

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