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Tech Notebook

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CUSHY CABINS: As senior vice president for the luxury airline Emirates, Nigel Page is always working to get more people on his planes. But sometimes he has a more difficult issue: Getting them off.

It's tough to say goodbye to the airline's cushy first-class cabins.

"Our biggest problem is getting people to leave the cabin," said Page, the Dubai-based airline's senior vice president. "They say, 'I'm listening to the latest Queen album.' It's a problem."

Emirates, hoping to tap into Silicon Valley's tech business, will launch daily non-stop service between San Francisco International Airport and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on Nov. 20. Thursday night, it showed off a replica of its first-class cabin during a lavish reception at the Fairmont San Jose.

It's easy to see why passengers don't want the flight to end.

The gold-plated suites are equipped with lie-flat beds that have massage systems. Each of the private cabins — there are eight in Emirates' new Boeing 777 jets —

comes with a mini bar, 23-inch high-definition TV screen, more than 1,000 channels of audio and video, WiFi — and the list goes on and on.

Even economy class comes with individual HDTV screens.

"It's a very special airplane," Page said.

Some passengers want it to be just like home so they never have to leave.