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# AIRPORT REPORT

NEW YEAR, NEW AIRPORT (FLIGHTS AND AMENITIES)

By Mark Reis, Interim Director of Aviation

Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport continues to expand air service and passenger amenities. Over the course of 2016, the Airport experienced a 21% growth in non-stop destinations, increasing from 48 to 58 cities. With better access to New Orleans through increased non-stop service, the Airport's passenger numbers have grown and are on-track to exceed last year's record-breaking 10.6 million passengers. Passenger amenities also continue to advance with new retail options, bars, and facilities throughout the terminal.

Multiple new flights were launched and announced in 2016. The following list highlights the additional air service that was obtained:

#### February 2016

- Allegiant Air added new non-stop service twice weekly to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

#### April 2016

- Frontier Airlines provided additional service to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with three weekly departures and to Orlando, Florida, with four weekly departures.
- Spirit Airlines added daily service to Los Angeles and Atlanta.

#### June 2016

- American Airlines began daily service to Los Angeles.
- Allegiant Air began service to St. Petersburg-Clearwater, Florida, a new destination.
- GLO added daily service to a new destination Destin/Ft. Walton Beach, Florida.

#### September 2016

- GLO started new non-stop service to Huntsville, Alabama.
- JetBlue began service to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

#### November 2016

- Allegiant Air began non-stop flights to Concord, North Carolina.

#### December 2016

- Choice Aire began non-stop service to a new international destination San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

#### February 2017

- Allegiant Air will begin service to two new destinations- Cleveland, Ohio, and Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

#### March 2017

- British Airways will begin non-stop service to London-Heathrow.

#### May 2017

- Condor will begin non-stop service to Frankfurt, Germany.

The new international service announcements were undoubtedly

the highlights of last year's air service news, bringing non-stop flights between New Orleans and Europe for the first time in more than three decades. European service will debut in March 2017 with British Airways' four weekly flights to London Heathrow Airport. Then in May 2017, Condor will launch non-stop service to Frankfurt, Germany, with three weekly flights. In addition to these new European flights, Choice Aire began twice-weekly service in December 2016 to San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

For the period ending October 31, 2016, a total of 9.2 million passengers traveled through Armstrong International. This number represents a 4.2% increase in passengers over the same period last year. October 2016 was also a great month because it was the second time in the Airport's history that more than one million passengers traveled through MSY in a one month period. This passenger growth puts the airport on track to exceed 11 million total passengers in 2016, surpassing last year's record-breaking traffic.

To serve the increased number of passengers, the Airport completed several enhancements to the terminal. Mother's Rooms were introduced on each concourse in July providing a private space for mothers to pump or breastfeed. Dook's Place opened early last year in the East Lobby providing delicious local cuisine by one of New Orleans' 2017 "chefs to watch" Edgar "Dooky" Chase IV. New bars were added on both Concourse B and Concourse C, and renovations were made to the bar and PJ's on Concourse D. More options to shop while you travel are also available with Bayou Spirits, a specialty retailer of adult beverages, now open in Baggage Claim, and Who Dat's, a New Orleans Saints retail store, and Tech-on-the-Go, a tech centric shop, opened on Concourse C.

2016 was a year of record-breaking growth. With the most airlines and non-stop destinations in airport history, more passengers are choosing to travel by air to get to and from New Orleans. We remain committed to our goals of creating a better airport for our community and will work to see this success continue in 2017. ←



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