FAI Summer 2020

Fairbanks International Airport (FAI) is preparing for record high passenger numbers this summer season. The increase in flights during the months of May – Sept. 2020, is up 26% from last season. This increase is due to new American Airlines (AA) flights, as well as additional seats being offered by all the major carriers in the shoulder months of May and Sept.

“My message continues to be that Alaska is open for business,” said Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy. “The continued increase in passenger numbers demonstrates that Alaska is one of the world’s top tourism destinations; these are significant positive economic impacts for Fairbanks and the State of Alaska.”

“Fairbanks continues to attract summer tourists to our Golden Heart City. Fairbanks International Airport is the gateway to Alaska’s Interior as well as Denali National Park,” said Angie Spear, Airport Manager.

In 2019, AA announced daily nonstop service between FAI and both Chicago and Dallas/Ft. Worth. It’s noteworthy that AA will become FAI’s third largest carrier this summer season, after Alaska Airlines and Delta Air Lines. AA’s service will commence in May and continue through Sept. UA will switch from four times weekly to daily service this summer with continuing direct service to Denver starting in June. Passenger flights with Air North to FAI from Dawson City surpass expectations and have become one of the most popular summer tour packages. Both Alaska and Delta Airlines summer flights to Seattle and Minneapolis are seeing yearly increases in passenger loads.

“Most indicators show that the tourism industry in the Fairbanks region has had five consecutive years of record-breaking growth,” said Explore Fairbanks President and CEO Deb Hickok. “These additional flights capitalize on the increased demand created by the collaborative marketing efforts of tourism businesses and organizations.”
Mamava

In November, we were excited to introduce the Mamava! Fairbanks International Airport now is able to provide a private lactation space for breastfeeding mothers. The “pod” is located on the upper level just inside security.

Cell Phone Lot

The new year brought a new cell phone lot to the airport. The lot allows people to wait for free on airport property until their passenger has landed, collected their bags and come to the curb. The cell phone lot is designed to reduce congestion at the curb and to keep traffic in front of the terminal moving smoothly. The new lot will provide a convenient and safe place to wait until a call is received.

The cell phone lot will be helpful for passenger pick up. The advantage to drivers is less worry about time expiring in the short-term lot or driving around the terminal. Use of the cell phone lot is available for 30 minutes a visit; vehicles must be attended at all times. Guests may not leave their vehicle to enter the terminal and it is not for commercial usage.
Small Jet Aircraft Begins on the East Ramp

On November 20, 2019, the operation of small jet aircraft on the East Ramp was approved and airport tenants are taking full advantage already. We are so incredibly thankful for all of our airport users and are excited to see what the future has in store.

Alaska Federation of Natives in Fairbanks

First impressions are everything. FAI was honored to roll out the welcome mat to over some 6,000 delegates, participants, observers, vendors, and visitors that attend annually from communities throughout the State of Alaska. Annual attendance has an economic impact of over $6 million to the host city!
Aviation Day 2020

Save the date: Saturday, May 16, 2020. The annual Fairbanks Aviation Day will be held at the UAF Community & Technical College Aviation Program hangar. As always the event is family friendly and full of cool aircraft and other activities to highlight the aviation industry. 2019 was a success and enjoyed by all!

FAI Military Visitors

FAI is always ready to host our Military partners and support their ongoing mission to the State of Alaska and the Nation. FAI sees multiple military charters from various branches in transit throughout the year.
Diversion READY!

Whether it be due to weather or mechanical, FAI is prepared and capable of handling any diverted passenger or cargo flights. FAI is proud of the relationships we have with our airline operators, tenants, and community to address any situation brought our way. We may be small, but we’re mighty!

Law Enforcement Food Drive

All of our local law enforcement agencies competed to see which agency could collect the most food for the Fairbanks Food Bank and families in need. Congratulations to our very own Fairbanks Airport Police and Fire department for placing 2nd in pounds of food collected. We’ll get ’em next year! Special thanks to the Alaska Peace Officers Association for the challenge.
Employee Recognition

January was a month of appreciation and recognition for members of the FAI Team.

Not pictured are Tresa Duffield, Airport Police and Fire; Steven Pagh, Equipment Maintenance; and Jay Growden and Stephen Thomas, Terminal Services.

Thank you for your loyal years of service to the people of the State of Alaska and Fairbanks International Airport.