

News Release

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Southwest Airlines Adds Nonstop Las Vegas Flights from Detroit Metro Airport

--Las Vegas is a top destination for Detroit-area travelers

DETROIT (Feb. 20, 2012)— The odds of finding a great deal to Las Vegas this fall have significantly improved, thanks to **Southwest Airlines**. Beginning September 30, Southwest will introduce new, non-stop service from **Detroit Metro Airport (DTW)** to Las Vegas' **McCarran International Airport (LAS)**.

The new service adds to the growing list of routes operated by Southwest (and its AirTran subsidiary) from Detroit, including non-stop service to Atlanta, Baltimore/Washington, Chicago, Denver, Nashville, Orlando, Phoenix, St. Louis, and now Las Vegas.

“Las Vegas is one of Detroit’s largest passenger markets and more service on this route means more options for our customers,” said **Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) Senior Vice President of Planning and Development Marcus Kemper**. “We are extremely pleased to see Southwest’s continued investment in the Detroit market and look forward to working with the airline to make this new route a success.”

Southwest’s new flight departs Detroit at 10:55 a.m. and arrives in Las Vegas at 12:25 p.m. Monday through Saturday. On Sunday, the flight will depart Detroit at 9:30 a.m. and arrive in Las Vegas at 11:00 a.m. Eastbound, the new flight leaves Las Vegas at 12:15 p.m. and arrives in Detroit at 7:15 p.m., Monday-Saturday, or 12:50 p.m. and 7:55 p.m., respectively, on Sunday. The schedule provides daytime flights in both directions—particularly convenient for visitors to the Las Vegas strip. The schedule also provides Detroit customers with extensive connection opportunities to one of Southwest’s many western destinations served beyond Las Vegas.

“Las Vegas is Detroit’s third largest travel market with over 1,000 passengers flying each direction every day,” said **Joe Cambron, WCAA Director of Air Service Development**. “But since more than 90% of those passengers flying this route are Detroit-area residents, it is our largest market for local travelers and a priority for the Airport Authority.”

In 2011, following its acquisition of AirTran Airways, Southwest became Detroit Metro Airport’s No. 2 carrier in terms of passengers flown. Southwest and AirTran operate from Detroit’s newest passenger facility, the North Terminal, which opened in 2008.

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To celebrate the new service between Detroit and Las Vegas, Southwest has launched a \$99 one-way fare sale for this route. Customers can purchase the low fares today through Feb. 27, 2012, for travel between Sept. 30, 2012, and Nov. 2, 2012. In addition to low fares, Southwest Airlines allows Customers to check two bags for free (weight and size limits apply) and doesn't charge a fee to change a ticket. To take advantage of the fare sale, and for sale fare rules, visit www.southwest.com.

About Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport

Having welcomed more than 32 million passengers in 2011, Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) is Michigan's busiest airport and one of the world's leading air transportation hubs. With service from 11 scheduled passenger airlines, DTW offers more than 1200 flights per day to and from nearly 150 destinations on four continents. In 2010, DTW ranked highest in overall customer satisfaction among large airports in the J.D. Power and Associates North America Airport Satisfaction Study. With two new, state-of-the-art passenger terminals, six jet runways, and an onsite AAA Four-Diamond Westin hotel, DTW is among the world's most efficient, customer friendly and operationally capable airports in North America. DTW is operated by **Wayne County Airport Authority**, which also operates nearby Willow Run Airport—an important corporate, cargo and general aviation facility. The Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive any tax dollars to support airport operations. For more information about Metro Detroit's airports, visit www.metroairport.com.

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