



DFW's Flight Through History



This year, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) is celebrating 50 years of connecting North Texas with the world. And, we're celebrating with you all year long by looking back at five decades of growth and into the future of travel at DFW. From its inception in the 1960s, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport has been more than just a gateway; it's a testament to the region's innovation and growth. The journey began when the Civil Aeronautics Board, recognizing the need for a modern hub in North Texas, set a challenging deadline in 1964 for Dallas and Fort Worth to find a new airport site. This sparked a journey of transformation, with the first land purchased in 1966 and the groundbreaking in 1968, heralding a new era for the Metroplex.

The 1970s saw DFW take flight with what was then the world's largest paving contract, laying down 3 million yards of concrete. The arrival of the supersonic Concorde in 1973 and the grand opening on January 13, 1974 launched DFW as an aviation icon. By 1977 it became the world's third-busiest airport, a rapid ascent to prominence.

The 1980s were marked by expansion and global connections, with American Airlines establishing a hub in 1981 and the airport being renamed in 1985 to reflect its international status. The decade culminated with DFW becoming the first commercial airport to host a space shuttle in 1989.

The 1990s and 2000s were characterized by milestones and modernization. The 1990s saw DFW become an air freight nexus and the only airport with three operational control towers. The 2000s brought new opportunities with the opening of International Terminal D, setting the stage for global growth.

Entering the 2010s, DFW connected passengers to more than 200 destinations worldwide and was recognized as the 2019 "Airport of the Year" by Air Transport World.

Now, in the 2020s, DFW continues to build its future, with over \$9 billion in planned capital investments this decade that will transform Terminal C and usher in the future with DFW's new Terminal F, among other improvements. As the community comes together to celebrate DFW Airport's 50th anniversary, let's look ahead to a future fueled by innovation and progress that continues to transform travel.

[Read more >](#)



Celebrate 50 years by saving at least 50% on DFW Airport Prebooked Parking

DFW customers who book their parking online at least 7 days in advance at DFWairport.com/park between Jan. 12-25 for travel through March 1 this year will celebrate 50 years by saving at least 50% off the drive-up rate for the terminal garages (just \$13.50 per day, or less). Remote parking will be discounted to just \$3 per day and Express lots will be discounted to just \$6 per day. Use offer code **DFW50** at checkout.

[Book now >](#)



DFW's Digital Celebration

Check out DFW's dedicated 50th-anniversary website at DFWairport.com/50years to explore a treasure trove of exclusive content, memories and more.

[See more >](#)



Travel effortlessly at DFW Airport

Discover the epitome of stress-free travel with ALLWAYS Meet & Assist. Take advantage of a limited time offer to expedite your airport experience, enjoy an exclusive 20% discount on personalized assistance during arrivals, departures and transit. Available from now until 29 February 2024.

[Book now >](#)

Construction Update

Travelers at DFW may encounter some construction activities as part of the airport's ongoing improvements, particularly when arriving or departing. Beginning this month, a project is underway concentrated on the Terminal C Lower Roadway. The left two lanes near the high-gates side of the terminal will see lane closures through April 2024. These improvements are a small segment of a broader series of upgrades aimed at transforming the traveler experience. The airport appreciates travelers' patience and understanding during these improvements, which are integral to ensuring a smoother and more efficient journey for all guests.

New Year, New Destination

What are your travel plans for 2024?

Domestic >

International >



Thank You for 50 Years

As DFW Airport turns 50, main theme of the year is gratitude – because we could not achieve what we have without our customers, partners, employees, and our owner cities. In case you missed it, we published a special video message on our social channels to look back on where we've been, and where we're going.

[Watch now >](#)

Photo of the Year Contest Winner



Congratulations to our 2023 Photo of the Year contest winner, @neka38 on Instagram! Her photo of a giant "snow angel" received nearly 1,800 interactions on our social channels in December to take home the victory.

[View post >](#)