

BWI Marshall Airport's 2013 International Passenger Traffic Grew 20 Percent for Second Straight Year

2013 Was Second Busiest Year in Airport's History

22,498,353 commercial passengers flew through Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport in 2013, the second busiest year ever. That figure fell just short of a fourth consecutive annual record for the Airport, down 0.8 percent from 2012. Four new monthly records for passenger traffic were set in 2013—January, March, May, and December.

For the second straight year, international passenger traffic at the Airport grew about 20 percent. BWI Marshall's total international passengers climbed 19.8 percent in 2013. The number of international passengers using BWI Marshall has nearly doubled over the past five years.

“BWI Marshall is both an essential transportation asset for Maryland and the region, as well as an important engine of job creation,” said Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley. “We continue to make important investments that provide new services and amenities for travelers, making BWI Marshall a leading transportation center.”

BWI Marshall is moving forward with the design of the D/E Connector and Security Checkpoint program. The multi-phase development program will offer improved service for passengers while supporting further international growth. Southwest Airlines recently announced that it would begin international flights between BWI Marshall and three destinations on July 1. The D/E program will create a new security checkpoint to serve domestic and international travelers, construct a new secure connector between Concourse D and Concourse E, and configure airline gates to support additional international flights. Construction of the D/E program is scheduled to begin later this year.

“Our year-end results confirm that this remains a very robust air travel market,” said Paul J. Wiedefeld, Chief Executive Officer for BWI Marshall. “Despite significant challenges, we had a strong year. BWI Marshall’s outstanding air service and convenient, efficient facilities continue to attract travelers from throughout the region.”

During 2013, the federal sequestration and the government shutdown slowed national demand for air travel. Business travel by government workers and federal contractors took a hit, as did leisure travel by those affected employees.

A number of airlines have announced additional 2014 air service for BWI Marshall travelers. Southwest Airlines will add nonstop transcontinental service between BWI Marshall and two west coast markets—Portland, Oregon and Oakland, California. The seasonal service will begin June 8. Southwest also announced earlier this month that it would add service between BWI Marshall and Dallas Love Field in October. Spirit Airlines recently announced that it would start service between BWI Marshall and Minneapolis-St. Paul. The seasonal service will begin May 1.

BWI Marshall will continue working in 2014 to offer a convenient and world-class travel experience. BWI Marshall is completing a series of improvements to Concourse C that are part of an overall program of enhancements near the center of the Airport terminal. As part of the program, a new security checkpoint and a new airside connector that links Concourse C with concourses A and B opened last spring. This year, BWI Marshall will continue work on a comprehensive, multi-year series of airfield pavement reconstruction projects and Runway Safety Area (RSA) improvements. The airfield work in 2014 will shift to Runway 15R-33L, one of BWI Marshall’s primary commercial runways.

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