Southwest Airlines Continues International Growth at BWI Marshall Airport

Airline Announces Intent to Offer Weekly Service Between BWI Marshall and Liberia, Costa Rica

Southwest Airlines announced today that it plans to add international air service between Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport and Liberia, Costa Rica. The new weekly nonstop flights between the two markets would begin on November 7, 2015. The service would be the second route offered by Southwest between BWI Marshall and Costa Rica.

"Expansion of international service at BWI by Southwest is great news for Maryland residents and businesses," said Governor Larry Hogan. "BWI is a key economic engine for the state and continued international growth means continued economic growth for Maryland."

With the new flights to Liberia, Costa Rica, starting in November, Southwest will serve eight international destinations from BWI Marshall Airport. Southwest began service to San José, Costa Rica, in March and the airline will start flights to Los Cabos, Mexico, in June.

BWI Marshall was the first international gateway for Southwest Airlines, with international flights beginning on July 1, 2014.

"As Southwest continues its international expansion at BWI Marshall, our passengers are enjoying new flight opportunities," said Paul J. Wiedefeld, Chief Executive Officer for BWI Marshall Airport. "We look forward to connecting our customers to more international cities."

International passenger traffic has grown steadily in recent years at BWI Marshall. For the first quarter of 2015, international passengers increased more than 22 percent.

Construction work on the D/E Connector program is now underway at BWI Marshall. This multi-phase development will support added international service at BWI Marshall. The D/E Connector program will offer enhanced services for passengers and support further international growth. The project 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.

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