

MKE CELEBRATES NEW NONSTOP FLIGHTS FROM MKE TO AUSTIN, TEXAS Daily flights kicked off with live music, Austin-themed eats, and souvenirs

MILWAUKEE (March 6, 2025) – <u>Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport (MKE)</u> welcomed new nonstop service to Austin, Texas on <u>Southwest Airlines</u> today. An inaugural flight celebration kicked off daily flights that give travelers a new way to conveniently travel to Texas' state capital.

"I commend Airport Director Brian Dranzik and his entire team for working to make today's announcement a reality," said County Executive David Crowley. "I am happy to see Southwest Airlines investing in the Milwaukee market by increasing their travel options from MKE. Now, the most important piece in continuing this type of growth is support from our local travelers. The best way to keep this new service and help bring more flights to Milwaukee is by choosing to fly from MKE Airport every time you book a flight."

"Austin is a new destination not currently served by any other airline at MKE," said Airport Director Brian Dranzik. "With this new route, we are connecting two of America's greatest music destinations. Whether it's Texans visiting Milwaukee to attend the world's largest music festival at Summerfest, or Milwaukee-area travelers looking to enjoy Austin's live music scene, these new flights will be especially popular among music lovers."

Those traveling on the inaugural flight were welcomed with live country music and an Austinthemed celebration commemorating the new route. Along with the entertainment, travelers enjoyed Texas-style breakfast tacos and souvenirs.

Southwest is MKE's largest carrier with nonstop flights to 18 cities and offers two free checked bags, no change fees, and no seat assignment fees. Flights are available now for booking at <u>www.Southwest.com</u> and the Southwest Airlines mobile app. Southwest flights also recently became accessible through all Expedia Group brands, making flights bookable on popular sites like <u>www.Expedia.com</u> and <u>www.Travelocity.com</u>.

Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport offers nonstop flights to 30+ destinations coast-to-coast, and more than 200 international destinations are available with one easy connection. MKE is served by Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, JetBlue, Southwest, Spirit, Sun Country, and United. The complete list of nonstop cities can be found at <u>flymke.com</u>.

MKE, the winner of 2021 and 2022 ASQ Best Airport – North America awards for outstanding customer experience, is owned by Milwaukee County and operated by the Department of Transportation, Airport Division, under the policy direction of the Milwaukee County Executive and the County Board of Supervisors. The Airport is entirely funded by user fees; no property tax dollars are used for the Airport's capital improvements or for its day-to-day operation.