



October 2015

AIRPORT REPORT

HOLIDAY TRAVEL TIPS AT ARMSTRONG INTERNATIONAL

By Iftikhar Ahmad, Director of Aviation

Next month will begin the holiday season and many of our residents will be traveling by air to visit loved ones and friends. I would like to share some travel tips that I hope will enhance your travel experience through Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport.

First, I encourage our passengers to make airline reservations as soon as possible to ensure that the best choice of flights on our airlines is available for your preferred days and times of travel. Armstrong International is served by fourteen (14) airlines that provide a variety of options to meet your travel needs to 46 non-stop destinations. Our airlines are Air Canada, Alaska Airlines, Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Branson AirExpress operated by Orange Air, Copa Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Frontier Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines, Spirit Airlines, United Airlines, US Airways and Vacation Express. Flight schedules and airline contact information with direct links to all are available on our website, www.flymsy.com. It is important to note that some major booking websites may not show you information about fares and bookings on all of the airlines such as Southwest, Allegiant Air and Vacation Express.

During the holidays, the number of passengers travelling will typically be greater than the rest of the year, especially during Thanksgiving and Christmas. For this reason, please allow sufficient time to arrive, park or drop off passengers, check-in with your airline, and process through security to arrive at your gate in a timely manner. Airlines recommend that passengers arrive at least 2 hours prior to their scheduled departure time. Also keep in mind that we have many stores and restaurants located throughout the Airport, so you can dine or shop along your way. The operating hours for these stores and eateries is 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. More information about concessions at the Airport is available on our website.

Passengers should be prepared for the security screening process to help minimize the screening wait times. To expedite the screening process, our passengers should visit the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) website at www.tsa.gov to review what can and cannot be carried on-board an aircraft. For example, wrapped gifts are not prohibited as long as they do not contain any item that cannot be carried on-board the aircraft. If for some reason a wrapped package needs to be further checked by TSA, they may have to unwrap it to take a closer look inside. We recommend passengers wrap their holiday gifts after their flight or ship them ahead of time to avoid the possibility of having to open them during the screening process. Items purchased after the security checkpoint have been pre-screened and can be taken on the plane.

Many other security screening rules are still in effect such as the removal of shoes and jackets as well as knowing the proper

method for carrying liquids through the checkpoint. Children 12 and under along with senior citizens age 75 or older do not have to remove their shoes and light jackets. For anyone eligible to participate in the TSA Pre ✓™ Program, we are pleased to announce that it is available at Armstrong International.

Free WiFi is also available throughout the terminal to anyone wishing to access it. (It should be noted that the internet access at the Airport is limited to 144K due to a state law which limits the speed of “free” Wi-Fi connections for municipal wireless networks.) Anyone needing assistance while in the Airport pre-security area, are encouraged to speak with one of our friendly Airport Customer Service Representatives or Volunteer Ambassadors positioned at the concourse exits and easily identified by their burgundy jackets and vests.

Finally, due to federal regulations, Airport police can only allow cars that are actively loading or unloading passengers to stop and park on the Airport upper or lower roadways. For this reason, we encourage the use of our convenient, free cell phone lot. It is located at the corner of Airline Drive and Hollandey Street across from the Airport in a fenced area marked with a large brown sign. To use it, the driver must wait in the cell phone lot for the arrival of their party. After the arriving party is in baggage claim and has received their luggage, they simply alert the waiting party on their cell phone that they are ready to go. The driver may then proceed to the lower roadway outside baggage claim to pick them up. The cell phone lot is available year round with on-site security present from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

As you travel this holiday season through Armstrong International, Airport staff will be working hard to provide you with first class customer service, great amenities and safe facilities. We look forward to welcoming you. ✈



Iftikhar Ahmad, Director of Aviation for Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport may be reached at airport@flymsy.com. Check your local listings for the air time of the Armstrong International Airport 30 minute television program, “Airport Alive” or view it on the airport website, www.flymsy.com, by clicking on the “Airport Alive” link on the “News and Stats” page. You can now follow the airport on [facebook.com/MSYAirport](https://www.facebook.com/MSYAirport) and Twitter @NO_Airport. To find out how to be a volunteer at the airport, click on “Ambassador” on the airport’s website homepage.