



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact: Tracy Stage
(850) 651-7160 Ext. 4
Info@FlyVPS.com

2016 Passengers at Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport Reach All-Time High

In 2016, the **Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS)** experienced the highest passenger count in its 60-year history. The 2016 year-to-date numbers are in and reflect an 18 percent increase in passenger traffic as compared to 2015 with **915,650 total passengers** passing through the airport.

A majority of the growth can be attributed to new service on Allegiant Air, GLO and Contour Airlines which combined has brought an additional **\$19 million** in economic impact to the region. Additionally, American Airlines, Delta Airlines and United Airlines have upgraded many of their aircraft from the 50-seat regional jet aircraft to the larger, dual class configured, 76-seat aircraft plus.

Look for the upward trend in passengers to continue as Allegiant has recently announced new seasonal service to 11 additional cities in 2017 in addition to the 6 cities they announced in 2016. Additionally, GLO and Contour Airlines will provide seasonal service from VPS to Little Rock, AR (LIT), and Bowling Green, KY (BWG) respectively. Allegiant has also announced that VPS will be a base of operations for two based Airbus A320 aircraft and with that, we welcome an influx of 70-80 additional aircrew members as well as additional ground support personnel to our area to support the added service.



Month	(All)			
Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport Total Enplanements/Deplanements				
Year	Enplanements	Deplanements	Total	Percent Change
2016	457,196	458,454	915,650	17.88%
2015	388,215	388,552	776,767	3.38%
2014	376,026	375,337	751,363	

Allegiant Air - Year Round Service:

Las Vegas (LAS): Year-Round (MD80-166 Seats/A320 in May) (Fr, Mo)
 Cincinnati (CVG): Year-Round (A319-156 Seats) (Su, Tu, Th, Sa)
 Belleville/St. Louis (BLV): Year-Round (A320-177 Seats) (Mo, Tu, We, Fr, Sa)

***Allegiant - Seasonal Service:**

Knoxville, TN (TYS): Feb 2017 through Aug 2017 (MD80-166 Seats/A320 in May) (Fr, Mo)
 Oklahoma City (OKC): May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Sun, Th, Sa)
 Memphis, TN (MEM): May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Su, Th)
 Cleveland, OH (CLE): May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Fri, Mon)
 Austin, TX (AUS): May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Sun, Th)

Columbus, OH (LCK) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Sun, Th)
Indianapolis, IN (IND) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Fri, Mon)
Kansas City, MO (MCO) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320 -177 Seats) (Sat, We)
Louisville, KY (SDF) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seat) (Sat, We)
New York City, NY/Newark, (EWR) Jun 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Fr, Mo)
Peoria, IL (PIA) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Sa, We)
Pittsburgh, PA (PIT) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seat) (Sa, We)
Springfield/Branson, MO (SGF) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seat) (Su, Th)
Washington DC/Baltimore, MD (BWI) May 2017 through Aug 2017 (A320-177 Seats) (Sa, We)

Book your low-fare, non-stop flight now by visiting www.Allegiant.com

*Many of the seasonal flights are scheduled for May 2017 – August 2017, but may be extended based on passenger demand.

GLO: Non-stop service from VPS to:

Little Rock (LIT) on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays beginning March 2017. This seasonal service will run through Labor Day on SAAB 340B-30 Seat Aircraft. Book today at www.flyglo.com

Contour Airlines: Non-stop service from VPS to:

Bowling Green, KY. (BWG)- Resumes May 2017—2 times per week. www.contourairlines.com

Daily Air Carriers:

Delta Air Lines - Atlanta, GA (ATL) - 8 Non-Stop flights per day. www.Delta.com

American Airlines - Dallas, TX (DFW) – 8 Non-Stop flights per day, Charlotte, NC (CLT) - 4 Non-Stop flights per day, and Washington DC (DCA)-Seasonal with one flight on Sat and Sun. www.AA.com

United Airlines - Houston TX (IAH) - 3 Non-Stop flights per day. www.United.com

More airline and route information can be viewed at: <http://www.flyvps.com/route-map-3/>

About the Destin – Fort Walton Beach Airport:

Destin - Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS) is the preferred aviation gateway to Florida's Gulf Coast and is an excellent option when making travel plans to Northwest Florida. Convenient and centrally located within the top ten places to live and do business throughout the United States, Destin - Fort Walton Beach Airport (FlyVPS) is an exceptional resource for travelers who favor distinct modern amenities without congestion. Our award-winning airport terminal accommodates passengers from around the world with over 50 non-stop flights daily to primary hub cities across the nation, making domestic and international connections easy. Offering low fares and great values, VPS is the smart choice, and our central location makes flying a breeze for over 2 million residents.

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