#### Welcome to NewsFLLash Issue #18

In this edition: LEGO lands at FLL, Annual Report 2019-2020 is now online, North Runway Project snags fourth industry award, North Pole visitors arrive, and more.







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### A Message From the CEO

Happy holidays and welcome to the third anniversary edition of NewsFLLash, the airport's official newsletter.

Over the 14-day Christmas/New Year's Day holiday season running Wednesday, December 22, 2021, through Tuesday, January 4, 2022, FLL expects to see approximately 1.4 million passengers fly through the facility. The year-end holiday passenger forecast signals a 51 percent increase from the same 2020 period when 940,000 travelers were expected. Pre-pandemic, FLL projected 1.8 million passengers during the

holidays in 2019. The busiest days of the 2021 season are poised to be December 23, 27, 30, and January 3, with more than 112,000 travelers daily.

While COVID-19 and the emergence of new virus variants may continue to challenge air travel, we remain cautiously optimistic about the future of aviation and ongoing travel recovery in 2022. As the curtain falls on 2021 and a new year arrives, it is important to reflect on some significant accomplishments of the past year. Despite the ongoing pandemic, the Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) team and its airport partners forged ahead to complete some great work during the past year.

Here are some notable highlights from 2021:

# New Amenity for Travelers with Disabilities

In early December, FLL officially launched its new Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program. The initiative offers airport guests with hidden disabilities, including learning difficulties, mental health, mobility, speech, visual or hearing impairments, a discreet way to request help or extra time traveling through FLL.

### **Inaugural Job Fair**

BCAD held its first job fair in September at the FLA Live Arena (former BB&T Center) in Sunrise to assist several FLL tenants in recruiting employees. Twenty-four airport employers had over 800 positions to fill. More than 800+ job seekers attended the event, which received pre-and-post

media coverage from seven local TV and newspaper outlets.

#### **COVID-19 Testing**

In the year since the Nomi Health-operated <u>COVID-19 onsite testing service</u> opened at FLL in Terminal 3, it has administered more than 88,350 tests to ticketed passengers. The testing service began operations in December 2020 as an additional amenity for the traveling public during the pandemic.

#### Whimsical Public Art

In June, Denver-based artist Patrick Marold installed *Cirri*, an aluminum and painted steel suspended sculpture, in Terminal 2's new passenger waiting area. The artwork, referencing cirrus clouds, is a composition of layered lines drawn into the volume of the architecture that activates a moiré effect that enhances the viewers' movement and visual experience as they gaze at it from below.

#### **Volunteers Return**

After more than a year's hiatus due to the pandemic, FLL welcomed its Volunteer <u>Airport Ambassadors</u> and <u>AmbassaDogs</u> back in July. The volunteers, who help create an enhanced FLL guest experience, are back assisting travelers at information booths or roaming the terminals and Rental Car Center (RCC), providing aid where needed.

### **Delta Sky Club Opens**

The new mezzanine-level <u>Delta Sky Club at FLL</u> made its official debut in June. The 8,000-plus

square-foot Delta Air Lines lounge features floorto-ceiling windows with spectacular runway views, an art gallery, self-serve food stations, and a bar selection of seasonal, premium cocktails for club members to enjoy.

#### **South Central Florida Metroplex**

In August, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) implemented its Metroplex procedures for the Fort Lauderdale area pursuant to the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Record of Decision (ROD) issued on October 15, 2020. The Metroplex is the FAA's plan to modernize air traffic procedures to enhance safety and efficiency for several airports in the southern half of Florida, including FLL.

If you are traveling for the year-end holiday season, follow these tips to help you <u>"FLLy Safer, FLLy Smarter, FLLy Better"</u>:

- Be An Early Bird: If planning to park at FLL, arrive early to secure a spot in the onsite garages, overflow parking lot, or consider a drop-off/pick-up instead.
- Don't be Naughty, Be Nice: Santa's keeping watch, so don't join the list of <u>unruly</u> <u>airline passengers</u> in 2021. Instead, let's all do our part to create a safer and friendlier travel experience for everyone.
- Mask Up: Federal law requires everyone to wear a face mask inside FLL's terminals, RCC, and during flight regardless of vaccinated status.
- Sanitize Often: Follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommended safety measures to slow the spread of COVID-19, such as washing/sanitizing hands frequently and social distancing when possible.

Travel & Weapons: They don't mix well. If you plan to travel with a licensed firearm, follow the <u>Transportation Security</u>
 Administration (TSA) protocols to safely pack and transport your weapon as checked luggage. If caught with a gun at a TSA passenger-screening checkpoint, travel plans will be disrupted, and you could face a hefty penalty and an arrest.

From our family to yours, happy holidays and all the best for a wonderful 2022.

# Mark

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### The Sky's the Limit

#### November passenger traffic recap

Passenger traffic climbed 32 percent at FLL in November to 2.41 million compared to the same month in 2020. The airport's domestic passenger tally rose 75 percent to approximately 2 million from November last year, while international traffic increased 77 percent to 405,107 travelers.

Compared to pre-pandemic traffic, November's visitation was 21 percent less than that of November 2019. As of November this year, FLL had 25.4 million visitors, an increase of 73 percent over the same 11-month period in 2020.

For 2021 overall, we expect FLL to welcome approximately 28.3 million passengers compared to 16.5 million in 2020.

**View FLL Statistics** 



### **North Pole Visitors Arrive**

Santa, Mrs. Claus, and one of their elves paid a visit to FLL a few days before Christmas via North Pole Airlines on December 20 and 21. On the first day of their annual visit, they met traveler Vincent (pictured on left), who had made Santa's nice list in 2021.

On the second day, the North Pole visitors greeted several families with children traveling for the holidays spreading some jolly cheer before returning home to prepare for their busiest night of the season, Christmas Eve.

### **Airport News**



### **LEGO Lands at FLL**

#### New venues expand airport shopping

LEGO is the latest store to debut at FLL ahead of the year-end holiday travel season. The new shop from concessionaire Paradies Lagardère opened on December 18 post-security in Terminal 4 between gates G9 and G10 to offer travelers a variety of popular LEGO products.

Tripadvisor opened in Terminal 3, Concourse E, just ahead of Thanksgiving Day on November 24. The store sells a range of travel essentials and basics, snacks, beverages, magazines, and other travel convenience items.

Latin cuisine restaurant La Familia Tacos & Tequila restaurant reopened on December 17 in Terminal 1, Concourse A, joining several other concessions that have resumed operations since October to serve passengers as travel activity heats up. Others include BurgerFi, Starbucks, CNN Newsstand, Tech on the Go, and 5th & Sunset.

**View Airport Dine & Shop Options** 



# Annual Report 2019-2020

### **Latest Annual Report now online**

The combined <u>2019/2020 Annual Report</u> for the Aviation Department is now available online at the airport's website. The new report highlights the accomplishments for the past two years at our two airports, FLL and North Perry Airport, a general aviation reliever facility in Pembroke Pines.



# **Live Holiday Music Delights**

### Seasonal spirit fills the air

The <u>Winter Festival of Music</u> made a triumphant return to FLL from December 6-10 after a hiatus in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 33rd musical showcase featured Broward County elementary, middle, and high school students in a variety of performances throughout the week from 9AM to Noon daily.

This year's entertainment included band and choir performances pre-security in Terminal 1 (lower level) and the RCC. While, roaming carolers serenaded travelers waiting for flights throughout the post-security concourses in Terminals 1, 3, and 4.



### **Fourth North Runway Project Award**

### Runway project receives ACPA honor

The North Runway Rehabilitation Project at FLL has received its third industry recognition as an outstanding undertaking from the <u>American Concrete</u>

<u>Pavement Association</u> (ACPA).

On December 2, the project won a silver Annual Excellence in Concrete Paving Awardin the Commercial Service Airports category, during ACPA's 58th Annual Meeting in Huntington Beach, Calif. The honor celebrates "awardwinning" pavement projects from around the country, according to ACPA. BCAD partnered with Kimley-Horn and Boh Bros. Construction on the paving component of the North Runway's massive <u>reconstruction</u>.

Founded in 1963, the ACPA is the world's largest trade association that exclusively represents the interests of those involved with the design, construction, and preservation of concrete pavements.

In 2020, the runway project received the following awards:

- American Council of Engineering Companies of Florida 2021 Engineering Honor Award (December)
- The Florida Department of Transportation's <u>2020 Commercial Service</u> <u>Airport Project of the Year</u> (October)
- The Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executive's 2020 Corporate Award for Commercial Airport Project of the Year – Airfields (May)



### **Menorah Lighting for Chanukah**

#### First-time collaboration with Chabad of Dania Beach

FLL joined the <u>Chabad of Dania Beach</u> on November 28, to celebrate the miracle of Chanukah at the airport with a Menorah lighting ceremony presecurity in Terminal 1. Rabbi Eli Eckstein of the Dania Chabad organized the Menorah lighting event to bring the joy of Chanukah to airport guests during these challenging times. It was the first time the Chabad partnered with FLL to host the event. The rabbi lit the first candle on a nine-foot electric Menorah on display inside the terminal during the ceremony that celebrates Jewish tradition and culture.

Chanukah, also known as the "Festival of Lights," is an eight-day Jewish holiday with nightly lightings, prayers, dreidel games, and fried foods. The 2021 holiday ran from sundown on November 28, until sundown on December

6. The Menorah holds nine candles, eight in a row, a ninth above the other eight in the center, which are lit every night.

Two Menorahs from the Chabad of Dania Beach are on temporary display at FLL for the holiday season. On the last day of the festival, Broward County Mayor Michael Udine greeted the rabbi in front of one of the Chabad's Menorahs at FLL.



# **Hidden Disabilities Program Launches**

At FLL, we are excited to be among the U.S. airports now offering the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program (HDSP) to travelers as part of the airport's growing slate of accessibility-focused amenities. Airports are busy places, and while most of us are able to take the buzz of activity in stride, for passengers with disabilities, visible and not so visible, this may not be so easy to do. For FLL, one of our top priorities is to provide amenities and services such as the HDSP to help guests with special needs to have a better airport travel experience.

The subtle sunflower is a global symbol used to raise awareness about HDSP. Starting December 1, FLL airport guests can opt into the voluntary program at no charge and request a lanyard or pin by emailing <a href="mailto:contactfll@broward.org">contactfll@broward.org</a>.

To learn more about HDSP at FLL and other programs for travelers with disabilities, visit the Assistance page at fll.net.

#### **Travelers with Disabilities**



# **Airlines Add Flights, Routes**

Frontier Airlines is planning a comeback at FLL. On November 30, officials from the Denver, Colo.-based low-cost carrier held a news conference inside Terminal 1 to announce its intent to resume service from Fort Lauderdale in early 2022.

Between February 17-19, Frontier plans to begin flying between FLL and 12 destinations, including Newburgh/Stewart and Islip, NY; Providence, RI; Greenbay, WI and Portland, ME. Read more about the airline's <u>FLL return</u>.

Other new or returning routes include:

- Allegiant: Plans to add flights to Appleton, WI on March 10, 2022; new service to Sioux Falls, SD; Harrisburg, PA, and Peoria, IL began December 15
- Caribbean: Resumed twice-weekly flights to Kingston, Jamaica on December 7, after an extended hiatus during the pandemic

• Flair: The Canadian carrier added flights to Montreal on December 15, following inaugural service to Ottawa and Toronto on October 31

#### Airlines at FLL

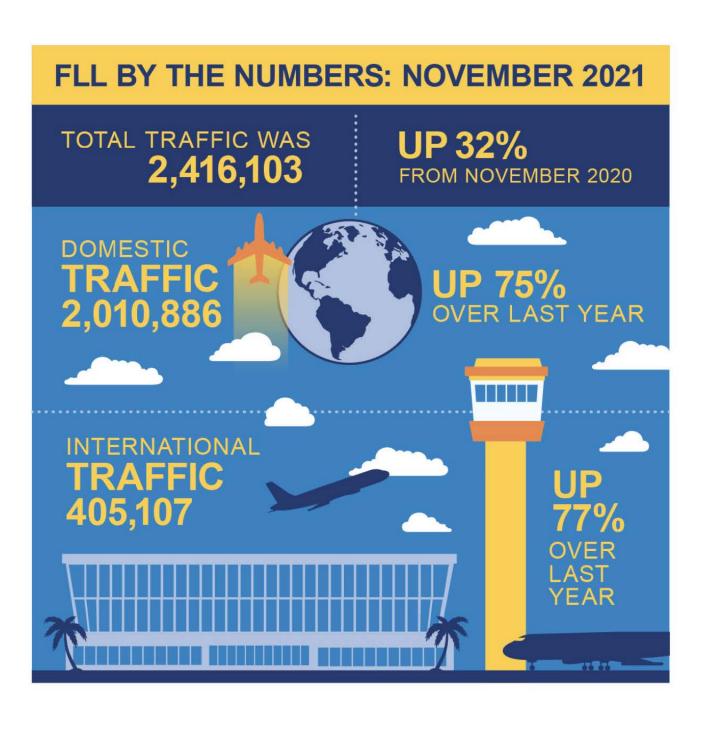


### **Travel and Weapons Reminder**

Did you know that if caught with a weapon while going through the TSA passenger screening checkpoints, even if you have a concealed weapons permit, your travel plans will be interrupted?

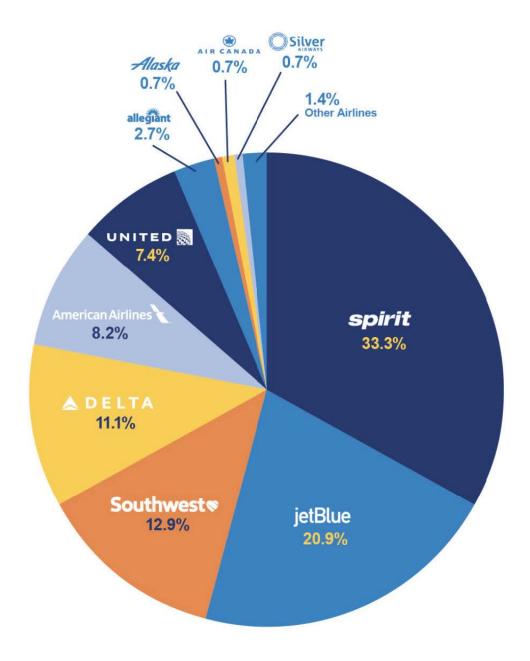
<u>TSA penalties</u> for firearms may cost more than \$10,000, as well as an arrest. Watch the TSA's "<u>Traveling with Firearms</u>" video to learn more.

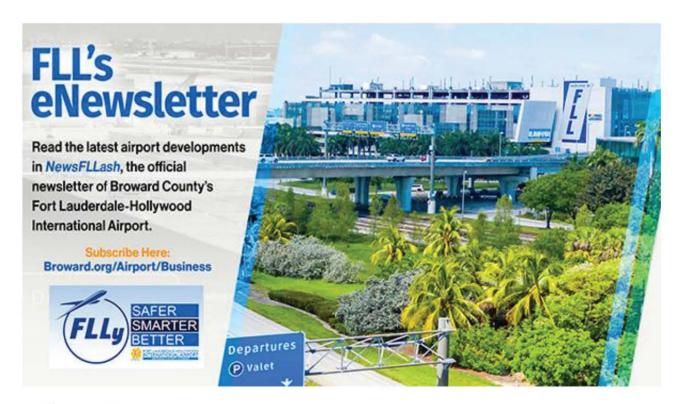
**Safety First Initiatives** 



# **Top 10 Airline Market Share**

Year-to-date: November 2021





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