

Welcome to NewsFLLash Issue #33

In this edition: New food and beverage options coming to Terminal 3, one-of-a-kind dual-branded store lands at FLL, Terminal Tunes program resumes, Rocco's Tacos wins award, Irish dance celebration for St. Patrick's Day, and more.



Mark E. Gale
CEO/Director of Aviation
Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood
International Airport (FLL)

A Message From the CEO

Travel activity in March was in high gear as spring breakers, springtime vacationers, and business travelers traversed FLL's terminals to and from various domestic and international destinations. During the month, airlines operating at FLL had 370 scheduled daily departures, nearly 8% more than in March 2022, with many flights operating near or at full capacity. However, based on the airline seat capacity scheduled for March, FLL is forecasting nearly 3.6 million passengers for the month, up about 18% over March 2022, which nearly matches the number of visitors in March 2019.

If the appetite for travel remains strong, April should be busy, too, as consumers plan leisure, business trips or annual spring holiday getaways to visit far-off family and friends. As such, passenger traffic for April 2023 could hit 3.25 million travelers versus 2.85 million in April 2022 and 3.23 million visitors in April 2019.

During March, FLL successfully underwent its Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) annual comprehensive airport safety and regulatory inspection, which includes a review of airfield lighting, markings, and signage, passing it with no discrepancies or irregularities. Congratulations to the Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) Airside Operations, Maintenance, Airport Development, Emergency Management teams, and Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) staff on a remarkable inspection outcome.

As the new leaves and pretty blossoms of spring sprout around us, let's pause to enjoy the cherished hallmarks of this season of renewal and rebirth.

Be safe, and enjoy a healthy, happy spring.

Mark

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The Sky's the Limit

February passenger traffic recap

Airport Statistics	Current Month	2022 Month	Year-Over-Year Difference	2019 Month
Total Passengers	2,828,128	2,377,098	19%	2,970,022
Domestic Passengers	2,201,267	1,982,361	11%	2,270,837
International Passengers	626,861	394,737	59%	699,185

[View FLL Statistics](#)



Photo credit: Cole Johnson/BCAD

Air Show Returns in April

Soaring through the skies

One of the most anticipated events in the South Florida area returns next month. The [Fort Lauderdale Air Show](#) flies into town April 29-30. The U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the F-22 Raptor Demo Team are double-headlining the show and will fly to and from FLL for their performances.

Kirby Chambliss, the Red Bull Air Force, and the SOCOM Para-Commandos are other acts expected to use FLL's runways during the show. This take-off and landing activity should not impact airport operations.

Additional performers announced to date include the T-38 Talon, Air Force Reserve F-16 Vipers, and aerobatic pilot Michael Goulian, with more expected to join the lineup.



New F&B for Terminal 3

Topo Chico bar, a new food court, and more

Concessionaire Delaware North is working on adding a new Topo Chico bar brand concept in Terminal 3, Concourse E, by the end of 2023. The colorful new beverage hangout offerings will include mineral waters and hard seltzers.

A new Food Court, slated to open in Concourse E by year-end, will feature popular brands such as Dunkin, Pollo Tropical, and Burger Fi. Watch for more updates on this new dining venue.

Additionally, a Bonefish Grill restaurant is in the works for Terminal 3 and could open by summertime to serve airport guests traveling to/from Concourses E and F.

Dine & Shop Directory



St. Paddy's Day Celebration

Dancing feet, smiling faces, and Irish luck

On St. Patrick's Day, the Aviation Department invited student dancers from the [Drake School of Irish Dance](#) to perform at FLL. The dancers entertained passengers in Terminal 4, Departures Level, and Terminal 1, Arrivals Level, filling the airport with the Irish holiday spirit on March 17.



Glam up Before Flight

First U.S. store to combine popular beauty brands

Paradies Lagardère recently opened the first U.S. retail store with the M·A·C Cosmetics and Jo Malone London brands under one roof. The new dual-branded store design debuted at FLL on March 10 in Terminal 3, Concourse F. The cosmetics and fragrances shop opens 5AM-9PM daily, allowing travelers to glam up and discover their signature scents before taking flight.

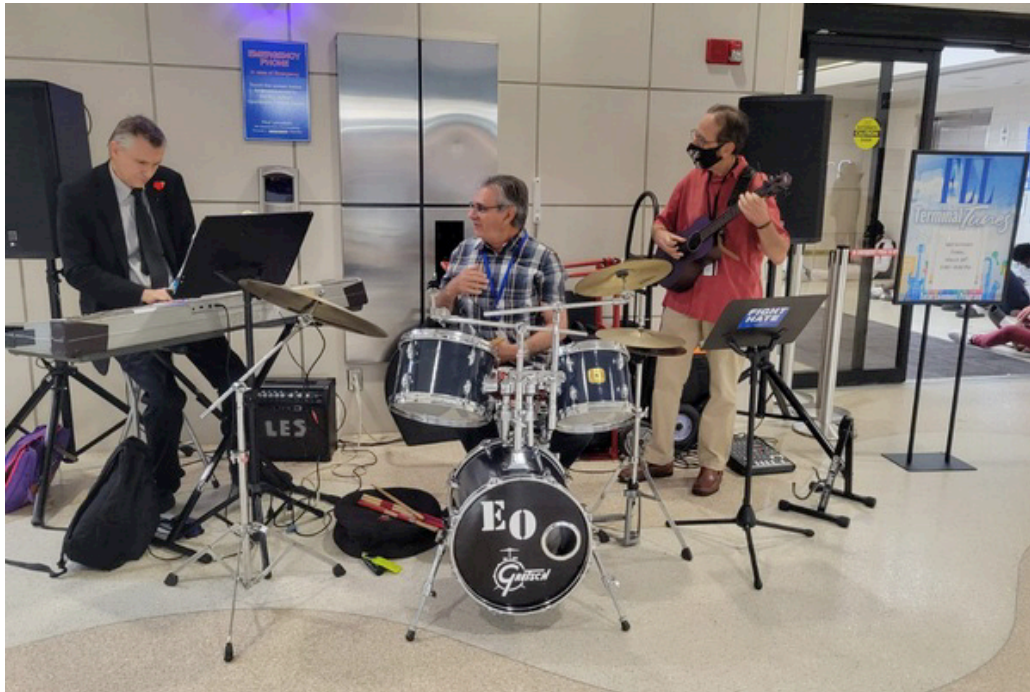


Photo credit: BSO ARFF

Firefighters Hone Skills

Live-fire training drill

The BSO ARFF division conducted numerous training exercises at FLL from March 5-14. The training required by the FAA is designed to test and evaluate FLL's emergency preparedness and response. In addition, ARFF conducted equipment testing, crash-truck training, and multiple live-fire drills.



FLL Terminal Tunes Resumes

Travelers can enjoy live music from local artists

The airport's Terminal Tunes program resumed on March 10 for the first time in almost three years. The free entertainment program, which offers live music performances in various locations across FLL, was suspended in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Initially launched in mid-2009, Terminal Tunes is a fun, engaging, and entertaining amenity for passengers and visitors to enjoy at the airport. Participating local entertainers can interact with a live audience and showcase their talents to the millions of people who travel through annually. In turn, the program is a way for FLL to support the local community by providing an international platform to promote their music.

March featured eight entertainers who performed pre-security throughout select airport terminals. Some musical genres included in the lineup were jazz, blues, and classic rock. The [schedule](#) is updated monthly with details of performers, locations, and times.



Rocco's Tacos Wins Award

The Mexican eatery opened at FLL in December 2019

Rocco's Tacos and Tequila Bar, operated by [HMSHost](#) at FLL, won 'Best Casual Dining Concept' at the 2023 [Airport Experience Conference](#), February 26-March 1, in Denver, Colo. As a casual dining concept, judges reviewed qualifying eateries' ability to provide a high-quality, exceptional experience for travelers in a quick-turnaround format.

The other [finalists](#) in this category of the Airport Experience News (AXN) annual awards program included Ballard Brew Hall at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Pig Star at Nashville International Airport, and Mountain Vista at Colorado Springs Airport. For two months, AXN accepted submissions for 31 different awards categories.

Rocco's Tacos, located in Terminal 1, Concourse C, offers an authentic taste of Mexico in a fun and casual environment.



Recruiting for the Future

Students learn about airport jobs

BCAD Human Resources Officer Michael McDonald (left) and HR Generalist Jim Schmitt (right) attended the Deerfield Beach High School's 2023 Annual Job Fair on March 3. The event was a chance to showcase FLL and provide information about careers in the aviation industry and within Broward County Government overall.

During the nearly three-hour event, McDonald and Schmitt interacted with many of the 650-700 senior and junior high school students in attendance.



Water Salute at HWO

New aircraft receives warm welcome

On Monday, February 13, [Wayman Aviation Academy](#) held an arrival ceremony for a new aircraft joining its fleet at [North Perry Airport \(HWO\)](#). [Pembroke Pines Fire Department](#) provided the water salute to commemorate the new Tecnam multi-engine aircraft.

“Adding the 2022 Tecnam 2006T aircraft to our fleet provides students the opportunity to learn on state-of-the-art equipment and continues our commitment to resilience,” noted Vice President Eddy Luy, in a news release.

The Italian-manufactured plane has high-fuel efficiency and will lower fuel emissions of flight training by almost 70%, the company said.

Wayman is a longtime flight school operator at HWO.



Spirit, AA Snag Awards

ATW recognizes excellence in the air transport industry

Air Transport World (ATW) named Spirit Airlines - the busiest carrier at FLL – its 2023 Value Airline of the Year during a recent announcement of its 49th Annual Airline Industry Achievement Awards winners. In response to the honor, Miramar-based Spirit said its efforts to redefine travel are receiving global recognition.

"We're taking ultra-low fare travel to unprecedented heights by enhancing the Guest experience while continuing to make it possible for more people to travel to more places, more often," said Ted Christie, President and CEO of Spirit Airlines, [in a news release](#).

ATW awarded American Airlines - FLL's sixth busiest carrier – its 2023 Eco-Airline of the Year distinction. According to a [company statement](#), the award marked the latest recognition of the airline's progress toward its ambitious sustainability goals.

"American is actively incorporating sustainability at every level of our business, from the fuel we buy to the food we serve our customers," American CEO Robert Isom said. "... we will continue to lead the industry as an innovator in this space and affirm our unyielding commitment to build an American Airlines that will thrive forever."

The [annual awards program](#), established in 1974, recognizes excellence in the air transport industry by honoring distinguished individuals and organizations for their outstanding performance, innovation, and superior service, ATW said.

FLL BY THE NUMBERS: FEBRUARY 2023

TOTAL TRAFFIC WAS
2,828,128

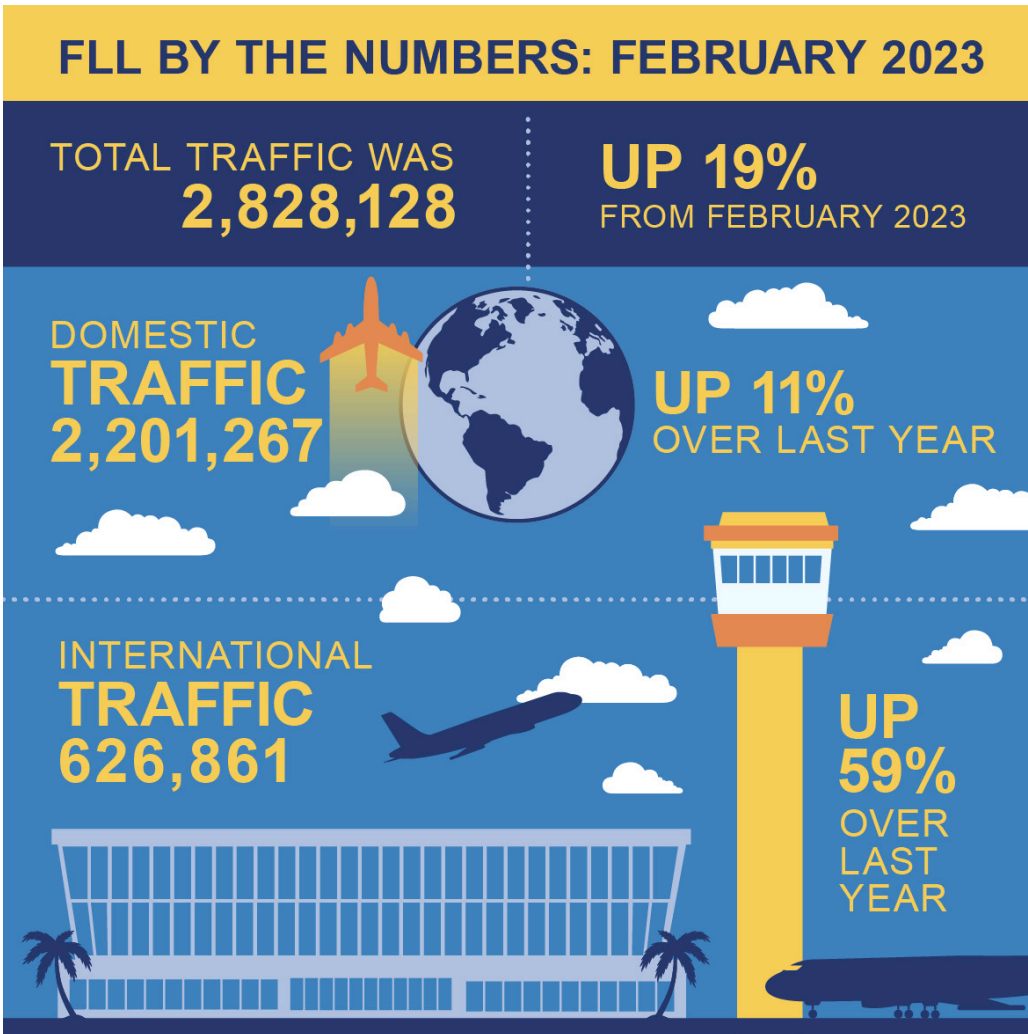
UP 19%
FROM FEBRUARY 2022

DOMESTIC
TRAFFIC
2,201,267

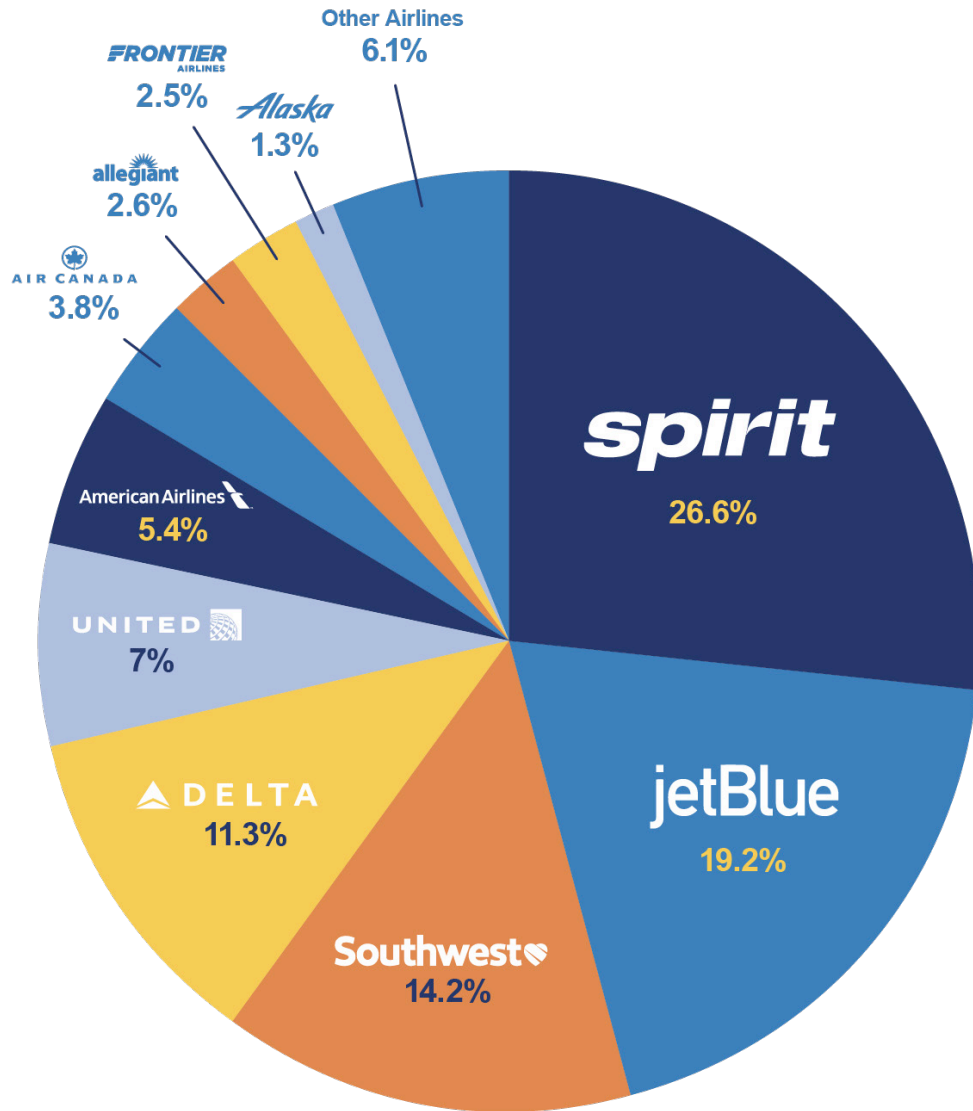
UP 11%
OVER LAST YEAR

INTERNATIONAL
TRAFFIC
626,861

UP 59%
OVER
LAST
YEAR



Top 10 Airline Market Share Year-to-date: February 2023





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