



# THE TRIP

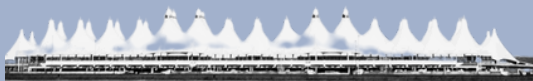
**1982**

Before being elected mayor, Federico Peña challenges Denver to “Imagine a Great City.” His plan envisioned an expanded airport to support Denver’s economic growth for decades to come.



**1992**

The first panel of the airport’s iconic tent roof is installed.



**1995**

After seven years of construction, and one failed baggage system, the ribbon is cut on Denver International Airport, North America’s largest airport by land mass.



**2003**

DEN opens the longest commercial runway in North America at 16,000 feet long.

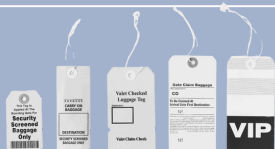
**2008**

Luis Jimenez’s 32-foot-high *Mustang* sculpture is assembled at DEN and the lore of this statue begins.



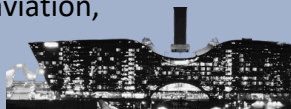
**2014**

Five new gates open in Concourse C-West for use by Southwest Airlines.



**2015**

The Westin Denver International Airport welcomes its first guests. The towering LEED-certified building honors flight and aviation, symbolizing wings of a bird in flight.



**2016**

RTD’s A-Line connecting Union Station to DEN takes its first passengers, increasing connectivity to and from the airport.



## 2018

Construction begins to expand concourses. This year also marks the first time DEN reaches 200 nonstop destinations.

## 2020

The B-West Expansion opens. It is the first completed area of the Gate Expansion Program.

## 2021

DEN's passenger traffic increases 74% over 2020 when COVID-19 effectively shut air travel down, positioning DEN as the third-busiest airport in the world.

## 2022

DEN completes the Gate Expansion Program with the openings of C-East, B-East, and A-West. The entire project ushers in 39 gates across all three concourses.

## 2023

DEN marks the completion of Taxiway EE, the largest FAA-funded safety project in the nation.

DEN also breaks ground on the Center of Equity and Aviation, a first-of-its-kind center that will create a pipeline of talent for Denver and the aviation industry.

## 2024

West Security Checkpoint, a new state-of-the-art security checkpoint, opens on Level 6.

DEN also opens Concourse A-East ground boarding facility featuring nine remodeled gates and five new gates.

DEN's passenger traffic exceeds 82 million annual passengers for the first time.

## 2025 & BEYOND

DEN continues to be the nation's preeminent aviation thought leader, collaborating to leverage technology to advance aviation practices, setting the bar for sustainability and resiliency, and pushing the envelope of operational excellence.

