



Santa Maria Public Airport and United Airlines Announce Daily Service Between Santa Maria and Denver, Los Angeles and San Francisco

Santa Maria becomes United's 20th California destination

Santa Maria, CA (January 10, 2020) - Santa Maria Public Airport (SMX) and United Airlines today announced brand new daily, nonstop service will begin June 4, 2020 between SMX and Denver International Airport (DEN), Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), and San Francisco International Airport (SFO). Tickets will be available for purchase on united.com beginning Saturday, January 11.

United's new Santa Maria service provides travelers with a brand new option to get to California's Central Coast and connects Santa Maria to the world with hundreds of domestic and international destinations from the airline's hubs in Denver, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Flight #	Orig	Dest	Dept	Arrv	Start	Aircraft
5506	DEN	SMX	11:15	13:12	6/4/2020	CRJ-200
5609	SMX	DEN	12:20	16:14	6/4/2020	CRJ-200
5879	LAX	SMX	10:00	11:04	6/4/2020	CRJ-200
5587	SMX	LAX	13:42	14:51	6/4/2020	CRJ-200
5255	SFO	SMX	22:30	23:40	6/4/2020	CRJ-200
5541	SMX	SFO	06:30	07:35	6/5/2020	CRJ-200

"United's California network continues to grow and today we are thrilled to kick off 2020 with Santa Maria as our 20th airport served in California," said Janet Lamkin, United's President of California. "We continue our focus on offering convenient ways to connect Californians to the world and the world to California."

The new service is a result of the combined efforts the Santa Maria Public Airport District, City of Santa Maria, Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce, Santa Maria Economic Development Commission, and the Santa Maria Airline Recruitment Team (SMART) to meet the needs of the business and leisure travelers in Santa Maria, the largest and fastest growing city on the Central Coast, as well as the other nearby communities including Guadalupe, Lompoc, Buellton, Solvang, and Vandenberg Air Force Base. Located less than 15 miles from Vandenberg Air Force Base, SMX is the closest commercial service airport to the base and is ideally located to support the growing mission of both military and

commercial space operations, the travel needs of service members and their families, and private launch and support contractors.

“All the efforts by the airport are coming to fruition. Our airport has been overlooked, and securing this service fills that void,” Mayor Alice Patino said. “The lack of local service forced Santa Marians to go elsewhere, losing time and money. For Santa Maria and the region, this is a welcome addition and an economic stimulus. I want to thank Chris Hastert and the airport board for their persistence and not giving up.”

“We welcome the expansion of services available at the Santa Maria Airport,” said Col. Anthony Mastalir, 30thSpace Wing commander. “Many of our Airmen use commercial air travel, for both military duty and leave, and these additional options will increase flexibility for all the men and women at Vandenberg AFB.”

“We are thrilled to welcome United Airlines back to Santa Maria,” said Glenn Morris, president & CEO of the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Bureau. “We believe that connecting service to three major gateway airports will be a significant advantage for our local businesses and will help us to increase visitor traffic as more people discover the real value that the Santa Maria Valley represents on California’s Central Coast.”

“As a community-based support group for airline service at SMX, the Santa Maria Airline Recruitment Team (SMART) is very excited to welcome United Airlines to Santa Maria. We look forward to working with the airline, and the community, to insure the success, as well as future expansion of this service for residents on the Central Coast,” said Jim Kunkle, President/Founder, SMART.

SMX Airport General Manager Chris Hastert, says, “We are very honored that United Airlines has shown an incredible commitment to our community. This three-hub announcement demonstrates their desire to serve the needs of all travelers to/from this area with the highest level of service and connections available.”

For more information about United Airlines, service options, and to book a flight, visit www.united.com.

For further information, journalists are asked to contact Chris Hastert at chastert@santamariaairport.com or (805) 922-1726 x15

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