

DON'T STOP BELIEVING!



THE HISTORY OF DEN

<p>1982</p> <p>It starts with a vision.</p> <p><i>"Imagine a Great City."</i> Before being elected mayor, candidate Federico Peña challenged Denver with this simple message. With this big picture perspective came a master plan with an expanded airport to support Denver's economic growth for decades to come.</p>	<p>1988</p> <p>The believing begins.</p> <p>Flying 34,000 ft. takes 34,000 acres. Adams County residents agreed to annex nearly 34,000 acres of land for what would soon become the largest airport in North America.</p>	<p>1989</p> <p>Believing, voting.</p> <p>Denver voters approve construction for North America's newest and largest airport by land area. Later that year, officials broke ground on DEN.</p> 	<p>1990</p> <p>Iconic architecture.</p> <p>C.W. Fentress, J.H. Bradburn and Associates unveil their design for the fabric roof of the new airport, featuring 21 "tents" of white, Teflon-coated, fiberglass fabric.</p> 
<p>1991</p> <p>Believing in aviation inspiration.</p> <p>The Denver City Council votes to name the terminal, The Jeppesen Terminal, after aviation pioneer Elrey Borge Jeppesen.</p>	<p>1992</p> <p>Going up.</p> <p>The first panel of the iconic roof is installed, representing the majestic Rocky Mountains.</p> 	<p>1994</p> <p>A luggage system with baggage.</p> <p>The "revolutionary" system created to whisk passenger luggage across 22 miles of track fails.</p>	<p>1995</p> <p>From believing to flying.</p> <p>After seven years, the ribbon is cut by Denver Mayor Wellington Webb and Peña, and the new gateway to the skies opens amidst snow and fog. Showing off DEN's new runway capacity, the three first arrivals land simultaneously.</p>
<p>2003</p> <p>Safer skies.</p> <p>The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) begins operating at DEN following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The Great Hall shifts from a pre-flight oasis, to a space for new, massive security checkpoints.</p>	<p>2003</p> <p>Believing in the ultimate runway.</p> <p>At 16,000 ft. long and 200 ft. wide, DEN opens the longest commercial runway in North America.</p> 	<p>2005</p> <p>Air traffic report.</p> <p>Serving more than 43 million passengers, a 20% increase from 1996, DEN becomes the sixth-busiest airport in the U.S.</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>Giddy up.</p> <p>Luis Jimenez's "Mustang" sculpture is christened at DEN.</p> 
<p>2008</p> <p>Breaking records.</p> <p>DEN surpasses its 50 million passenger capacity with 51.2 million, setting a record for the number of travelers.</p>	<p>2011</p> <p>The most groundbreaking airport in North America.</p> <p>Construction of the Westin Hotel and Transit Center begins, better connecting the airport to the city and completing the airport's original master plan.</p>	<p>2011</p> <p>Greetings from Airport City.</p> <p>Denver steps up its role for the region when Mayor Michael B. Hancock announces his vision for an "airport city," a key to growth for the region featuring a high-tech infrastructure.</p>	<p>2015</p> <p>Enjoy your stay.</p> <p>The Westin officially opens for business.</p> 
<p>2015</p> <p>New additions.</p> <p>The Canine Airport Therapy Squad (CATS) is introduced. It's the largest, and fluffiest animal therapy squad in any U.S. airport.</p> 	<p>2015</p> <p>A bold vision.</p> <p>DEN announces plans to reimagine the Great Hall.</p> 	<p>2016</p> <p>The 37-minute scenic route.</p> <p>The first passengers on RTD's A-Line train arrive at DEN from Denver Union Station.</p> 	<p>2017</p> <p>From ground-breaking to record breaking.</p> <p>A new record is set by welcoming 61.4 million passengers, including 2.59 million international passengers.</p>
<p>2018</p> <p>Believing in flying far and near.</p> <p>For the first time, DEN reaches 200 nonstop destinations. DEN now serves over 215 nonstop destinations across 14 countries.</p>	<p>2018</p> <p>Still growing.</p> <p>DEN continues to elevate travel. Construction begins to add 39 new gates.</p> 	<p>2019</p> <p>The sky isn't the limit.</p> <p>DEN continues to fly high, reaching a new all-time high for annual passenger traffic with more than 69 million passengers.</p>	<p>2020</p> <p>The airport to believe in.</p> <p>DEN celebrates 25 years of successful operations!</p> 

