



# History of LA/Ontario International Airport

- 1923** Latimer Field is established east of Central Avenue, three miles west of the current airport on land leased from Union Pacific railroad. The airfield is named after an orange packing company next to the airstrip.
- 1929** The City of Ontario purchases a 30-acre tract in the southwest corner of the present airport for \$12,000. Airfield becomes known as Ontario Municipal Airport.
- 1941** City of Ontario purchases 470 acres surrounding the airport and approves construction of new runways.
- 1942** Runways completed. Army Air Corps plane makes first landing on February 27.
- 1943** During World War II, airport dedicated as an Army Air Corps P-38 training base and P-59 operating base.
- 1946** Ontario Municipal Airport is renamed Ontario International Airport due to transpacific cargo flights originating from the airport.
- 1947** Military departs and airport re-dedicated to civil aviation.
- 1949** Commercial service begins at Ontario International Airport.
- 1951** New 10,880 square-foot terminal building constructed.
- 1967** Los Angeles City Department of Airports co-signs joint powers agreement with City of Ontario and airport becomes part of Los Angeles' regional airport system.
- 1970** Three-hundred additional acres acquired. Terminal building expanded by 22,500 square feet.
- 1971** Airport's annual passenger volume passes 1 million.
- 1978** Passenger volume passes 2 million.
- 1981** Opening of new runway which can accommodate wide-body jets. 35,000 people attend dedication ceremony.
- 1982** Daniel, Mann, Johnson & Mendenhall of Los Angeles selected as the planners, architects and engineers for new terminals at Ontario International Airport. Official transfer of title from City of Ontario to the City of Los Angeles.
- 1986** Passenger volume passes 4 million.
- 1987** New FAA Air Traffic Control Tower dedicated on August 27, 1987.

- 1989** Passenger volume passes 5 million.
- 1990** United Parcel Service breaks ground on \$53 million West Coast air cargo hub.
- 1992** Passenger volume passes 6 million.
- 1993** Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners approves final plans and specifications for \$270 million terminal expansion project.
- 1995** Groundbreaking ceremony held for the construction of the new terminal complex.
- 1998** New terminal service at complex starts on September 27, 1998. Construction completed four months ahead of schedule and \$26 million under budget.
- 1999** New Ground Transportation Center housing six on-airport car rental brands opens January 5, 1999.
- 2000** Air Canada offers daily round-trip service to Toronto, Canada from June 5 to September 5. JetBlue Airways begins daily nonstop, round-trip service to New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport. AeroMexico begins round-trip service to Guadalajara and Mexico City twice a week.
- 2001** United Parcel Service begins four weekly flights to China using Boeing 747 cargo aircraft.
- 2002** Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners approve award of contract to HNTB Corporation, Los Angeles, to develop a master plan for ONT. Contract includes development of the ONT Master Plan in three phases at an estimated total cost of \$3.9 million. AeroMexico begins daily round-trip service to Hermosillo, Mexico. Frontier JetExpress begins two daily nonstop flights to Denver, Colorado. Hawaiian Airlines begins daily round-trip service to Honolulu, Hawaii. Lineas Aereas Azteca begins daily nonstop service to Mexico City, Mexico. Parking Lot 5 opens with 2159 additional parking spaces.
- 2003** The \$20.2 million Taxiway N Westerly Extension Project completed two weeks ahead of schedule and \$1 million under budget.
- 2004** Passenger volume reaches 6.9 million.
- 2005** Chaffey Hangar removed to make way for new Security Airfield Access Point being constructed under the Airfield Perimeter Security Enhancement Part 2 Project. Los Angeles World Airports launches "Fly Ontario" ad campaign aimed at increasing passenger volume at ONT. Runway 26R/8L closed in May for reconstruction and lengthening. Passenger volume reaches 7 million.
- 2006** Runway 26R/8L Reconstruction Project completed and runway re-opens in March. Airport name changed to LAX/Ontario International Airport. AiRadio begins broadcasting airport conditions on 770 AM.
- 2007** ExpressJet begins daily round-trip service to 14 U.S. cities in April. ExpressJet adds round trip service to Reno (Reno/Tahoe Airport) in November.
- 2008** Great Lakes Airlines starts service to Visalia and Merced in California, and Prescott and Kingman in Arizona, using a Beechcraft 1900D aircraft.

Cell Phone Waiting Lot opens. The 100-space parking lot is free of charge with a one hour maximum waiting time.

In-line baggage screening system opens in Terminal 2 and Terminal 4. The new \$70 million baggage screening system carries luggage from the airline's ticket counter area to a TSA station where officers screen luggage prior to being loaded in the aircraft.

- 2009** Passenger volume decreases to 6.2 million passengers and 481,284 tons of air freight.
- LAWA launches its new public Internet Flight Tracking and Noise System at LAX, ONT, and VNY airports.
- BOAC approves development of a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station at Haven Avenue and Airport Drive.
- Travelers Aid of the Inland Empire celebrates 25 years of service at ONT.



**2010** Passenger volume decreases to 4.8 million passengers and 391,060 tons of air freight.

Southwest Airlines celebrates 25 years of service at ONT.

Southwest Airlines begins nonstop service to Denver, Colorado and Chicago, Illinois.

Passenger volume remains at 4.8 million passengers and 392,427 tons of air freight.

**2011** Year-end passenger volume ends with 4.5 million passengers and 419,523 tons of air freight.

**2012** Los Angeles World Airports approves allocation of \$1.5 million to City of Ontario for additional residential soundproofing.

The 6,500 square-foot Clean Energy Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station opens on Haven Avenue and Airport Drive.

**2013** LAWA and City of Ontario enter memorandum of understanding for grade separation project at Airport Drive & Vineyard Ave.

LAWA enters into agreement with airline consortium that could reduce budget by \$6.6 million. ONT airport to implement airline cooperative marketing program and offer incentive programs for air carriers.

Aeromexico launches more service from ONT to Guadalajara on October 1, 2013

United launches additional service to San Francisco starting December 19, 2013

**2014** Volaris confirms service from ONT to Guadalajara, Mexico starting April 10, 2014.

Passenger volume decreases to 3.9 million, Passengers and cargo 460,535 tons of air freight

Volaris adds a third flight to Guadalajara Mexico on September 1, 2014.

