

Trans Central Airlines

Trans Central Airlines was based in Denver, Colorado and provided commuter airline flights within Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. Service began on March 22, 1966 with an Albuquerque-Santa Fe-Raton-Trinidad-Pueblo-Denver route using Cessna 402 aircraft. Service to Las Vegas, New Mexico and Greeley Colorado were added to the route by 1969 while the service to Santa Fe was discontinued. This route was very similar to the initial route operated by Continental Airlines in the 1930's through 1950's. Service to Taos, New Mexico from Albuquerque reportedly operated for the 1968/1969 winter ski season. On July 1, 1970 new flights were started on the Roswell – Carlsbad – El Paso and El Paso – Carlsbad – Hobbs – Lubbock routes. By September 1, 1970 the carrier began new flights on the Albuquerque - Las Vegas – Tucumcari - Amarillo and Amarillo – Clovis – Roswell – Artesia – Carlsbad - El Paso routes. Other routes were also planned but did not start including Albuquerque – Las Cruces – El Paso and Denver - La Junta – Clayton – Dalhart - Amarillo. Clayton, New Mexico has never had commercial air service. Larger Swearingen Metroliner aircraft were also planned for service but the airline ceased operations in late 1970 before these plans ever started.

Note: Another Trans Central Airlines based in Oklahoma City operated in the early 1980's and is said to have originated as the Trans Central evaluated above.



Trans Central Airlines Cessna 402 parked at the old terminal of the Albuquerque Sunport.



Trans Central route map from April, 1970.