



# EASTERN

## Eastern Air Lines

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Eastern Air Lines was a major United States legacy air carrier that existed from 1926 through 1991 based in Miami, Florida. The carrier had a massive hub at Atlanta with a route structure throughout the eastern U.S. as well as into Central and South America. Eastern began service to Albuquerque on November 1, 1979 and was the second major carrier to come to the city after the airline deregulation act was passed one year earlier. Initially two daily flights to their main hub in Atlanta were operated, one nonstop and the other with a stop at Dallas/Fort Worth, both using Boeing 727 "Whisperjets". The nonstop flight from Atlanta was extended onto Phoenix the following month and operated through the year 1980. The flight through Dallas/Fort Worth was discontinued in the fall of 1981 leaving only one flight per day to Atlanta. In early 1983 Eastern began operating the Boeing 757 aircraft on the single flight to Atlanta and Albuquerque was one of the first cities to be served with the 757 however the service only lasted a few months. In late 1983 the carrier began building a hub in Kansas City and added a single flight from Kansas City to Albuquerque which was extended to Tucson. In late 1984 the single flight to Atlanta began stopping in El Paso on the way and was completely discontinued on May 1, 1985. At that time a second flight to Kansas City was added which was also an extension from Tucson. In late 1986 a New York-Kansas City-Albuquerque-Tucson flight operated as flight number "1". By the latter half of the 1980's Eastern began struggling financially and abandoned their hub at Kansas City. All service from Albuquerque ended on August 31, 1988. Eastern, once the second busiest airline in the world, shut down in 1991.



Eastern Air Lines Boeing 727-100.



Eastern Air Lines Boeing 727-200.



Eastern Air Lines Boeing 757-200 introduced in 1983.



Eastern Air Lines route map from 1982.

In 1974, prior to serving Albuquerque, Eastern performed an aircraft swap with TWA in which TWA operated an Eastern widebody Lockheed L-1011 during their busier summer months and Eastern operated a TWA L-1011 during their busier winter season. TWA flew an L-1011 on one flight from Albuquerque to Chicago during the summer of 1974 and an Eastern L-1011 was occasionally used.



Eastern Air Lines Lockheed L-1011 Tristar.