



## Mesaba Airlines

Mesaba Airlines was first established in 1944 and based at Minneapolis, MN. In 1983 the carrier became a code-share partner for Republic Airlines, operating as Republic Express until Republic merged with Northwest Airlines in 1986. Mesaba then became a Northwest AirlinK affiliate until Northwest Airlines merged with Delta Airlines in 2010 at which time Mesaba became a Delta Connection affiliate. Mesaba began serving Albuquerque on July 1, 2010 with Delta Connection flights to Salt Lake City using Canadair CRJ-900 aircraft, supplementing SkyWest Airlines on the route. Mesaba was later bought out by Pinnacle Airlines, another Delta Connection affiliate, and its operations were merged into Pinnacle on January 4, 2012. Pinnacle continued to serve Albuquerque for one month before all flights to Salt Lake City were transferred back to SkyWest Airlines.



Delta Connection Canadair CRJ-900 operated by Mesaba Airlines at the Albuquerque Sunport.



## Pinnacle Airlines

Pinnacle Airlines began as Express Airlines I in 1985, based in Memphis, Tennessee. Like Mesaba Airlines, the carrier first operated as Republic Express, then as Northwest Airlink, and now as Delta Connection. Pinnacle first served Albuquerque as Northwest Airlink with a flight to Minneapolis/St. Paul from September 2004 through September 2005 using a Canadair CRJ-200 aircraft. Pinnacle later bought out Mesaba Airlines and merged operations on January 4, 2012 at which time Pinnacle inherited the Albuquerque-Salt Lake City route operated by Mesaba as Delta Connection using CRJ-900 aircraft. Only one flight per week was being flown at this time and Pinnacle ended the flight one month later which amounted to only a handful of Delta Connection flights operated through Albuquerque by Pinnacle Airlines. Pinnacle changed its name to Endeavor Airlines in 2013 and continues to fly as Delta Connection.



Northwest Airlink Canadair CRJ-200 operated by Pinnacle Airlines at Albuquerque.



Delta Connection Canadair CRJ-900 operated by Pinnacle Airlines at Albuquerque. Most Pinnacle aircraft carried a registration ending in the letters "PQ" while similar Mesaba CRJ-900 aircraft (above) had registrations ending in "XJ".