



Trans States Airlines

Trans States Airlines was founded in 1982 as Resort Air flying from St. Louis to Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. The airline expanded at St. Louis and became a Trans World Express feeder carrier on behalf of TWA in 1985. Trans States is based in Bridgeton, Missouri, near St. Louis, and formed a parent company called Trans States Holdings. Two other regional carriers, GoJet and Compass Airlines, were later purchased and the three airlines have served as feeder carriers on behalf of several major airlines.

Trans States Airlines served New Mexico on two occasions, first at Albuquerque in 2006 with two daily flights to San Antonio, Texas operating as United Express. Flights began on March 3, 2006 and although San Antonio was not a hub for United Airlines, the service was intended to link Albuquerque with other cities that have large military bases. 50-seat Embraer 145 regional jets were used but the service ended seven months later on September 30, 2006.

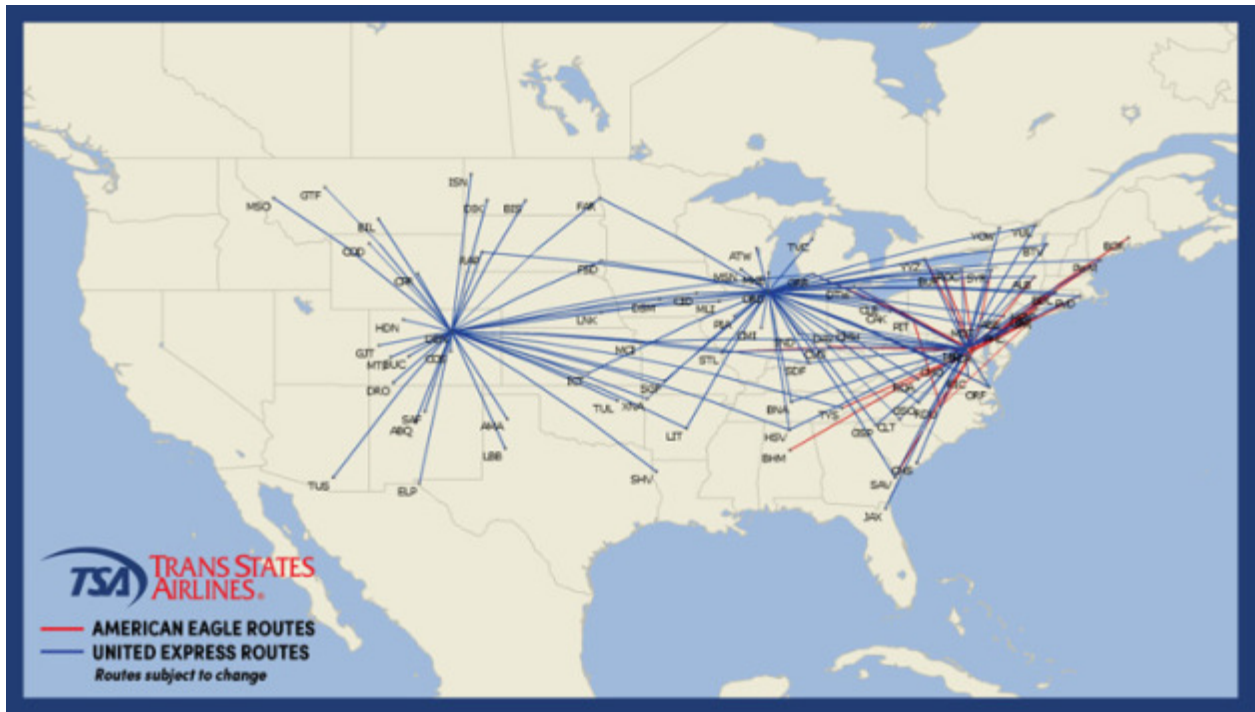
Trans States returned to New Mexico in 2015 with United Express flights from Denver to Santa Fe also using Embraer 145's. The service began on June 4, 2015 replacing ExpressJet Airlines (also a United Express operator) on the route. Service to Albuquerque resumed on November 30, 2016 with Embraer 145 flights to Denver as well. Due to pilot shortages, Trans States planned to shut down at the end of 2020 but closed its doors earlier on April 1, 2020 due to the corona virus outbreak. Its last departure from Albuquerque was on March 26, 2020 and last departure from Santa Fe on April 1, 2020. Sister carrier Compass Airlines was also shut down due to the pandemic leaving only GoJet Airlines still operating under the parent company, Trans States Holdings. Trans States had also operated flights on behalf of American Airlines as American Connection and later as American Eagle, for Delta Air Lines as Delta Connection, and for US Airways as US Airways Express but none of these operations ever served any city in New Mexico.



A Trans States Embraer 145 operating as United Express taking off from the Santa Fe Regional Airport.



Trans States Embraer 145 in the carriers' house livery at the Santa Fe Airport.



Trans States route map from November, 2016.