

## **Allegiant Air**

Allegiant Air, based in Las Vegas, Nevada, commenced operations in 1998 with a combination of scheduled airline flights and an extensive charter network. The carrier began using Douglas DC-9-21, DC-9-51, MD-80, MD-87, and Boeing 757 aircraft and now operates a fleet Airbus A319 and A320's. Allegiant frequently operates public charter flights at Albuquerque for tour operators to serve casino resorts in Laughlin, Reno, and Wendover, Nevada. Charter flights are also operated for firefighters, sports teams, and other entities and have served Las Cruces and Roswell, New Mexico as well. Allegiant's scheduled flights operate at hub cities throughout the United States including large hubs at Las Vegas, Nevada and Orlando, Florida. A number of very small cities are served with as little as two flights per week to leisure destinations. In 2008, the carrier had considered operating scheduled service to Roswell with two flights per week to Las Vegas using 166-seat MD-80's however this service did not materialize.

Allegiant Air began scheduled flights from Albuquerque to Las Vegas and to Austin, Texas on June 2, 2016 using MD-80 aircraft operating on Thursdays and Sundays. Flights from Albuquerque to Los Angeles began on October 6, 2016, also on Thursdays and Sundays, using Airbus A319 aircraft however the Los Angeles flights ended one year later on October 22, 2017. The Austin and Las Vegas flights began operating with Airbus A319's in late 2017 as the MD-80 fleet was being retired. All flights were switched to Mondays and Fridays in early 2019. The Austin flight was temporarily discontinued during late August through September, 2019 and all service was suspended during the slow winter season of January and early February, 2020. All service was suspended again from March 20 until May 22, 2020 due to the corona virus outbreak. A new flight to Orlando, Sanford Airport was scheduled for the summer of 2020 on two nights per week but was cut short, only operating from June 4 through July 19. It was originally scheduled to run through August 16. Since August, 2020, the Austin and Las Vegas flights saw several more suspensions until all Allegiant service at Albuquerque was discontinued after the last flight to Las Vegas departed on May 2, 2022. At this time, Allegiant, as well as virtually all other airlines, began enduring a severe shortage of pilots as well as skyrocketing fuel prices. Allegiant continues to provide charter flights to Albuquerque including the transport of the University of New Mexico college football team as well as opposing teams. Charters continue to operate at Las Cruces transporting the New Mexico State University football team as well as their opposing teams.



Allegiant Air Douglas DC-9-21 charter flight at Albuquerque in 1998.



Allegiant McDonnell Douglas MD-87 charter flight at Albuquerque in 2008.



Allegiant McDonnell Douglas MD-80 on a scheduled flight at Albuquerque in 2016.



Allegiant Boeing 757 at Albuquerque on a charter flight to Hawaii for the University of New Mexico Lobo football team in 2016.



Allegiant Airbus A319 on a scheduled flight at Albuquerque. Both above aircraft display a new livery that started in 2010.



Allegiant Airbus A319 on a scheduled flight at Albuquerque wearing a revised livery that began in 2017.



Allegiant Airbus A320 on a scheduled flight at Albuquerque wearing the new revised livery.



Allegiant Air route map from 2017.