



JetBlue Airways

JetBlue was established in 1998, is based in New York City, and operates a hub at the New York John F. Kennedy International Airport. JetBlue began serving Albuquerque on April 22, 2013 with a single all-night flight to JFK using an Airbus A320 aircraft. Their service was initiated through an agreement with the City of Albuquerque and Mayor Richard Berry in which certain fees were waived for the first two years. After the two year period, JetBlue renewed their lease and continued serving Albuquerque with the one daily flight however the flight was reduced to operating on only four nights per week during slower times of the year. JetBlue is the only carrier providing nonstop service from Albuquerque to the New York City area and occasionally uses a larger Airbus A321 aircraft. During the 2019 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta from October 3 through 14, 2019 JetBlue used the larger A321 on its JFK flight. The carrier also uses Albuquerque as a fuel stop for many of its coast to coast flights when needed during unfavorable wind conditions.

During the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 and the loss of over 95 percent of traffic, JetBlue reduced its service at ABQ from daily to three times per week during the month of April. The carrier applied to suspend its service but was initially denied by the government so the service was scaled back in May to three flights per week to Denver that continued onto Boston. In June, the three weekly Denver flights were changed to continue to New York/JFK. On June 14, all service was discontinued when JetBlue received a temporary exemption to end Albuquerque service. JetBlue had previously planned to upgrade the JFK flight to an Airbus A321 in May however this aircraft type only operated two times. Service resumed on October 1, 2020 with a nonstop flight to New York/JFK on two days per week using an Airbus A320. Service was paused a second time from February 12 through March 27, 2021 but resumed again on March 28 with three flights per week to JFK. By the start of 2022 the flight to JFK was back to running daily. Service was paused for the winters of 2022/2023 and 2023/2024. An Airbus A220-300 aircraft was used when service resumed on February 15, 2024.

JetBlue has many different designs on the tails of its aircraft and each aircraft carry unique slogans such as “Mystic Blue” and “Blue Jean Baby.” The aircraft used on the inaugural flight to ABQ, N821JB, was nicknamed “Blue Yorker”.



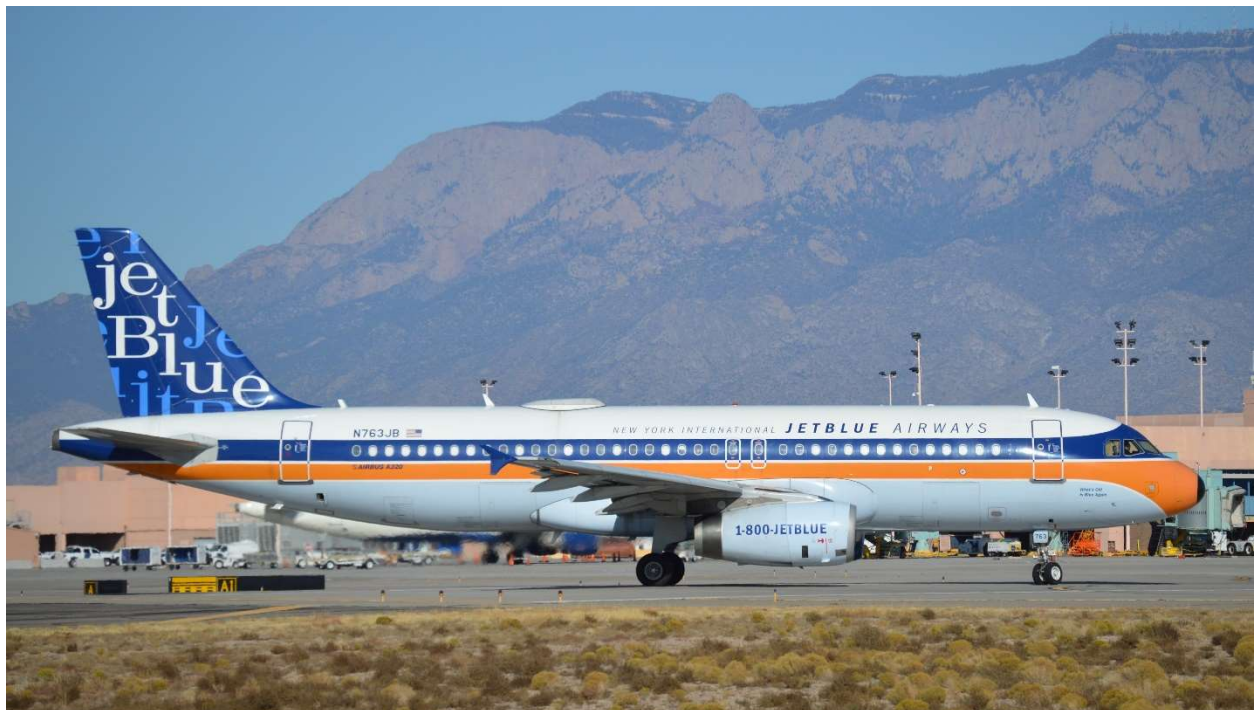
JetBlue Airbus A320 at the Albuquerque Sunport in 2016.



JetBlue Airbus A321 landing at the Albuquerque Sunport in 2022.



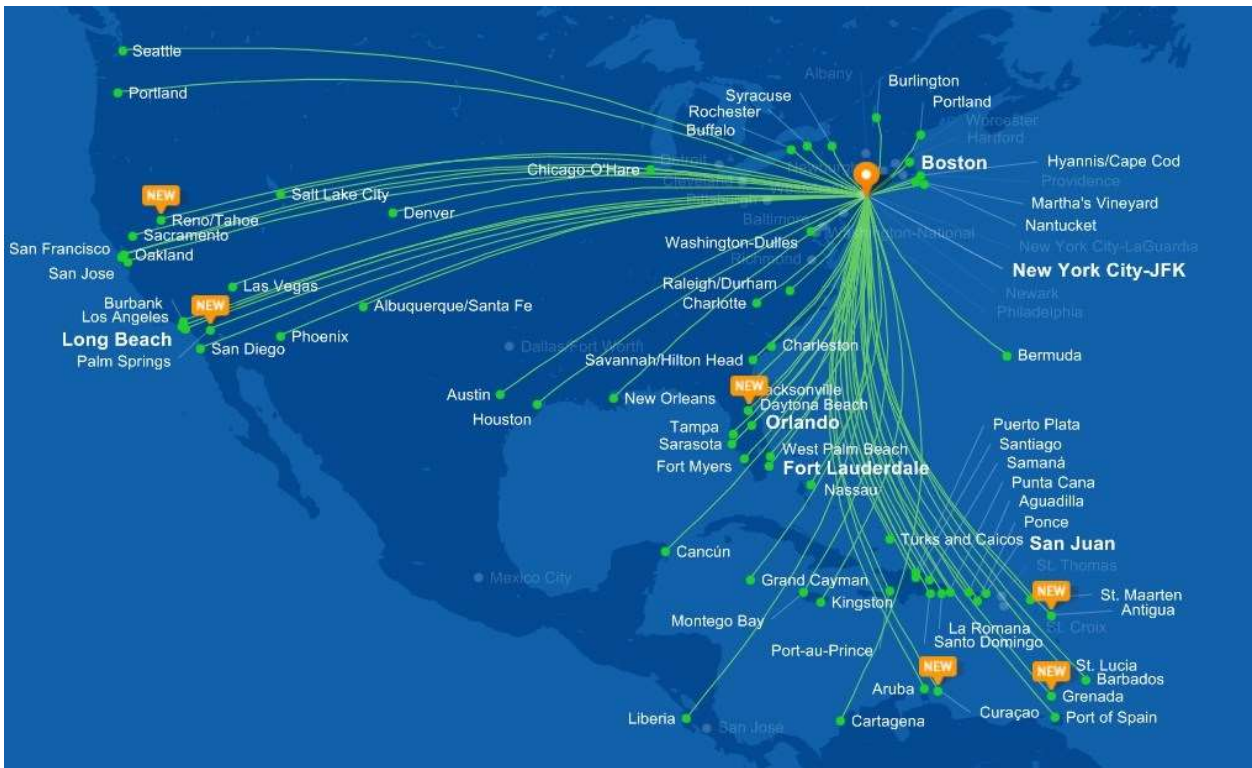
JetBlue introduced a new livery on its Airbus A320's beginning in late 2023.



JetBlue has many aircraft painted with special liveries. This Airbus A320 has a retro livery commemorating the New York International Airport which was renamed to John F. Kennedy International in 1963. It is seen departing the Albuquerque Sunport in 2020.



JetBlue began flying the Airbus A220-300 on its flight to Albuquerque beginning in early 2024.



JetBlue route map from 2018 showing routes from the airlines' JFK hub.