



Spirit Airlines

Spirit Airlines began service in 1983 as Charter One Airlines using prop aircraft. In 1992 the company began flying Douglas DC-9 jets and the name was changed to Spirit. Most flights operated from the United States northeast corridor to Florida using a hub at Atlantic City, New Jersey. Spirit is currently based in Miramar, Florida, outside of Miami and now has routes across the United States, the Caribbean, Central and South America. On March 16, 2022 Spirit announced new service from Albuquerque to Las Vegas beginning August 3, 2022. The carrier began the service with one daily flight on the route using an Airbus A320neo. After an opening celebration, the first arriving flight into ABQ received a water canon welcome by the Kirtland Air Force Base Fire Department. A second daily flight to Las Vegas was added in March, 2024.



Spirit Airbus A320 at the Albuquerque International Sunport.



Spirit Airbus A320neo landing at the Albuquerque International Sunport.



Spirit Airbus A320neo receiving a water canon welcome on its inaugural flight into Albuquerque on August 3, 2022.