



Plattsburgh  
International  
Airport

P R E S S   R E L E A S E --

September 5, 2007

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**PLATTSBURGH ANNOUNCES LOW-FARE AIR SERVICE TO FORT LAUDERDALE**

Residents of northern New York, southern Quebec and Vermont will soon have another way to get to the sun as Allegiant Air, LLC announces new non-stop jet service to Fort Lauderdale, Florida from Plattsburgh International Airport beginning November 16, 2007. The low-fare carrier will celebrate the convenient new service to sunny South Florida with introductory fares as low as \$79 (U.S.) each-way.

"We are very pleased to again expand the Allegiant brand of low-fare, nonstop jet service to the Plattsburgh region," Maurice Gallagher, Jr., President and CEO of Allegiant Air, says. "This is an exciting new addition for our airline and our customers as we celebrate another way to get to the sun of Florida."

"Local residents have long sought a direct warm weather destination flight from a local airport," states James Langley, Jr., Chair of the Clinton County Legislature. "And I believe our friends north of the border will also delight in the convenience offered by Allegiant Air and Plattsburgh International Airport."

Plattsburgh International Airport is the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, with massive and modern aviation facilities which have been converted for use as an aerospace industrial park and now as a multi-purpose airport. In June, it dedicated a major new passenger terminal, positioning itself to serve as a secondary airport for the greater Montreal region as well as a regional airport for northern New York. They expect over the next two years to develop a range of air services, including low-cost flights to vacation destinations along with connections to one or more major hubs in the U.S.

"Allegiant was the first airline we targeted last year," stated Garry Douglas, President and CEO of the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce, which is handling marketing and development activities at the new airport. "We knew they would understand the market opportunity here, given their established success at other near-border airports such as Bellingham, Washington. We know they will be extremely successful here, and will develop additional flights and destinations over the next two years."

Douglas notes that Allegiant and the airport are being directly responsive to thousands of surveys conducted with Montreal area residents who have identified Fort Lauderdale as the top destination they would like to fly to from Plattsburgh, which has positioned itself to serve as "MONTREAL'S U.S. AIRPORT". The top reasons Montrealers have expressed for using Plattsburgh International in the future are:

- \* Lower cost airfares with non-stop service.
- \* Free parking.
- \* Direct highway access without congestion.
- \* The ability to skip airport customs by crossing the border and flying domestically.

In addition, Plattsburgh International is providing northern New York with a long needed regional airport capable of attracting and hosting a full range of air carriers, serving the area's many businesses, colleges, institutions and resorts. This includes the Lake Placid-Adirondack region which expects to benefit from a major airport less than an hour away, providing access for tourists, convention attendees, athletes and others.

Plattsburgh International Airport continues to receive strong support in its development and marketing from officials in Washington and Albany, including U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Hillary Clinton, Representatives John McHugh and Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Eliot Spitzer, State Senator Betty Little, Assemblywomen Janet Duprey and Teresa Sayward, and others. All infrastructure investments have been fully paid for by the federal and state governments, including \$20 million (U.S.) for the terminal and related work, and the airport today is profitable and debt free. This allows highly attractive landing fees and other charges, facilitating lower fares for travelers.

"I was pleased last year to be the very first passenger arrival at the new terminal," states Governor Eliot Spitzer, "and I'm even more pleased to know that service is expanding. This is good news for Plattsburgh and the entire North Country."

"From the first time I visited Plattsburgh International Airport in 1999," states Senator Charles Schumer, "I never had a doubt that this day would come. The county and chamber have worked steadily toward their vision, and it's been an honor to be part of the team. Allegiant will start the ball rolling, and I will continue to work with Jimmy Langley and Garry Douglas to bring more service in the future."

"I am so pleased that Allegiant Airlines is bringing their services to this newly opened, state of the art airport in Plattsburgh," states U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton. "In addition to providing affordable access to new destinations, these flights have the opportunity to draw tourism and attract other business prospects to the area. This shows what can be accomplished when people work together to invest in the economic growth of the region."

"Since 1995, the community has been determined to turn the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base into an economic engine for northern New York and they have done so," states Congressman John McHugh. "The announcement by Allegiant should be the start of great things not only for Plattsburgh International Airport but for the entire region. I congratulate the Plattsburgh team for their continuing success, and will continue to support their efforts in every way I can."

"I am pleased to join community elected officials and business leaders in welcoming Allegiant Airlines to Plattsburgh," states New York State Senator Betty Little. "This new service to Fort Lauderdale is a timely and appropriate fit for our North Country market. Area residents will have plenty of time to book their trip to Florida in anticipation of a winter getaway with the benefit of an airline service that is close by and convenient."

Plattsburgh is modeling itself after Bellingham International Airport in Bellingham, Washington. Similar in size and character to Plattsburgh, Bellingham is about one hour south of Vancouver, and has developed a successful airport offering a combination of low-cost services to vacation spots and connections to major hubs, just as Plattsburgh hopes to do over the next two years.

For more information on Plattsburgh International Airport and the new service by Allegiant, visit [www.flyplattsburgh.com](http://www.flyplattsburgh.com).

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**NOTE:** Photos and other graphic materials are available on request, including exterior and interior photos of the terminal; an aerial photo of the airport; the airport logo; and a graphic map of the airport's passenger "catchment area".