

Southwest Airlines to Increase Service to Mexico With Volaris Partnership

Carrier Introduces Additional Connections through Chicago Midway and Las Vegas and Announces 'Explore Mexico' Sweepstakes

DALLAS, May 5, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Southwest Airlines (NYSE: LUV) today more than doubled the number of Southwest markets able to connect to Mexico, through both Chicago Midway and Las Vegas. 26 Southwest cities, primarily in the Northeast and Midwest, now connect to Volaris flights between Chicago Midway and Guadalajara, Mexico. These new markets include New York's LaGuardia, Boston Logan, Detroit Metro, Newark Liberty International, Baltimore Washington International, Philadelphia International, Pittsburgh International, Minneapolis-St. Paul International, Nashville International, Indianapolis International, Lambert-St. Louis International, and Louisville International, among others.

In addition, more than 20 Southwest cities, primarily across the Southwest and West, now connect to Volaris flights between Las Vegas-McCarran and Guadalajara, Mexico. These new cities include Austin-Bergstrom International, Houston Hobby, Oklahoma City, Tulsa International, San Antonio International, and San Diego International, and join Denver International, Los Angeles International, Oakland International, Mineta-San Jose International, Sacramento International, and Phoenix Sky Harbor International, creating new connections to Cancun and Mexico City via Guadalajara.

In celebration of this new service, Southwest announces a sweepstakes for roundtrip travel to and two nights' accommodation at an Intercontinental Hotel at any of Volaris' gateway cities for two lucky grand prize winners. Learn more about this contest at www.southwest.com/mexicogiveaway.

Last November, Southwest Airlines launched a new product that allows Customers to book international flights by connecting with Volaris, Mexico's second-largest airline, to Volaris destinations of Guadalajara, Morelia, Toluca/Mexico City, and Zacatecas-all in Mexico. Now over 160 cross-border flight itineraries are for sale at southwest.com. For a complete list of service click here: http://swa.wieck.com/releases/05fbe1c7-4826-25f5-1b8c-19004dc2ea77

The connecting service provides Southwest and Volaris Customers a seamless transaction and travel experience. The airline's international connection conducts two separate transactions, one with Southwest's reservations system and one with Volaris' reservations system. The unique technology will connect the two transactions and provide Customers with one low fare. Customers traveling on an international connection will be required to check in with each carrier, but luggage will be transferred by the airlines and delivered to the final destination, with only one touch point. Southwest Customers can book travel and learn more about Volaris' service, policies, and procedures at www.southwest.com/mexico. Southwest has created an international help desk staffed with bilingual Customer Service Agents to support this effort. Customers can call 1-888-329-8776 for assistance with their travel.

In its 40th year of service, Southwest Airlines continues to differentiate itself from other low-fare carriers--offering a reliable product with exemplary Customer Service. Southwest Airlines is the nation's largest carrier in terms of originating domestic passengers boarded and has recently acquired AirTran Airways, now a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest Airlines Co. Southwest serves 72 cities in 37 states and is one of the most honored airlines in the world known for its commitment to the triple bottom line of Performance, People, and Planet. To read more about how Southwest is doing its part to be a good citizen, visit southwest.com/cares to read the Southwest Airlines One Report(TM). Based in Dallas, Southwest currently operates more than 3,400 flights a day and has more than 35,000 Employees systemwide.

SOURCE Southwest Airlines