



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Silicon Valley's Airport Encourages Planning Ahead for Safe Thanksgiving Travel

- SJC offers reminders and tips to those who must travel for the holidays during the pandemic -

San José, Calif. – For those who must travel during this year's Thanksgiving holiday travel period, the Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) encourages extra care in planning for health and safety measures. The Airport has undertaken myriad health and safety measures in order to safely welcome travelers this holiday season, emphasizing the importance of individual adherence to directives from medical professionals and health officials.

Thanksgiving travel numbers this year are expectedly low compared with last year, reflecting the massive decline in global air travel since the onset of coronavirus in March. SJC expects to see roughly 125,000 passengers during the 11-day Thanksgiving holiday travel period, which extends from Friday, November 20th through Monday, November 30th. By comparison, SJC saw a record-breaking half million (546,000) Thanksgiving travelers during the same period in 2019.

"Safety is the only message we want to convey to travelers right now," said **John Aitken, Director of Aviation at Mineta San José International Airport.** "Both the Airport and our airline partners have undertaken many measures to ensure safe environments for those traveling this holiday season. We are confident in the steps our teams have put in place, but cannot overstate the importance of planning to follow safety protocols during travel."

The Airport says it is confident that passenger traffic will return, and in the meantime, is focused on restoring passengers' confidence and comfort with flying. To help travelers stay safe this season, SJC encourages travelers to observe Transportation Security Administration (TSA) guidance and expectations for holiday travel during the pandemic:

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- **If you are sick, stay home and do not travel!** Contact your airline regarding their [re-booking and cancellation policies](#).

Visit: [CDC's website for when and how long to delay your travel](#)

- [Start wearing your face-covering](#) **as soon as you arrive at the airport** and exit your vehicle. Ensure your face-covering fully covers both your mouth and nose and help other travelers in your party who need assistance with their face-covering.
- **Expect to see increased use of personal protective equipment** at the TSA security checkpoints. Expect to see face-coverings, gloves, acrylic barriers, social distancing signage throughout the checkpoint, regular cleaning of surfaces and equipment, and various touchless technologies.
- **Remember to [social distance](#) (6 feet apart) wherever possible**, both outdoors and indoors. Exercise patience with lines that may appear longer due to social distancing and avoid gathering groups when picking up or dropping off loved ones at the curbside.
- **Adhere to signs and directions** from the Airport, airlines, TSA officials, and law enforcement. These are developed to help you comply with COVID-19 safety standards.
- **Practice good sanitation.** Avoid touching your face, [wash your hands](#) frequently, and always cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. Use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol. Review [TSA's information about hand sanitizer](#).

SJC enters the holiday season offering new service to Mexico City on Volaris, which began on November 9th.

Next month, Alaska Airlines begins new nonstop service between SJC and Palm Springs International Airport (PSP) on December 17th, and to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on December 19th.

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In December, Alaska Airlines will begin new nonstop service from SJC to Palm Springs International Airport (PSP) on the 17th, and to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, on 19th.

Click this link for [TSA Guidance for Safe Holiday Travel](#).

Click this link for more information about [SJC's health and safety measures](#).

Click this link for [SJC parking information and real-time parking status online](#).

Need more information before flying SJC? Contact us at info@sjc.org or call 408-392-3600.

SJC: Transforming How Silicon Valley Travels

Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) is Silicon Valley's airport, a self-supporting enterprise owned and operated by the City of San Jose. The airport, now in its 71st year, served nearly 15.7 million passengers in 2019, with nonstop service across North America and to Europe and Asia. SJC was America's fastest-growing major airport the past four years, based on percentage increase in passengers served. For more airport information, visit <https://www.flysanjose.com>.