

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

---

On an day in late 1938, a gleaming American Airlines DC-3 departed Newark Airport, bound for Glendale, California. Total time was 18 hours 40 minutes, including several ground stops.

In 1934, the year before the introduction of the DC-3, a flight from New York to Los Angeles was a grueling ordeal, typically requiring 25 hours. Now, a single plane could cross the country.

This aerial tour recreates the first historic commercial flight performed by a DC-3.

Although the original flight had fewer stops, we have included several stops to make the flight experience less grueling in the simulator, but without losing its charm. This is a unique opportunity to savor the thrill of visual flight combined with the irresistible charm of one of the most revolutionary aircraft in aviation history.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

The current layout of the road network provides a visual reference that certainly makes the task of today's pilot easier. Nevertheless, it cannot be said that this adventure is a challenge within everyone's reach. Some experience and confidence with visual flight (or VFR) is needed.

In any case, even less experienced pilots can benefit from this journey and increase their flight experience.

So, welcome aboard a sparkling DC-3 painted in American Airline colors And get ready to fly the legend!

No. of Legs: 10

Total distance: 2100 nm

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Legs

#### Leg 1: KEWR - KFDK

Departure: Newark Liberty Intl (KEWR)

Destination: Frederick Mun (KFDK)

Distance: 177,4 nm



#### POI1-New Jersey



Distance: 10,2 nm  
Distance from: 10,2 nm  
Dist. to: 167,2 nm  
True Course: 204°  
Magnetic Course: 217°

This aerial tour recreates the first historic commercial flight performed by a DC-3 in 1938.

Our journey begins at Newark Liberty Airport.

The takeoff, wrote a Fortune magazine reporter aboard to record the still-novel experience of cross-country air travel, was effortless.

Halfway along the runway, he recounted, the plane left the ground so smoothly that none of the first fliers in the cabin realized what had happened. Until they saw the whole field rushing away behind them and the factory lights winking through the Jersey murk ahead.

Now take command of the plane. Perform the pre-flight checks. When ready, release parking brakes, give full throttle. Good luck!

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

After leaving the airport maintain runway alignment.

Fly over New Jersey to Arthur Miller, the tidal strait in the New York Harbor estuary.

### POI2-Farrington Lake



Distance:	10,3 nm
Distance from:	20,5 nm
Dist. to:	156,8 nm
True Course:	239°
Magnetic Course:	252°

Turn slightly to the right so as to skirt Raritan River.

After passing it, fly in the direction of Farrington Lake.

### POI3-Princeton



Distance:	10,1 nm
Distance from:	30,6 nm
Dist. to:	146,7 nm
True Course:	239°
Magnetic Course:	252°

Stay the course. Skirt Farrington Lake and, then, the Davidson River. Pass Carnegie Lake and you are in Princeton, Mercer County.

The town of Princeton was founded in 1696 and was an important center during the American Revolutionary War.

The famous Battle of Princeton, fought in January 1777, was a turning point in the war, with American forces winning against the British army.

In the 1730s, Princeton was a quiet and picturesque town. Its University, founded in 1746, was already a prestigious academic institution and contributed significantly to the life of the local community.

### POI4-Trenton



Distance:	10,2 nm
Distance from:	40,8 nm
Dist. to:	136,6 nm
True Course:	211°
Magnetic Course:	223°

In Princeton, follow US Rout 1 to Trenton.

Trenton was an important industrial and political center.

It was known as 'the cement town' because of the presence of numerous factories.

The cement industry was a major source of employment and contributed significantly to the local economy.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI5-Philadelphia



Distance: 21,4 nm  
Distance from: 62,2 nm  
Dist. to: 115,1 nm  
True Course: 226°  
Magnetic Course: 239°

Fly over Van Schiver Lake, then follow the course of the Delaware River to Philadelphia in the state of Pennsylvania.

Like much of the country, Philadelphia was deeply affected by the Great Depression of the 1930s. The city's economy contracted sharply, with many businesses closing and unemployment rising.

Despite the economic crisis, the city undertook major urban redevelopment efforts. The local government sought to stimulate the economy through the implementation of public works. Thus, infrastructure development projects were implemented, such as the construction of new roads, bridges and the creation of parks.

The city boasted important cultural institutions such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Philadelphia Theatre Company.

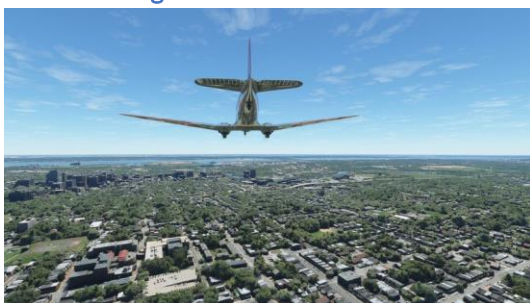
In addition, the city was known for its jazz clubs and dance halls, where local musicians and artists performed.

Sports were an important part of life in Philadelphia in the 1930s. The city was home to professional sports teams such as the Philadelphia Phillies in baseball and the Eagles in American football.

Franklin Field, the University of Pennsylvania's stadium, was an important venue for sporting events.

Philadelphia was also a center of medical innovation and research. The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Jefferson Medical College were leaders in medical research and innovative practices. Important advances were made in surgery and medical care.

### POI6-Wilmington



Distance: 25,6 nm  
Distance from: 87,8 nm  
Dist. to: 89,5 nm  
True Course: 238°  
Magnetic Course: 250°

The Delaware River guides us on this stretch to Wilmington.

In those days, Wilmington, Delaware, was a fast-growing city with a strong industrial and commercial economy. It played an important role as a manufacturing, financial and transportation center in the region.

Interestingly, in the 1930s Wilmington was still marked by racial segregation, which was common in many parts of the United States at that time. Wilmington's African American community faced systemic discrimination and social limitations.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI7-Perry Point

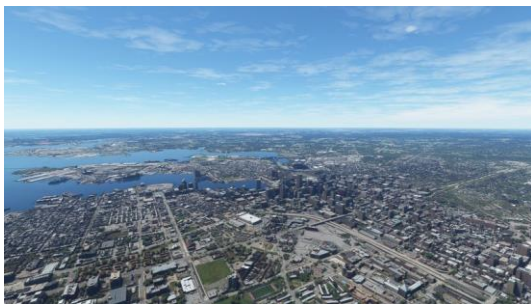


Distance: 25,9 nm  
Distance from: 113,8 nm  
Dist. to: 63,6 nm  
True Course: 244°  
Magnetic Course: 255°

Keep going straight and follow Interstate 95 to Perry Point, an unincorporated community in Cecil County, Maryland.

By the time the flight crossed over Virginia, passengers of that historic flight had already polished off a meal of soup, lamb chops, vegetables, salad, ice cream and coffee.

### POI8-Baltimore



Distance: 24,4 nm  
Distance from: 138,2 nm  
Dist. to: 39,2 nm  
True Course: 242°  
Magnetic Course: 253°

Follow Interstate 95 again and reach Baltimore.

A century ago Baltimore was a city in the midst of economic and cultural development.

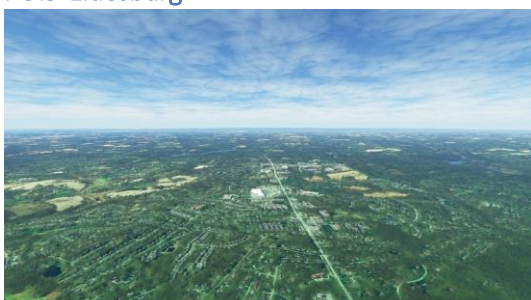
It was a major manufacturing center, with a robust steel, automotive, textile and food industry. Companies such as Bethlehem Steel Corporation and General Motors had manufacturing plants in the city.

The port was one of the busiest on the U.S. East Coast, a true commercial hub for importing and exporting products.

The city's architecture was characterized by a combination of styles, including Beaux-Arts, neo-Gothic, and modernism. Some of the significant buildings from that period include the Basilica of the Assumption, Baltimore City Hall, and the Art Deco structure of the American Radiator Building (now known as The Waverly).

In 1932 the Baltimore Colts football team was founded, later to become one of the NFL's most iconic franchises.

### POI9-Eldesburg



Distance: 17,9 nm  
Distance from: 156,1 nm  
Dist. to: 21,3 nm  
True Course: 276°  
Magnetic Course: 287°

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

Leave Baltimore and maintain a heading of 287 degrees toward Edlesburg, an unincorporated community and census-designated place in Carroll County, Maryland.

It is located near Liberty Reservoir, one of the main drinking water reservoirs for Baltimore City and surrounding areas.

### KFDK-Frederick Mun



Distance:	21,3 nm
Distance from:	177,4 nm
Dist. to:	0,0 nm
True Course:	274°
Magnetic Course:	286°

Maintain course for about 25 miles and prepare to land at Frederick Municipal Airport.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 2: KFDK - KCRW

Departure: Frederick Mun (KFDK)

Destination: Yeager (KCRW)

Distance: 258,5 nm



### POI10-Potomac River



Distance:	16,4 nm
Distance from:	16,4 nm
Dist. to:	242,1 nm
True Course:	250°
Magnetic Course:	261°

After a short stop, take off from runway 23. Turn slightly to the right and follow the bundle of roads that unravel to the southwest.

Pass the small town of Jefferson and continue along Route 340 to the Potomac River.

The Potomac River has great historical and cultural importance. Its valley was one of the first colonized areas in America. It witnessed many crucial events in American history, including military confrontations during the Civil War.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI11-Winchester

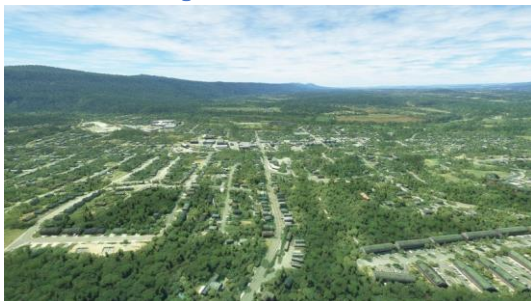


Distance: 23,1 nm  
Distance from: 39,4 nm  
Dist. to: 219,1 nm  
True Course: 249°  
Magnetic Course: 260°

Maintain a heading of 260 degrees. Pass Ranson Charles Town and continue straight toward the Virginia border, heading for Winchester.

Winchester was an agricultural and industrial community. Agriculture was an important source of livelihood, growing wheat, corn, raising livestock and, especially, tobacco.

### POI12-Strasburg



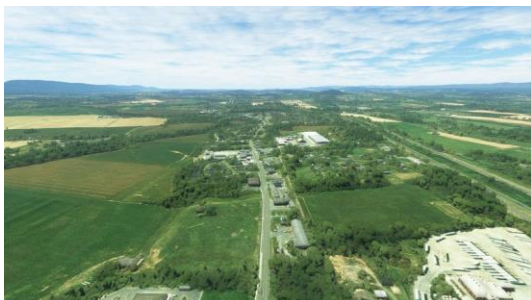
Distance: 14,7 nm  
Distance from: 54,1 nm  
Dist. to: 204,4 nm  
True Course: 218°  
Magnetic Course: 228°

In Winchester, turn left and follow Interstate 81 southwest.

Fly over Stephens City, and when you pass Middletown you are in sight of Strasburg.

Strasburg was an important railroad center because of its location along the Norfolk and Western Railway.

### POI13-Mt Jackson



Distance: 19,1 nm  
Distance from: 73,3 nm  
Dist. to: 185,3 nm  
True Course: 222°  
Magnetic Course: 232°

Interstate 81 makes life easy for us. Follow it all the way to Mt Jackson.

Meanwhile you can admire the sinuous curves of the North Fork Shenandoah River.

At that time, Mt Jackson was already crossed by U.S. Route 11, a main road that connected Shenandoah Valley communities. This road played an important role in the transportation of goods and people through the region.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI14-Harrisonburg



Distance: 21,7 nm  
Distance from: 95,0 nm  
Dist. to: 163,6 nm  
True Course: 210°  
Magnetic Course: 219°

Continue to follow Interstate 81 and Route 11 running parallel to the south.

Pass New Market and fly over Harrisonburg, located in Rockingham County.

### POI15-Staunton



Distance: 19,2 nm  
Distance from: 114,1 nm  
Dist. to: 144,4 nm  
True Course: 209°  
Magnetic Course: 219°

Maintain the route plotted by I-81 along Pleasant Valley and reach Staunton.

Agriculture also played a key role for Staunton, especially tobacco cultivation. In general, this was true for the economy of all of Virginia.

Even today, Virginia is still a famous specialty tobacco.

### POI16-Greenville



Distance: 10,4 nm  
Distance from: 124,5 nm  
Dist. to: 134,0 nm  
True Course: 206°  
Magnetic Course: 215°

A little further south is Greenville, a small rural community located in Augusta County.

### POI17-Lexington



Distance: 18,6 nm  
Distance from: 143,1 nm  
Dist. to: 115,4 nm  
True Course: 225°  
Magnetic Course: 234°

Continue south and reach Lexington, in Rockbridge County.

In the 1930s, Lexington was a regional center for higher education due to the presence of two prestigious institutions: Washington and Lee University and the Virginia Military Institute. The presence of the university gave Lexington an academic and cultural atmosphere.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

Washington and Lee University, founded in 1749, offered a wide range of graduate and research programs. The Virginia Military Institute, founded in 1839, played a significant role in training cadets and military officers.

### POI18-Mallow

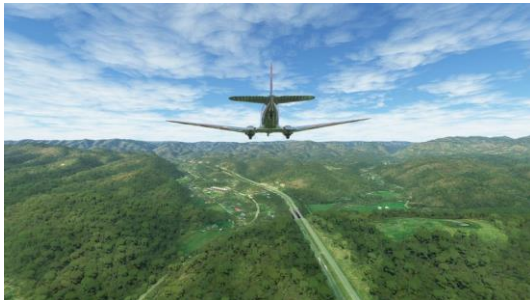


Distance:	26,0 nm
Distance from:	169,2 nm
Dist. to:	89,3 nm
True Course:	268°
Magnetic Course:	277°

At Lexington turn right and maintain a heading of 234 degrees. There are not many specific landmarks and reporting points for this stretch, all the way to

Mallow, in Alleghany County.

### POI19-Callaghan



Distance:	5,0 nm
Distance from:	174,2 nm
Dist. to:	84,3 nm
True Course:	303°
Magnetic Course:	312°

Turn slightly right and now follow Interstate 64.

### POI20-White Sulphur Springs



Distance:	10,5 nm
Distance from:	184,7 nm
Dist. to:	73,8 nm
True Course:	263°
Magnetic Course:	272°

In the 1930s, White Sulphur Springs already was a renowned spa town and a major tourist destination.

The Greenbrier, a luxurious resort located in White Sulphur Springs, was a major landmark in the town and offered guests a wide range of services and activities, including spa baths, massages, and entertainment.

White Sulphur Springs and the Greenbrier also attracted a prestigious clientele, including celebrities, politicians, and businessmen.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI21-Lewisburg



Distance: 6,9 nm  
Distance from: 191,7 nm  
Dist. to: 66,8 nm  
True Course: 276°  
Magnetic Course: 285°

Continue on the I-64.

### POI22-Sam Black Church



Distance: 10,8 nm  
Distance from: 202,4 nm  
Dist. to: 56,1 nm  
True Course: 302°  
Magnetic Course: 310°

Fly over Sam Black Church, in Braxton County.

### POI23-Fayetteville



Distance: 23,9 nm  
Distance from: 226,4 nm  
Dist. to: 32,2 nm  
True Course: 293°  
Magnetic Course: 301°

At Sam Black Church, leave I-64 and stay on course.  
When you pass the New River you are in Fayetteville.

### POI24-Dupont City



Distance: 25,7 nm  
Distance from: 252,1 nm  
Dist. to: 6,4 nm  
True Course: 301°  
Magnetic Course: 308°

Follow the course of the Kanawa River northwestward  
and reach Dupont City.

### KCRW-Yeager



Distance: 6,4 nm  
Distance from: 258,5 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 349°  
Magnetic Course: 357°

Prepare to land at Yeager Airport for a brief technical  
stop.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 3: KCRW - KLEX

Departure: Yeager (KCRW)

Destination: Blue Grass (KLEX)

Distance: 147,1 nm



### POI25-Teays Valley



Distance: 16,2 nm  
Distance from: 16,2 nm  
Dist. to: 130,8 nm  
True Course: 285°  
Magnetic Course: 293°

After takeoff, turn west and return to follow I-64 toward the Teays Valley.

### POI26-Barboursville

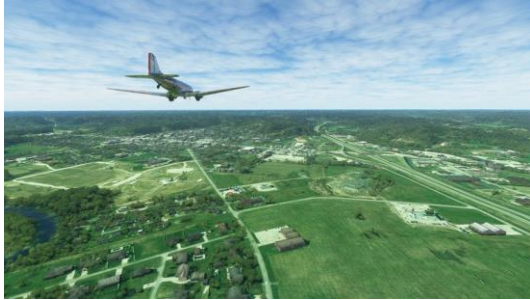


Distance: 17,5 nm  
Distance from: 33,7 nm  
Dist. to: 113,3 nm  
True Course: 263°  
Magnetic Course: 271°

Fly into the valley and reach Barboursville in West Virginia's Cabell County.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI27-Gayson



Distance: 30,6 nm  
Distance from: 64,3 nm  
Dist. to: 82,7 nm  
True Course: 262°  
Magnetic Course: 269°

Continue along I64, which runs along the Ohio River for a while.

Gayson (or Gassaway, as it is also known) was a mining town. During that time, the region was dominated by the coal mining industry, which was the main source of employment and economic prosperity for the local community.

### POI28-Upper Tigart



Distance: 16,1 nm  
Distance from: 80,4 nm  
Dist. to: 66,6 nm  
True Course: 261°  
Magnetic Course: 268°

Go ahead and fly over Upper Tigart, located in Barbour County.

### POI29-Morehead

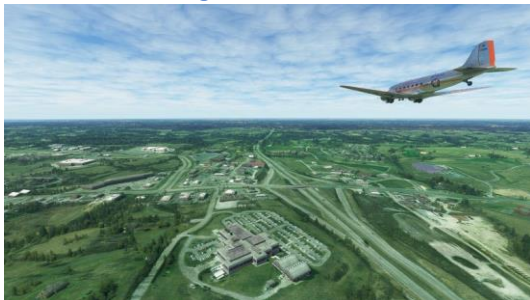


Distance: 10,2 nm  
Distance from: 90,6 nm  
Dist. to: 56,4 nm  
True Course: 228°  
Magnetic Course: 234°

Stay in visual contact with I-64 as we pass Morehead, a small community located in Mingo County.

Morehead, like other small communities in the area, was also primarily a mining center.

### POI30-Mt Sterling



Distance: 25,2 nm  
Distance from: 115,8 nm  
Dist. to: 31,2 nm  
True Course: 255°  
Magnetic Course: 262°

Our next reporting point will be Mt Sterling, located in Montgomery County in the state of Kentucky.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI31-Lexington



Distance: 22,3 nm  
Distance from: 138,1 nm  
Dist. to: 9,0 nm  
True Course: 263°  
Magnetic Course: 270°

Continue along I-64 for another 20 miles and you are in Lexington.

In the 1930s, Lexington was a growing city and an important cultural center.

The economy was based primarily on agriculture, with a strong presence in racehorse breeding.

The city was known as the 'Blugrass Horse' because of its reputation in the production of high-quality racehorses.

### KLEX-Blue Grass



Distance: 9,0 nm  
Distance from: 147,1 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 272°  
Magnetic Course: 278°

Prepare to alnd at Blue Grass Airport, Lexington.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 4: KLEX - KBNA

Departure: Blue Grass (KLEX)

Destination: Nashville Intl (KBNA)

Distance: 164,6 nm



### POI32-Harrodsburg



Distance: 19,4 nm  
Distance from: 19,4 nm  
Dist. to: 145,1 nm  
True Course: 218°  
Magnetic Course: 224°

Take off from runway 22 and fly southwest with a 224-degree heading to Harrodsburg, Mercer County.

Harrodsburg is known for its rich history and is considered the oldest city Kentucky, founded in 1774 by James Harrod.

James Harrod was a pioneer and a soldier in the American Revolutionary War. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1746 and later moved to Virginia. In 1774, he led a group of men to establish a settlement in Kentucky, which they called Harrodsburg.

This was the first permanent settlement in Kentucky. During the Revolutionary War, Harrod served as a captain in the Virginia militia. He was involved in several battles, including the Battle of Point Pleasant, the first battle of the war.

Harrod was also involved in the defense of Kentucky against attacks by Native American tribes allied with the British.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

After the war, Harrod returned to Kentucky and established a distillery. He also served as a judge and a state senator.

He died in 1792 at the age of 46.

### POI33-Perryville



Distance: 9,3 nm  
Distance from: 28,8 nm  
Dist. to: 135,8 nm  
True Course: 207°  
Magnetic Course: 213°

In Harrodsburg, follow Route 68 as it winds southwest.

### POI34-Lebanon



Distance: 15,1 nm  
Distance from: 43,9 nm  
Dist. to: 120,7 nm  
True Course: 253°  
Magnetic Course: 258°

Turn slightly to the right and stay on Route 68.

### POI35-Campbellsville



Distance: 13,6 nm  
Distance from: 57,5 nm  
Dist. to: 107,1 nm  
True Course: 195°  
Magnetic Course: 200°

Keep following R-68 as it turns south and reach Campbellsville.

Campbellsville was home to Campbellsville University, an educational institution founded in 1906.

During the 1930s, the university continued to offer educational opportunities to the local community and adapted to the financial difficulties of the time.

### POI36-Greensburg



Distance: 9,3 nm  
Distance from: 66,8 nm  
Dist. to: 97,8 nm  
True Course: 239°  
Magnetic Course: 244°

Stay on R-68.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI37-Edmonton



Distance: 17,5 nm  
Distance from: 84,2 nm  
Dist. to: 80,4 nm  
True Course: 199°  
Magnetic Course: 204°

Continue south to Edmonton.

### POI38-Funtain Run



Distance: 23,3 nm  
Distance from: 107,5 nm  
Dist. to: 57,0 nm  
True Course: 226°  
Magnetic Course: 231°

Turn slightly to the right and maintain a course of 231 degrees to reach Funtain Run in Monroe County.

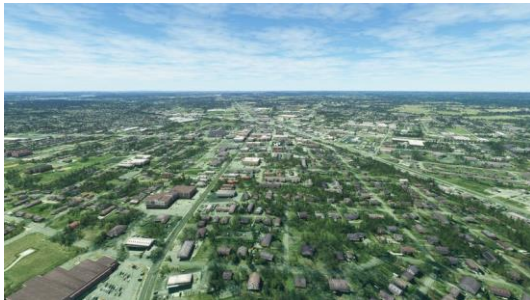
### POI39-Westmoreland



Distance: 16,7 nm  
Distance from: 124,2 nm  
Dist. to: 40,3 nm  
True Course: 233°  
Magnetic Course: 238°

Continue toward the Tennessee border, heading 238 degrees for 16 miles.

### POI40-Gallatin



Distance: 14,1 nm  
Distance from: 138,3 nm  
Dist. to: 26,3 nm  
True Course: 224°  
Magnetic Course: 228°

Continue straight and reach Gallatin, Sumner County.

### POI41-Nashville



Distance: 19,5 nm  
Distance from: 157,8 nm  
Dist. to: 6,8 nm  
True Course: 236°  
Magnetic Course: 240°

In Gallatin, continue along the Cumberland River and fly over downtown Nashville.

Capital of the state of Tennessee, Nashville, has experienced a period of significant development and transformation in various aspects.

During the period of the Great Depression, which began in 1929, Nashville suffered the economic effects of the global economic crisis. However, due to its strategic location as a transportation and trade center in the southern United States, the city began to recover in the 1930s.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

Throughout the decade, Nashville saw a growth in the country music industry, becoming the recording and production center for many up-and-coming country artists and musicians.

WSM, a local radio station, began broadcasting the famous 'Grand Ole Opry' radio program in 1925, and by the 1930s the program gained national popularity, helping to solidify Nashville as the capital of country music.

### KBNA-Nashville Intl



Distance:	6,8 nm
Distance from:	164,6 nm
Dist. to:	0,0 nm
True Course:	136°
Magnetic Course:	140°

Prepare to land at Nashville International Airport.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 5: KBNA - KLIT

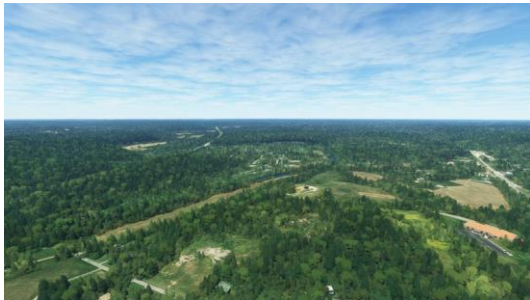
Departure: Nashville Intl (KBNA)

Destination: Adams (KLIT)

Distance: 288,3 nm



### POI42-Pegram



Distance: 18,2 nm  
Distance from: 18,2 nm  
Dist. to: 270,1 nm  
True Course: 264°  
Magnetic Course: 268°

Leave the Nashville airport and fly west to Pegram, Cheatham County.

### POI43-Dickson



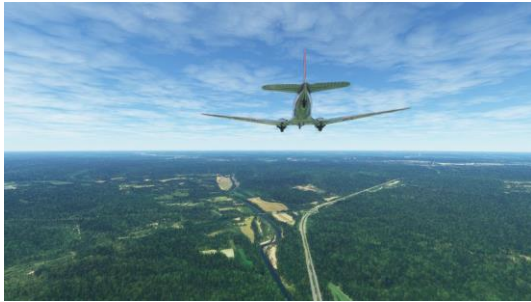
Distance: 14,7 nm  
Distance from: 32,9 nm  
Dist. to: 255,4 nm  
True Course: 253°  
Magnetic Course: 256°

At Pegram, follow Interstate 40 and reach Dickson.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI44-Duck River



Distance: 19,1 nm  
Distance from: 52,0 nm  
Dist. to: 236,3 nm  
True Course: 244°  
Magnetic Course: 248°

Continue to follow I-40.

Duck River is an important waterway located in the state of Tennessee.

It is considered one of the oldest and most biologically diverse rivers in North America.

### POI45-Tennessee River



Distance: 12,1 nm  
Distance from: 64,1 nm  
Dist. to: 224,2 nm  
True Course: 267°  
Magnetic Course: 270°

In the 1930s, the Tennessee River was an important waterway and economic resource for the surrounding region.

During that period, the Tennessee Valley Authority initiated an extensive hydroelectric development program along the Tennessee River and its tributaries.

A series of dams and hydroelectric power plants were built along the river, including the famous Norris Dam, completed in 1936, which became the TVA's first major dam.

The hydropower generated by the dams contributed to industrial development and electrification.

In addition, the dams also provided important opportunities for river navigation and water regulation for irrigation, flood control and navigation purposes.

### POI46-Parkers Crossroad



Distance: 22,5 nm  
Distance from: 86,6 nm  
Dist. to: 201,7 nm  
True Course: 257°  
Magnetic Course: 260°

Continue in the direction of Parkers Crossroad, located in Henderson County.

### POI47-Jackson



Distance: 21,3 nm  
Distance from: 107,9 nm  
Dist. to: 180,4 nm  
True Course: 252°  
Magnetic Course: 254°

Continue along I-40 and reach Jackson.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

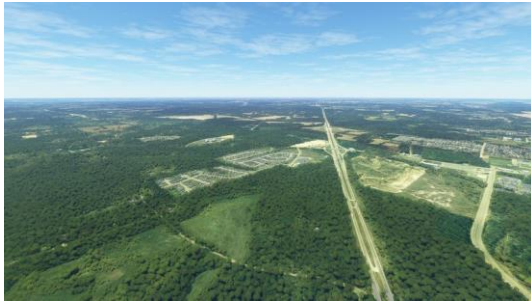
### POI48-Brownsville



Distance: 22,2 nm  
Distance from: 130,1 nm  
Dist. to: 158,2 nm  
True Course: 250°  
Magnetic Course: 253°

Go straight on and skirt the small town of Brownsville in Haywood County.

### POI49-Arlington



Distance: 25,8 nm  
Distance from: 156,0 nm  
Dist. to: 132,4 nm  
True Course: 231°  
Magnetic Course: 233°

Continue straight and skirt the small town of Brownsville in Haywood County.

A hundred years ago, access to paved roads and other infrastructure was limited, as Arlington was still a largely rural community.

### POI50-Memphis



Distance: 15,8 nm  
Distance from: 171,7 nm  
Dist. to: 116,6 nm  
True Course: 252°  
Magnetic Course: 254°

Memphis was not immune to the negative effects of the Great Depression. Nevertheless, Memphis was known as one of the blues capitals, with artists such

as B.B. King, Robert Johnson, and Howlin' Wolf performing in the city's concert halls and clubs.

Remember The Cotton Carnival, an annual event held in Memphis to celebrate the importance of the cotton industry in the region.

Memphis, located on the Mississippi River, was an important docking point for steamboats and boats, and river tourism continued to be an important activity for the city.

### POI51-Mississippi River



Distance: 5,7 nm  
Distance from: 177,4 nm  
Dist. to: 110,9 nm  
True Course: 251°  
Magnetic Course: 253°

Keep going straight and fly over the Mississippi River.

The Mississippi River was a major waterway for transporting goods. River navigation was a vital means of transporting agricultural products, such as cotton, wheat, and corn.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

Steamships and locks allowed boats to pass through, encouraging the development of commercial activity along the river.

The 1930s were marked by a series of severe floods along the Mississippi River. The most devastating was the 1927 flood, which affected large areas of the river delta causing extensive damage and thousands of displaced persons.

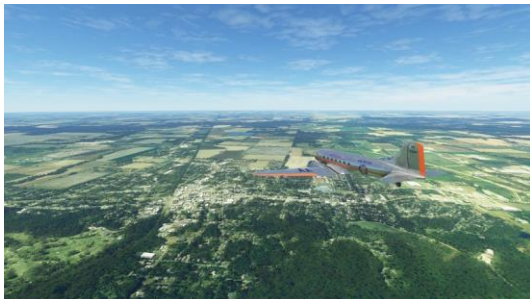
### POI52-Jenette



Distance: 17,6 nm  
Distance from: 195,0 nm  
Dist. to: 93,4 nm  
True Course: 267°  
Magnetic Course: 268°

Resume the course of I-40 and reach the small rural community Jannette.

### POI53-Forrest City



Distance: 19,3 nm  
Distance from: 214,3 nm  
Dist. to: 74,1 nm  
True Course: 247°  
Magnetic Course: 248°

Forrest City is a city located in the state of Arkansas.

The city was surrounded by vast cotton fields, and many farmers depended on the cultivation and sale of this important crop.

### POI54-Weatley



Distance: 17,0 nm  
Distance from: 231,3 nm  
Dist. to: 57,1 nm  
True Course: 253°  
Magnetic Course: 255°

Still following I-40 you reach Weatley, a typical farming village in St. Francis County.

### POI55-Biscoe



Distance: 16,3 nm  
Distance from: 247,5 nm  
Dist. to: 40,8 nm  
True Course: 247°  
Magnetic Course: 248°

Go above and beyond to get past Biscoe.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI56-Lenoke



Distance: 24,1 nm  
Distance from: 271,7 nm  
Dist. to: 16,7 nm  
True Course: 267°  
Magnetic Course: 268°

Continue and reach Lenoke.

### KLIT-Adams



Distance: 16,7 nm  
Distance from: 288,3 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 254°  
Magnetic Course: 255°

Prepare to land at Adams Airport, in Little Rock, the capital of the state of Arkansas.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 6: KLIT - KPWA

Departure: Adams (KLIT)

Destination: Wiley Post (KPWA)

Distance: 282,1 nm



### POI57-Lake Maumelle



Distance: 18,9 nm  
Distance from: 18,9 nm  
Dist. to: 263,2 nm  
True Course: 296°  
Magnetic Course: 296°

After takeoff from Adams Airport, follow the Arkansas River southwest and fly over Lake Maumelle.

### POI58-Arkansas River



Distance: 19,1 nm  
Distance from: 38,0 nm  
Dist. to: 244,1 nm  
True Course: 322°  
Magnetic Course: 322°

Continue following the river to the northwest.

The Arkansas River has been used to irrigate surrounding farmland, supporting the region's agriculture and economy.

The river was instrumental in supporting crop growth, particularly for cotton, corn, and fruit crops.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

Just in 1938 the Murray Lock and Dam was completed, which helped regulate the flow of the river in the section between Little Rock and Pine Bluff.

This type of infrastructure provided benefits both in terms of flood control and the development of renewable energy sources.

### POI59-Russellville



Distance: 19,0 nm  
Distance from: 57,0 nm  
Dist. to: 225,1 nm  
True Course: 295°  
Magnetic Course: 295°

A little further on, where the Arkansas River opens up to look like a lake, is Russellville.

### POI60-Clarksville



Distance: 18,8 nm  
Distance from: 75,8 nm  
Dist. to: 206,3 nm  
True Course: 304°  
Magnetic Course: 303°

Continue straight ahead and reach Clarksville.

### OZARK-Ozark



Distance: 17,6 nm  
Distance from: 93,4 nm  
Dist. to: 188,7 nm  
True Course: 281°  
Magnetic Course: 280°

Continuing in a westerly direction you will reach Ozark. Another small rural town.

### POI61-Fort Smith



Distance: 27,8 nm  
Distance from: 121,3 nm  
Dist. to: 160,8 nm  
True Course: 260°  
Magnetic Course: 260°

Definitely follow the Arkansas River to fly over Fort Smith.

Fort Smith was known for its strategic location along the Arkansas River and the presence of the Fort Smith National Historic Site, a historic site of national importance that preserves the old federal courthouse and prison, witnesses to the history of the American West.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI62-Sequoyah National Wildlife



Distance: 29,1 nm  
Distance from: 150,4 nm  
Dist. to: 131,7 nm  
True Course: 271°  
Magnetic Course: 270°

Continue straight ahead and reach Sequoyah National Wildlife.

The creation of Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge dates back to 1935 as part of the U.S. federal government's wildlife conservation program.

The main goal of creating this reserve was to provide a protected environment for migratory and resident wildlife, particularly waterfowl species that use the area as stopover habitat during their migrations.

The Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge area was developed and managed to provide suitable habitats for waterfowl, such as ducks, geese, herons and other species.

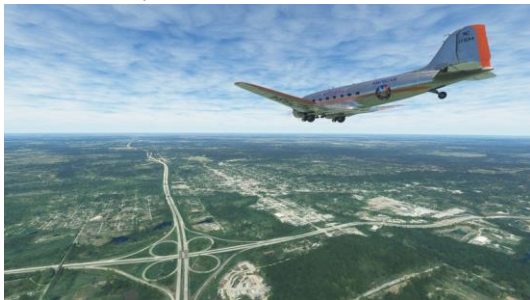
### POI63-Lake Eufaula State Park



Distance: 29,5 nm  
Distance from: 179,9 nm  
Dist. to: 102,2 nm  
True Course: 272°  
Magnetic Course: 270°

Stay the course and fly over Lake Eufaula State Park, Oklahoma State.

### POI64-Henryetta



Distance: 18,5 nm  
Distance from: 198,3 nm  
Dist. to: 83,8 nm  
True Course: 271°  
Magnetic Course: 269°

At this point continue following I-40 and reach Henryetta.

### POI65-Cromwell



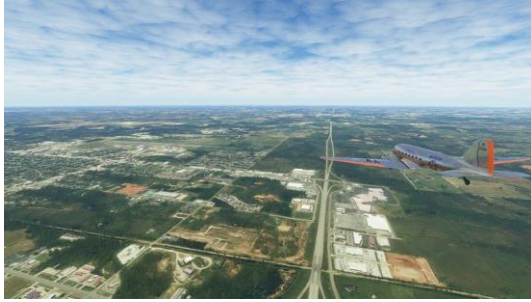
Distance: 21,5 nm  
Distance from: 219,8 nm  
Dist. to: 62,3 nm  
True Course: 264°  
Magnetic Course: 262°

Then continue in the direction of Cromwell.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

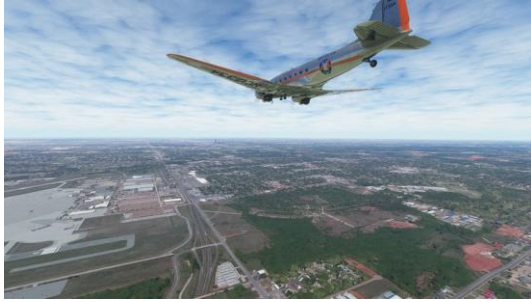
### POI66-Shawnee



Distance: 25,0 nm  
Distance from: 244,8 nm  
Dist. to: 37,3 nm  
True Course: 269°  
Magnetic Course: 266°

Continue to Shawnee.

### POI67-Oklahoma City



Distance: 22,8 nm  
Distance from: 267,6 nm  
Dist. to: 14,5 nm  
True Course: 278°  
Magnetic Course: 275°

After passing Shawnee, you are already in sight of the Oklahoma City suburbs.

Despite the Great Depression, Oklahoma City managed to maintain economic stability because of its diversified industrial and agricultural base.

During that decade, Oklahoma City was hit by the Dust Bowl, a series of dust storms that struck the entire Great Plains region, causing severe damage to agriculture and the health of residents.

### KPWA-Wiley Post



Distance: 14,5 nm  
Distance from: 282,1 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 295°  
Magnetic Course: 291°

Prepare to land at Wiley Post Airport.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 7: KPWA - KAMA

Departure: Wiley Post (KPWA)

Destination: Rick Husband Amarillo Intl (KAMA)

Distance: 202,3 nm



### POI68-El Reno



Distance: 15,1 nm  
Distance from: 15,1 nm  
Dist. to: 187,2 nm  
True Course: 264°  
Magnetic Course: 261°

Leaving the airport, head west and you should find I-40 again that will take us all the way to the next stop in Amarillo.

### POI69-Bridgeport



Distance: 20,5 nm  
Distance from: 35,6 nm  
Dist. to: 166,7 nm  
True Course: 275°  
Magnetic Course: 272°

Bridgeport was a farming community located in Caddo County.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI70-Weatherford



Distance: 16,1 nm  
Distance from: 51,7 nm  
Dist. to: 150,6 nm  
True Course: 269°  
Magnetic Course: 265°

Weatherford is a small rural community in Custer County.

### POI71-Clinton



Distance: 13,1 nm  
Distance from: 64,8 nm  
Dist. to: 137,5 nm  
True Course: 261°  
Magnetic Course: 257°

Continue in the direction of Clinton, located between Custer and Washita counties.

### POI72-Elk City



Distance: 22,4 nm  
Distance from: 87,3 nm  
Dist. to: 115,0 nm  
True Course: 254°  
Magnetic Course: 250°

In the 1930s, Elk City was a booming city due to its strategic location along historic Route 66.

Today, Elk City retains an important historical legacy associated with Route 66, with museums and attractions celebrating its past and its contribution to the myth of the American highway.

The city is a place of interest for history buffs and Route 66 travelers who wish to immerse themselves in the atmosphere of the 1930s and experience an authentic blast from the past.

### ERICK-Erick



Distance: 24,7 nm  
Distance from: 112,0 nm  
Dist. to: 90,3 nm  
True Course: 246°  
Magnetic Course: 241°

After about 25 miles you are at Erick.

### POI73-Shamrok



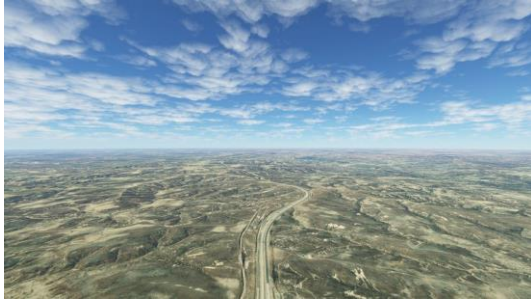
Distance: 18,7 nm  
Distance from: 130,7 nm  
Dist. to: 71,6 nm  
True Course: 272°  
Magnetic Course: 267°

Continue in the direction of Shamrok.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

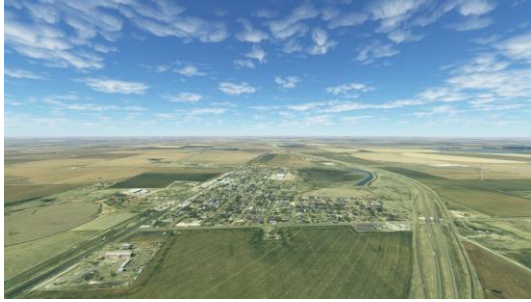
### POI74-Alanreed



Distance: 24,3 nm  
Distance from: 155,0 nm  
Dist. to: 47,3 nm  
True Course: 268°  
Magnetic Course: 263°

Stay on course and overfly Alanreed.

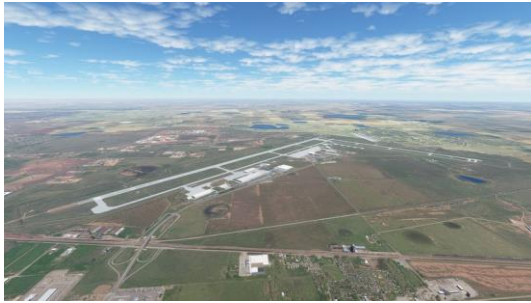
### GROOM-Groom



Distance: 17,6 nm  
Distance from: 172,6 nm  
Dist. to: 29,7 nm  
True Course: 267°  
Magnetic Course: 262°

Continue towards Groom.

### KAMA-Rick Husband Amarillo Intl



Distance: 29,7 nm  
Distance from: 202,3 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 272°  
Magnetic Course: 266°

Continue straight for about 30 miles and land at Amarillo Airport .

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 8: KAMA - KABQ

Departure: Rick Husband Amarillo Intl (KAMA)

Destination: Albuquerque Intl Sunport (KABQ)

Distance: 246,6 nm



### POI75-Amarillo



Distance: 6,9 nm  
Distance from: 6,9 nm  
Dist. to: 239,7 nm  
True Course: 262°  
Magnetic Course: 256°

Take off from runway 22. The occasion is propitious for a low-level overflight over the city of Amarillo.

In the 1930s, Amarillo, located in the state of Texas, was an agricultural and commercial center in the Great Plains area.

In particular, the production of livestock and grain was one of the main economic activities of the region.

Amarillo was surrounded by vast ranches and farms, and the city became an important gathering and trading point for livestock, which was transported by train for sale in local and national markets.

The oil industry played a significant role in Amarillo's economic growth in the 1930s.

The discovery of oil fields in the nearby Panhandle region led to the influx of oil companies and increased mining activities.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI76-Wildorado



Distance: 17,9 nm  
Distance from: 24,7 nm  
Dist. to: 221,9 nm  
True Course: 271°  
Magnetic Course: 266°

Luckily, I-40 will also take us this entire way to Albuquerque.

### POI77-Adrian



Distance: 22,2 nm  
Distance from: 46,9 nm  
Dist. to: 199,7 nm  
True Course: 280°  
Magnetic Course: 273°

Adrian is a small farming community located in County Oldham.

### POI78-Glenrio



Distance: 19,7 nm  
Distance from: 66,6 nm  
Dist. to: 180,1 nm  
True Course: 254°  
Magnetic Course: 248°

Glenrio, formerly known as Rock Island, is an unincorporated community located between Quay County in New Mexico and Deaf Smith County in

Texas along historic Route 66.

### POI79-San Jon



Distance: 14,9 nm  
Distance from: 81,5 nm  
Dist. to: 165,1 nm  
True Course: 254°  
Magnetic Course: 247°

San Jon is a village in Quay County.

### POI80-Tucumcari



Distance: 19,5 nm  
Distance from: 101,0 nm  
Dist. to: 145,7 nm  
True Course: 278°  
Magnetic Course: 271°

Tucumcari became a renowned stopping point for travelers along Route 66.

The town was famous for its motels, restaurants, gas stations, and stores that offered travelers everything they needed during their journey along the road.

This led to lively economic activity and a bustling atmosphere on the streets of Tucumcari.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI81-Newkirk



Distance: 27,0 nm  
Distance from: 128,0 nm  
Dist. to: 118,7 nm  
True Course: 259°  
Magnetic Course: 253°

Continue towards Newkirk.

### POI82-Santa Rosa



Distance: 21,9 nm  
Distance from: 149,9 nm  
Dist. to: 96,7 nm  
True Course: 250°  
Magnetic Course: 242°

Santa Rosa is a city and capital of Guadalupe County.

### POI83-Cilens Corner



Distance: 48,4 nm  
Distance from: 198,3 nm  
Dist. to: 48,3 nm  
True Course: 275°  
Magnetic Course: 268°

Now cross a large barren area and reach Cilens Corner.

### POI84-Moriarty



Distance: 18,8 nm  
Distance from: 217,1 nm  
Dist. to: 29,5 nm  
True Course: 270°  
Magnetic Course: 262°

After about 18 miles you are at Moriarty.

### ZUZAX-Zuzax



Distance: 15,7 nm  
Distance from: 232,9 nm  
Dist. to: 13,8 nm  
True Course: 293°  
Magnetic Course: 284°

Continue to Zuzax.

### POI85-Albuquerque



Distance: 8,9 nm  
Distance from: 241,7 nm  
Dist. to: 4,9 nm  
True Course: 256°  
Magnetic Course: 248°

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

In the 1930s, Albuquerque played an important role as a commercial and transportation center in the southwestern region of the United States.

The railroad industry was a key sector. In fact, the city was a major railroad hub along the main route of the Santa Fe Railroad, connecting the eastern and western United States.

The presence of the railroads led to increased commercial activity, freight transportation and infrastructure expansion.

The mining industry also played a significant role.

The surrounding region was rich in oil, coal, natural gas and valuable minerals.

Albuquerque also became an important aviation center.

The city had a civil airport, known as Albuquerque Municipal Airport, which was established in 1928.

### KABQ-Albuquerque Intl Sunport



Distance:	4,9 nm
Distance from:	246,6 nm
Dist. to:	0,0 nm
True Course:	248°
Magnetic Course:	240°

Prepare to land at Alberwueque International Airport.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 9: KABQ - T16

Departure: Albuquerque Intl Sunport (KABQ)

Destination: Reserve (T16)

Distance: 155,2 nm



### POI86-Los Lunas



Distance: 15,6 nm  
Distance from: 15,6 nm  
Dist. to: 139,6 nm  
True Course: 209°  
Magnetic Course: 201°

Take off from runway 21. Follow the runway orientation, then the Rio Grande River southward.

Los Lunas is a capital village of Valencia County in the state of New Mexico.

### POI87-Abeytas



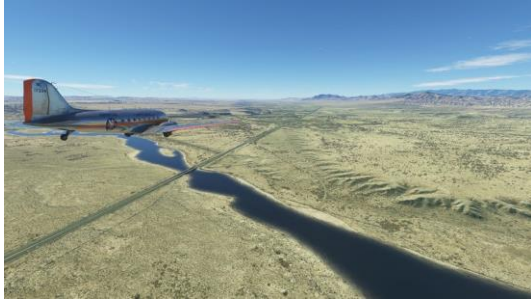
Distance: 20,7 nm  
Distance from: 36,3 nm  
Dist. to: 118,9 nm  
True Course: 187°  
Magnetic Course: 179°

Fly south between the Rio Grande and I-25, in the direction of Abeytas, Socorro County.



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI88-Sevilleta Natrional Wildlife Refuge



Distance: 11,3 nm  
Distance from: 47,6 nm  
Dist. to: 107,6 nm  
True Course: 203°  
Magnetic Course: 195°

Continue following I-25 and pass Sevilleta Natrional Wildlife Refuge.

In the 1930s, many parts of New Mexico were still relatively remote and undeveloped.

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1973 and thus did not exist at that time.

The natural areas of New Mexico, including the areas that would become the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, were characterized by vast and wild landscapes.

Desert regions, canyons, and mountains were inhabited by a variety of unique flora and fauna, including cacti and animals such as coyotes, deer, and migratory birds.

### POI89-Magdalena



Distance: 20,0 nm  
Distance from: 67,7 nm  
Dist. to: 87,6 nm  
True Course: 238°  
Magnetic Course: 230°

At Abeytas, turn right to heading 230 and hold course for about 20 miles, to Magdalena.

### DATIL-Datil



Distance: 30,0 nm  
Distance from: 97,7 nm  
Dist. to: 57,5 nm  
True Course: 273°  
Magnetic Course: 265°

Follow now the Highway 60 until Datil, a ensus-designated place in Catron County.

### POI90-Old Horse Spring



Distance: 23,2 nm  
Distance from: 120,9 nm  
Dist. to: 34,3 nm  
True Course: 236°  
Magnetic Course: 227°

Turn left and follow Route 12 to Old Horse Spring in Lincoln County.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI91-Apache Creek



Distance: 20,2 nm  
Distance from: 141,1 nm  
Dist. to: 14,1 nm  
True Course: 254°  
Magnetic Course: 246°

Continue to follow Route 12 and fly over Apache Creek.

### T16-Reserve



Distance: 14,1 nm  
Distance from: 155,2 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 234°  
Magnetic Course: 225°

Follow R-12 to reach Reserve Airport and land.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### Leg 10: T16 - KGEU

Departure: Reserve (T16)

Destination: Glendale Muni (KGEU)

Distance: 177,9 nm



### POI92-Apache National Forest



Distance: 12,5 nm  
Distance from: 12,5 nm  
Dist. to: 165,4 nm  
True Course: 267°  
Magnetic Course: 258°

Take off from runway 25 and fly west to pass Apache National Forest.

During that time, the Apache National Forest was part of the vast system of national forests managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Its main focus was timber extraction, wildlife conservation, forest fire prevention, and promotion of recreation.

The timber industry played an important role in the region's economy. The most abundant tree in the forest was ponderosa pine, which was cut for lumber and used for construction and furniture production



## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### POI93-Fort Apache



Distance: 44,9 nm  
Distance from: 57,4 nm  
Dist. to: 120,5 nm  
True Course: 279°  
Magnetic Course: 269°

Set a 270-degree course for about 40 miles and reach Fort Apache.

Fort Apache was an important military base and administrative center for the Apache Indian Reservation nearby.

It was originally established in 1870 as a military base to control Native American activities in the region and protect settler settlements along the Western Frontier.

During the 1930s, the military presence at Fort Apache was still significant.

The base housed several military units, including cavalry, artillery and infantry.

Soldiers deployed at Fort Apache were responsible for border patrols, surveillance and maintaining order in the region.

The military presence played an important role in ensuring the safety of local people and maintaining peace between the Apache and settlers.

Apaches who resided on the reservation often interacted with military personnel at Fort Apache on administrative and support issues.

### POI94-Theodore Roosevelt Lake



Distance: 54,4 nm  
Distance from: 111,8 nm  
Dist. to: 66,1 nm  
True Course: 262°  
Magnetic Course: 253°

At Fort Apache turn slightly left and keep 253 degrees for about 50 miles toward Theodore Roosevelt Lake in the state of Arizona.

The lake was created with the construction of Theodore Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River in 1911, and is the largest man-made lake in Arizona.

### POI95-Acacia Recreation Site



Distance: 19,6 nm  
Distance from: 131,4 nm  
Dist. to: 46,5 nm  
True Course: 246°  
Magnetic Course: 236°

Follow Salt River to Acacia Recreation Site.

## Douglas DC-3 First Commercial Flight

### MESA-Mesa



Distance: 19,2 nm  
Distance from: 150,6 nm  
Dist. to: 27,3 nm  
True Course: 245°  
Magnetic Course: 235°

Continue straight ahead and reach Mesa.

Mesa was located in a region rich in natural resources, including coal, copper, and silver. The extraction of these mineral resources contributed to the local economy.

### POI96-Phoenix



Distance: 15,9 nm  
Distance from: 166,4 nm  
Dist. to: 11,4 nm  
True Course: 284°  
Magnetic Course: 274°

Past Mesa, you are on the outskirts of Phoenix.

Phoenix was transforming into a major urban center. The 1930s saw the construction of new commercial, residential and government buildings, which helped define the appearance of today's downtown Phoenix. The city began to develop vertically, with the addition of skyscrapers and modernization of infrastructure.

### KGEU-Glendale Muni



Distance: 11,4 nm  
Distance from: 177,9 nm  
Dist. to: 0,0 nm  
True Course: 290°  
Magnetic Course: 280°

Prepare to land at Glendale Airport, where this fascinating journey into the past finds its final resting place.