

Houston Hobby Airport (HOU) Airport Information

Houston William P. Hobby Airport HOU is Houston's secondary commercial aviation facility, handling the area's domestic flights (the other being Houston Intercontinental, which handles international flights), and is owned and operated by the City of Houston. Hobby Airport also serves the metropolitan areas of Baytown, Freeport, Galena Park, Galveston and Pasadena. It is close to major shopping centers, the world-famous Texas Medical Center, the Astrodome, NASA, and the residential areas of the community. Due to its convenient location, Hobby Airport is also accessible to a large portion of the population of the Houston-Clear Lake-Galveston area.

The Airport is located about seven miles from the business district of the City of Houston, Texas, and is situated on Telephone Road 35, between Sam Houston Tollway and I-610 which intersects with Interstate Hwy. 45 bordering the airport and integrates into the sophisticated road network that serves the entire Gulf Coast's industrial complex..

With four runways and an estimated 9 million passengers a year, William P. Hobby Airport is largest hub airport for Southwest Airlines, and it is served by a number of major, regional and low-cost airlines offering direct flights with connections around the world.

Houston Hobby Airport's passenger terminal is the Y-shaped Central Concourse Terminal has a baggage claim level and a ticketing level. Its gate areas are divided into a left concourse with gates 20-32 and a right concourse with gates 40-51. Amenities & services are available in both concourses.

HISTORY



In 1937, the city of Houston purchased an already existing private airport at this site, and renamed it Houston Municipal Airport. To honor a major benefactor and user of the airport, it was renamed Howard Hughes Airport 1938. The name was soon changed back to HMA, after the federal government informed Houston that no federal funds would be granted to any facility named after a living person.

During the 1940's major improvements were made to the runways and buildings at the airport. It stayed busy during World War II, and by the end of that decade there were four airlines providing regular service from HMA.

The 50's were a time of major change all across the USA, and airport construction boomed. National and international flights became commonplace, and infrastructure was needed to support the growing popularity of air travel. The current main terminal was constructed, old runways improved, and new runways added, to facilitate landing the new jet aircraft. A number of private hangers and aviation facilities were also constructed, mostly along the west side of the airport.