**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA CONTACT**

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**Travelers can now Visit the Pensacola Bay Area**

**With Added Ease This Spring**

*Pensacola International Airport boasts new record and receives increase in frequency for flight schedule*

Pensacola, Fla. – Travelers from across the country can now visit the Pensacola Bay Area with added ease this Spring thanks to the Pensacola International Airport and Visit Pensacola.

Following the announcement of a record-breaking year, the airport disclosed several non-stop, seasonal and daily service flights.

Southwest Airlines announced its summer schedule which included direct routes to Austin, St. Louis, Denver and Dallas Love. Additionally, it will provide Saturday nonstop service to Chicago Midway beginning March 10, with increased flights in June as well as Saturday nonstop service to Kansas City beginning April 14, with an added Sunday service in June.

As part of its nationwide expansion, Frontier Airlines will begin non-stop, low-cost service to Denver beginning April 22, and to Chicago beginning May 12.

American Airlines will add a second flight to the Ronald Regan National Airport in Washington, D.C. beginning April 3, and United Airlines will resume daily service to Chicago beginning March 8.

“These announcements come as a direct result of our areas success,” President of Visit Pensacola Steve Hayes said. “These flights will bring new opportunities to potential visitors and we couldn’t be more excited.”

Travelers to the area can expect beautiful weather and award-winning events upon their arrival. The Spring and Summer months boast warm temperatures and endless sunshine perfect for camping along the sugar white sands of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, fishing, biking, and water activities such as stand up paddle boarding and snorkeling.

A big announcement for Pensacola is that for the first time in history, visitors will have the chance to enjoy Tall Ships America April 12-16. Seven tall masted ships will make their way to the Pensacola Bay Area as part of the Gulf Coast Challenge 2018. The festival will be complete with vessel tours, sail-away ventures, educational workshops and fun-filled festival activities.

On the wilder side, the annual Interstate Mullet Toss will take place at the Flora-Bama April 27-29. Participants will pitch a dead mullet over the Florida – Alabama state line to see who gets the farthest at one of the largest parties on the Gulf Coast. If that doesn’t get your taste buds jumping, the following weekend some of the most delectable seafood fares will be at the Pensacola Crawfish Festival May 4-6. Pensacola is known for their festivals and with new flights, travelers can easily visit the area and enjoy.

For more information on Spring and Summer travel to the Pensacola Bay Area and for a complete list of events, visit [www.visitpensacola.com](http://www.visitpensacola.com).

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**About Visit Pensacola**

Visit Pensacola is the destination management organization for Escambia County which includes Pensacola, Pensacola Beach and Perdido Key. With over 450 years of rich history and 18 miles of sugar-white sand beaches bordered by the emerald-green waters of the Gulf of Mexico, visitors from all over the world are lured to our pristine shores every year. Visit Pensacola supports the community vision of tourism by serving as the central body responsible for building tourism as an economic engine for our community through leadership, connection, collaboration and communication.