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# Gerald R. Ford International Airport

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 5, 2014

Contact: Tara Hernandez, Marketing & Communications Manager  
[thernandez@grr.org](mailto:thernandez@grr.org) or 616-233-6053

## American Airlines Launches New Service at Gerald R. Ford International Airport

**Grand Rapids, MI** – American Airlines, together with US Airways, will bring new air service to the Gerald R. Ford International Airport. American announced today it will launch service in Grand Rapids (GRR) beginning Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2014. The airline will offer nonstop flights to Charlotte/Douglas International Airport (CLT) and Philadelphia International Airport (PHL). The service will be operated as US Airways Express with CRJ-200s, 50-seat capacity aircraft.

“We are thrilled to have American, in its merger with US Airways, expand in our air service market in Grand Rapids, and we look forward to offering more choices for our travelers,” said GFIA Executive Director Brian Ryks.

“This new nonstop service to Charlotte and Philadelphia will not only connect West Michigan to two large, thriving cities, but it will also provide convenient connections to many other domestic and international destinations.”

Charlotte/Douglas International Airport offers nearly 650 daily departures to more than 140 destinations on American Airlines. Philadelphia International Airport has nearly 450 daily departures connecting to more than 120 destinations.

In addition to these two new routes, American also offers service to GRR from its hubs in Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) and Chicago O’Hare (ORD). In February 2013, American Airlines and US Airways announced plans to merge, creating the largest airline in the world.

“As we work to fully integrate our two networks, we remain committed to expanding our domestic service to better serve our customers in small-and medium-sized markets,” said Chuck Schubert, vice president of network and schedule planning. “By building our network presence in Grand Rapids, we are



5500 44<sup>TH</sup> STREET SE • GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49512-4055  
• PH. 616-233-6000 • FAX 616-233-6025 • [www.FlyFord.org](http://www.FlyFord.org)



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# Gerald R. Ford International Airport

providing more people in more places access to our global network covering more than 330 destinations in more than 50 countries around the world.”

Flights from Grand Rapids to Charlotte will operate twice daily departing GRR at 6:45 a.m. and 11:55 a.m. Flights from Grand Rapids to Philadelphia will also run twice daily, departing GRR at 7:00 a.m. and 3:40 p.m.

Travelers can book now for these flights operated as US Airways Express, which begin in Grand Rapids on Sept. 3, 2014.

## About GFIA

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA) is the second busiest airport in Michigan. The airport served over 2.23 million passengers in 2013 and over 6,000 travelers pass through GFIA each day. The Gerald R. Ford International Airport offers non-stop service to 23 major market destinations with 120 daily non-stop flights. The Gerald R. Ford International Airport is managed and operated by the Kent County Department of Aeronautics. GFIA generates over \$500 million annually in economic activity throughout West Michigan and employs over 1,500 people. For more information on GFIA visit: [www.flyford.org](http://www.flyford.org) or follow the airport on Twitter: @FlyGRFord.

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