

NEWS RELEASE

5202 Aviation Drive, N.W.
Roanoke, Virginia 24012
(540) 362-1999
FAX (540) 563-4838
www.roanokeairport.com

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CONTACT: Amanda S. DeHaven
540-362-1999



Roanoke Regional Airport Offers Tips to Make Traveling Easier this Thanksgiving

ROANOKE, VA, November 19, 2013 - Thanksgiving marks the busiest time of the year at the Roanoke Regional Airport. Passenger traffic is expected to be the greatest on Friday, November 22 (a heavy travel day for students traveling home for the holiday) and on Sunday, December 1 (when most people return home from holiday travel). In 2012, Roanoke Regional Airport serviced over 11,000 passengers during this busy travel period, and expects that number to be as high, or higher, this year.

In fact, many flights during the week beginning November 23rd are oversold. Keeping that in mind, the Roanoke Regional Airport Commission offers the following travel tips to its passengers on how to get to their destination, experiencing as little inconvenience as possible.

Most important, travelers should **ALLOW EXTRA TIME AND BE PATIENT**. Roanoke Regional Airport and its airlines make every effort to ensure passenger travel is safe, secure, and efficient. It is recommended that anyone traveling over the holiday arrive at the airport two hours in advance of his or her flight's departure time. Some flights are over booked (particularly on November 22 and 23) and arriving early to the airport will improve your chances of getting on your way on time.

A valid government issued ID is required to check-in for any flight.

Travelers should be prepared to show their ID as well as boarding passes (and the names should match) at each stage of the boarding process.

Passengers are encouraged to proceed to TSA as soon as possible and allow extra time for the security screening process as lines are expected to be longer this year. Wearing easy to remove shoes, emptying your pockets and packing coats/jackets which must be removed during screening can speed up the process.

Anyone traveling with a medical condition that requires them to carry a needle and/or syringe on their person or in their carry-on baggage must also have the medication that requires such injection on their person. The medication must be packaged with a pharmaceutical label or professionally printed label identifying the medication. Passengers requiring special arrangements or assistance should make such arrangements with their airline ahead of time.

Control all carry-on bags. Passengers should never leave anything unattended as it could be subjected to tampering or be confiscated.

For more information about travel during the busy holiday season, visit www.roanokeairport.com, www.tsa.gov, or any airline website.

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