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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Southwest Airlines to add new seasonal service to Austin and Orlando**

August 26, 2015

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – Southwest Airlines announced today that beginning Dec. 5, it will be adding new seasonal nonstop flights between Memphis and Austin, along with an additional seasonal flight to Orlando.

New routes include nonstop service from Memphis International Airport (MEM) to:

1. Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) – Starting Dec. 5, 2015 (Sat.-Sun. only moving to Saturday only starting Jan. 9)
2. Orlando International Airport (MCO) – Flight joins daily schedule starting Dec. 5, 2015

The new flights join another recent service expansion for Southwest, as the carrier added two nonstop daily flights between Memphis and the airline's home airport, Dallas Love Field (DAL) in April.

Origination and destination (O&D) passenger traffic at MEM has been climbing over the past several months, and the additional flights are aimed at handling the expected demand during the peak holiday travel period.

"We are proud Southwest has chosen Memphis for this new seasonal opportunity," said Pace Cooper, chairman of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority Board of Commissioners. "We are confident that these new routes will be embraced by travelers in the Mid-South as they get introduced this winter."

"The expansion of Southwest services to Austin and Orlando is evidence of the growing strength of the Memphis market and the confidence the carrier has in the city," said Memphis Mayor A C Wharton. "These additional flights and the new flights announced by Southwest, Allegiant, OneJet and American in recent months is testament to the viability of both leisure and business travel to and from Memphis."

"We knew Southwest Airlines would be a great asset to our community. And, it's fulfilled its promise to enhance air service to meet passenger demands," said Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. "Today's announcement is more good news for Memphis International Airport."

"We are excited to add our seventh Southwest Airlines non-stop destination to Austin," said Scott Brockman, president and CEO of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority. "We value the wonderful partnership we have with Southwest Airlines"

Passengers can visit [www.southwest.com](http://www.southwest.com) to book flights and check schedules.

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