

# WEEKEND WAVE

8-14-15



## Friday Economic Roundup

### Three more destinations out of Punta Gorda airport

Compiled from Allegiant Travel Company Press Release

Allegiant Air announced Tuesday three new stops for passengers using Punta Gorda Airport.

The targeted cities: Grand Rapids, Mich., Akron/Canton, Ohio and Kansas City, Mo. The announcement was part of 17 new routes revealed nationally by Allegiant.

"We're very excited to announce these new routes and the expansion of our ultra-low-cost air service to two new cities," said Jude Bricker, Allegiant Travel Company senior vice president of planning.

"These new nonstop flights will launch just in time for travelers to jet away to a sunny destination during the winter months. Allegiant is dedicated to offering travelers the lowest possible fares and the best deals on vacation packages."

New routes announced include the following Florida airports:

Year-round nonstop service to Punta Gorda Airport (PGD) from:

- \* Grand Rapids, Mich. - Begins Nov. 4, and will operate twice weekly.
- \* Akron/Canton, Ohio - Begins Nov. 6, and will operate twice weekly.
- \* Kansas City, Mo. - Begins Nov. 13, and will operate twice weekly.

Also announced Tuesday was year-round nonstop service to St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) from:

- \* Appleton, Wis. - Begins Nov. 6, twice weekly.
- \* Scranton, Pa.- Begins Nov. 6, twice weekly.
- \* Kansas City, Mo. - Begins Nov. 12, twice weekly.

Also, year-round nonstop service to Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport (FLL) from:

- \* San Antonio - Begins Nov. 5, twice weekly
- And, to Orlando Sanford International Airport (SFB) from:
  - \* Rochester, N.Y. - Begins Nov. 13, twice weekly.
  - \* Omaha, Neb. - Begins Nov. 5, twice weekly.
  - \* Pittsburgh - Begins Nov. 5, twice weekly.
  - \* San Antonio - Begins Nov. 5, twice weekly.
  - \* Kansas City, Mo. - Begins Nov. 13, twice weekly.

The company says it has grown from one aircraft and one route just over a decade ago, to providing convenient, affordable service in over 100 communities nationwide.

## BLUE CHIP COMMUNITY BUSINESS AWARD NOMINATIONS

The annual Blue Chip Award program recognizes successful, small business owners who have overcome adversity to achieve success. Charlotte, Collier and Lee County for-profit businesses that have been in operation for at least three years under the same ownership and employ five to 400 people are eligible for the Blue Chip Award. Applications must be submitted no later than Sept. 7, 2015 and independent judges will select the winning entry.

The 21st annual Southwest Florida Blue Chip Community Business Award, coordinated and sponsored by BB&T-Oswald Trippe and Company and BB&T Bank will take place Thursday, Nov. 5 at Harborside Event Center, located at 1375 Monroe Street in Fort Myers. For information on attending the Blue Chip Award program or for submitting an application, please contact Stacey Mercado at (239) 433-7189 or [SMercado@BBandT.com](mailto:SMercado@BBandT.com).

## Enterprise Zone

To encourage economic development in economically distressed areas of the state, in 1982 Florida launched an Enterprise Zone program by providing incentives to induce private investment. At the 2015 legislative session, extension of the Enterprise Zone program was not authorized, and the program will sunset on Dec. 31, 2015.

Incentives include business machinery and equipment sales tax refund, building materials sales tax refund, job tax credit, and property tax credit for Florida corporations. To qualify for the incentives, a business or home must be within the Enterprise Zone, and further specific eligibility criteria must be met. The Charlotte County Enterprise Zone was approved by the state in 2013. The zone includes portions of the Punta Gorda Interstate Airport Park, Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), Parkside CRA, and Punta Gorda, totaling approximately 16 square miles.

Visit [http://FloridasInnovationCoast.com/index.php/site\\_selection/enterprise\\_zone](http://FloridasInnovationCoast.com/index.php/site_selection/enterprise_zone) for more information.

Applications must be approved by the Florida Department of Revenue before the sunset date.

For more information contact Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager with the Charlotte County Economic Development Department, at 941-764-4943 or [Debrah.Forester@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:Debrah.Forester@CharlotteCountyFL.gov).

## FLORIDA ECONOMIC NEWS

- Florida online job demand climbs in July ([Florida Trend](#))
- St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport reports record breaking traffic in July ([Tampa Bay Times](#))
- Back in the cape ([Business Observer](#))
- 150 million web browsers view Florida shoreline ([Miami Today](#))
- Inc. 5000: Meet the 139 South Florida companies that made the list ([South Florida](#))

### [Business Journal](#))

- Florida is second to California in Tesla Model S sales ([Clean Technica](#))
- Port Tampa Bay unveils \$1.7 billion plan to develop 45 acres in Channel District ([Tampa Bay Times](#))
- Tampa Bay has 73 of the 5,000 fastest growing companies in the U.S. ([Tampa Bay Times](#))
- South Florida had second-most construction starts in first half of 2015 ([South Florida Business Journal](#))

## US ECONOMIC NEWS

- Gas, oil prices continue their steady retreat ([Orlando Sentinel](#))
- U.S. small business confidence bounces back in July ([Reuters](#))
- U.S. economy adds 215K jobs and moves Fed closer to rate hike ([Tampa Bay Times](#))
- U.S. hiring hits six-month high ([Sarasota Herald Tribune](#))
- Business stockpiles jump in June ([AP](#))
- Oil price hits lowest level in 6½ years ([Reuters](#))

## ENTREPRENEUR NEWS

- 10 ways to create a killer LinkedIn profile ([Miami Herald](#))
- New recognition for young entrepreneurs in Florida ([Florida Times-Union](#))
- How to get control of your email ([Jerry Osteryoung](#))
- Top workers buying businesses from retiring boomer bosses ([AP](#))

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