



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor



CHICAGO AIRPORT SYSTEM
Department of Aviation
Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner



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News Release

TASTE OF CHICAGO ARRIVES AT O'HARE AND MIDWAY

City's premier summer festival extends to Chicago's airports with "Taste" portions available at concessions and live music in the terminals

CHICAGO – The Department of Aviation is joining in on the spectacular food, live music and fun that have made the City's downtown festival famous with the first ever "Chicago Airport System Taste of Chicago" at O'Hare and Midway International Airports. Beginning today through Sunday, July 5, restaurants at both airports will offer specially-priced "Taste" portions to travelers so they can sample some of Chicago's famous fare. And just like the downtown festival, Chicago's airports will offer more than just delicious food by featuring live music in the terminals on July 2 and 5.

"The 'Chicago Airport System Taste of Chicago' aligns with Mayor Richard M. Daley's vision to introduce Chicago's rich, diverse and expansive culture to visitors from around the world," said Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "This program offers connecting passengers an opportunity to experience a delicious taste of Chicago at O'Hare and Midway."

The "Chicago Airport System Taste of Chicago" is co-sponsored by HMSHost and Midway Airport Concessions. Travelers can identify participating concessions at both airports by looking for Taste of Chicago signs posted at each concession. Prices for "Taste" portions vary at each participating location.

The Department of Aviation's "Music in the Air" program, featuring live music in the terminals, will be held at both airports on Thursday, July 2 and Sunday, July 5 from 2 to 5 p.m. Performances at O'Hare will take place beyond the security checkpoints in each domestic terminal and in the Arrivals Level of International Terminal 5. Live music at Midway will take place in the Baggage Claim area.

While sampling the City's fabulous food, O'Hare and Midway travelers can also groove to the sounds of the Aviation Department's award-winning "Terminal Tunes" overhead music program. "Terminal Tunes" exclusively features artists who are either from the Chicago area or record for locally-based record labels. For more information about Terminal Tunes visit www.FlyChicago.com/terminaltunes.

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In addition to experiencing Chicago through sight, sound and taste, passengers can discover the City through touch by visiting the “Explore Chicago” exhibits at both airports. The exhibits feature 50 HP Touchsmart PC kiosks and two high-tech lounges which invite passengers to take a virtual tour of Chicago using the City’s tourism Web site, www.ExploreChicago.org. Using the site, visitors can search for information on attractions and events happening around the City; learn about Chicago’s exciting and diverse neighborhoods and festivals; view images of the City’s most iconic locations in phenomenal detail; and even discover some local Chicagoans’ favorite places in the “Insider Profiles” section. The Department of Aviation and Chicago Office of Tourism partnered with Hewlett-Packard (HP), Gigapan and NASA to create this installation.

For more information about the Chicago Airport System’s art and exhibits program visit www.FlyChicago.com.

The downtown Taste of Chicago festival runs from June 26 through July 5. For more information call the Mayor’s Office of Special Events at 312-744-3315, TTY 312-744-2964 or visit www.tasteofchicago.us.

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The Chicago Airport System is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O’Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago’s airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Airport System.

The O’Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O’Hare’s airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit www.oharemodernization.org to learn more about the OMP.

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Editor’s Note – Two photos are attached

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Caption: Beginning Friday, June 26 through Sunday, July 5, restaurants at O'Hare and Midway International Airports will offer specially-priced "Taste" portions to travelers so they can sample some of Chicago's famous fare. Signs are posted at each participating concession.

Photos - Department of Aviation