# **Essential Air Service Proposal**



Harrison, AR

DOT-OST-1997-2935

**August 31, 2020** 



# **About Boutique Air**

## **Our Story**

Headquartered in San Francisco, California, Boutique Air has been in operation since 2007. We began by flying fire surveillance missions for the U.S. Forestry Service and Bureau of Land Management. We evolved to provide air charter services across the west coast with our fleet of Pilatus and Cessna aircraft. As a charter operator we have received certifications from both industry-leading safety organizations, ARG/US and Wyvern. Boutique Air employs pilots that are highly experienced and hold the most advanced FAA ratings - a key reason for our continued perfect safety record.

In July of 2012, Boutique Air applied for commuter operating authority from the Department of Transportation. We quickly passed tests on financial fitness and management competency, receiving authority for scheduled service in January of 2014. We began flying scheduled service between Los Angeles and Las Vegas in January of 2014.

We have worked to develop effective distribution channels. We have connections in place with all of the major Global Distribution Systems (GDSs), which travel agents use to access the market. You will find us on Worldspan and Galileo (Travelport), Sabre, and Amadeus. In addition, we are on the major Online Travel Agencies (OTAs), including Expedia, Travelocity, Priceline, Orbitz, CheapTickets, and CheapOAir.

#### **EAS Contracts**

On April 22, 2014 Boutique Air received its first EAS contract when the DOT selected the airline to provide service between Clovis, New Mexico and Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas. Since then, we have continued our track record of success and now serve 16 different EAS communities and operate out of 30 different airports. Continuing on this path of successful growth, Boutique Air's most recent community began service to Ironwood, Michigan to Chicago (ORD) and Minneapolis/St. Paul (MSP) in May of 2020.



## What People Are Saying About Boutique Air

Boutique Air PC-12, one of the **best turboprop aircraft** on the market!... Give them a try!!

-Tarek A. via Yelp.com

We also feel that the PC-12 aircraft bid by Boutique Air presents the safest and most comfortable option for the traveling public.

-Hon. Mayor David Lansford in Recommendation Letter City of Clovis, NM

Flew with Boutique from LA to Vegas and back and must say I was extremely surprised. From the ease of check-in, To the flight itself, **the whole process was great**. Price was competitive with any other airline out there. I plan on flying boutique for all my Vegas outings, and may even look into renting the whole plane for a group trip. Thanks Boutique!

-Kevin J. via Yelp.com

We find that Boutique Air is fit, willing and able to operate as a commuter air carrier, and capable of providing reliable Essential Air Service...

-Susan L. Kurland in Clovis EAS Award Asst. Sec. for Aviation and International Affairs US DOT

Right now Boutique Air is a very cool secret.

-Examiner.com

Flew with Boutique Air from LA to Las Vegas round trip and it was a great experience. Good service, on time departures, and a hassle free and nice way to travel in general. A really nice pilot and copilot as well.

-Patrick S. via Yelp.com

Smooth flights and personable staff are part of the experience...

-Clovis News Journal



# **Route Map**





#### Aircraft:

Boutique Air currently operates a modern fleet of Pilatus PC-12 and Beechcraft King Air 350 aircraft. All flights are flown by Captains with over 1,200 hours of flight experience and an instrument rating. While we are certified to fly single pilot we opt to fly with a two pilot crew. Boutique Air ensures pilots provide a level of customer service beyond that of normal commercial airlines.

- 8 Passenger Executive Configuration or 9 Passenger Commuter Configuration
- Pressurized Cabin
- Power Outlets
- Enclosed Lavatory





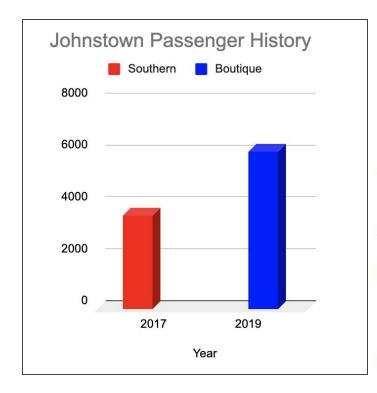






## <u>Historical Passenger Traffic Performance</u>

Boutique Air has established a proven track record in resuscitating air service in EAS communities which have been devastated by poor execution from prior carriers as illustrated by the passenger traffic graphs below.



## **Total Passengers:**

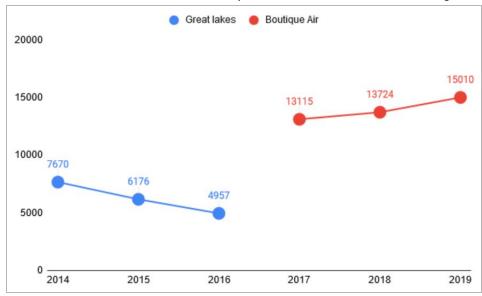
Southern 2017: 3,569

Boutique 2019: 6,056

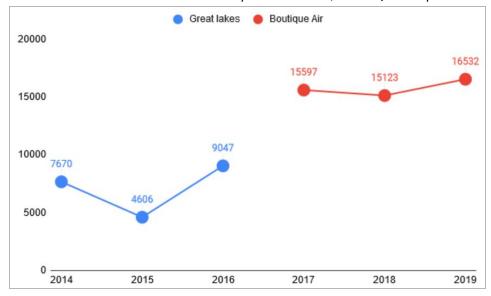
69.6% Increase



#### Historical Traffic: Great Lakes vs. Boutique Air - Alamosa, CO - All Time High for Enplanements 2019



## Historical Traffic: Great Lakes vs. Boutique Air - Cortez, CO - 8,000 Enplanements Reached





# **Proposal**

#### Overview

Our proposals would be flown in eight or nine-seat, modern, pressurized Pilatus PC-12 aircraft. We have proposed two or four year options for the community to consider.

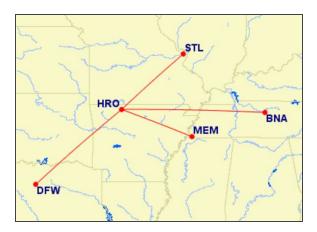
In order to increase brand recognition in the communities, Boutique Air will spend at least \$20,000 per year in each market if it is selected for advertising & marketing to help ensure that air service for the community is a success. We will utilize a combination of radio, print, billboard, TV, and internet advertising.

#### **Note on Service Start Date**

Boutique Air will begin service 60-90 days after the DOT issues the order selecting Boutique Air as the EAS carrier. Boutique air will start service as early as operationally possible.

### Note on Multiple Community Selection Subsidy Reduction

Boutique Air has submitted EAS proposals for Hot Springs and El Dorado. Should Boutique Air be awarded both communities the requested subsidy can be decreased by \$50,000 each per community per year for a total annual reduction of \$150,000 per year.





## **Pilot Career Pathway Program**

In January 2020 Boutique Air was proud to be a partner in the United Airlines Aviate Program. The AVIATE Program provides a unique opportunity for aviators to accelerate their journey from Commercial Pilot at Boutique Air to a job in the cockpit of United Airlines.

# **United Airlines Interline and Codeshare Agreement**

Boutique Air launched an interline and codeshare agreement with United Airlines on May 1, 2017. Customers now have flow-through ticketing and baggage capabilities for those flights that connect with United Airlines.

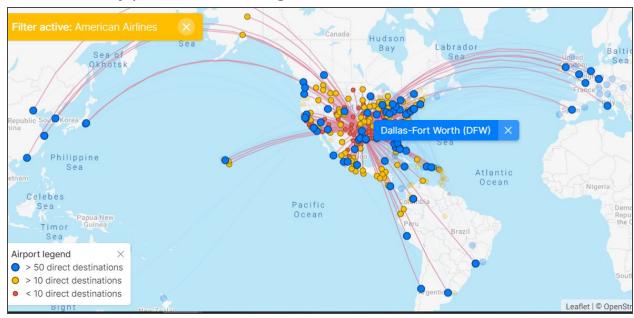
## **American Airlines Interline Agreement**

In addition Boutique Air has an interline agreement with American Airlines as of August 7, 2019. Passengers will be able to book through United.com and AA.com and connect with any of United or American flights.

Below are screenshots of our current service as reflected on United and American Airlines websites both domestic and international.



## All connectivity possibilities through DFW

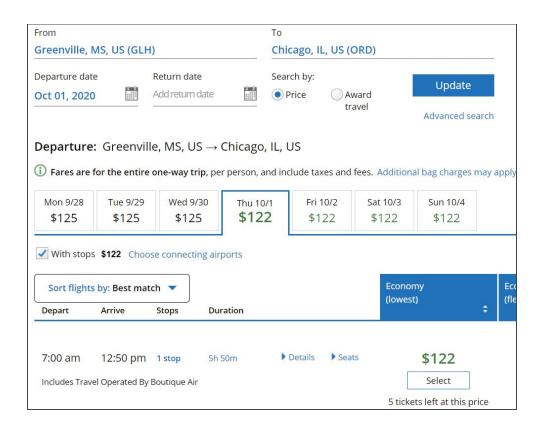


## AA.com: Victoria, TX to Las Vegas, NV





## United.com: Greenville, MS to Chicago, IL and San Francisco, CA through DFW







# **Community Input**

Shortly after the bids are complete, Boutique Air will schedule meetings with airport and/or city officials. This will allow us to answer any questions and provide additional information.

While we can't promise we will be able to implement everyone's suggestions, we welcome feedback from the community, as well as anyone who may have an interest in the proposed flights. What we can promise is that we will listen to your feedback, and give it the attention and consideration it deserves.

With respect and appreciation,

Shawn Simpson CEO



Option 1: 18 Nonstop RTs DFW Operations	PC-12
Scheduled Flights	1,872
Completed Flights (98%)	1,835
Scheduled Block Hours	3,089
Scheduled Seats	14,976
Scheduled ASMs	4,792,320
Revenue	
Passengers	16,773
Average Fare	\$49
Fare Revenue	\$821,883
Total Revenue	\$821,883
Expenses	
Fuel	\$766,517
Ownership	\$665,000
Maintenance	\$786,409
Crew	\$569,303
Airport Rent	\$139,172
Landing Fees	\$59,822
Staff	\$182,000
Insurance	\$20,000
Marketing	\$20,000
Other Indirect Costs	\$36,000
Corporate	\$91,687
Total Costs	\$3,335,910
Profit Element	\$166,795
Margin	5.0%
Total Annual Subsidy Year 1	\$2,680,822
Total Annual Subsidy Year 2	\$2,734,438



Option 2: 18 Nonstop RTs (12 DFW / 6 BNA) Operations	<u>PC-12</u>
Scheduled Flights	1,872
Completed Flights (98%)	1,835
Scheduled Block Hours	2,777
Scheduled Seats	14,976
Scheduled ASMs	4,178,304
Revenue	
Passengers	12,730
Average Fare	\$49
Fare Revenue	\$623,750
Total Revenue	\$623,750
Expenses	
Fuel	\$689,091
Ownership	\$665,000
Maintenance	\$873,917
Crew	\$511,798
Airport Rent	\$113,635
Landing Fees	\$50,975
Staff	\$182,000
Insurance	\$20,000
Marketing	\$20,000
Other Indirect Costs	\$36,000
Corporate	\$96,884
Total Costs	\$3,259,299
Profit Element	\$162,965
Margin	5.0%
Total Annual Subsidy Year 1	\$2,798,514
Total Annual Subsidy Year 2	\$2,854,484



Option 3: 18 Nonstop RTs (12 DFW / 6 STL)	
Operations	PC-12
Scheduled Flights	1,872
Completed Flights (98%)	1,835
Scheduled Block Hours	2,701
Scheduled Seats	14,976
Scheduled ASMs	4,193,280
Revenue	
Passengers	11,981
Average Fare	\$49
Fare Revenue	\$587,059
Total Revenue	\$587,059
Expenses	
Fuel	\$670,330
Ownership	\$665,000
Maintenance	\$841,295
Crew	\$497,864
Airport Rent	\$179,213
Landing Fees	\$55,975
Staff	\$189,970
Insurance	\$20,000
Marketing	\$20,000
Other Indirect Costs	\$36,000
Corporate	\$84,323
Total Costs	\$3,259,970
Profit Element	\$162,998
Margin	5.0%
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Total Annual Subsidy Year 1	\$2,835,909
Total Annual Subsidy Year 2	\$2,892,627
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Option 4: 18 Nonstop RTs (12 DFW / 6 MEM)	DC 42
Operations Operations	<u><b>PC-12</b></u> 1,872
Scheduled Flights	1,835
Completed Flights (98%)	2,701
Scheduled Block Hours	14,976
Scheduled Seats	
Scheduled ASMs	4,193,280
Revenue	44.004
Passengers	11,981
Average Fare	\$49
Fare Revenue	\$587,059
Total Revenue	\$587,059
Expenses	
Fuel	\$663,913
Ownership	\$665,000
Maintenance	\$841,295
Crew	\$497,864
Airport Rent	\$167,250
Landing Fees	\$55,975
Staff	\$167,785
Insurance	\$20,000
Marketing	\$20,000
Other Indirect Costs	\$36,000
Corporate	\$84,323
Total Costs	\$3,219,405
Profit Element	\$160,970
Margin	5.0%
Total Annual Subsidy Year 1	\$2,793,316
Total Annual Subsidy Year 2	\$2,849,182
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