

Pittsburgh
Point™

AIRPORT AREA FOCUS
THE AIRPORT CORRIDOR



The Pittsburgh Airport Corridor

From the dawn of recorded history, the region that we know today as the Pittsburgh Airport Corridor has been a transportation center as well as a frontier and a gateway to wide open spaces.

When European troops and settlers arrived in the region in the 18th Century, they found fertile, hilly woodlands and expansive forests thick with trees ranked along the banks of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers, extending as far as the eye could see and rich with wildlife.

What they also found were a great number of canoes—state of the art transportation—beached along the river banks. The region had been settled for thousands of years by several Native American tribes—the Shawnee, Seneca, Delaware, and Iroquois.

Through the 1800s, today's Pittsburgh Airport Corridor which extends from the Ft. Pitt Tunnel west to the airport, was thinly settled farmland. Towns sprang up along the Ohio River to move goods in and out of the region. Inland, communities clustered around general stores and churches, which served the agricultural community.

It wasn't until booming industrial growth along the three rivers took off in the 19th Century that tug boats, barges, and railroads appeared on the scene, creating heavy transportation capabilities. These transportation modes gave the region tremendous commercial advantage as well as an influx of new settlers who established towns in the hills and valleys west of the city.

The advent of air travel during the first half of the 20th Century was accommodated by a series of smaller airports in Pittsburgh's South Hills suburbs, culminating in the Allegheny County Airport, 1931 to 1952. However, the lack of major highways and the general character of air travel in those days soon drove air transportation out of that densely populated part of the region.

Allegheny County officials looked to the open spaces of the West Hills, where the noise and pollution would inconven-

ience a relatively small number of farmers, livestock, and townspeople. Greater Pittsburgh Airport (later to be known as Greater Pittsburgh International Airport) opened in Moon Township in 1952. Six years in the building, the \$30 million facility was one of the nation's finest.

The new airport was an enormous economic engine, growing in step with the burgeoning air travel industry. In its first full year of operation, Greater Pitt landed 1.4 million passengers. By 1986, it was landing 1.4 million per month.

The airport generated tens of thousands of jobs, which in turn triggered housing commerce, small business, schools, churches, and all the amenities of suburban life.

As a consequence, the "Pittsburgh Airport Corridor" was born. Just as the Ohio, Monongahela, and Allegheny rivers spawned communities during the 18th Century, the new Parkway West—linking Downtown Pittsburgh and the airport—powered land transportation and residential and commercial development along the 16-mile, high-speed ribbon of concrete.

By the 1980s, it was obvious that the 30-year old Greater Pitt had reached its capacity and was obsolete in the face of the unprecedented and unexpected boom in air travel. The terminal, once described by tax-wary residents as "The Taj Mahal," was land-locked by runways and operation facilities. It could not be adequately expanded to meet current—much less, future—air travel needs.

A new site in Findlay Township, just west of the former terminal building was selected to house the airport's two new terminals. **Pittsburgh International Airport** opened for business in October 1992 after an expenditure of nearly \$1 billion. "PIT," as it is known in the industry, is configured to accommodate 35 million passengers per year.

Significantly, PIT was designed to avoid the gridlock that resulted from growth at the old facility. Pittsburgh International is

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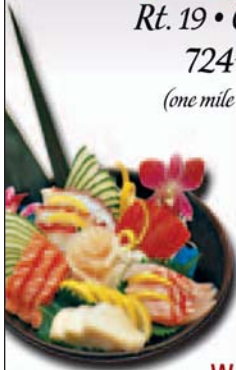
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Airport

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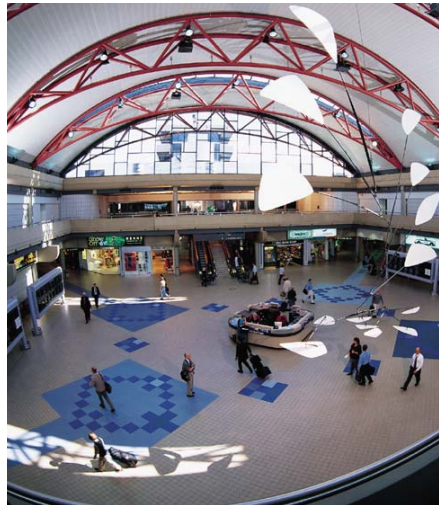
modular and readily expandable to service 50 million passengers annually, if demand requires it.

When people fly into Pittsburgh, they overwhelmingly agree it's one of the best places to land.

There are many reasons Pittsburgh's airport is rated the very best medium-sized airport by *Airport Revenue News*, *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine, and *J.D. Power and Associates* year after year — visible, tangible reasons line the walkways of the airport. People like the Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT) because it's a good place to wait out a layover, shop, eat, and relax.

With some of the best national brands in the retail and concessions industry, it's easy to see why.

Pittsburgh visitors have been raving about AIRMALL at Pittsburgh International Airport for years. In 2004, travel editor **Peter**



AIRMALL at Pittsburgh International Airport

Greenberg of *Inside Edition* rated it the “Best Airport for a Layover.” Pittsburgh airport travelers have exciting shopping and dining opportunities located just outside their arrival or departure gates.

Pittsburgh airport *is* traveler friendly.

A new Holiday Inn Express & Suites for the Airport Area

Holiday Inn Express & Suites opened its doors for business early last year at 5311 Campbells Run Road in Robinson Township “We’re all very excited to have the Holiday Inn Express brand to this region,” said **Dean Zipf**, manager of New Hotel Openings for Intercontinental Hotels Group.

“This new Holiday Inn Express & Suites is a welcome addition to the Airport Area. The Stay Smart concept and the Holiday Inn Express brand will help us grow and prosper,” said **Dave Hutchison**, the property general manager. The owner of the property is Kossman Development, Three Marquis Partners, LLC.

The hotel features the “Express Start Breakfast”—famous for its signature Cinnamon Rolls—a state of the art fitness center, business center, complimentary wireless and wired high speed internet access, outdoor pool, indoor whirlpool, and over 1,500 square feet of flexible

meeting space.

Conveniently located off the Parkway West between Pittsburgh International Airport and Downtown Pittsburgh, the hotel is near several restaurants, shopping centers, The Mall at Robinson, and the Post Gazette Pavilion at Star Lake.

The 148 spacious rooms and amenities rival what can be found at higher-priced hotels with features such as complimentary breakfast, in-room coffee maker, iron & ironing board, and a weekday morning newspaper. Holiday Inn Express is known for its excellent accommodations, consistency, and it's “Stay Smart” catch phrase.

For reservations and information, visit www.hiex.com or call toll-free **1-800-315-2621**.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites is part of the Atlanta, GA based Intercontinental Hotels Group.

PITTSBURGH AIRPORT



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Flight Travel Time & Miles to and from Pittsburgh

	Approximate Flight Time	Approximate Miles from Pittsburgh
Atlanta	1.5 hours	687
Boston	1.5 hours	574
Cleveland	40 minutes	129
Chicago	1.33 hours	452
Denver	2.75 hours	1411
Houston	2.66 hours	1313
Los Angeles	4.5 hours	2426
Miami	2.5 hours	1200
Minneapolis	2.13 hours	857
New York	1.25 hours	368
Phoenix	4 hours	2084
Philadelphia	1.08 hours	288
San Francisco	6 hours	2578
Seattle	5.5 hours	2465
St. Louis	1.43 hours	588
Washington, D.C.	56 minutes	221