Deschutes Brews Up Excitement at PDX

How do you create the feeling of an open-air restaurant at an airport, especially when it’s post-security? The new PDX location of the award-winning Deschutes Brewery, an Oregon craft beer pioneer, manages to do just that on Concourse D.

The design of the space capitalizes on natural light and echoes the energy of the airfield and the original Deschutes Brewery location in downtown Bend, Oregon. Passengers can experience a true public house/beer hall feel with open ceilings and barrel stave walls, while a 35’ craft beer bar, state-of-the-art digital fireplace and a custom stainless-steel wall depicting the brewing process add visual interest to the space.

Deschutes’ defining beers – Black Butte Porter, Mirror Pond Pale Ale and Fresh Squeezed IPA – are on draft alongside seasonal, small batch beers…and keep your eyes peeled for a future “PDXclusive” brew found only at the airport. If you stop by for a meal to take advantage of your 10 percent employee discount, you’ll find an expansive menu accented by items that use beer as a key ingredient.

Family and employee owned since 1988, Bend’s original brewpub is the cornerstone of Central Oregon’s legacy craft brew culture, and we’re proud to continue our airport’s ongoing focus on local and regional concepts.

Clocktower Plaza Events Continue

Speaking of raising a pint, did you spot last month’s pop-up beer garden in Clocktower Plaza? The Brewfest was part of our summer series of events honoring the 30th birthday of the PDX Clocktower, and the party will continue in July with a special Blue Star Donuts’ event on Friday, July 13 at noon. Stop by and celebrate…and don’t forget to pick up a collectible pin!
Get Ready for a Complex Commute This Summer

Heads up: There’s a ton of roadwork happening on state highways this summer, including I-205, I-84 and I-5. At times, the paving project on I-205 could impact access to Northeast Airport Way, and in late July and mid-August, the I-84 and I-5 interchange will go down to just one lane.

Depending on your daily route, be sure to check for weekly construction updates at i5PDXConstruction.org, i84Construction.org and i205Construction.org/glennjacksontojohnsoncreek.

New Website Makes It Easy to Dine, Park, Fly

Travelers looking for up-to-the-minute flight information, currently available parking or where to find a bite to eat before boarding can do it all at our just-launched website: flypdx.com.

The new site offers a much improved user experience and responsive layout, whether you’re using a mobile device, tablet or desktop. Going forward, we’ll be watching how travelers use the site so that we can continue to improve their experience with new features and better organization. Take a moment to explore and share your thoughts using the feedback form at the bottom of the page.

PDX Again Honored for Excellence in Airport Concessions

Airports Council International - North America recently announced the recipients of the 2018 awards for Excellence in Airport Concessions, culled from more than 140 nominations from airports of all sizes throughout the U.S. and Canada.

PDX once again took home honors, with the Hollywood Theatre microcinema taking first place in the category of Best Innovative Consumer Experience Concept or Practice; the pilot Green Plate program taking second place for Best Green Concessions Concept or Practice; and Blue Star Donuts taking third place for Best New Food and Beverage (Quick-Service Concept). Congratulations to the teams that help PDX continue to innovate!

PDXPeople: Huntleigh’s Doris Jean Frazier Shares Her Story of Vanport

Airport Operations Specialist Brian Burk crafted a compelling short film as part of this year’s Vanport Mosaic Festival. Doris Jean Frazier, who works for Huntleigh at the D/E Checkpoint, shares her personal reflections on Oregon’s second largest city, which was wiped out by a flood in 1948. Watch now at bit.ly/VanportFrazier.

Did You Know?

TriMet’s largest-ever expansion of bus service is officially a “go” with the approval of their Fiscal Year 2019 budget. Among the improvements? A new all-night bus line serving PDX! Most of the changes will roll out this September with the remainder coming in March 2019 – get the details at trimet.org/budget.

Alaska Airlines now offers year-round service between Bozeman, Montana and PDX. In addition, a second daily flight has been added to the route through Aug. 25 to give travelers more options. These additions will add about 50 percent more seats between the two cities on an annual basis.

Pay Phone Removal Marks End of Era

By the time you read this, there will be no more pay phones in the PDX terminal. If you spot someone in need of a phone, let them know that they can make a local or toll-free call by picking up a courtesy phone and asking the operator to connect them to an outside line. All long-distance calls will require a pre-paid phone card, which can be purchased at any news/gift store. A TTY telephone is available at the north information booth adjacent to carousel eight in baggage claim.

Customer Compliments

“Love this airport! The airport is really easy to get around, and they have great places to eat and keep you busy. I recently had an elderly aunt fly out, and they took great care of her special needs. For as many people as are moving through PDX, they are doing something right!”

Misha P., Vancouver, Wash.

Get Ready for a Complex Commute This Summer

Heads up: There’s a ton of roadwork happening on state highways this summer, including I-205, I-84 and I-5. At times, the paving project on I-205 could impact access to Northeast Airport Way, and in late July and mid-August, the I-84 and I-5 interchange will go down to just one lane.

Subscribe to PDXaminer online

Go to bit.ly/pdxaminer, fill out the simple registration form, selecting “News for Airport Employees” from the list of topics, and hit submit.
Southwest Airlines’ award-winning Adopt-A-Pilot program recently came in for a landing at PDX, bringing along 110 fifth grade students from Minter Bridge Elementary School. Students had a behind-the-scenes tour from pilot Chris Barber, along with help from Caryn Langen, Rick Nylander, Tami Meis, Mike Gregory and Brad Hawkins. They also had the chance to meet our PDX firefighters, police officers and their K9s, and learn more about our wildlife and airport operations programs. Thanks to all who helped expose these kids to some incredible career fields!

PDX Implements Technology to Assist Visually Impaired Travelers

Aira, a technology service to help blind and low-vision travelers more easily navigate the airport, was recently added at PDX. This new addition helps decrease stress and enhance the travel experience, and allows users more independence and ability to more freely navigate the airport.

A visually impaired traveler wishing assistance would have special camera-equipped glasses—or could simply use their smart phone—to call an operator. The operator can “see” what the visually impaired person cannot by using the camera in the glasses or the cell phone’s camera. The operator is then able to assist with wayfinding or other tasks as requested.

Once someone has the Aira app on their phone, they can tap the app and connect to a trained Aira agent for free at PDX. The Aira app can be downloaded from the Apple or Android apps stores for free. Users with the Aira app will receive an automatic notification upon arrival at PDX, advising that the airport offers the service.

Oregon Movies Now on Display

If you haven’t made it over to the South Tunnel recently, you’re missing out on more than 160 uninterrupted feet of colorful mural art, iconic movie posters and Oregon landscapes. Created by the Oregon Made Creative Foundation, the mural celebrates the unique and varied locations Oregon has to offer, the film projects that have called Oregon home for more than 100 years, and the professional production communities that work together to make Oregon film-friendly.