

## **Double Eagle II Airport**

Double Eagle II is a general aviation airport located ten miles northwest of Albuquerque on top of the city's west mesa. The airport handles most types of general aviation including corporate training, military, air ambulance, charter, and private flights. Events and airshows take place at the airport such as the Double Eagle Aviation Academy, held in June of each year, and the Land of Enchantment Fly-In, held in September of every year. Both are sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association local Chapter 179. Bode Aviation is the fixed base operator at Double Eagle II where approximately 240 aircraft are based. The New Mexico State Police also bases its helicopter at Double Eagle II.

Double Eagle II was opened in 1983 as a new general aviation reliever airport to replace several other smaller airports located around Albuquerque. The airport was named after the Double Eagle II hot air balloon piloted by three local balloonists who were the first to cross the Atlantic Ocean in 1978. The airport initially had one runway and a second runway was opened by 1988. A control tower was constructed in the mid-2000's where the cab was reused from the former control tower at the Albuquerque Sunport. A massive expansion began in 2024 where a new passenger terminal will be constructed along with nearly 100 additional hangers.

Beginning on the weekend of June 11 and 12, 1988, an annual airshow sponsored by Southwest Airlines was conducted at the Double Eagle II Airport. The airshow became a very popular event drawing a crowd estimated at 34,000 people. The airshow was run for several years, ending in the early 1990's.

Double Eagle II is owned by the City of Albuquerque and managed under the Albuquerque International Sunport.



Aerial view of Double Eagle II Airport.



Bode Aero terminal and the Double Eagle II control tower on the left.



Land of Enchantment Fly-In at Double Eagle II Airport in 2023.



Airshow during the Land of Enchantment Fly-In at Double Eagle II Airport in 2022.



Cavalcade of Wings Exhibit at the Land of Enchantment Fly-In, 2023



1929 Ford 5-AT Tri-motor in the markings of TAT, Transcontinental Air Transport, at the Double Eagle II Airport in 2017.



1929 Ford 4-AT Tri-motor in the markings of Eastern Air Transport at the Double Eagle II Airport in 2024.



Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation Douglas C-54 (DC-4) at Double Eagle II Airport in 2022.