



# An American Tour: 50



## New York City's *LaGuardia Airport*

LaGuardia Airport is an airport located in the northern part of Queens County on Long Island in NYC. It was originally named Glenn H. Curtiss Airport, after aviation pioneer Glenn Hammond Curtiss, then renamed North Beach Airport, and later named for Fiorello H. La Guardia, a former mayor of New York when the airport was built. In 1960, it was voted the "greatest airport in the world" by the worldwide aviation community. The airport is operated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

LaGuardia is the smallest of the area's three primary commercial airports, the other two of which are John F. Kennedy International Airport and Newark Liberty International Airport. LaGuardia is popular because of its central location and proximity to Manhattan. Today, there are no scheduled widebody flights, though occasionally Delta Air Lines rotates a Boeing 767-300 in for one of its Atlanta flights. The airport serves as a focus city for American Airlines, American Eagle and US Airways Express.

LaGuardia is the busiest airport in the US without any non-stop service to and from Europe. In 2008, the airport handled 23.1 million passengers; JFK handled 47.8 million and Newark handled slightly more than 35.4 million, making for a total of approximately 106 million travelers using New York airports, which is the largest airport system in the United States, largest in the world in terms of flight operations, and second in the world (after London) in terms of passenger traffic. [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LaGuardia\\_Airport](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LaGuardia_Airport)]

