San Francisco International Airport

San Francisco International Airport (IATA: SFO, ICAO: KSFO, FAA LID: SFO) is a major international airport located 13 miles (21 km) south of downtown San Francisco, California, United States, adjacent to the cities of Millbrae and San Bruno in unincorporated San Mateo County. It is often referred to as SFO. The airport has flights to destinations throughout North America and is a major gateway to Europe, Asia, and Australasia.

It is the largest airport in the San Francisco Bay Area, and is the second busiest airport in the state of California after Los Angeles International Airport. As of 2009, San Francisco International Airport is the tenth busiest in the United States and the twentieth largest airport in the world, in terms of passengers. It is a major hub of United Airlines. Following United’s merger with Continental Airlines, the airport will be the sixth largest hub for United. It is Virgin America’s principal base of operations. It is the sole maintenance hub of United Airlines. SFO has numerous passenger amenities, including a wide range of food and drink establishments, shopping, baggage storage, public showers, a medical clinic, and assistance for lost or stranded travelers and military personnel. The airport hosts the Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum, the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library, and both permanent and temporary art exhibitions in several places in the terminals.

History

The airport opened on May 7, 1927 on 150 acres (61 ha) of cow pasture. The land was leased from prominent local landowner Ogden L. Mills, (who in turn had leased it from his grandfather Darius O. Mills) and was named Mills Field Municipal Airport. It remained Mills Field until 1931, when it was renamed San Francisco Municipal Airport. "Municipal" was replaced by "International" in 1955.

The U.S. Weather Bureau began keeping weather observations at Mills Field in May 1927. The weather records have continued under the National Weather Service, which maintained the Bay Area forecast office in the airport’s control tower building until forecasting was moved to Redwood City. Although not the official weather observation site for San Francisco (with the official site existing in Duboce Park), data from SFO’s automated weather station often appears as belonging to "San Francisco" in media sources outside of the Bay Area.

United Airlines used the Mills Field airport as well as the Oakland Municipal Airport for its services throughout the 1930s. Domestic flights did not begin en masse, however, until World War II, when Oakland International Airport was taken over by the military and its passenger flights were shifted to San Francisco.

After the war, United Airlines used the Pan Am terminal for its flights to Hawaii. It has grown to become one of five United Airlines hubs and SFO is home of United’s largest maintenance facility.

In 1954, the airport’s Central Passenger Terminal opened for passenger service. The April 1957 OAG shows 71 scheduled weekday departures on United (plus ten flights a week to Honolulu), 22 on Western, 19 on Southwest, 12 on TWA, 7 American and 3 PSA. Also, 21 departures a week on Pan American, 5 on Japan Air and 5 on QANTAS. Jet service to SFO began in March 1959, with TWA 707-131s; United built a large maintenance facility at San Francisco for its new Douglas DC-8s. In July 1959 the first jetway bridge was installed in the United States.

Airline Gate Assignments

Terminal 1
20: Horizon or Alaska
22: Horizon or Alaska
24: Horizon or Alaska
36: Continental
35: Continental
34: Continental
33: Continental
32A: Continental & Air Tran
32: Continental & Air Tran
25: Southwest Airlines
30: Southwest Airlines
29: US Airways
28: US Airways
27: US Airways
26: US Airways
23: Southwest Airlines
21: Southwest Airlines

Terminal 1
40: Hawaiian & Delta & DL Skywest
42: Delta & Hawaiian & DL Skywest
44: Delta & Hawaiian & DL Skywest
46: Delta or Hawaiian & DL Skywest
48: Delta or Hawaiian & DL Skywest
47: Northwest or Delta
45A: Northwest or Delta
45: Northwest or Delta
43: Frontier or Delta or Northwest
41: Frontier

International G
Asiana
Air Berlin
AeroMexico
Air France
British Airways
Cathay Pacific
China Airlines
Delta International
KLM
LACSA
Lan Airlines
Philippine Airlines
Qantas
TACA
Virgin Atlantic
Korean Air
Japan Airlines
Gates Specifics
A2, A1, A12 and sometimes A11
Jet Blue
Alaska
West Jet

Note
SFO is currently renovating the old American Airlines terminal and has closed gates 60-67. In KSFO-X2.0, you may continue seeing AA aircraft parked at these gates as we decided to keep them open.

Terminal 3
60: American & American Eagle
62A: American & American Eagle
62B: American & American Eagle
64: American
66: American 757/767/737
67: American 757/767/737
65: American 757/767/737
63: American
61: American and Air Canada
68: Air Canada or United Skywest
69: United Skywest
70: United Skywest
71: United Skywest
76A: United Skywest
76B: United Skywest
77A: United Skywest
77B: United Skywest
73A: United Skywest
78B: United Skywest
79: United Skywest
80: United, 747, 777, 767, 757
82: United, 747, 777, 767, 757
84: United, 747, 777, 767, 757
86: United, 747, 767, 757, 777
88: United, 757, 767, A320
90: United, 757, 767, A320
89: United, 757, 767, A320
87: United, 757, 767, A320
85: United, 757, 767, A320
83: United, 757, 767, A320
81: United, 757, 767, A320
72: United, A320, RJ
73: United, A320, RJ
74: United, A320, RJ
75: United, A320, RJ

Terminal 2
50: Virgin America
51A: Virgin America
51B: Virgin America
52: Virgin America
53: Virgin America or American Airlines
54A: Virgin America or American Airlines
54B: Virgin America or American Airlines
55: American Airlines
56A: American Airlines
56B: American Airlines
57: American Airlines
58A: American Airlines
58B: American Airlines
59A: American Airlines
59B: American Airlines
Installation Guide

1. Double click on the installation file.

2. Proceed through the installation by following directions specified by the installer.

3. Start FSX, and start a new flight at KSFO.
4. When scene is loaded, you will automatically start trial mode which lasts 5 minutes. At any point during the trial, or even after, you may choose to activate the scenery and purchase right within FSX.

5. To purchase the scenery, proceed to the FSX menu and click “Add-ons”, then “Addon Manager”

![Addon Manager window](image)

6. In the Addon Manager window, click “FlightBeam” in the Publishers list, then “San Francisco X”. Then click “Buy”.

![Addon Manager with San Francisco X selected](image)

7. An integrated purchase window will appear with clear instructions, please follow them carefully. Once your credit card has been charged, the scenery will automatically activate!
Performance Guide

Every effort has been made to affect performance as little as possible. We have use optimization tricks used in AAA gaming titles and limited polygon count to areas close to ramps and gates.

SFO is in a heavy performance hitting region. There are multiple other airports in view from SFO, including Oakland International. Additionally, it's surrounded by water on one side, and heavy autogen on the other. Right beyond a couple of hills is the city of San Francisco with numerous SimObjects roaming about in the water and hundreds of model buildings.

Still, with that much performance impact, we managed to sneak in a major airport with hundreds and hundreds of custom built models, animated holdshort lights, custom animations, reflections, photorealistic night-lighting with very little impact in the region. We consistently tested the scenery with the worse possible scenario, framerate killing aircrafts and full sliders.

Different systems perform different with custom sceneries, however here are some optimal settings to use on today's “mid-range” PC. Please note that we HIGHLY recommend using an Intel i7 core, or better for best FSX performance. We also recommend that you tweak your FSX.cfg settings with some recommended tweaks found on popular sim forums such as AVSIM.

Recommended settings for mid-to-high end systems:
Take the visuals a step further

We also highly recommend using the ENB Series Bloom plugin. This simple tweak which is found in most sim forums adds a high dynamic range to FSX lighting. This type of shader is very often used in newer and more sophisticated games, giving the illusions of glows and highlights, simulating the human vision. The advantage of using this plugin versus FSX’s “Light Bloom” is it has very little performance impact using a modern video card.

Why say more? Here’s a comparison between FSX with ENB and FSX without ENB:

Our “enbseries.ini” settings
As you can see, we enjoy giving you nice visuals. Follow this link on our webpage to our settings you can plug into your enbseries.ini file.

http://flightbeam.net/news/?q=node/18
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And last but definitely not least, my beautiful, lovely wife who put up with many many late nights with me on the computer developing this scenery.

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