

Charter 375-4 A Charter flight to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the original 1921 U.S. Air Mail Transcontinental route from New York to San Francisco.

You have been chartered by a group of history buffs to fly from Republic Airfield (KFRG) on Long Island, New York, to San Francisco Intl. (KSFO) San Francisco, California. This is a 13-leg tour, with flights ranging from 127 NM to 224 NM. (Total=2387 NM) They have chosen DC3 Airways for this recreation, because of its commitment to excellence in classic propeller aircraft. These are daytime flights only.

The original VFR flying directions and ‘landmark’ information, was prepared with the cooperation of pilots and supervisory officials of the Air Mail Service and with the assistance of the postmaster located within 5 miles of the line of flight, at that time. The information was issued February 20, 1921.

The route and VFR directions in this charter are based on that information as much as possible. Some of the original airfields no longer exist, or their names have been changed. Directions at the time were also based on visual sightings of railway lines and certain buildings along the route. In cases where they don’t exist in FS, discretion was used to recreate the route as close to the original, as possible.

Air Mail Service pilots are the unsung heroes of early aviation. In their frail open cockpit Curtiss Jennies and postwar de Havillands, they battled wind, snow, and sleet to pioneer round-the-clock airmail service along the world's longest air route at the time, the U.S. Transcontinental. From 1918 to 1927, thirty-four pilots lost their lives.

This charter is dedicated to them.

1921 U.S. Air Mail Transcontinental Charter

Report flights as 375-4-01 and 375-4-13

1 Republic Airfield to Bellefonte (KFRG to N96)				375-4-01.fsn flight plan
FROM	TO	HDG	NM	
KFRG (Republic Airfield)	KEWR (Newark Intl)	280	34.8	Depart Rwy 32, turn left to pass over the Aqueduct racetrack (Aqueduct is the second racetrack) while on a heading of 280, climb to 4,500 ft., pass between KJFK and KLGA, fly just north of the Statue of liberty.
KEWR (Newark Intl)	KMMU (Morristown Mun)	313	12.9	Located to the northwest of the row of five antennas, less than a minutes flight time once you pass over the small river.
KMMU (Morristown Mun)	2NJ6 (Markle)	280	33.9	Pass between two grass strip airports and 2NJ6 is located a little further ahead on the edge of a peninsula on the south side of the Delaware river. There is also a set of nuclear cooling towers and antennas East if the airstrip.
2NJ6 (Markle)	14N (Beltzville)	293	22.0	You’ll pass over a ridge after turning on course, Beltzville lake will be visible directly ahead. 14N is a dirt airstrip located on the southwest end of Beltzville lake.

14N (Beltzville)	71N (Sunbury)	284	52.0	Sunbury is located on a small island in the Susquehanna river, where three of the rivers branches converge.
71N (Sunbury)	PA39 (Beaver Springs)	262	20.8	Course will bring you into a wide valley, PA39 is in the middle of the valley. It has two airstrips, a small grass one at the end of a small lake and a separate larger asphalt strip on the South side.
PA39 (Beaver Springs)	PS45 (High Top)	312	10.9	After the turn you will pass over the ridge. PS45 is a small grass strip located at the start of the next valley.
PS45 (High Top)	N74 (Penns Cave)	286	8.5	Located on the opposite side of the valley before you reach the next ridge.
N74 (Penns Cave)	N96 (Bellefonte)	279	<u>9.5</u>	Cross the ridge and find N96 airport West of the river and South of the Bald Eagle Mountain range, fly towards the range and swing Southwest for landing on Rwy 25, Field Elev=1079 ft. (Asphalt)

Leg Distance = 205.30 NM

2 Bellefonte to Burke lakefront (N96 to KBKL)

375-4-02.fsn flight plan

N96 (Bellefonte)	KFIG (Clearfield)	299	28.9	Depart Rwy 25, turn right to cross Bald Eagle ridge, climb to 4,500 ft., airport is located northwest of Susquehanna river.
KFIG (Clearfield)	11D (Clarion Co)	292	47.7	You'll cross a ridge with an antenna farm, 11D is located farther ahead on the north side of the Clarion river, west of road.
11D (Clarion Co.)	KFKL (Venango Reg)	304	21.0	Somewhat following the highway below will lead to KFKL, it's located on a low plateau northwest of the river, west of the town.
KFKL (Venango Reg)	4G1 (Greenville Mun)	288	24.2	Cross the long thin lake that runs north and south at the point where the road crosses, 4G1 has both a dirt and an asphalt runway that cross each other at 90 degrees. It is located to the south of a large semi-circular lake.
4G1 (Greenville Mun)	KBKL (Burke lakefrount)	281	<u>57.8</u>	Proceed towards Lake Erie, KBKL will be located parallel to the lake shoreline to the northwest, north of downtown Cleveland, Land Rwy 24R, Field Elev=583 ft. (Asphalt)

Leg Distance = 179.60 NM

3 Burke lakefront to Williams Co. (KBKL to OG6)

375-4-03.fsn flight plan

KBKL (Burke lakefront)	KLPR (Lorain Co)	251	25.1	Depart Rwy 24R, climb to 4,500 ft., you'll pass KCLE, Cleveland-Hopkins Intl. on your left, pass just south of the three airstrip cluster.
KLPR (Lorain Co)	KSKY (Griffing-Sandusky)	289	22.0	KSKY is close to the water on Sandusky Bay, opposite on oil tank on a long land spit in the main lake.
KSKY (Griffing-Sandusky)	9OH1 (Haar)	278	27.6	A small grass strip on the east side of the road south of the river.
9OH1 (Haar)	OH45 (Drake)	274	14.4	OH45 is between two cities, it's a grass strip that runs east-west.
OH45 (Drake)	OG6 (Williams Co)	275	<u>41.0</u>	Cross the two roads running between the cities, pass on the south side of the northern city, a road leads directly to OG6 and eventually passes by the east end of the runway, Land Rwy 25, Field Elev=328 ft. (Asphalt)

Leg Distance = 130.20 NM

4 Williams Co. to Chicago-Du Page (OG6 to KDPA)

375-4-04.fsn flight plan

OG6 (Williams Co)	IN83 (Lautzenhiser)	280	19.5	Depart Rwy 25, climb to 4,500 ft., IN83 is located on the south side of a forest adjacent to an opening in the trees. It is a small grass strip difficult to spot in the farmland fields. The field runs at about 45 degrees from your course.
IN83 (Lautzenhiser)	39II (Miller Field)	275	28.0	Pass Kendallville Mun. (C62) on your left) 39II runs at 180 degrees to your course, it's grass and tough to spot until you're very close.
39II (Miller Field)	KGSH (Goshen Mun)	277	10.8	The field is almost directly ahead and can be spotted as you cross Miller Field. The field has one asphalt and two dirt runways.
KGSH (Goshen Mun)	9II3 (Dillon)	277	30.6	The strip is on the south side of the river. Its runway runs parallel with your course. You'll see Lake Michigan on your right.
9II3 (Dillon)	KPPO (La Porte Mun)	275	11.8	As you pass over Dillon, KPPO is visible on the horizon. Its located on the south side of town.
KPPO (La Porte Mun)	KIGQ (Lansing)	268	35.9	You'll be getting much closer to Lake Michigan, the strip is south of a river with an asphalt runway parallel to the course and a dirt runway at 90 degrees.

KIGQ (Lansing)	KDPA (Du Page)	305	<u>38.7</u>	Pass south of Chicago Midway, north of the two lakes, Chicago-O'Hare will be visible on the northern horizon, Land Rwy 1L, Field Elev=757 ft. (Concrete)
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Leg Distance = 175.20 NM

5 Chicago-Du Page to Iowa City (KDPA to KIOW)

375-4-05.fsn flight plan

KDPA (Du Page)	3LL9 (Wilbur Thompson)	262	35.9	Depart Rwy 1L, hard left turn to align with course at 262 away from the airport at your back to the east, climb to 4,500 ft., you'll pass over a river about a minute before the strip, it's a grass strip, 180 degrees to the course.
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3LL9 (Wilbur Thompson)	KSQI (Whiteside Co)	262	28.4	Pass south of C73 Dixon Mun. which is east of a town next to a lake, the runway at KSQI runs north and south. It has a road on the west side where there's also an entrance to the airport with some buildings, the runway is parallel to the road.
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KSQI (Whiteside Co)	32LL (The Sandbox)	264	26.2	You'll pass just south of Trent Ariel spraying (concrete strip) 32LL is a grass strip, located on the west side of the wider Wapsipinacan river, you'll pass over two islands as you cross the river.
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32LL (The Sandbox)	8C4 (Mathews Meml)	274	40.1	Follow a road that runs up from the south and then turns towards the west. Just before you reach Mathews, the road runs towards the north again, Mathews is a concrete strip.
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8C4 (Mathews Meml)	KIOW (Iowa City)	245	<u>18.8</u>	After turning towards KIOW you'll cross some rivers and also just to the south of a very tall antenna, after you pass the antenna you'll see KIOW directly ahead, it's located south of the city and directly to the west side of the Iowa river that runs through the city, Land Rwy 24, Field Elev=666 ft. (Concrete)
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Leg Distance = 175.20 NM

6 Iowa City to Omaha (KIOW to KOFF)

375-4-06.fsn flight plan

KIOW (Iowa City)	7C5 (Sig Field)	259	44.9	Depart Rwy 24, climb to 4,500 ft., approximately 10 minutes in to the flight you will cross the Raccoon river that has been running to your south which will now run to the north of course, the strip is grass located just east of a road. There's a small lake the northwest side of the road.
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7C5 (Sig Field)	KDSM (Des Moines Intl)	265	50.6	You'll pass Sully Mun, a dirt strip to the north, then between two cities, cross the river south of the set of four smoke stacks, also cross the lake.
KDSM (Des Moines Intl)	KAIO (Atlantic Mun)	259	63.0	After crossing Des Moines, you'll follow along a road, passing a small semi-circular lake on your left, pass south of Anita Memorial a small dirt strip which is south of a river, KAIO is on the far (west) side of a town, west of a river, it has both an asphalt and dirt runway.
KAIO (Atlantic Mun)	KOFF (Offutt AFB)	239	<u>42.0</u>	After turning towards KOFF, you'll pass just south of another tall antenna, approach the airport between the two lakes, the airport is on the southwest of the city, Land Rwy 30, Field Elev=1046 ft. (Asphalt)

Leg Distance = 200.6 NM

7 Omaha to North Platte (KOFF to 49NE)

375-4-07.fsn flight plan

KOFF (Offutt AFB)	KAHQ (Wahoo Mtn)	278	32.7	Depart Rwy 30, climb to 6,500 ft., KAHQ has an asphalt and a dirt runway.
KAHQ (Wahoo Mtn)	93Y (David City Mun)	263	23.6	Follow to the north of the road, the area is mostly farmland, there's a small lake almost directly south from 93Y, the airport has two dirt runways on the north side of a road.
93Y (David City Mun)	11K (Stromsburg Mun)	246	21.7	11K is a grass strip located on the east side of a road and north of a river.
11K (Stromsburg Mun)	07K (Central City Mun)	261	21.4	As you leave 11K there is a road and a river on your north and south, it has an asphalt runway.
07K (Central City Mun)	NE17 (Walts Aerial Service)	286	20.0	There is a wider river that makes it way if front of you and then straight ahead, after crossing a bend in the river NE17 is located immediately on the side of a road.
NE17 (Walts Aerial Service)	NE03 (Loup City Mun)	268	24.2	You'll cross a river that leads to an irregular shaped lake in the north, the airport is located between a small and a larger river, it has an asphalt and a dirt runway.
NE03 (Loup City Mun)	6NE9 (Hoesel)	260	40.5	When turned towards 6NE9 you should be on the north side of a road that runs off to the horizon, 6NE9 is a small grass strip on the

west side of a river and the east side of a road. It's difficult to spot in the forested area.

6NE9 (Hoesel)	49NE (Harden Airstrip)	243	<u>39.8</u>	49NE has two grass runways, your descent will start after crossing some small rivers that run into a lake at your 1 o'clock position, North Platte Regional airport is located by the first lake, there is another lake located to the west from the first one, 49NE is located to the south, in between the two lakes, Land Rwy 1, Field Elev=3005 ft. (Grass)
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Leg Distance = 223.8 NM

8 North Platte to Cheyenne (49NE to KCYS)

375-4-08.fsn flight plan

49NE (Harden Airstrip)	KOGA (Searle)	265	47.3	Depart Rwy 1, you'll pass by the north side of the west lake south of the town, climb to 8,500 ft., as you cross the river running into the west lake you'll see another lake to the north, several rivers run parallel with your course to the north, KOGA has an asphalt runway and is located south of a large long lake.
KOGA (Searle)	KSNY (Sidney Mun)	259	55.0	You'll pass to the south of a small lake with an airport that has an asphalt runway (RAY KCNP), you'll pass north of a small lake, parallel to a road, KSNY has an asphalt and a dirt runway.
KSNY (Sidney Mun)	KIBM (Kimball Mun)	269	31.7	After your turn you'll cross a river that runs off towards your 1 o'clock position, KIBM is located to the north of a road you will cross over, it is south of a small lake and has an asphalt runway.
KIBM (Kimball Mun)	82V (Pine Bluffs Mun)	253	20.6	Located to the southwest of Pine Bluffs between and river to the north and a road to the south. 82V has an asphalt strip.
82V (Pine Bluffs Mun)	KCYS (Cheyenne)	259	<u>29.8</u>	Fly parallel with the road, approach is fairly straight-in, the airport is located in the center of the city, Land Rwy 26, Field Elev=6154 ft. (Concrete)

Leg Distance = 184.4 NM

9 Cheyenne to Rawlins (KCYS to KRWL)

375-4-09.fsn flight plan

KCYS (Cheyenne)	KLAR (Laramie Regl)	272	41.0	Depart Rwy 26, follow the river that leads out the city, climb to 10,500 ft., the river will lead to Laramie, KLAR is located on the west side of town, after crossing two small rivers.
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KLAR (Laramie Regl)	80V (Medicine Bow)	314	41.1	You'll pass by two lakes toward you southwest, as you start to cross some desert area, you'll see some foothills to the south, 80V is located in the middle of a large vegetation growth, in the middle of a desert area, 80V has two dirt runways.
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80V (Medicine Bow)	KRWL (Rawlins Mun)	252	<u>45.3</u>	Turn for approach just before the place where three roads intersect, there's a small lake to the south, KRWL is located on the east side of town, Land Rwy 22, Field Elev=6811 ft. (Asphalt)
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Leg Distance = 127.4 NM

10 Rawlins to Salt Lake City (KRWL to KBTF)

375-4-10.fsn flight plan

KRWL (Rawlins Mun)	Fix01	257	26.0	Depart Rwy 22, turn right to pass between the oil tanks in the town, climb to 12,500 ft., you'll cross a road at approximately 13 minutes from KRWL, turn left 244.
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Fix01	KRKS (Rock Springs-Sweetwater)	244	59.4	Just before KRKS there will be a 'Z' shaped lake to the north with a set of four smoke stacks, KRKS has two asphalt runways.
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KRKS (Rock Springs-Sweetwater)	KFBR (Ft. Bridger)	245	61.5	After passing KRKS you'll pass north of 48U the Great Green River Intergalactic Spaceport. I don't imagine it existed in 1921. (Maybe they should have named it KUFO?) Keep an eye for flying saucer traffic, follow the road and river that zigzags into the next town, KFBR has one asphalt and two dirt runways.
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KFBR (Ft. Bridger)	KEVW (Evanston-Uinta Co)	242	29.0	Located on the west side of town, you'll pass two oil tanks before the town, it has an asphalt runway running parallel to your course.
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KEVW (Evanston-Uinta Co)	KBTF (Skypark-SLC)	225	<u>47.0</u>	After passing KEVW you'll start to see a lot more vegetation and mountains will start to appear, maintain at least 10,500 ft to clear the mountain range prior to descent, KBTF is located to the north of Salt Lake City Intl., be cautious of the antenna during your approach, Land Rwy 16, Field Elev=4232 ft. (Asphalt)
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Leg Distance = 223.1 NM

11 Salt Lake City to Elko (KBTF to KEKO)

375-4-11.fsn flight plan

KBTF (Skypark-SLC)	Fix01	241	34.6	Depart Rwy 16, immediate right turn to pass north of Salt Lake City Intl., cross the lake north of where the river that run north of the Intl. airport, enters the lake, climb to 12,500 ft., after crossing the lake you'll pass by a ridge to the south, turn to 255.
Fix01	KENV (Wendover)	255	62.1	If you are on course you will be running parallel to a road on your north, the road passes across the Bonneville salt flats, the airport is located on the west side of the flats beside a lake, it has three asphalt runways.
KENV (Wendover)	Fix02	265	64.9	You'll cross over some additional salt flats, cross the ridge over the valley, cross north of the small lake, as you approach the next ridge you will turn while crossing where the two roads intersect, you'll see KEKO off in the distance.
Fix02	KEKO (Elko Mun)	228	<u>17.0</u>	KEKO is located on the southwest side of town, south of the river that runs through the town, Land Rwy 23, Field Elev=5137 ft. (Asphalt)

Leg Distance = 178.7 NM

12 Elko to Reno (KEKO to KRNO)

375-4-12.fsn flight plan

KEKO (Elko Mun)	KBAM (Battle Mtn)	239	51.6	Depart Rwy 23, climb to 12,500 ft., you'll cross a road and a river on the northeast side of Battle mountain, KBAM is located on the southwest side of the mountain, it has two asphalt runways.
KBAM (Battle Mtn)	Fix01	238	51.1	You'll pass to the south of another set of mountains and north of more salt flats, after the flats you'll cross a ridge and enter a valley which has two roads, cross the roads and the next ridge, after the ridge you enter a large valley with a large salt flat, turn left to 222 as you pass over the northern tip of it.
Fix01	KLOL (Derby)	222	33.3	As you cross the next ridge you'll see a large expanse of vegetation running north and south, there's a river run along the east side of the forest, KLOL is located on the far southwest side of the vegetation before a large lake, it has two asphalt runways.

KLOL (Derby)	NV44 (Justover Field)	233	51.1	Pass south of the large lake and salt flat, cross the ridge, NV44 is located after the flats and has a dirt airstrip.
NV44 (Justover Field)	KRNO (Reno/Tahoe Intl)	192	<u>16.5</u>	KRNO is located on the south side of the city, Land Rwy 16R, Field Elev=4409 ft. (Concrete)
		Leg Distance =	203.6 NM	
13 Reno to San Francisco (KRNO to KSFO)				375-4-13.fsn flight plan
KRNO (Reno/Tahoe Intl)	NV13 (Baily ranch)	175	14.1	Depart Rwy 16R, head straight to NV13 in Carson City, this will take you down the valley to gain altitude prior to your turn to the west to ensure you can clear the mountains, climb to 12,500 ft, NV13 has a small grass strip.
NV13 (Baily ranch)	KTRK (Truckee-Tahoe)	263	14.6	As you cross the mountains you'll see lake Tahoe to the south, KTRK is visible ahead.
KTRK (Truckee-Tahoe)	61Q (Swansboro Co)	206	41.7	You will pass the west side of Lake Tahoe, and another long lake also to your east, you'll pass just south of 60Q a dirt air strip, 61Q has a concrete runway and is located to the north of a river.
61Q (Swansboro Co)	KSAC (Sacramento Exec)	228	39.5	After passing 61Q you'll start to cross a large populated area (Sacramento), KSAC is on the southwest side of town.
KSAC (Sacramento Exec)	KAPC (Napa Co)	228	41.2	Pass to the northwest of Travis AFB, it has two offset parallel runways, as you pass Travis the ocean will be visible up ahead, KAPC is located on the east side of an inlet from the bay which has a river running into it,.
KAPC (Napa Co)	KSFO (San Francisco Intl)	171	<u>35.4</u>	Start your descent at KAPC, you'll pass to the east of the Richmond-San Rafael bridge, downtown San Francisco is clearly visible to the west, as well as the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz island, you'll cross the east span of the San Francisco-Oakland bridge and west of Oakland Intl., Land Rwy 19L, Field Elev=9 ft. (Asphalt)
		Leg Distance =	186.6 NM	