

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 127nm to 224nm. (Total=2387nm) 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 20th February 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 against wind, snow and sleet to pioneer a 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 up to 375-4-13.

1. Republic Airfield to Bellefonte (KFRG to N96)

375-4-01.fsn flight plan

FROM	TO	HDG	NM	Description
KFRG (Republic Airfield)	KEWR (Newark Intl)	280	34.8	Depart Rwy 32. Turn left to a heading of 280 ° and pass over the Aqueduct racetrack. Climb to 4500ft. Pass between KJFK and KLGA. Fly just to the north of the Statue of Liberty.
KEWR (Newark Intl)	KMMU (Morristown Mun)	313	12.9	Located to the north west 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 of the airstrip.

2NJ6 (Markle)	14N (Beltzville)	293	22	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	Sunbury is located on a small island in the Susquehanna river, where three of the rivers branches converge.
71N (Sunbury)	77PN (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.
77PN (Beaver Springs)	N74 (Penns Cave)	299	19.1	Located on the opposite side of the valley before you reach the next ridge.
N74 (Penns Cave)	N96 (Bellefonte)	279	9.5	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 Elevation = 1079ft.

Leg Distance = 204.6NM.

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 4500ft. Airport is located northwest of Susquehanna river.
KFIG (Clearfield)	KAXQ (Clarion Co)	292	47.7	You'll cross a ridge with an antenna farm. Clarion Co is located farther ahead on the north side of the Clarion river, west of road.
KAXQ (Clarion Co)	KFKL (Venango Reg)	304	21	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°. It is located to the south of a large semi - circular lake.
4G1 (Greenville Mun)	KBKL (Burke Lakefront)	281	57.8	Proceed towards Lake Erie. KBKL is located parallel to the lake

shoreline to the northwest, north of downtown Cleveland. Land Rwy 24R, Field Elevation = 583ft.

Leg Distance = 179.6NM.

3. Burke Lakefront to Williams Co. (KBKL to 0G6)

KBKL (Burke Lakefront)	KLPR (Lorain Co)	251	25.1
KLPR (Lorain Co)	KSKY (Griffing-Sandusky)	289	22
KSKY (Griffing- Sandusky)	90H1 (Haar)	278	27.6
90H1 (Haar)	0H45 (Drake)	274	14.4
0H45 (Drake)	0G6 (Williams Co)	275	41

Leg Distance = 130.2NM

4. Williams Co to Chicago-Du Page (0G6 to KDPA)

0G6 (Williams Co)	IN83 (Lautzenhiser)	282	19.5
IN83 (Lautzenhiser)	39II (Miller Field)	275	28
39II (Miller Field)	KGSH (Goshen Mun)	277	10.8
KGSH (Goshen Mun)	9II3 (Dillon)	277	30.6

375-4-03.fsn flight plan

Depart Rwy 24R, climb to 4500ft. You'll pass KCLE, Cleveland Hopkins Intl on your left. Pass just north of the three airstrip cluster.

KSKY is close to the water on Sandusky Bay, opposite an oil tank on a long land spit in the main lake.

A small grass airstrip on the north side of the road.

OH45 is a grass strip that runs east - west.

You will cross a river, maintain heading. A road leads directly to 0G6 and eventually passes by the east end of the runway. Land Rwy 25. Field Elevation = 728ft.

375-4-04.fsn flight plan

Depart Rwy 25, climb to 4,500ft. 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° from your course.

Pass Kendallville Mun. (C62) on your left. 39II runs 90° to your course. It is grass and tough to spot until you're very close.

The field is almost directly ahead and can be spotted as you cross Miller Field. The field has one asphalt and two dirt runways.

The strip is on the south side of the river. It's 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. It is 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 the river with an asphalt runway parallel to your course and a dirt runway at 90°.
KIGQ (Lansing)	KDPA (Du Page)	305	38.7	Pass south of Chigago Midway, north of the two lakes. Chicago O'Hare will be visible on the northern horizon. Land Rwy 1L. Field elevation = 757ft.

Leg Distance = 175.2NM

5. Chicago - Du Page to Iowa City (KDPA to KLOW)

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 4500ft. You'll pass over a river about a minute before the strip. It is a grass strip 90° to your course.
3LL9 (Wilbur Thompson)	KSQI (Whiteside Co)	262	28.4	Pass south of C73 Dixon Mun. which is south of a town, next to a lake. The runway at KSQI runs east and west. It has a road on the north side where there is also an entrance to the airport. The runway is parallel to the road.
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 east side of the Wapsipinacan river. You'll pass over two islands as you cross the river.
32LL (The Sandbox)	8C4 (Mathews Meml)	274	40.1	Follow a road that comes up from the south and then turns towards the west. Just before you reach Mathews the road turns towards the north again. Mathews is a concrete strip.
8C4 (Mathews Meml)	KLOW (Iowa City)	245	18.8	After turning towards KLOW you will cross a river and also pass just to the south of two very tall masts. You will see KLOW directly ahead. It is located south of the city and to the west of the Iowa river that runs through the city. Land Rwy 24. Field elevation = 666ft.

Leg distance = 149.4NM

6. Iowa City to Omaha (KIOW to KOFF)

KIOW (Iowa City)	7C5 (Sig Field)	259	44.9
7C5 (Sig Field)	KDSM (Des Moines Intl)	265	50.6
KDSM (Des Moines Intl)	KAIO (Atlantic Mun)	259	62.8
KAIO (Atlantic Mun)	KOFF (Offutt AFB)	239	42

375-4-06.fsn flight plan.

Depart Rwy 24 and climb to 4500ft. Approximately ten minutes in to the flight you will cross the Raccoon river. The grass strip is located just east of a road. There is a small lake on the northwest side of the road.

You'll pass Sully Mun. which is a dirt strip to the north, then between two cities. Cross the river south of the set of four smoke stacks and also cross the lake.

After crossing des Moines, follow along a road and pass a small semi-circular lake on your left. Pass south of Anita Memorial which is a small dirt strip south of a river. KAIO is on the far (west) side of a town and west of a river. It has both an asphalt and a dirt runway.

After turning towards KOFF you'll pass just south of another tall antenna. Approach the airport between the two lakes. The airport is located at the southwest of the city. Land Rwy 30. Field elevation = 1046ft.

Leg Distance = 200.6NM

7. Omaha to North Platte (KOFF to 49NE)

KOFF (Offutt AFB)	KAHQ (Wahoo Mtn)	276	32.7
KAHQ (Wahoo Mtn)	93Y (David City Mun)	262	23.6
93Y (David City Mun)	11K (Stromsburg Mun)	246	21.7
11K (Stromsburg Mun)	07K (Central City Mun)	261	21.4

375-4-07.fsn flight plan.

Depart Rwy 30 and climb to 6500ft. KAHQ has an asphalt and a dirt runway.

Stay on the north side of the road where the area is mostly farmland. There is a small lake almost directly south from 93Y. The airport is on the north side of a road and has two dirt runways.

11K is a grass strip located on the east side of a road and north of a river.

At 11K turn right to 261° and maintain heading. 07K (Central City Mun) has an asphalt runway.

07K (Central City Mun)	NE17 (Walts Aerial Service)	286	20	There is a wide river that makes its way in front of you. After passing a bend in the river NE17 is located immediately on the side of a road.
NE17 (Walts Aerial Service)	0F4 (Loup City Mun)	268	24.2	You will pass the southern tip of an irregularly shaped lake. The airport is on the east bank of a river.
0F4 (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 is difficult to spot in the forested area.
6NE9 (Hoesel)	49NE (Harden Airstrip)	243	39.8	49NE has two grass runways. Your descent will start after crossing some small rivers that run into a lake at your 10 o'clock position. North Platte Regional Airport is located by the first lake. There is another lake located to the west. 49NE is located to the south, in between the two lakes. Land Rwy 1. Field elevation = 3005ft.

Leg Distance = 223.8NM

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, climb to 8500ft. Pass to the south of a small lake. Another larger lake will be visible in the distance. Continue heading. KOGA is situated to the south of the long lake and has an asphalt runway.
KOGA (Searle)	KSNY (Sydney Mun)	259	55	You will pass Ray airport which has a small lake at the northern end. Maintain heading. KSNY has a dirt and an asphalt runway.
KSNY (Sydney Mun)	KIBM (Kimball Mun)	269	31.7	You will cross a river that runs off to your one o'clock position. KIBM is located north of a road and south of a small lake. It has an asphalt runway.
KIBM (Kimball Mun)	82V (Pine Bluffs Mun)	253	20.6	Located to the southwest of Pine Bluffs between a river to the north and a road to the south. 82V has an asphalt strip.
82V (Pine Bluffs Mun)	KCYS (Cheyenne)	259	29.8	Fly parallel to the road. Approach is almost straight in. The airport

is located in the center of the city.
Land Rwy 26. Field elevation = 6154ft.

Leg Distance = 184.4 NM

9. Cheyenne to Rawlins (KCYS to KRWL)

KCYS (Cheyenne)	KLAR (Laramie Regl)	272	41
KLAR (Laramie Regl)	80V (Medicine Bow)	314	41.1
80V (Medicine Bow)	KRWL (Rawlins Mun)	252	45.3

Leg Distance = 127.4 NM

10. Rawlins to Salt Lake City (KRWL to KBTF)

KRWL (Rawlins Mun)	Fix 02	259	26
Fix 02	KRKS(Rock Springs-Sweetwater)	244	59.4
KRKS(Rock Springs-Sweetwater)	KFBR (Ft. Bridger)	245	61.5
KFBR (Ft. Bridger)	KEVW (Evanston-Uinta Co)	242	29

375-4-09.fsn flight plan.

Depart Rwy 26. Climb to 10500ft. Follow the river leading out of the city all the way to Laramie. KLAR is located on the west side of town, after crossing two small rivers.

You will pass by two lakes towards the southwest. As you start to cross a desert area you will see some foothills to the south. 80V is located in the middle of a large area of vegetation in the desert area. 80V has two dirt runways.

Turn to the approach just before the point where three roads intersect. There is a small lake towards the south. KRWL is located on the east side of town.
Land Rwy 22. Field elevation = 6811ft.

375-4-10.fsn flight plan.

Depart Rwy 22. Climb to 12500ft. Turn right to pass between the oil tanks in the town. You will cross a road approximately thirteen minutes from KRWL. Turn left to 244°

Before you reach KRKS you will see a 'Z' shaped lake to the north along with four smokestacks. KRKS has two asphalt runways.

After passing KRKS you will pass north of the Great Green River Intergalactic Spaceport (48U). I don't imagine it existed in 1921. (Maybe they should have name it KUFO!). Keep an eye out for flying saucers! Follow the road and river that zigzags into the next town. KFBR has one asphalt and two dirt runways.

Located on the west side of town. You will pass two oil tanks before the town. It has an asphalt runway running parallel to your

KEVW (Evanston-Uinta Co)	KBTF (Skypark-SLC)	225	47
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course.

After passing KEVW you will start to see more vegetation and mountains will start appearing. Maintain at least 10500ft altitude 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 the approach.

Land Rwy 16. Field elevation = 4232ft.

Leg Distance = 223.1 NM.

11. Salt Lake City to Elko (KBTF to KEKO)

KBTF (Skypark-SLC)	Fix 02	243	34.6
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375-4-11.fsn flight plan

Depart Rwy 16. Climb to 12500ft. Immediate right turn after take off to pass north of Salt Lake City Intl. Cross the lake north of where the river that runs north of the Intl. Airport enters the lake. After crossing the lake you will pass by a ridge to the south. turn to 255°.

Fix 02	KENV (Wendover)	255	62.1
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If you are on course you will be flying parallel to a road which is to the north. This road passes across the Bonneville salt flats. The airport is located on the western side of the flats and close to a lake. It has three asphalt runways.

KENV (Wendover)	Fix 03	265	68.7
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You will cross further salt flats. Cross the ridge over the valley and pass north of a small lake. As you approach the next ridge you will approach a point where two roads intersect. Turn left to 228° at this point. KEKO will be visible in the distance.

Fix 03	KEKO (Elko Mun)	228	13.2
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KEKO is located on the southwest side of town and south of a river that runs through the town.

Land Rwy 23. Field elevation = 5137ft.

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	51.5
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Depart Rwy 23. Climb to 12500ft. Cross a road and a river on the northeast side of Battle Mtn. KBAM is located on the southwest side of the mountain. It has two asphalt runways.

KBAM (Battle Mtn)	Fix 01	238	51.1	You will pass to the south of a mountain range and north of more salt flats. After the flats you will cross a ridge and enter a valley which has a road and a narrow river. Cross these and the next ridge. You now enter a valley with a large salt flat. As you approach the northern tip of the salt flat turn left to 222°.
Fix 01	KLOL (Derby)	222	33.3	After crossing the second next ridge you will see a large expanse of vegetation running north to south. KLOL is located on the far southwest side of the vegetation with a large lake beyond. It has two asphalt runways.
KLOL (Derby)	NV44 (Justover Field)	233	51.1	Pass north of the large lake and salt flat and cross the ridge. NV44 is located after the flat and has a dirt airstrip.
NV44 (Justover Field)	KRNO (Reno/Tahoe Intl)	192	16.5	KRNO is located on the south side of the city. Land Rwy 16R. Field elevation = 4409ft.

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. Climb briskly to 12500ft, suggest 900ft/min. Head directly to NV13 in Carson City to gain height prior to your turn to the west. Ensure you have sufficient altitude before the turn. NV 13 has a small grass strip.
NV13 (Baily ranch)	KTRK (Truckee/Tahoe)	263	14.6	As you cross the mountains you will 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 lake to the east. 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 will 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 parallel but offset runways. As you pass Travis the ocean will become visible ahead. KAPC is located on the east side of an inlet to the bay and has a

KAPC (Napa Co)

KSFO (San Francisco Intl)

171

35.4

river running into it.

Start your descent at KAPC. You will pass to the east of the Richmond-San Rafael bridge. Downtown San Francisco is clearly visible to the west as is the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz Island. You will cross the east span of the San Francisco-Oakland bridge and to the west of Oakland Intl.
Land Rwy 19L. Field elevation = 9ft.

Leg Distance = 186.6 NM