



# ***FACT SHEET***

*P.O. Box 2469 • Warner Robins, GA 31099  
www.museumofaviation.org*

## **MUSEUM OF AVIATION**

**THE MUSEUM OF AVIATION IN WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA** is one of the largest aviation museums in the United States and a major U.S. Air Force Heritage, Exhibit and Education Center in the Southeast. It is a model base-community partnership which serves as the showcase of Robins Air Force Base, the largest industrial complex in the state of Georgia. The Museum is the second largest museum in the U.S. Air Force and one of only ten aviation museums in the United States to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Admission is free and the museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day and Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve after 1:00 pm. It is located 10 miles east of I-75 exit 144 at the end of Russell Parkway.

- **HISTORY:** On July 8th, 1980, the Air Force approved the establishment of a museum at Robins Air Force Base. Seven months later local civic leaders, assisted by base officials, incorporated the Museum of Aviation Foundation. The first Museum building opened to the public in November 1984 in a surplus building brought from Dobbins AFB in Marietta, GA. Another aircraft hangar was added in 1990 and in 1992 Senator Sam Nunn helped cut the ribbon on a new three story "Eagle" building. The Museum of Aviation Foundation then raised money to add the 60,000 Century of Flight Hangar in 1995 and the newest 60,000 square-foot Scott Exhibit Hangar in 2008.

- **FACILITY FACTS:** The Museum sits on 51 acres adjacent to Robins Air Force Base. Facilities include four large exhibit buildings with over 200,000 square feet of exhibit and education classroom space, a restoration hangar, an archives building, a carpenter shop and a large aircraft-parts storage building. The total investment since 1984 has been \$32 million from the U.S. Air Force and \$35 million from the Museum of Aviation Foundation.

- **AIRCRAFT COLLECTION:** The Museum has a large collection of approximately 85 historic U.S. Air Force aircraft, missiles and cockpits dating from a replica of an 1986 glider to modern aircraft in today's U.S. Air Force inventory. Some notable aircraft are

- SR-71 spy plane which set a speed record in 1976 of 2,193 mph
- B-25, B-29, B-52 and B-1B bombers
- Several cargo planes including a WWII C-46, a KC-97 air refueler, a C-54 used in the Berlin Airlift, an AC-130 gunship, a C-130 Hercules and a C-141 Starlifter
- A large number of fighter aircraft including a P-40, P-51, F-100, an F-15, an F-4D which recorded two MiG Kills in the Vietnam War and a "Thunderbirds" F-16
- numerous helicopters, trainers and utility aircraft
- F-105, RF-4C and F-15 open cockpits and a C-130 fuselage open to the public

- **EXHIBITS:** Major exhibits include:

- The 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force Flying Tigers
- The "Hump" Pilots of the China Burma India Theater during WWII
- The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WWII and the history of Robins Air Force Base
- The 483<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group which flew B-17s out of Italy during World War II
- "God Is My Co-Pilot" – the story of WWII Ace Brig. Gen Robert L. Scott

- “Down to Earth: - the 507<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment and the Air Invasion of Normandy
- The Tuskegee Airmen – A Proud Heritage
- The Korean War: The Forgotten War

- **THE GEORGIA AVIATION HALL OF FAME (GAHOF):** Created by Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris in 1989, the GAHOF is located in the Century of Flight Hangar. With its own Board of Directors, it displays the achievements and artifacts of visionary civilian and military men and women who made significant contributions to aviation in Georgia. Displays include a Pitts aerobatic plane, a ¾ size “Jenny,” and a full-size replica of the first airplane flown in Georgia by Pat Epps in 1907.

- **VISITATION:** Since it opened to the public in November 1984, more than 13.8 million people from all over the world have visited the Museum, including 1,180,098 children who have participated in Museum education programs. The Museum of Aviation has the honor of being the fourth most visited Department of Defense museum in the United States. FY16 visitation was 473,795. In addition, the Museum hosts over 650 community & military events each year, including military retirements, changes of command, technical conferences, symposiums and reunions for veterans.

- **EDUCATION PROGRAMS:** During the FY 2016 year, 52,018 students and teachers took part in Museum of Aviation education programs. **The Museum of Aviation Foundation Academy** operates interactive programs focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and History. Opportunities for learners ages 4 through adult are conducted both on school sites and at the Museum of Aviation. Rigorous, goal setting experiences challenge students to solve problems in a dynamic, inclusive environment. Programs are aligned to Georgia and National Standards. Programs highlight career opportunities and workforce development strategies. Teacher Training programs serve the state of Georgia and feature NASA resources through the state’s only NASA Regional Educator Resource Center. Internships, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are available. **STARBASE ROBINS** is a DoD educational program aimed at increasing STEM Education awareness in local schools. Programs include its signature fifth grade program as well as its STARBASE 2.0 Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program, summer academies and robotics tournaments. **GYSTC** serves K - 8th grade students and teachers through a premier outreach STEM program and provides programs for teachers of STEM subjects.

- **VOLUNTEERS:** Since 1984, volunteers have contributed more than 967,460 hours as tour guides, greeters, gift shop workers, docents, aircraft restoration workers and archivists -- labor valued at more than \$20,316,660. Approximately 100 volunteers help keep the museum open 7 days a week.

- **MUSEUM OF AVIATION FOUNDATION:** The Museum of Aviation Foundation was chartered under the State of Georgia as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization in 1983. It operates the Museum of Aviation Jet Fuel Java and Aviation Gift Shop, the entire Education Department, Event Management and Marketing. Each fall the Foundation sponsors the Georgia Invitational Golf Tournament with former Senator Sam Nunn as the Honorary Chairman. The 1990-2016 annual tournaments have raised \$7,095,800. The Foundation also conducts a Marathon/Half Marathon and 5K Road Races in January, a Brigadier General Robert L. Scott, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament in April, an annual Auction and Raffle in July, and the “Wings and Wheels” Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show and a Haunted Trail in October.

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