

#### LIFE in the FAST LANE™

2025 #45 & issue #297 on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. I am writing from our office in beautiful Oldsmar, FL



To: Our Fast Lane Travel Family in Australia, Canada, China, Dubai, Japan, Kuwait, all of Europe, Iceland, Israel, South Africa, Brazil, Ecuador, Japan, New Zealand, and the USA!

<u>Subjects</u>: Air Traffic Controllers; Ocala World Equestrian Center; Trip of the Week: 2026 Monte Carlo, French Riviera, and Black Forest. My Final Thoughts: Meeting the Sheriff

#### I. Air Traffic Controllers;

Happy Thanksgiving? Not quite if you can't make it to the dinner – Air Traffic Controllers working or not?



# FAA will reduce airspace capacity, saying air traffic controllers are fatigued

Source Travel Weekly & FAA Daily Bulletin, By Robert Silk Nov 05, 2025



**Photo Credit: Ersin Ergin/Shutterstock** 

Saying that air traffic controllers are fatigued, the FAA will reduce airspace flight capacity by 10% in 40 high-volume markets beginning Friday, Nov. 7.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy has repeatedly said in the past several weeks that there have been increased levels of <u>call-outs by air traffic controllers</u>, who aren't getting paid during the federal government shutdown.

In a press conference on Wednesday, FAA administrator Bryan Bedford said that FAA data, taken from voluntary safety-disclosure reports from airline pilots, is showing a concerning rise in controller fatigue.

"The data is telling us to do more," he said. "We want to reassure American travelers that it is absolutely safe to be traveling in our skies."

Neither Bedford nor Duffy provided data on the number of controller call-outs during a federal government shutdown that has dragged on for 36 days. Duffy said that often it's the same workers who are calling out and the same ones who are showing up. The controllers consistently going to work have grown increasingly strained, he said, in part because they are assuming the responsibilities of absent colleagues.

#### Possibly 1,800 canceled flights per day

Bedford said he would meet with airlines on Wednesday evening to discuss the implementation of the capacity cuts. He planned to ask carriers to proactively reduce flights across their daily schedules. Duffy said the FAA is going to "do this in a systematic way."

Bedford said airspace capacity cuts will be reversed when data confirms that controllers are functioning at the level the FAA wants to see.

They said the FAA will release which markets will be subject to restrictions on Thursday after more conversations with aviation stakeholders. The restriction will apply to commercial flights and other types of flying.

In a rough analysis generated quickly after the announcement, flight data provider Cirium estimated the cuts could amount to as many as 1,800 canceled daily flights totaling 268,000 seats.

U.S. Travel Association CEO Geoff Freeman said the FAA's decision, "while necessary to keep our skies safe, will inevitably affect the travel experience, leading to fewer flights, longer delays and more disruptions for travelers."

"All government shutdowns are irresponsible and this decision underscores the urgent need to reopen the government," Freeman added. "The shutdown is putting unnecessary strain on the system, forcing difficult operational decisions that disrupt travel and damage confidence in the U.S. air travel experience. The fault for this situation rests squarely at the feet of Congress."

A restoration of airspace capacity won't be tied directly to the end of the shutdown, said Duffy, though he expects there would be a correlation between the shutdown ending and improved controller performance.

Duffy also warned that further airspace restrictions will be imposed if necessary.

#### Shutdown impact minimal on airlines so far

The FAA's decision to reduce flying came on a day when air travel was flowing smoothly across U.S. airspace. Among 19 large airports detailed in Cirium flight data, only San Francisco had a cancellation rate of more than 1%. Each of the 19 airports had on-time departure rates exceeding 85%.

Among those large airports, only Newark has had more than 1% of its flights canceled since Nov. 1, while most of the airports logged cancellation rates below 0.5%. Newark also has the lowest on-time departure rate this month at 74.4%.

For reference, the 10 largest U.S. carriers combined to cancel 0.7% of their flights in 2024. Cirium says 80% is a good systemwide performance for on-time departures.

### II. Ocala World Equestrian Center Porsche Event



This Saturday, November 8th, we'll be at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala.

Feel free to say hello, check out our upcoming European & US rallies, and of course, our Porsches! We very much look forward to seeing our long-time friends while we're there and making some new friends as well.

It's going to be a great time, and the venue is stunning! We look forward to seeing you all!



# III. 2026 Monte Carlo, French Riviera, and Black Forest Monday, May 25th to Thursday, June 4th, 2026

Get ready to do it all again, but this time along the stunning Mediterranean coast! We start in Stuttgart with the Porsche experience you know and love, then hit the autobahn and along scenic roads in the Alps via Splügen Pass, stopping by beautiful Italian lakes of Lake Maggiore and Lake Como, then heading down to glamorous Monaco.

Once in Monaco, you'll have a full day to indulge in the luxury of the city. Whether that's cruising on a private yacht, exploring iconic streets, or simply soaking in the Riviera atmosphere.

After our experience in Monaco & St. Tropez, the adventure wraps up with a drive back to Stuttgart, taking in some of our curated routes through France, before returning your Porsche.

Expect extraordinary roads, indelible views, and plenty of unforgettable moments along the way.

## IV. My Final Thoughts: Meeting the Sheriff

Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020, was a beautiful fall day in the Carolinas. By then the dreaded COVID 19 Pandemic began to abate or at least we learned how to deal with it. Most flights to Europe were cancelled, so we responded to our customers' pleas: "we need a vacation . . . want to get out of the house" by creating some fun US trips, where everyone could drive their own car and enjoy life again.

We designed several US tours and two of them in the Carolinas & Georgia Hills, **The Carolinas Fall Colors Porsche Tour.** I am planning to do them again in 2026.



So, on that beautiful Fall Tuesday we were heading east on I-64, carefully observing the speed limit of 70 mph. We noticed a Sheriff's Police car on the north side of the Interstate. Shortly thereafter we turned south on SR 28 towards Bridal Vail Falls. In my rearview mirror, I noticed that the police car made a U-turn and was now behind us.

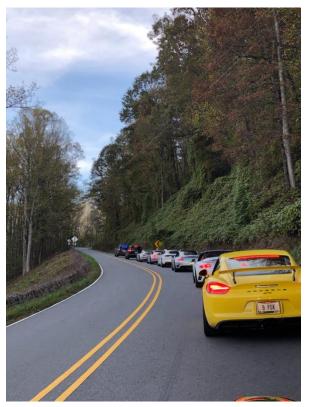




Suddenly his lights came on, and our entire group of 7 Porsches and one Lexus pulled over. Under our traffic stop, s.o.p. I put my sunglasses on the dash, lowered the window and put both hands onto the steering wheel.

"License and registration please", was the greeting from the Sheriff. Of course, I complied and also had the insurance card ready. I asked: "Why did you stop us? We weren't speeding?" His response was "Ah, checked everyone's documents – thankfully all were in order.

He then returned to my car and asked me for my walkie talkie to make the following announcement: "Now hear this, boys, y'all be in my Clay County, for another 10 miles. Ah, don't want y'all getting in no trouble now." I gave him a business card and told him to check the videos on our website. He handed back the walkie talkie.



He then proceeded to lead us at 25 mph, on SR 28, to his county's border. Now this was the fun part, J.C.Solomon's voice came over the walkie talkie . . . the bidding started: "anybody who passes him on the double yellow – I'll pay you \$500 . . . \$600 someone replied . . . \$800 . . . \$1,000 . . . the bidding went all way up to \$3,000 – no one took the bait. The Sheriff bade us farewell at the Bridal Veil Falls and headed back north.

Lesson learned: Cut a deal with the Sheriff up front and split the proceeds of his Christmas fund on hah, bad idea . . . the local judge is his cousin, I'm sure.

Please stay healthy and happy. I'm looking forward to the great times we will have together again with my Team on one of the fabulous PORSCHE tours we are planning for 2026.
All the very best to you, **Peter** 

