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AIR RACE CLASSIC — Mount Vernon Outland Airport has been chosen as the Terminus host site for the 2026 Air Race Classic this June.

MV Airport chosen as 'Terminus' host site for Air Race Classic

This will be largest aviation event at airport since 1973

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MOUNT VERNON — In a big win for local tourism, Mount

Vernon Outland Airport has been selected as the Terminus host site for the 2026 Air Race Classic this June.

Local officials say this marks a major milestone for both the airport and the community. The nationally recognized Air Race Classic will bring pilots, crews, aviation officials, and visitors from across the country to

Mount Vernon, making it the largest aviation event hosted at the airport since the 1973 Blue Angels air show, states an event news release.

This is the first time that Mount Vernon Airport has been the Terminus host site for the Air Race Classic, but the race has passed through Mount Vernon three times before, officials said.

The Air Race Classic is a prestigious, all-female piloted cross-country air race that traces its roots to the 1929 Women's Air Derby. The modern race challenges teams to fly a multi-day route across the United States,

testing accuracy, flight planning, and consistency rather than pure speed. The race concludes at the designated "Terminus City," where pilots are welcomed and celebrated for their achievement. More information about the race is available at airraceclassic.org.

"Being selected as the Terminus for the Air Race Classic is a tremendous honor for Mount Vernon Outland Airport," said Airport Manager Chris Collins. "This event puts our airport on a national stage and highlights the professionalism of our facilities and staff. It's exciting to host an event of this scale and significance."

Racers and race officials are expected to begin

arriving on Thursday, June 25, and will remain in Mount Vernon through Monday, June 29, participating in a variety of planned events, receptions, educational opportunities, and community activities throughout their stay, the release states.

"This is truly a community-wide opportunity," said Sheila Jolly-Scrivner, Host City Terminus Chair. "From aviation enthusiasts to families and local businesses, the Air Race Classic offers something for everyone, and we're looking forward to showcasing Mount Vernon's hospitality and support for women in aviation."

A public aviation celebration and youth activity day will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June

27, at Mount Vernon Outland Airport. Activities will include Young Eagle Flights for children, interactive aviation displays, educational opportunities, and additional family-friendly programming designed to inspire the next generation of pilots and aviation professionals.

Event organizers are actively seeking local, regional, and national sponsors to support the 2026 Air Race Classic Terminus and related activities. Sponsorship opportunities will offer businesses and organizations high-visibility exposure, community engagement, and alignment with a nationally respected aviation event that promotes education, skill, and opportunity for women pilots.

"This event will have a significant positive impact on tourism and the local economy," said Mount Vernon Tourism Director Angela Schrum. "We're excited to welcome racers and visitors from across the country and to highlight everything Mount Vernon has to offer while celebrating a truly historic aviation event."

Additional details, schedules, and sponsorship

information will be released as planning continues.

ABOUT THE AIR RACE CLASSIC

The Air Race Classic is a nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging and educating women pilots, increasing public awareness of general aviation, and honoring the legacy of women in aviation through an annual cross-country air race, the news release states.

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