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## AIRPORT SPOTLIGHT

December 2021



## Brandywine Regional Airport



What is now Brandywine Regional Airport started in 1939 as a small sleepy grass field in the Philadelphia suburbs surrounded by cornfields and open space. Today it is in the center of what is known as the 202 corridor, the County Seat of Chester County.

In 1997 the airport was put up for sale, expensive real estate likely to become office buildings. A group of over 70 pilots took a chance, bought the airport, built 60 T hangars, 10 corporate hangars extended the runway and taxiway installed an AWOS and PAPI light system.

The airport survived and prospered and now has over 120 aircraft, two maintenance facilities, a helicopter museum, three flight schools offering instruction in Light Sport, Cessnas, Pipers, Technically Advanced Cirrus's and Helicopters. Many students have become militarily or professional pilots.

The FBO, New Brandywine Aero, provides full-service fuel and a comfortable terminal for transient customers. For charter operators, the FBO offers modest fees, competitive Jet A prices, volume discounts, available after-hours service, nearby Uber, Lyft and rental cars, as well as, an accessible ramp for ground transportation.

The airport is home to the American Helicopter Museum and is adjacent to QVC, Ice Line recreational center, Johnson & Johnson, and Mars Candies. Nearby are West Chester University, Immaculata University, the Vanguard Group, King of Prussia Mall, Great Valley Corporate Center, Valley Forge Park, Brandywine Battlefield and the Brandywine River Museum.

Being located in Chester County and a reliever airport for PHL the airport has served the community as a transportation center, part of the National Transportation Infrastructure, providing charter services, medical helicopter services, police services, homeland security, power and pipeline inspections, search and rescue, disaster relief, urgent manufacturing machinery parts, critical inventory delivery and tourism.



The future of Brandywine Regional Airport looks promising. There are plans for runway widening, new lighting, four new corporate hangars, and snow removal equipment. And, in 2023 the mortgage will be paid off, a proud accomplishment for the airport shareholders.

