

STATE AIRPORTS

The State owns and operates two airports, Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) and Martin State Airport.

BWI Airport, a gateway airport for the United States, is served by 19 airlines and has 600 daily commercial flights. In 1992, BWI reported handling 8.8 million commercial passengers and 238 million pounds of air freight. The Airport offers both passenger and cargo flights to a variety of international destinations that include Reykjavik, Iceland; London and Luxembourg in Europe; Montevideo, Santiago, and Buenos Aires in South America; Tel Aviv in the Middle East; Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto in Canada; Aruba, St. Maarten, St. Thomas, and Jamaica in the Caribbean.

In 1993, BWI became the first east coast airport home of Southwest Airlines. In 1993, two international carriers, Air Aruba and British Airways, also began service. In 1994, the airport will undergo a \$16.3 million enhancement program, including the addition of carpeting, lighting, a Baltimore-Washington regional photo mural, interior and exterior landscaping and an observation area. An extension of one of the two major jet runways also will be completed. The State also has proposed the construction of a new \$130 million international wing at BWI, featuring a light rail terminal in the Airport, to be completed in 1996.

Martin State Airport is the largest general aviation facility on the East Coast. Handling primarily private and corporate aircraft, Martin is also the main base for Maryland's two air National Guard Squadrons; the Maryland State Police Aviation Division (MED-EVAC); the Baltimore City Police Helicopter Unit; and the Baltimore County Police Marine Division.

HIGHWAYS

The National Road, begun in Cumberland in 1806, was the nation's chief route west for many years. As U.S. Route 40, it remains a principal east-west artery today. The State's highway network has over 5,200 miles of interstate, primary and secondary roads and over 2,000 bridges, designed, built, and maintained by the State Highway Administration.

The William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge (Chesapeake Bay Bridge) spans 4.2 miles between Sandy Point, Anne Arundel County, and Kent Island, Queen Anne's County. Opened in 1952, it transformed access to the eastern shore of the State. A second parallel Bay Bridge opened in 1973. Beltways encircle Baltimore and Washington with connections to the major routes between the cities. The Baltimore Harbor Tunnel opened in 1957, providing the first direct link north and south under the Harbor for vehicles bypassing Baltimore City. The Harbor Tunnel was followed by the 1.6-mile

long Francis Scott Key Bridge over the Harbor in 1977 and the Fort McHenry Tunnel in 1985.

Most Maryland highways are open to all travelers without fee. Tolls are required, however, at the John F. Kennedy Highway (Interstate 95) at Perryville; the Harbor and Fort McHenry tunnels; the Francis Scott Key Bridge; the Thomas I. Hatem Bridge (U.S. 40) at Perryville; the Chesapeake Bay Bridges (for eastbound traffic only) outside Annapolis in Anne Arundel County; and the Governor Harry W. Nice Bridge in Charles County. The maximum speed limit anywhere in the State is 55 miles per hour.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Bus. Bus transportation is provided by the Mass Transit Administration (MTA), the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and local buses. The MTA operates statewide commuter bus routes linking metropolitan areas, funds general bus transportation for elderly and disabled persons on a statewide basis, and supports local public transportation funding in many counties and small cities. Under its state-wide commuter bus program, the MTA provides eight privately contracted services from Crofton, Annapolis, Columbia, Frederick, Hagerstown, Huntingtown, North Beach, Charlotte Hall, and Waldorf to Washington DC. The MTA also operates over 62 bus routes in the Baltimore area. With suburban service operating from Annapolis, White Marsh, Columbia, Bel Air, Havre de Grace and Laurel to downtown Baltimore, 850 buses serve more than 250,000 passengers daily. Services for passengers with disabilities include regularly scheduled lift-equipped service; Call-A-Lift service for passengers on bus routes without scheduled accessible buses; and Mobility, a van and taxi service for passengers unable to use regular MTA buses. In winter months, the MTA operates a Shelter Shuttle which picks up homeless individuals and families and transports them to city-run shelters seven nights a week. In Montgomery and Prince George's counties, bus transportation is provided by WMATA's Metrobus system, Montgomery County's "Ride-On" service, and Prince George's County's service called "The Bus."

Subway. Subways operate in the Baltimore and Washington, DC, areas. The Baltimore *Metro*, operated by the Mass Transit Administration, runs 14 miles from Owings Mills to Charles Center in Baltimore City, carrying 40,000 passengers per day. A northeast extension to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore City is scheduled to open in 1995. Commuters between Washington, DC, and the Maryland suburbs are served by *Metro*rail, operated by the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority and financially supported by the Maryland Department of Transportation. Metro-rail has 70 miles in operation, with 22 stations in Montgomery and Prince George's counties.