

Canadair Regional Jet 900

Service at Yellowstone Airport

COVID-19 has had significant impacts on air travel worldwide. Delta Airlines has restricted its aircraft fleet to 60% maximum total capacity to foster social distancing guidelines and best practices. For air service at the Yellowstone Airport, this means the regularly scheduled Canadair Regional Jet (CRJ) 200 aircraft holding a maximum passenger count of 50 has been downgraded to a maximum capacity of 30. As this past summer continued, more and more travelers were booking flights to visit Yellowstone National Park. The 30-seat maximum capacity limitation became burdensome as demand began to surpass it rather quickly early in the summer.

Instead of bumping passengers to later flights, the airline introduced CRJ900 service on certain days when the CRJ200 passenger limit was exceeded. The CRJ900 is an extended version of the CRJ200 jet. It measures 119' long compared to the CRJ200 at 87'10". In addition to the added length and overall passenger capacity, the 900 series offers a three-class seating configuration. There are 12 first-class seats in the front four rows, followed by 20 Delta Comfort+ seats, and then 44 regular economy seats directly behind. This marks the first time in over 30 years at the Yellowstone Airport an airline has offered a flying experience with more than just basic economy.

The Yellowstone Airport wrapped up seasonal airline service on October 13, and the airport closes by NOTAM for the winter when snow accumulates on the ground. It will reopen in the spring — always check NOTAMs!



Photo Credit: Aeronautics Staff