Visiting the Airpark

Joe Davies Heritage Airpark is located at 2001 E. Avenue P between 20th Street East and 25th Street East on the north side of Avenue P in Palmdale.

Hours of Operation
Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays
11 am to 4 pm

Guided tours with Airpark staff or volunteers are available upon request. To schedule a tour, please call 661/267-5611.

Fascinating Facts About the Airpark and Its Aircraft

• City of Palmdale and United States Air Force officials broke ground on the 26.4-acre Joe Davies Heritage Airpark at Palmdale Plant 42 on October 20, 1998.
• The first plane at the Airpark was the F-100 Super Sabre. The F-100 Super Sabre at the Airpark was once involved in an unexpected low supersonic flyby during its first flight at Air Force Plant 42. The F-100 was actually used as an Air Force Thunderbird during a Far East Tour in 1959.
• The F-104 Starfighter on display at the Airpark was used at Edwards Air Force Test Pilot School and was flown by the late legendary aviator Lt. Col. Robert Riedenauer. During the 1950s and 1960s, the F-104 was referred to as “the missile with a man in it.”
• The A-7 Corsair II on display was used for target practice at China Lake Naval Weapons Center prior to arriving at the Airpark.
• The Airpark uses salvaged aircraft parts as decorative elements. For instance, the signage on the restoration building is attached to an aircraft refueling probe from an A-7 Corsair II.
• The A-7 Corsair II on display was used for target practice at Edwards Air Force Test Pilot School and was flown by the late legendary aviator Lt. Col. Robert Riedenauer. During the 1950s and 1960s, the F-104 was referred to as “the missile with a man in it.”

Donating to the Airpark
Do you have an aircraft, supplies, equipment or monetary donation that you would like to make to Joe Davies Heritage Airpark?
Donations to the Airpark may be made through Palmdale Community Foundation, a nonprofit, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible. If you are interested in donating, please call 661/267-5611.

Volunteering at the Airpark
Airpark volunteers, many of whom are retired aerospace workers, have generously and faithfully donated their time and expertise to prepare the planes for display. They are extremely proud of the Airpark and its celebration of the rich aerospace heritage of Palmdale. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please call 661/267-5611.

Adopt-A-Plane Program
Adopt-a-Plane is a program in which a group commits to cleaning a particular aircraft display on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Materials and tools will be provided by the City, and the group will receive the following recognition:
- Recognition in a press release distributed the week prior to the first scheduled cleaning
- Group name will be displayed on a sign next to the aircraft
- Group name will be placed on the City of Palmdale website on the Airpark page
- Group will be invited to attend special events at the Airpark.
Current Aircraft at the Airpark

1. B-2 Spirit BuNo 88-0330
   Built by Northrop Grumman Corporation. The Spirit of Air Force Plant 42 is a 1:8 scale model of the B-2 created especially for the Airpark. Donated by Northrop Grumman.

2. C-46 Commando BuNo 44-78019-A
   The C-46 Commando was built by Curtiss-Wright and used primarily as a military transport aircraft. Acquired from Arizona Aerospace Foundation/ Pima Air & Space Museum.

3. F-101 Voodoo BuNo 58-0324
   Built by McDonnell Aircraft. Acquired by the City of Palmdale.

4. F-100 Super Sabre BuNo 54-2299

5. F-104 Starfighter BuNo 57-0915

6. F-105 Thunderchief BuNo 62-4416

7. F-14 Tomcat BuNo 16-4350
   Built by Northrop Grumman Corporation. On loan from United States Navy.

8. F-16 Fighting Falcon  “Old Salty” BuNo 76-0105
   Built by Lockheed Martin. Donated by Lockheed Martin.

9. AGM-28 Hound Dog Missile #M-025
   Built by North American Aviation, the Hound Dog was carried by B-52 bombers. On loan from United States Air Force.

10. B-52 Stratofortress BuNo 57-0038
    The B-52 Stratofortress was built by The Boeing Company to carry nuclear weapons during the Cold War Era. It has the longest unrefueled range of any bomber. On loan from United States Air Force.

11. Boeing 747 TAIL #N911NA
    Built by The Boeing Company, this shuttle vehicle transport carrier is on loan from NASA.


13. T-33 Shooting Star BuNo 51-4533
    Built by Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. Acquired by the City from Lyle Strader of Shafter Airport in Bakersfield, CA, in 2007.

14. X-55A ACCA SN 50303A-0963
    This Advanced Composite Cargo Airplane was built at Lockheed Martin’s Palmdale plant, donated by Lockheed Martin.

15. A-7 Corsair II BuNo 15-4449
    Built by Ling-Temco-Vought Aerospace

16. F-4 Phantom II BuNo 65-0696

17. T-38 Talon BuNo 63-8182

18. A-4 Skyhawk BuNo 14-5057

19. F-5 Tiger Freedom Fighter BuNo 74-1529
    Built by Northrop Aircraft Cooperation. On loan from United States Navy.

20. C-140 Jetstar BuNo N814NA
    Built by Lockheed Aircraft Cooperation. On loan from NASA.

21. F-86 Sabre BuNo N91FS

22. Space Shuttle Evacuation Test Sled
    Future aircraft at the Airpark may include the F-117 Nighthawk, F-102 Delta Dagger, B-2 Spirit (full scale), Boeing 767, F-22 Raptor, F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and X-31 Enhanced Fighter.

About the Airpark

Visitors to Joe Davies Heritage Airpark may view a collection of aircraft flown, tested, designed, produced or modified at U.S. Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale. The first five-acre phase of the Airpark includes 19 planes on display and a scale model of the B-2 Spirit. More than 40 aircraft will be on display when the park is completed.

The Airpark exists primarily because of volunteer support along with aircraft and material donations. When a plane is donated, volunteers disassemble the craft, transport it to the Airpark, and restore it piece by piece before rearranging it for display.

Most of the restoration work is done in a 3,500-square-foot shop donated by Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company. A future visitors center and museum will be built to house private donations accumulated by the City as well as a snack bar and gift shop.

About U.S. Air Force Plant 42

Originally known as Palmdale Airport, the U.S. Army Air Corps used the airfield as a base during World War II (1940-1946). Ownership was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1946 for use as a municipal airport, but the Cold War and lack of suitable airspace in the Los Angeles basin created the need for an advanced development facility for the fledgling U.S. Air Force. In 1951, the U.S. Air Force purchased approximately 5,800 acres of land from Los Angeles County and established Plant 42 in Palmdale in 1953 as the premier production flight test installation in the world.