

250 Years of Freedom's Sky

Official Flyover Tribute — Washington, D.C.

July 3–4, 2026 · All Times Eastern

On July 3rd and 4th, 2026, Washington D.C. hosted one of the most extraordinary aerial demonstrations in American history — a two-day flyover tribute marking the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Reagan National Airport closed for hours on both days to clear the airspace for this once-in-a-generation demonstration of American air power. From the Golden Knights opening jump to the B-1 afterburner night pass at 10:36 PM, the skies over the National Mall belonged to the finest aircraft in American service.

COMPLETE FLYOVER SCHEDULE

DAY	TIME ET	EVENT / AIRCRAFT	BRANCH
FRIDAY, JULY 3 — REHEARSAL			
Reagan National closes 10 AM – 1 PM			
FRI	10:00 AM	Golden Knights & Leap Frogs	U.S. Army / U.S. Navy
FRI	10:15 AM	Army Helicopter Flyover	U.S. Army
FRI	10:20 AM	USMC V-22 Osprey Demo	U.S. Marine Corps
FRI	10:35 AM	USMC F-35B STOVL Demo	U.S. Marine Corps
FRI	10:50 AM	USN F/A-18F Demo	U.S. Navy
FRI	11:10 AM	USN F-35C Demo Team	U.S. Navy
FRI	11:30 AM	USAF F-22 Raptor Demo	U.S. Air Force
FRI	11:50 AM	NASA F-5s	NASA
FRI	12:00 PM	HUGE 1 Formation	Multi-Branch
FRI	12:05 PM	USAF Thunderbirds	U.S. Air Force
FRI	12:55 PM	USAF Tri-Bomber Formation	U.S. Air Force
SATURDAY, JULY 4 — AMERICA 250 CELEBRATION			
Reagan National closes Noon – Midnight			
SAT	1:14 PM	NASA F-5 Flyover	NASA
SAT	1:24 PM	NASA Fleet Review	NASA
SAT	1:44 PM	USCG Helicopter Flyover	U.S. Coast Guard
SAT	1:54 PM	USCG Fixed Wing Flyover	U.S. Coast Guard
SAT	2:09 PM	Golden Knights & Leap Frogs	U.S. Army / U.S. Navy
SAT	2:29 PM	Army Helicopter Flyover	U.S. Army
SAT	2:44 PM	USAF Fleet Review – Wave 1 – Heavies	U.S. Air Force

DAY	TIME ET	EVENT / AIRCRAFT	BRANCH
SAT	2:54 PM	USAF Fleet Review – Wave 2 – AFSOC	U.S. Air Force
SAT	3:04 PM	USAF Fleet Review – Wave 3 – Fighters	U.S. Air Force
SAT	3:29 PM	Executive Rotary Wing Airlift	U.S. Army
SAT	3:39 PM	USMC Fleet Review – Wave 1 – Rotary	U.S. Marine Corps
SAT	3:49 PM	USMC Fleet Review – Wave 2 – Fixed Wing	U.S. Marine Corps
SAT	3:59 PM	USN Fleet Review – Wave 1 – Rotary	U.S. Navy
SAT	4:09 PM	USN Fleet Review – Wave 2 – Fixed Wing	U.S. Navy
SAT	4:19 PM	USN Fleet Review – Wave 3 – Fighters	U.S. Navy
SAT	4:21 PM	USN F/A-18F Demonstration	U.S. Navy
SAT	4:59 PM	USN Blue Angels	U.S. Navy
SAT	5:26 PM	USMC MV-22 Osprey Demonstration	U.S. Marine Corps
SAT	5:44 PM	USAF Fleet Review – Fighters	U.S. Air Force
SAT	6:02 PM	USAF Tri-Bomber Formation	U.S. Air Force
SAT	6:05 PM	USN F-35C Demonstration	U.S. Navy
SAT	6:25 PM	USAF Thunderbirds Demonstration	U.S. Air Force
SAT	7:03 PM	Air Force One Flyover	U.S. Air Force
SAT	7:07 PM	USAF Thunderbirds Delta Break	U.S. Air Force
SAT	7:17 PM	HUGE 1 Flyover — Led by Renovated Air Force One	Multi-Branch
SAT	7:38 PM	U.S. Stealth Airpower Flyover	U.S. Air Force
SAT	7:39 PM	F-22 Raptor Demo	U.S. Air Force
SAT	7:53 PM	F-22 Raptor in Afterburner	U.S. Air Force
SAT	7:59 PM	B-1 Flyover	U.S. Air Force
SAT	8:07 PM	B-1s in Afterburner	U.S. Air Force
SAT	8:11 PM	HUGE ONE Flyover Review	Multi-Branch
SAT	8:22 PM	Golden Knights Twilight Jump	U.S. Army
SAT	10:36 PM	B-1 Afterburner Night Pass — FINALE	U.S. Air Force

AIRCRAFT PROFILES



B-1B Lancer

U.S. Air Force

Supersonic Strategic Bomber

Sat 7:59 PM · 8:07 PM Afterburner · 10:36 PM Night Pass (Finale)

The backbone of America's conventional long-range strike force, the B-1B Lancer carries more conventional weapons than any other aircraft in the U.S. inventory. Capable of Mach 1.25+ with variable-sweep wings, it closed America 250 with three passes — afterburner at dusk and a final night pass at 10:36 PM.



B-2 Spirit

U.S. Air Force

Stealth Strategic Bomber

Sat 7:38 PM — U.S. Stealth Airpower Flyover

Only 21 were ever built. The B-2 Spirit's flying-wing design and radar-absorbent materials make it virtually invisible to radar. Its appearance at 7:38 PM was one of the most anticipated moments of the celebration.



F-22 Raptor

U.S. Air Force

5th Generation Air Superiority Fighter

Fri 11:30 AM · Sat 7:39 PM Demo · Sat 7:53 PM Afterburner

The world's premier air superiority fighter — stealth, supercruise, and extraordinary thrust-vectoring maneuverability combined. The Raptor flew three times across both days.



Air Force One (VC-25B)

U.S. Air Force

Presidential Transport

Sat 7:03 PM Flyover · Sat 7:17 PM HUGE 1 Formation Lead

The newly renovated VC-25B led the HUGE 1 mass formation at 7:17 PM. Tens of thousands on the Mall fell silent as the iconic blue-and-white jet passed overhead.



USAF Thunderbirds

U.S. Air Force

F-16 Aerobatic Demonstration Team

Fri 12:05 PM · Sat 6:25 PM Demo · Sat 7:07 PM Delta Break

The Air Force Flight Demonstration Squadron, flying F-16s in precision formation since 1953. The only act to perform on both days — they closed Saturday with the signature Delta Break.



Blue Angels

U.S. Navy

F/A-18 Aerobatic Demonstration Team

Sat 4:59 PM — [Full Show](#)

The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron has inspired generations since 1946. Flying F/A-18 Super Hornets in formations just 18 inches apart at up to 700 mph.



F-35B Lightning II

U.S. Marine Corps

5th Gen STOVL Multi-Role Fighter

Fri 10:35 AM — [STOVL Demo](#)

The Marine Corps' short take-off and vertical landing fighter. Full stealth and sensor fusion combined with hover capability — unique among all operational fighters worldwide.



F-35C Lightning II

U.S. Navy

5th Gen Carrier-Based Fighter

Fri 11:10 AM · Sat 6:05 PM

The Navy's carrier-based F-35 with reinforced gear and the largest wings of any F-35 variant for lower carrier landing speeds. The premier stealth strike fighter of carrier aviation.



F/A-18F Super Hornet

U.S. Navy

Carrier-Based Strike Fighter

Fri 10:50 AM · Sat 4:21 PM

The two-seat Super Hornet is the Navy's primary all-weather strike fighter — a mainstay of carrier air wings for over two decades and still at the cutting edge of naval strike aviation.



MV-22 Osprey

U.S. Marine Corps

Tiltrotor Multi-Mission Aircraft

Fri 10:20 AM · Sat 5:26 PM

Takes off and lands like a helicopter, flies like a turboprop. The MV-22 gives the Marines helicopter versatility with fixed-wing speed and range — one of the most revolutionary aircraft in American military history.



NASA F-5 Tiger II

NASA

Research & Experimental Aircraft

Fri 11:50 AM · Sat 1:14 PM · Sat 1:24 PM [Fleet Review](#)

NASA's F-5 research platforms test new aeronautical technologies — from supersonic research to quiet boom technology — that eventually shape both military and commercial aviation.



Golden Knights & Leap Frogs

U.S. Army / U.S. Navy

Parachute Demonstration Teams

Fri 10:00 AM · Sat 2:09 PM · Sat 8:22 PM Twilight Jump

The Army's Golden Knights and Navy's Leap Frogs opened Friday's rehearsal and bookended Saturday with a dramatic twilight jump at 8:22 PM — the bridge between the bomber passes and the night finale.



USAF Tri-Bomber Formation

U.S. Air Force

B-1B · B-2 Spirit · B-52 Stratofortress

Fri 12:55 PM · Sat 6:02 PM

America's three strategic bombers — the supersonic B-1B Lancer, the stealth B-2 Spirit, and the legendary B-52 Stratofortress — flying together in a single historic pass. A rare symbol of the full depth of American strategic airpower.

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