

Famous Firsts of Flight

- 1903:** The Wright brothers fly in the Wright *Flyer*, the first powered airplane.
- 1908:** C.W. Furnas flies with both Wilbur and Orville Wright to become the world's first airborne passenger.
- 1908:** Thomas Selfridge dies in a plane crash with Orville Wright in Virginia. He becomes first airplane fatality.
- 1909:** Louis Blériot becomes the first person to fly across the English Channel.
- 1911:** Cal Rodgers flies across the United States in the *Vin Fiz*.
- 1912:** Harriet Quimby becomes the first woman to fly solo across the English Channel.
- 1919:** John Alcock and Arthur Whitten-Brown complete the first nonstop flight across the Atlantic Ocean.
- 1923:** Oakley Kelly and John Macready complete the first nonstop flight across the United States.
- 1927:** Charles Lindbergh flies the *Spirit of St. Louis* nonstop from New York to Paris to make the first solo transatlantic flight.
- 1930:** The first air stewardesses are used in commercial flight.
- 1932:** Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
- 1933:** Wiley Post flies solo around the world in seven days, eighteen hours, and forty-nine minutes.
- 1947:** Chuck Yeager pilots the first aircraft to break the sound barrier.
- 1957:** Jacqueline Cochran becomes the first female pilot to fly faster than the speed of sound.
- 1986:** Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager fly the *Voyager* around the world nonstop and without refueling.
- 1994:** Fred Lasby becomes the oldest person to fly around the world at age 82.
- 2000:** Chris Wall and Dan Dominguez become the youngest pilots to fly around the world (both were age 21).