

DC-3

World's most famous airliner

The first flight of the Douglas DC-3 was on December 17 1935, and it is still flying. Certainly this is THE most famous airliner – at least propliner. The aircraft was a development of the DC-1 and DC-2 produced to provide an airline sleeper service across the continental USA.

American Airlines brought the DC-3 into service in June 1936 on a flight between New York and Chicago. Since then ten thousand six hundred sixty five DC-3s have been produced, as DC-3s, C-47s, Dakotas, C-53s, C-117s, R4Ds, Li-2s or PS-84s. The engines have rated from the original 920 hp Wright to 1,174 hp P&W turboprops (3 engines (!) fitted to some DC-3s in the seventies).



Sweden's Flygande Veteraner (Flying Veterans) DC-3 (or actually C-47) *Daisy* over Stockholm painted in the first Scandinavian Airlines System colours, © Christer Sidelöw

Douglas Commercial 3 Specifications

Engines: Two Pratt&Whitney R-1830 Twin Wasp, 1,200 hp
Wing span: 95 ft (29 m)
Length: 64 ft (20 m)
Height: 16 ft (5 m)
Max speed: 190 knots (350 km/h)
Service altitude: 22,000 ft (6,700 m)
Max range: 1,500 miles (2,400 km)





Read about TANSAs of Mexico, and about the DC-3 operations in a remote area of the country. Capitàn Alberto Velazco Navarro will take you aboard the original C-53D *Christina*.

It's in the December 98 issue of Airways. Check it out at [Airways Magazine](#).

Want to take a tour in the DC-3?
Check out [Air Cruise America](#)

Want to meet *Daisy*?
Check out [Flygande Veterans Home Page](#)

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