Long Beach Airport was founded in 1923 by Earl Daugherty, Long Beach’s pioneer aviator.

- The terminal building was built in 1941 by local architects Austin & Wing, and is a registered City of Long Beach Historical Landmark.
- The terminal design is in the iconic Streamline Moderne style.
- Federally funded floor mosaic masterworks, created by artist Grace Clements under the Works Progress Administration/Federal Art Project (WPA/FAP), served as the finishing touches on the building and have been recently restored.
- Long Beach Airport is the oldest municipally owned airport in California.
- Long Beach Airport has had a rich history as an important aerospace manufacturing facility, dating back to the Douglas Aircraft Company, which moved from Santa Monica to found its military aircraft division in Long Beach in 1940, and through its successors, the McDonnell Douglas and Boeing Company.
- The first transcontinental flight landed at LGB in 1911.
- Long Beach Airport was the home of many early aviators such as Amelia Earhart, Kay Daugherty, Glenn Curtiss, Gladys and Lloyd O’Donnell, and Monty Montijo.