



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. AIR FORCE F-35A DEMONSTRATION TEAM NO LONGER PERFORMING AT AIRFEST

Planes of Fame AirFest to continue as planned Sept. 12 and 13 with extensive lineup of performers and family-friendly activities

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (Sept. 8, 2026) – The U.S. Air Force F-35A Lightning II Demonstration Team has informed Planes of Fame AirFest that it is unable to fulfill its scheduled performance at this weekend's event at Santa Maria Airport.

The F-35A Demonstration Team expressed its regret that it will be unable to participate in AirFest this year. While the team will no longer perform, Planes of Fame AirFest will continue as planned Sept. 12 and 13 with an extensive lineup of performers.

The U.S. Marine Corps MV-22 Osprey Demonstration will take to the skies throughout the weekend, joined by high-performance aerobatic performers and a collection of more than 25 historic warbirds. Among the featured aircraft are three P-51 Mustangs, two F4U Corsairs, a P-38 Lightning, F-86 Sabre and more, bringing some of history's most recognizable aircraft together over Santa Maria.

"While we are disappointed that the F-35A Demonstration Team will be unable to join us this year, we already have an incredible weekend planned for our guests," said Planes of Fame Museum Director Jane Hinton. "People travel from around the world to attend AirFest because of the caliber and variety of aircraft and experiences we bring together in one place. We're excited to bring an event of this scale to Santa Maria and share it with our community."

In addition to aerial performances, attendees can explore static aircraft displays, including two F-15 Eagles and two T-38 Talons, along with interactive STEM exhibits, family-friendly activities, vendors and more across the show site. Aircraft rides will also be available for purchase during the weekend.

Planes of Fame AirFest will take place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12 and 13, at Santa Maria Airport. Gates will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Tickets are available online now at www.centralcoastairfest.com.

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