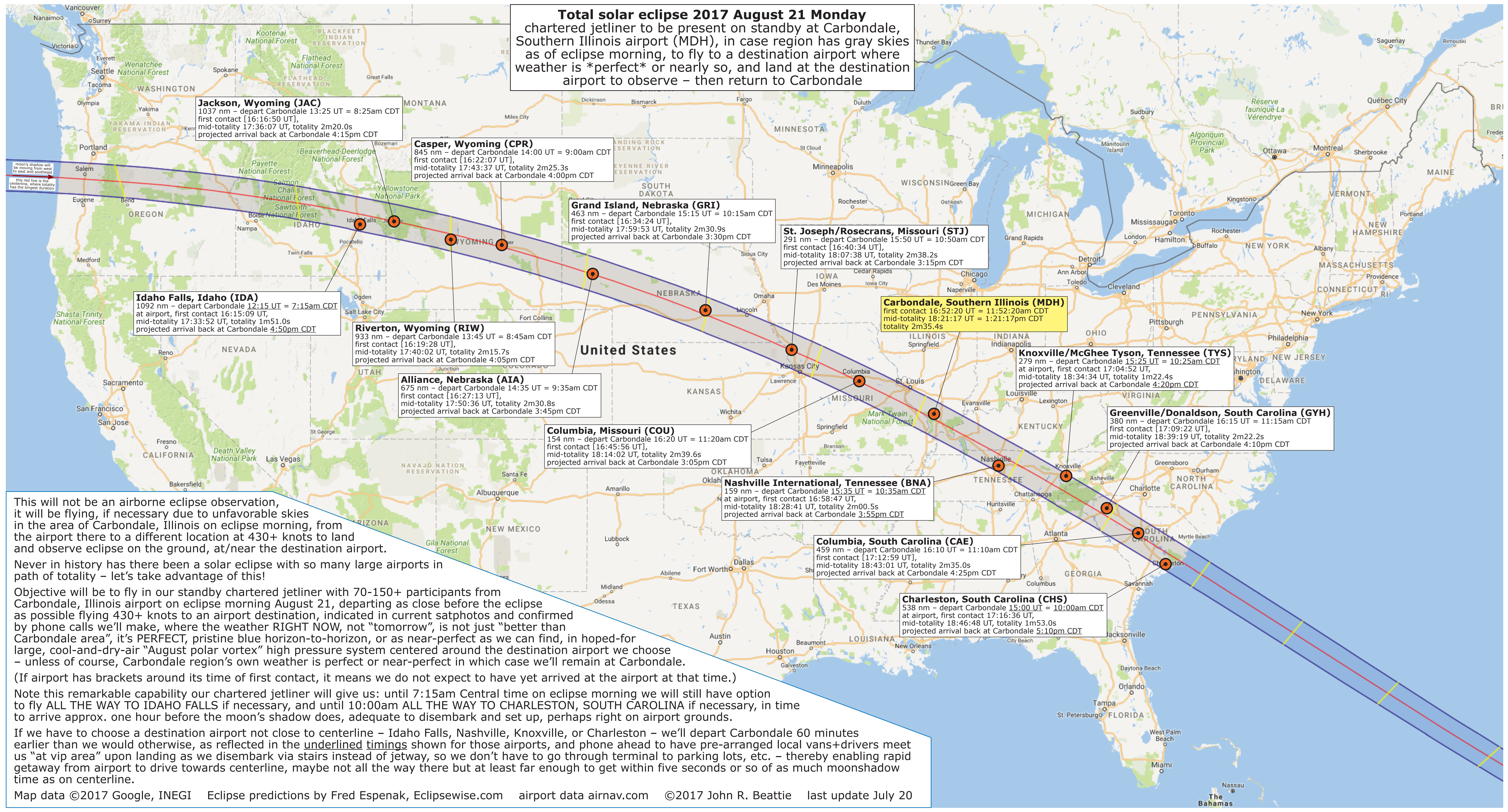


**Total solar eclipse 2017 August 21 Monday**  
chartered jetliner to be present on standby at Carbondale, Southern Illinois airport (MDH), in case region has gray skies as of eclipse morning, to fly to a destination airport where weather is \*perfect\* or nearly so, and land at the destination airport to observe – then return to Carbondale



This will not be an airborne eclipse observation, it will be flying, if necessary due to unfavorable skies in the area of Carbondale, Illinois on eclipse morning, from the airport there to a different location at 430+ knots to land and observe eclipse on the ground, at/near the destination airport.

Never in history has there been a solar eclipse with so many large airports in path of totality – let’s take advantage of this!

Objective will be to fly in our standby chartered jetliner with 70-150+ participants from Carbondale, Illinois airport on eclipse morning August 21, departing as close before the eclipse as possible flying 430+ knots to an airport destination, indicated in current satphotos and confirmed by phone calls we’ll make, where the weather RIGHT NOW, not “tomorrow”, is not just “better than Carbondale area”, it’s PERFECT, pristine blue horizon-to-horizon, or as near-perfect as we can find, in hoped-for large, cool-and-dry-air “August polar vortex” high pressure system centered around the destination airport we choose – unless of course, Carbondale region’s own weather is perfect or near-perfect in which case we’ll remain at Carbondale.

(If airport has brackets around its time of first contact, it means we do not expect to have yet arrived at the airport at that time.)

Note this remarkable capability our chartered jetliner will give us: until 7:15am Central time on eclipse morning we will still have option to fly ALL THE WAY TO IDAHO FALLS if necessary, and until 10:00am ALL THE WAY TO CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA if necessary, in time to arrive approx. one hour before the moon’s shadow does, adequate to disembark and set up, perhaps right on airport grounds.

If we have to choose a destination airport not close to centerline – Idaho Falls, Nashville, Knoxville, or Charleston – we’ll depart Carbondale 60 minutes earlier than we would otherwise, as reflected in the underlined timings shown for those airports, and phone ahead to have pre-arranged local vans+drivers meet us “at vip area” upon landing as we disembark via stairs instead of jetway, so we don’t have to go through terminal to parking lots, etc. – thereby enabling rapid getaway from airport to drive towards centerline, maybe not all the way there but at least far enough to get within five seconds or so of as much moonshadow time as on centerline.