

2025

MCAS MIRAMAR AIRSHOW



2025 AIRSHOW MEDIA KIT

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Welcome to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

The 2025 MCAS Miramar Air Show is America's Air Show

Presented by the United States Marine Corps

America's Air Show presents a robust and thrilling lineup of civilian performances and military demonstrations of state-of-the-art fighter, attack, and assault support aircraft! We are more than just high-speed aircraft and cutting-edge equipment—America's Air Show reflects our people-centric organization built by Marines, Sailors, and their families. This foundation enables MCAS Miramar to deliver credible combat power and installation excellence. Three core themes underpin the spirit and vision of the air show: People, Planes, and Power—each a unique yet vital element dependent on each other to shape our success.

Since October 1, 1997, tens of thousands of Marines and Sailors have worked at MCAS Miramar, supporting the demanding tempo of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (3rd MAW) and I Marine Expeditionary Force in maintaining the nation's foremost expeditionary "Total Force in Readiness." Rooted in naval tradition, we are an amphibious force, confident in our ability to adapt and operate seamlessly on land, at sea, in the air, or in joint and combined operations with our sister services, allies, and partners. Through task-organized Marine Air-Ground Task Forces, the Marine Corps stays ever-ready to answer the nation's call.

As we celebrate our 250th birthday this year on November 10th, we honor the Marine Corps tradition of leading the charge with resilience, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to service. Marines come from all walks of life, each bringing unique stories that collectively form the lifeblood of the Marine Corps. United by purpose and the shared experience of earning the title "Marine," our history reflects continuous evolution that honors those who have built an enduring legacy.

As integral members of the San Diego community, MCAS Miramar and 3rd MAW strive to be good neighbors. In addition to hosting numerous annual community events on and off base, our service members and families actively interact with local schools, civic organizations, and citywide military appreciation events. We extend our sincerest gratitude to everyone who supports us year after year.

We invite everyone to interact with the exceptional men and women of MCAS Miramar who support this event as they demonstrate their unparalleled professionalism. Many of these service members have deployed multiple times, possess extraordinary enthusiasm for their work, and are eager to share their experiences with you.

We cordially welcome you to America's Air Show, where you have exclusive access to the Marine Corps, and a unique opportunity to meet and engage with the remarkable individuals who make it all possible. We extend our deepest appreciation to San Diego for your unmatched support of our service members, who continue to safeguard our nation. This is one of the highlights of our year, and it is an immense honor for us to share this incredible experience with you. We genuinely hope you enjoy America's Air Show!

Semper Fidelis





JAMES B. WELLONS

Major General
U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding General
Third Marine Aircraft Wing



R. ERIK HERRMANN

Colonel
U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer
MCAS Miramar



THIRD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING COMMANDING GENERAL



MAJOR GENERAL JAMES B WELLONS

Major General James B. Wellons grew up in Victoria, Virginia and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May of 1992, earning his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. He completed The Basic School at Quantico, Virginia, graduating in March of 1993.

After completion of flight training at NAS Meridian, Mississippi, in 1995, Major General Wellons received his designation as a naval aviator. He then reported to VMAT-203 in Cherry Point, North Carolina, where he completed AV-8B Harrier training and subsequently reported to VMA-231. During that tour, Major General Wellons deployed with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit to the European theater. He then served as an AV-8B instructor pilot at VMAT-203, followed by another tour at VMA-231 where he deployed with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit to the European theater and Iraq. Additionally, Major General Wellons served a tour as an instructor pilot at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1) at MCAS Yuma, Arizona.

From 2010-2012, Major General Wellons commanded the first USMC F-35B squadron at Eglin AFB, Florida, and then served as MAWTS-1 Commanding Officer from 2016-2018 at MCAS Yuma, Arizona. His staff assignments include tours as lead planner for U.S. Marine Forces Central Command and Branch Head for Aviation Programs and Weapons at Headquarters Marine Corps. He also served in a joint assignment as the Executive Officer for the Combatant Commander U.S. Southern Command in Doral, Florida. His General Officer duties to date include postings as Assistant Wing Commander for 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, Japan, and Deputy Commander, United States Forces Japan. He most recently served as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Programs, Programs and Resources Department, HQMC. He assumed command of 3d Marine Aircraft Wing on July 2, 2024.

Major General Wellons is a graduate of the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (WTI). He attended the School of Advanced Air and Space Studies (SAASS), the U.S. Naval War College, and the Advanced Management Program (AMP) at Harvard Business School. He holds Master's Degrees from the Air University and the U.S. Naval War College, where he graduated with highest distinction.

Major General Wellons has held qualifications in the AV-8B, F-35B, F-5E/F, and F-16C/D. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and various unit and campaign awards.

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR COMMANDING OFFICER



COLONEL R. ERIK HERRMANN

Colonel Herrmann graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 2000, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and receiving his commission as a Second Lieutenant. Following graduation from The Basic School in January 2001, he underwent Naval Flight Officer training at NAS Pensacola, earning designation as a Naval Flight Officer in June 2002. His career progressed with assignment to Electronic Attack Squadron 129 (VAQ-129) at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, WA, where he completed EA-6B Prowler training in November 2003. He subsequently served with Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 3 (VMAQ-3) at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, NC, fulfilling roles including Legal Officer, Awards Officer, S-1 Officer, Aircraft Division Officer, and Quality Assurance Division Officer. During this tenure, Captain Herrmann deployed twice between 2005 and 2007 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom and completed the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1) Weapons and Tactics Instructor (WTI) Course in spring 2006.

In June 2007, Captain Herrmann attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, where he earned a Master of Business Administration (Financial Management) degree and Certification as a Defense Financial Manager (CDFM). His subsequent assignment in January 2009 was to the United States Naval Academy, serving as Financial Manager of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division and as a military faculty member in the Economics Department.

Transitioning to MAWTS-1 in February 2012 as an EA-6B instructor, Major Herrmann assumed duties as EA-6B Division Head from June 2012 to November 2014. Returning to VMAQ-3 at MCAS Cherry Point, NC, he served as Operations Officer, deploying on a Unit Deployment Program to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. In June 2016, Major Herrmann became VMAQ-3 Executive Officer, deploying to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

From January 2018 to May 2019, Lieutenant Colonel Herrmann returned to MAWTS-1 to serve as Executive Officer before assuming command at Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron Three (MWHS-3), 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Miramar, CA. During his command, he qualified as a co-pilot/qualified observer in the UC-12W King Air 350 with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Camp Pendleton. Relinquishing command in June 2021, Lieutenant Colonel Herrmann was reassigned as the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing Inspector General.

From May 2022 to June 2024, Colonel Herrmann served as Aviation Colonels Monitor, Manpower Management, Manpower and Reserve Affairs at Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA. In this capacity, he oversaw the assignments of over 7,000 officers across various aviation-related military occupational specialties and directly managed assignments for over 700 Colonels. Colonel Herrmann was assigned back to California to be the commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in July 2024.

Colonel Herrmann has accumulated over 2,400 flight hours in the EA-6B Prowler. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with three Gold Stars, Air Medal-Strike/Flight with Numeral 15, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Gold Star, and Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



GENERAL RELEASE

Communication Strategy and Operations Office
Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

P.O. Box 452017 San Diego, CA 92145
Office: (858) 307-6000
Email: miramarmedia@usmc.mil
Website: miramar.marines.mil

Facebook: facebook.com/MCASMiramarCA
X: @MCASMiramarCA
Instagram: @MCASMiramarCA
DVIDS: dvidshub.net/unit/mcasm

MCAS Miramar Welcomes Community to America's Air Show

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, Calif. (June 1, 2025) – The commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Col. R. Erik Herrmann, and the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Commanding General, Maj. Gen. James B. Wellons, proudly announce America's Air Show 2025, scheduled to captivate audiences from September 26-28.

America's Air Show returns for the Marine Corps' 250th birthday, celebrating Marines and their exceptional warfighting history. You'll witness our themes – people, planes, power – from a front row seat, as you experience the fighting spirit of Miramar and the men and women that work diligently every day to ensure the safety and security of our nation.

The air show is free and open to the public. For upgraded seating options available starting July 15, 2025, please visit our website.

"America's Air Show is a powerful demonstration of the Marine Corps' warfighting focus, readiness, and lethal capabilities," said Col. Herrmann, commanding officer of MCAS Miramar. "This event showcases the strength, precision, and teamwork that define your Marines on the ground, in the air, on the sea, and across the globe. As we mark our 250th birthday, we invite the public to join us for an unforgettable celebration of Marine Corps history, values, and the warriors who make it all possible."

Attendees can anticipate a thrilling lineup of performances, including the Marine Air-Ground Task Force demonstration, awe-inspiring aerial and static displays, and the world-renowned U.S. Navy Blue Angels.

A glimpse into who we are as Marines will validate the well-known saying, "no better friend, no worse enemy." Discover cutting-edge technology that drives our tactical agility and combat readiness. Learn about the men and women who work together to make our joint operational capabilities possible. See why our air show is truly America's Air Show.

Media professionals can get accredited here for an exclusive opportunity to cover America's premier aviation event.

Save the date and join us for an unforgettable experience celebrating the legacy and future of the United States Marine Corps at America's Air Show 2025. Follow us on Instagram, X, and Facebook for updates as we approach this exciting event!

-USMC-

MEDIA DAY INSTRUCTIONS

- Satellite Vehicles will arrive at East Miramar for inspection. All other media will arrive at the East Gate co-located with the visitor center.
- Have your media pass clearly visible in your window.
- Media can arrive as early as 7:00 a.m. to begin staging their weekend vehicles or gain access to the flightline. The practice will begin at 8:30 a.m.
- When you arrive, you will be directed to the media parking lot. From there, you will be escorted via golf cart to the media chalet.
- At this time, you will have access to the flightline and have observation of the practices from the performers.
- At 9:30 a.m. media will be escorted via golf cart to Hangar 1 for the Blue Angels media press conference, which will begin at 10:00 a.m. It will conclude at 10:20 a.m. and media will be escorted back to the media chalet.
- Media day will conclude at approximately 4:00 pm and all personnel will be off base NLT 5:00 p.m.
- Be sure to return your badge to the chalet before departing each day!

AIR SHOW INSTRUCTIONS

- Media will have access to the base at 6:00 a.m. to begin staging for the day.
- You will be directed to the media parking lot and then escorted to the flightline.
- We can provide the live schedule.
- You must request all interviews of service members through MCAS Miramar Communication Strategy and Operations.
- Access to the flightline will conclude at 5:00 p.m. and all personnel will need to be off NLT 6:00 p.m.

PERMITTED ITEMS

- Binoculars/cameras
- Folding/beach chairs
- Service animals
- Any bag or small clutch for personal items
- Wagons (i.e. radio flyers) and strollers
- Be prepared to show photo identification. Non U.S. Citizens – official passport required (no photos).
- Snacks and water bottles are permitted; however, food, drinks, beer, wine will be available for purchase.
- You may carry keys, makeup, feminine products, comb, phone, wallet, credit cards, etc. in your pockets if you choose not to put them in a bag or clutch.
- While coolers/ice chests are NOT permitted, an exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection at a specified lane at each gate.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Glass containers
- Tailgating/BBQ
- Outside alcoholic beverages
- Lasers or laser pointers
- Pets, other than service animals
- Tents, pop-ups, canopies
- Ice chests or coolers that are not medically required
- Bicycles, roller skates, roller blades, (kick and electric) scooters, skateboards, or hoverboards
- Federally banned substances, such as illicit narcotics, and California legal substances, like marijuana
- Weapons of any kind (regardless of permit) to include but not limited to: firearms, knives (including pocket knives and multi-tools), replica or toy weapons, pepper spray, mace, stun guns, and martial arts weapons
- No personal drones (i.e. quad or hex copters) are allowed to operate on federal property or airspace.
- FRS/GMRS radios, VHF band and other scanners. Transmitters/transceivers are NOT permitted.
- Hand umbrellas are allowed, but are NOT authorized in the Grandstands or Box Seating at any time.

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MCASMiramarCA/>
Instagram: @MCASMiramarCA
Twitter: @MCASMiramarCA
VIDS: <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/MCASM>

3rd Marine Aircraft Wing
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/3rdMAW/>
Instagram: @3rdmaw
Twitter: @3rdmaw
VIDS: <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/3MAW>

CONTACT INFORMATION

MCAS MIRAMAR

Capt Mikaela F. Frias
Office: 858.307.8922
Cell: 858.864.4458
Email: mikaela.frias@usmc.mil

2ndLt Blake W. Starbuck
Cell: 858.269.3245
Email: blake.w.starbuck@usmc.mil

THIRD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

Capt Kristine Doan
Office: 858.307.6465
Cell: 858.226.7849
Email: kristine.doan@usmc.mil

Capt Evan Common
Office: 858.307.6499
Cell: 928.502.0163
Email: evan.common@usmc.mil