

## History of Arlington Park

---

Arlington Park, (now known as Arlington International Racecourse), has a storied history that began in 1927. There are few venues that combine both history and character; Wrigley Field, Fenway Park, Yankee Stadium, Churchill Downs and the Rose Bowl are among some of the great sports venues.

Arlington was born in 1927, the same year that Charles Lindbergh made the first Transatlantic flight.

Arlington has attracted millions of visitors over the years and has played host to royalty, famous entertainers, sports stars, and generations of families that share special times at a special place.

About Arlington, former Illinois Governor James Thompson once said, "Arlington Park has emerged as a gracious American ambassador to the heartland, touching the lives of countless foreign visitors and building bridges of friendship and understanding that go far beyond the race track and the State of Illinois."

The biggest names in horse racing have raced throughout their careers at Arlington. Horses such as Citation, Secretariat, Cigar and John Henry. The jockeys that have ridden here are legendary from Arlington's all-time winningest ride Earlie Fires, to Bill Shoemaker, Pat Day, Laffit Pincay, Jr., Jerry Bailey and Eddie Arcaro.

The list of trainers that have raced there horses here is a list of the who's who of the all-time greatest trainers; Charlie Whittingham, Ben Jones, D. Wayne Lukas and Bob Baffert. The greats still race here throughout the summer, with the famed International Festival of Racing drawing the very best from around the world.

When Arlington Park opened in 1927 the Chicago Tribune called Arlington, "the greatest racecourse in America and one of the greatest in the world."

That was true then, and holds true to this day.