

# CHALET SUZANNE AIR STRIP

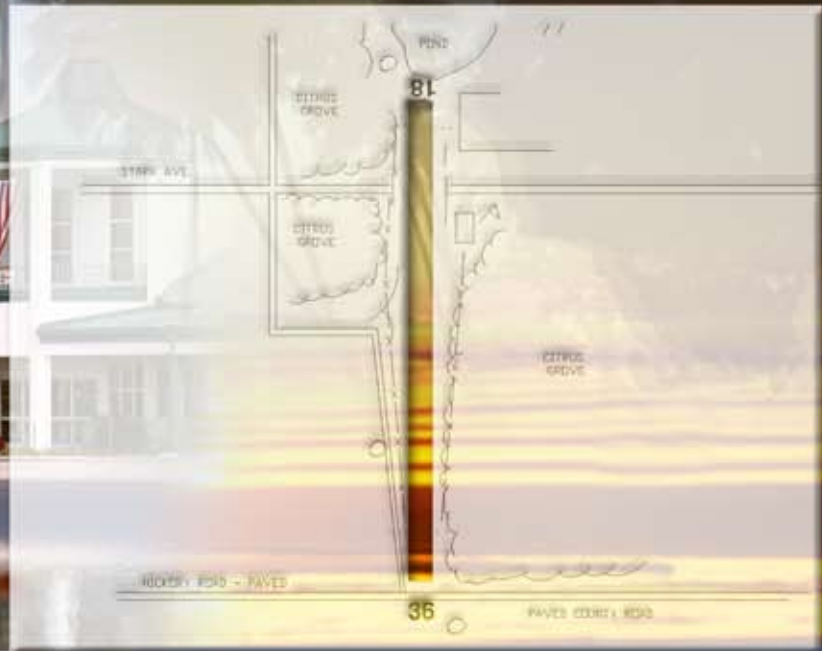
LAKE WALES  
GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT



## AIRPORT LOCATION



Chalet Suzanne Air Strip is located in Polk County in central Florida. The Airport is approximately 65 miles west of Tampa, and is accessible from the north and south via US Route 27.



## Existing Facilities

Chalet Suzanne Air Strip is served by one turf runway, Runway 18/36 which measures 2,313 feet long by 60 feet wide. There are runway lights but no navigational aids and the overall turf condition is good. The airport does have a general aviation terminal building to serve pilots and passengers. There are limited on-airport auto parking spaces. There is one hangar that is currently filled to capacity.

The airport has identified several initiatives as necessary to serve general aviation demand in the near term, including improved protection of airspace, establishment of an instrument approach, development of a fly-in community, and an extension of the runway. The airport does have an unofficial master plan to guide decision-making.

## Current and Forecast Demand

### GENERAL AVIATION

The largest plane that uses the airport on a regular basis is a light/medium twin-engine. The current Airport Reference Code (ARC) as defined by the FAA Circular 150/5300-13 for the airport is B-I. General aviation constitutes all of the airport's annual activity. The airport currently reports 7 based general aviation aircraft.

The airport has no aviation training programs that are connected with any of the local colleges, universities, or technical schools. Historic and forecast FDOT aviation activity information on file for Chalet Suzanne Air Strip follows:

Chalet Suzanne Air Strip	2008	2013	2018	2028
Based Aircraft	7	7	8	8
General Aviation Operations	5,000	5,126	5,256	5,524
Commercial Operations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Enplanements	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: FDOT Aviation Office.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

In its current role, the airport focuses primarily on serving general aviation aircraft. The airport currently focuses on recreational, business, and flight training activity. The airport could support Very Light Jet related air taxi operations. The airport's future role is to increase as both a recreational and business airport. The airport does report obstructions as a result of man-made, environmental, and financial constraints. These factors are seen as an issue because there is a limited amount of available land on the north side of the airport due to the airport's location on the lake and surrounding residential areas. Additionally, the airport sees itself growing somewhat in the future with a possible 700' extension toward the south.

Flight training is a component of this airport's general aviation activity. Roughly 40 percent of the airport's annual operations are related to flight training. There is a flight school located on the airport's property with three based aircraft dedicated to flight training. General aviation

operations related to corporate and business users do occur on a frequent basis. The airport estimates that 50 percent of its annual general aviation operations are business related.

Approximately 80 percent of the airport's based aircraft are owned by local businesses. Local companies that use the airport's general aviation facilities include tourist, motels/hotels, and restaurants. The airport also attracts a number of transient, or visiting, general aviation aircraft. Visiting businesses that fly into the airport make up the highest percentage of annual operations. Visiting businesses include tourist, leisure, and various other companies. The airport does include an industrial zone adjacent to the runway.

## OTHER AIRPORT CHARACTERISTICS

While the airport does not have any based military aircraft, it does accommodate transient military operations. The airport reports that it has 12 military operations annually.

## CURRENT AND FUTURE SYSTEM SERVICE REQUIREMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The airport reports a large amount of flight training and recreational activity. It also has modest levels of corporate activity and agricultural spraying, making it a Corporate and Business/Recreational airport, respectively. The airport expects it will serve increased levels of flight training and recreational aviation, both of which it scored well in the analysis. It did not score well in the Corporate or Business/Recreational service categories, mainly because of its short runway (2,313 feet) and lack of an instrument approach. It scored relatively well in Tourism (CA), making this a potential future service.

	<u>Current Service</u>	<u>Future Service</u>
<b>COMMERCIAL SERVICE ROLE</b>		
Tourism		
Business		
Air Cargo		
International		
<b>GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT ROLE</b>		
Flight Training	X	X
Corporate	X	
Tourism		X
Recreational / Sport	X	X
Business / Recreational	X	