

# CRYSTAL RIVER AIRPORT

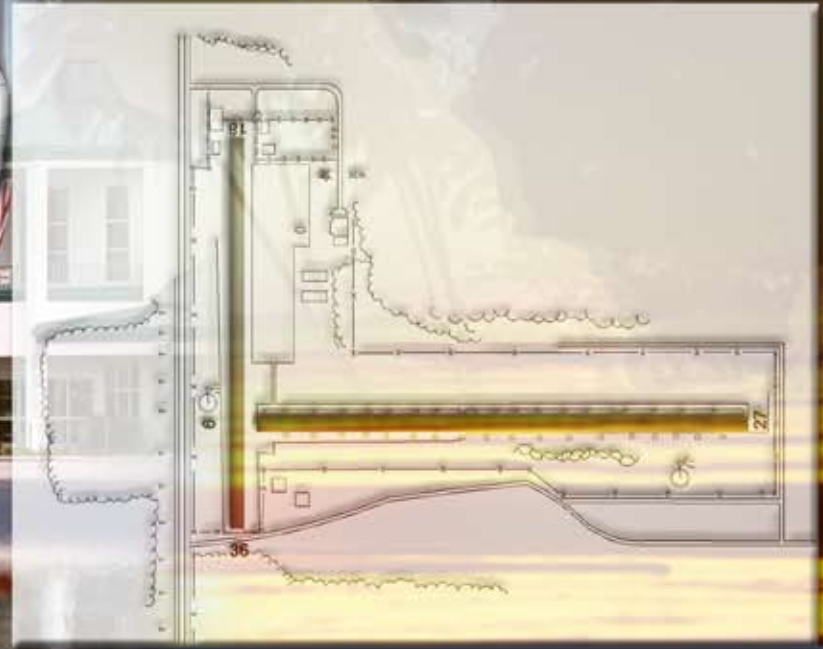
CRYSTAL RIVER  
GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT



## AIRPORT LOCATION



The airport is located on a 196 acre site three miles south of the Crystal River Business District on Florida's central Gulf Coast.



## Existing Facilities

The airport has two non-intersecting runways. These runways are Runway 09/27, which is 4,555 feet long by 75 feet wide and Runway 18/36, which is 2,665 feet long by 100 feet wide. Runway 09/27 is asphalt and in good condition. Runway 18/36 is turf and in good condition. Runway 09/27 has a new full 35' wide parallel taxiway. The taxiway was recently relocated to the north to meet BII standards. Runway 18/36 does not have a taxiway. The airport has a large FBO general aviation terminal building with approximately 20 parking spaces for automobiles. The aircraft ramp can accommodate 53 aircraft.

## Current and Forecast Demand

### GENERAL AVIATION

Crystal River Airport serves a wide range of general aviation needs. Business flights comprise about 30 percent of the overall operations. The airport could support significant growth in corporate aviation and could support Very Light Jet (VLJ) operations. Approximately 16 aircraft based on the airport are business related.

Flight training, domestic and foreign, is a significant component of this airport's general aviation activity with benefits extending into the community through lodging, food and recreational activities. Roughly 40 percent of the airport's annual operations are related to flight training. The airport also attracts a number of transient or visiting aircraft with approximately 25 percent of the airport's business originating from transient users. The airport is conveniently located to support public service functions of search and rescue, MedEvac, forestry, and fish and wildlife surveys that account for approximately 5% of the operations.

The largest planes that use the airport include KingAir turboprops and Challenger and Falcon business jets. Twenty-two of the based aircraft use tie-downs, and twenty-six are stored in hangars. The airport plans on adding 16 T-hangars and 3 corporate hangars. It should be noted that FDOT records for this airport show 45 based aircraft for 2009. The current Airport Reference Code (ARC) as defined by the FAA Circular 150/5300-13 for the airport is B-II.

The airport has no aviation training that is connected to any local colleges, universities, or technical schools. It does, however, provide FAA Part 141 training, and holds Veterans, and to process Transportation Security Administration and Immigration clearances for the training of foreign pilots.

Historic and forecast FDOT aviation activity information on file for Crystal River Airport are as follows:

Crystal River Airport	2007	2012	2017	2027
Based Aircraft	50	53	56	64
General Aviation Operations	28,520	30,422	32,452	36,926
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. It presently supports flight training, sport/recreational flying, corporate, transient and public service aircraft. While the airport does not have any military based aircraft, it does support public safety through staging Coast Guard Search and Rescue, based Coast Guard Auxiliary aircraft, forestry fire surveillance flights, medical evacuation, and fish and wild life survey flights.

The airport's vision for its future is to develop present assets and capabilities to the fullest extent and to actively pursue capital improvements in support of the primary objective of providing the widest range of aviation services to the public. As part of its process to plan for near term and longer-term development needs, the airport has identified the following five initiatives as being needed in the near term:

1. Runway extension – Capital Project
2. GPS 9, GPS 27 Instrument approach procedure
3. T-Hangars – Capital Project
4. Training building
5. Corporate hangars – Capital Project
6. Increase available R/W 18/36 length through property acquisition and tree removal
7. Security enhancements– Capital Project

## Other Airport Characteristics

The airport's capacity is limited by lack of real estate for expansion, wetlands, and community objection to expansion. The airport does not report any financial shortfalls that would limit its future growth.

The airport had its most recent master plan and airport layout plan completed in 2007, with a master plan update expected to be completed in 2013. The unique or innovative project for this airport was the incorporation of wetlands into the drainage system, which provided the airport with ample drainage for storm water.

## CURRENT AND FUTURE SYSTEM SERVICE REQUIREMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The airport provides Recreational/Sport (experimental, gliders, ultralights), Business/Recreational (banner towing, sightseeing, real estate tours, fire fighting, charter, military, coastal patrol/rescue, medical flights, environmental patrols), Corporate, and Flight Training operations. The airport plans to increase its flight training, recreational, and charter operations. Surrounding land uses (wet lands and a nearby golf course community) limits the airport's ability to expand. Analysis indicates the airport is best suited to continue its role as a general aviation airport pursuing its vision of improving on the wide range of services it presently provides with particular attention to the requirement to meet increasing demands for charter and flight training services.

Based on the infrastructure planning analysis for Crystal River Airport, the following depicts the airport's current levels of service, as well as the types and levels of service that the airport will likely be required to accommodate by the year 2030:

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