

PALATKA MUNICIPAL-LT. KAY LARKIN FIELD

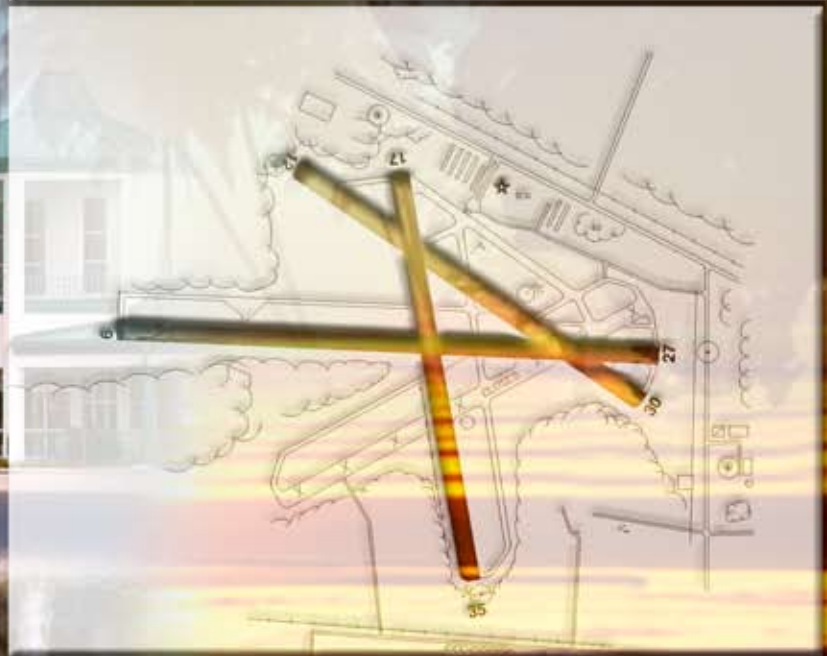
PALATKA
GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT



AIRPORT LOCATION



Palatka Municipal-LT. Kay Larkin Field is located in Putnam County in Northeast Florida, approximately 50 miles east of Gainesville, 65 miles south of Jacksonville and 30 miles west-southwest of St. Augustine. Primary highway access to the airport from the north and south is possible via US Route 17. Access from the east and west is accomplished via State Routes 100 and 20. Other major roads in the vicinity include State Routes 19 and 207.



Existing Facilities

Palatka Municipal-LT Kay Larkin Field is served by three runways. The two main runways are Runway 9/27, which is 6,000 feet long by 100 feet wide and 17/35, which is 3,500 feet long by 75 feet wide. These runways are both asphalt and in good condition. Runway 12/30 is asphalt, 3,000 feet long by 75 feet wide, and is in poor condition. All runways are served by full-length parallel taxiways. The airport also has a 4,000 square foot terminal to serve general aviation pilots and passengers. There are 50 paved automobile parking spaces to serve the general aviation terminal. Airfield amenities currently include 32 tie-downs for general aviation aircraft, 54 T-hangars, 3 commercial and 3 executive hangars. The airport had its most recent master plan completed in 2003.

Current and Forecast Demand

GENERAL AVIATION

Palatka Municipal-LT Kay Larkin Field serves most all facets of general aviation. Maintenance services include major airframe and minor power plant. The largest airplanes that use the airport on a semi-regular basis are common business aircraft (i.e. Citation, Lear Jet, and King Air). The current ARC for the airport is B-II. General aviation constitutes the vast majority of airport activity. The airport currently has 61 based general aviation aircraft. Of this total, approximately five percent of the aircraft are stored outside using paved tie-downs. The remaining 95 percent are in T-hangars or conventional hangars. There is no waiting list to lease T-hangars. The airport presently has a small flight school. Skydiving is also offered at the airport.

Historic and forecast FDOT aviation activity information on file for Palatka Municipal-LT Kay Larkin Field follows:

Palatka Municipal-LT Kay Larkin Field	2008	2013	2018	2028
Based Aircraft	64	72	81	103
General Aviation Operations	40,596	45,931	51,966	66,521
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 recreational/sport activities. The airport is used by several government agencies, including local law enforcement; forestry; marine patrol; and the Game, Fish, and Wildlife Commission. The airport's future role is limited somewhat by wetland mitigation. The airport does not report any manmade, community factors, or financial shortfalls that will limit its future system role or growth. The airport sees itself experiencing moderate growth in the coming years. As well as increasing training and recreational activities, the City of Palatka is looking toward moves into commercial activity. This includes possible air taxi and charter service, a trade zone, as well as international, domestic, and continued industrial developments.

Flight training is a component of this airport's general aviation activity. Roughly 60 percent of the airport's annual operations are related to flight training. General aviation operations by corporate and business users are also common at the airport. The airport estimates that 20 percent of its annual general aviation operations are business-related. Approximately nine percent of the airport's based aircraft are owned by local businesses. The airport also attracts a number of transient or visiting general aviation aircraft. While the airport does not have any based military aircraft, it does accommodate transient military operations. The airport reports that 10 percent of its total annual activity is attributable to military operations. U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Customs helicopters perform the majority of these military operations.

OTHER AIRPORT CHARACTERISTICS

The airport supports three industrial parks that are located adjacent to airport property; one located to the east, one to the south, and one to the southwest. There are approximately 25 sites located on 350 acres.

CURRENT AND FUTURE SYSTEM SERVICE REQUIREMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The airport primarily serves flight training activities, and management reports modest amounts of business and recreational/sport related operations. There is also a small amount of charter/air taxi and transient military activity. Future activities include improvements to airfield pavements, a new terminal building, additional aircraft storage and airfield lighting improvements. Management anticipates continued flight training and recreational/sport activity, with the possibility for serving corporate and/or light freight operations. The airport would also like to grow into a connecting hub, offering commercial service and ground freight, along with the establishment of a trade zone. The analysis does not support any development of commercial services, but indicates that the existing airport property would be sufficient for continued activity as a community airport, offering flight training, recreational/sport access, along with local business/recreational use. Dayjet Corporation has surveyed the airport for future "Per Seat, on Demand" charter service. The airport's information has been entered into their (Dayjet) database as a service stop for their future operations. A low index for socioeconomic growth indicates that the airport may not have the levels of growth required to justify significantly expanded operations. Additionally, the current runway length is not sufficient to accommodate larger aircraft.

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
Tourism		
Recreational / Sport	X	X
Business / Recreational		X