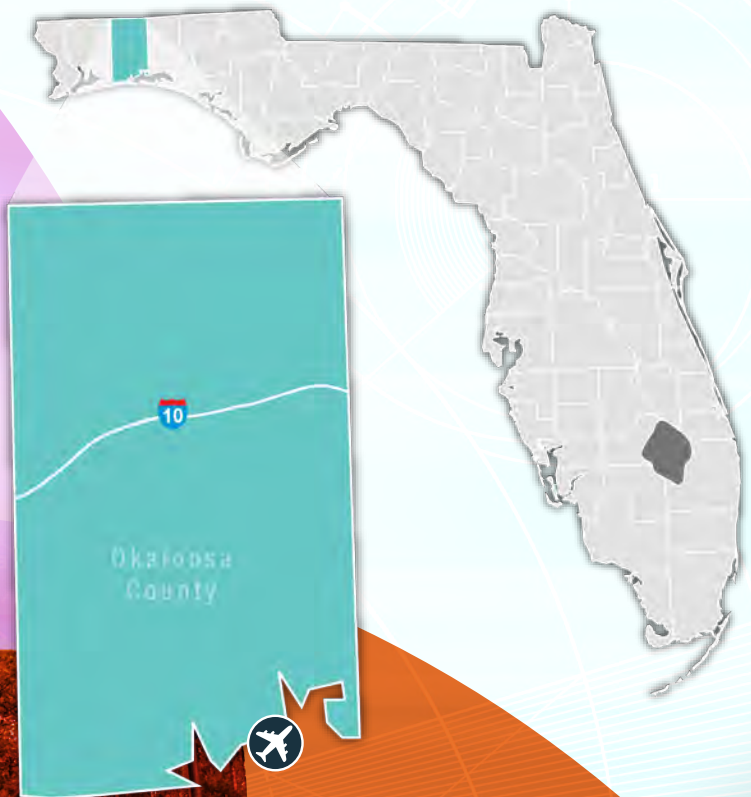


Destin Executive Airport



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION AND SPACEPORTS OFFICE

Airport: Destin Executive Airport (DTS)

City: Destin, Florida

County: Okaloosa County

Owner: Okaloosa County

Role: General Aviation Airport

Located in Okaloosa County, approximately one mile east of downtown Destin, Destin Executive Airport serves several types of general aviation activities. The airport has one 5,001-foot runway which can accommodate multi-engine general aviation aircraft. The airport's terminals are ideal for serving local users as well as those visiting the area.

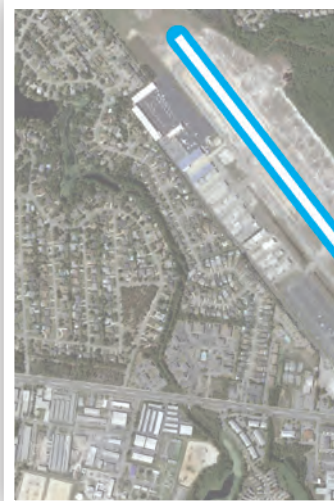


Existing Facilities

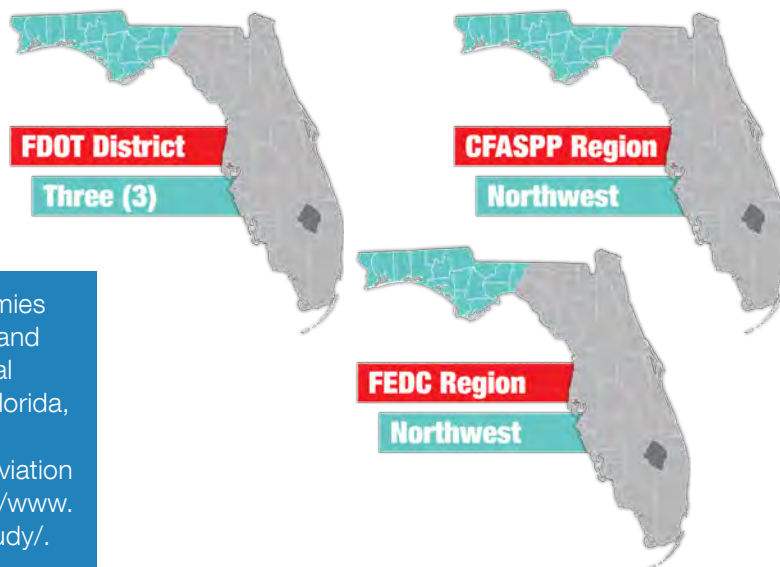
Destin Executive Airport has a single runway, runway 14/32, paved with asphalt and in good condition. Runway 14/32 measures 5,001 feet long by 100 feet wide. The runway is equipped with high intensity edge lights, precision approach path indicator lights, RNAV GPS instrument approaches, and a full-length paved parallel taxiway. Destin Executive also features a recently-opened air traffic control tower that is operational from 6:00am to 10:00pm.

Lynx FBO is the fixed base operator at Destin Executive Airport, offering a range of amenities including hangar space, full service fueling (including jet fuel), maintenance, repairs, and a 6,000-square foot modern terminal featuring conference rooms, flight planning space, and refreshments. Lynx FBO was recently rated one of the top FBOs in the United States by Aviation International News.

For more information, please visit DTS's website at:
<https://www.flydts.com/>



Airport Classification

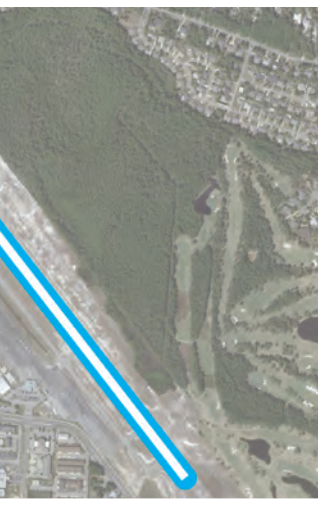


Regional airports support regional economies by connecting communities to statewide and interstate markets. There are 492 Regional Asset airports nationwide and 30 within Florida, including Destin Executive Airport. More information can be found in the Federal Aviation Administration's ASSET Studies at https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/ga_study/.





Community Service

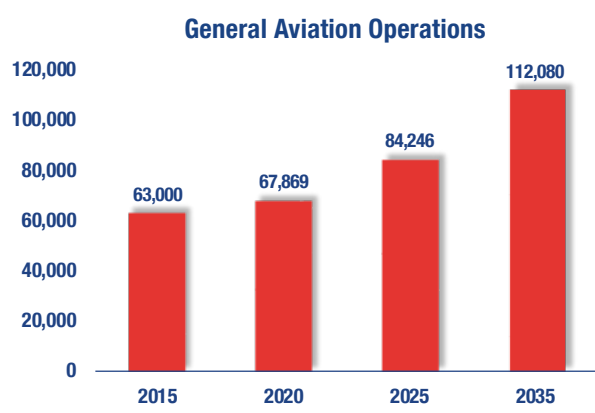
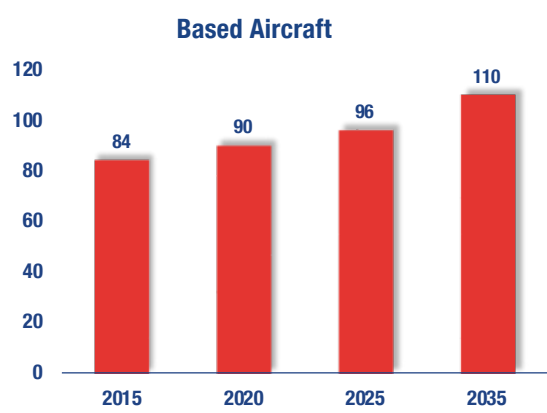


Situated between a popular tourist destination and a large military base, Destin Executive Airport occupies a unique place among general aviation airports. In its current role, the airport serves as the base for general aviation operations in southern Okaloosa County. The primary type of aviation activity at the airport is recreational and business/corporate flying resulting from its proximity to the famous white-sand beaches of Northwest Florida. The tourism industry also means Destin Executive Airport supports an enormous proportion of itinerant aircraft operations as well as numerous jet aircraft operations. The airport also supports the needs of local businesses, from commercial construction contractors to tour helicopters. The airport's tower also helps manage the flight activity of banner towing outfits and parasails located off property that operate in nearby airspace. Because of the proximity of Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, and numerous other military facilities, the airspace around Destin Executive Airport is considerably congested and heavily regulated. The recent construction of an air traffic control tower will help alleviate issues related to this congestion. There is also a fair amount of flight training activity at the airport.



Current and Forecast Demand

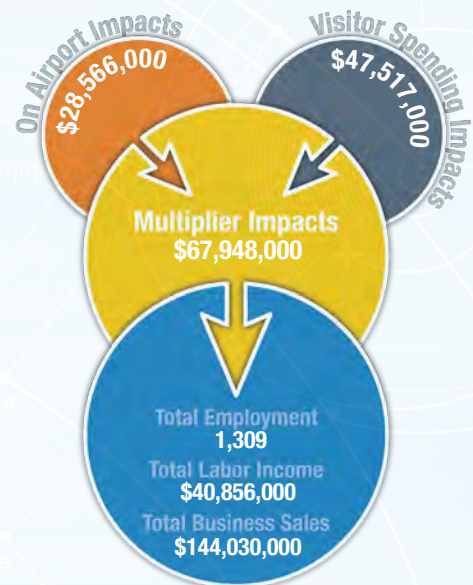
According to Florida Aviation System Plan data, there were 24 aircraft based at Destin Executive Airport in 2014. For the 12-month period ending on October 31, 2018, air traffic controllers at the airport recorded 103,459 operations. The current Airport Reference Code at Destin Executive is B-II which includes aircraft such as the Beechcraft King Air, Cessna Citation X, and Dassault Falcon 2000.



Economic Impact

Destin Executive Airport is located in Okaloosa County approximately two miles east of downtown Destin. The airport has one runway that measures 5,001 feet. The airport accommodates multi-engine general aircraft along with some general aviation jet aircraft.

The airport is a high-end leisure airport and its two fixed based operators offer first-class facilities for its users. The airport primarily supports vacationers and corporate business travelers; for instance, there are multiple tourist fly-ins on the weekends and the airport also receives high-profile visitors. Tourists and snow birds that rely on the airport and whose local spending benefits the community contribute to the airport's indirect impacts. The airport also supports recreational flying activities such as helicopter aerial tours. Flight training is offered by flight schools at the airport and the Coast Guard uses the airport for emergency medical aviation. The airport is an important asset to aviation in the local region as it provides reliever space for general aviation aircraft operating in an area with a high amount of military aircraft activity.



Other Airport Characteristics

In the estimation of airport management, the main roles and services of Destin Executive Airport include corporate vacation and business travel; fly-ins from tourists, weekenders, and people visiting their second homes; flight training and emergency medical operations; and recreational flying and sightseeing tours. Management describes Destin Executive as a high-end leisure and executive airport.

Current and Future System Service Requirements/Recommendations

At the time of this review, airport management reports several current and future airside or landside improvement projects on the airport, the largest recent addition being the Air Traffic Control Tower. Future projects include: rehabilitation and realignment of several of the main parallel taxiways and ladder taxiways; rehabilitation of the south apron; rehabilitation of general aviation taxiways; and a runway preservation project to include updating all markings, signage, and pavement global maintenance.

General Aviation Airport Role



Corporate



Recreational/Sport



Tourism



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www.fdot.gov/aviation