

LAKELAND LINDER REGIONAL AIRPORT

LAKELAND
GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT



AIRPORT LOCATION

Lakeland Linder Regional Airport (LAL) is located in Polk County in central Florida, approximately 30 miles east of Tampa and 50 miles west of Orlando on the I-4 corridor. The Airport is centrally located in the state and has excellent access to all parts of Florida. The primary access to the airport from the east, west and north is Interstate 4 and the Polk Parkway and from the south is US Route 17. Other roads in the vicinity include State Route 655, 653, 570, 92 and 60.



Existing Facilities

Lakeland Linder Regional Airport is served by two intersecting runways. The primary Runway 09/27 is 8,500 feet long by 150 feet wide. The crosswind Runway 05/23 is 5,000 feet long by 150 feet wide. All runways are grooved asphalt and in good condition. Runway 09/27 is served by a full-length parallel taxiway capable of handling group IV aircraft.

The airport has a newly renovated 30,000-square foot terminal building that includes commercial air service support facilities and offices, rental car facilities, restaurant, airport administration offices and parking facilities to serve the terminal building. There are over 25 corporate, executive and personal aircraft hangars as well as more than 50 tie-downs for general aviation aircraft. The Airside Center located on the south side of the airport has an additional 500,000 square feet of hangar/warehouse space and 19,000 square feet of office space.

The Lakeland Air Traffic Control Tower operates 16 hours per day, from 6 am – 10 pm, under the FAA's Federal Contract Tower Program.

The Airport houses a 24 hour/day, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) Facility which operates an Oshkosh Striker 1500 vehicle. The station is operated by the City of Lakeland Fire Department and is classified as an Index B facility.

Educational facilities on the airport include the Central Florida Aerospace Academy (CFAA) which provides high school level education with an aerospace engineering and avionics technology focus, Travis Technical Institute which provides post secondary avionics training and Polk State College. The Airport is also home to the Florida Air Museum and the year round activities of Sun 'n Fun, Inc. as well as the annual Sun 'n Fun International Expo and Fly-in held each year in the spring.

The airport recently completed numerous projects in 2011 to enhance airport infrastructure, sustainability and facilitate the start-up of commercial air service. These projects included the following:

- Update of the Airport Master Plan
- Realignment and Construction of Taxiways J and H
- Expansion and Renovation of the Terminal Building and Ramp
- Installation of Security Fencing and Access Controls
- Construction of a regional pond on the north side of the airfield to improve drainage
- Installation of an AWOS to improve weather reporting
- An Air Traffic Control Tower Site Selection Study
- Installation of Phase I of a 40 acre 5.5 megawatt Solar Farm

The airport currently has several projects underway to facilitate long term planning and enhance airport infrastructure. Projects currently underway include:

- Runway 9/27 Safety Area improvements
- Design and Construction of the Full Length Extension of Taxiway B parallel to Runway 05/23
- Design and Construction of ILS RWY 9 and the Decommissioning of the ILS on RWY 5
- Acquisition of an additional ARFF Vehicle to meet Index C
- Installation of Phase II of the Solar Farm

The airport has also identified several initiatives which are necessary to serve the anticipated level of demand in the near future. These include, construction of a new ARFF facility to house LAL's ARFF vehicle, construction of a new Air Traffic Control tower, extension of taxiway D, and construction of a FEMA staging area apron on the south side of the airport.

Current and Forecast Demand

GENERAL AVIATION

The largest class of aircraft that uses the airport on a regular basis is a Group III aircraft. General aviation constitutes a considerable portion of the airport's annual activity. The airport currently reports 165 based general aviation aircraft. Of this total, approximately five percent of the aircraft are stored on paved tie-downs and 95 percent are in T-hangars or conventional hangars.

Historic and forecast FDOT aviation activity information on file for Lakeland Linder Regional Airport is as follows:

Lakeland Linder Regional Airport	2009	2014	2019	2029
Based Aircraft	178	201	228	292
General Aviation Operations	92,402	104,544	118,282	151,411
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 as an FAA certified Part 139 Airport, the airport serves general aviation aircraft, Part 135 charter operators and Part 121 scheduled commercial air carrier operators.

Direct Air, a scheduled public charter, began scheduled commercial service with Boeing 737-400 aircraft to four cities in June 2011 with 8 weekly departures and arrivals. Direct Air plans to double their activity to 16 departures and arrivals in the summer of 2012 and the airport is actively engaging other air carriers to serve the airport.

The airport is also a recreational destination and is home to the year round activities of Sun 'n Fun, Inc as well as the Florida Air Museum, Sea Plane Pilot Association, FAA National Resource Center and the FAA FASST Team. LAL is located only 35 minutes from downtown Tampa and 40 minutes to Disney World. LegoLand Florida, which just opened in October 2011, is only a 20 minute drive from LAL.

The airport is a “one stop shop” for aviation services including maintenance, painting, avionics and interior re-fabrication. The airport accommodates all types of flight training activity and envisions increasing its role as a flight training facility. General aviation operations by corporate and business users are common at the airport. Lakeland Linder Regional is a reliever airport for Orlando and Tampa International Airport's corporate aircraft. The airport estimates that 50 percent of its annual general aviation operations are business-related. Many of the airport's based aircraft are owned by local businesses. Flight training comprises approximately 20 percent of the airport's flight operations. The airport also attracts numerous transient or visiting general aviation aircraft. Visiting businesses that fly into the airport include various food/grocery vendors and truck manufacturers.

The airport supports numerous military training and transient operations. The airport reports that two percent of its total annual activity (approximately 3,515 operations) is attributable to military operations. These military operations are performed primarily by C-130, and T-6 Texan II and helicopters from various armed services.

The airport sees itself experiencing significant growth in the coming years and will be challenged to secure funds to fully implement the airport's long-term development plans. The airport's vision for its future is to provide a first-class airport facility providing commercial air carrier service, charter service and premier corporate aviation and general aviation facilities.

OTHER AIRPORT CHARACTERISTICS

The airport supports two industrial parks that are located adjacent to the airport, one on the north side and one on the south side. The south park has approximately 200 acres, while the north park has 100 acres. The airport's future plans include designing a foreign trade zone associated with either park and establishing customs facilities.

CURRENT AND FUTURE SYSTEM SERVICE REQUIREMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Lakeland Linder Regional Airport provides extensive Flight Training, Corporate, Recreational/Sport, and Business/Recreational (sightseeing, military, fire fighting, charter, coastal patrol/rescue, medical flights, environmental patrols) and commercial air carrier services. The airport would like to expand its flight training, charter operations, and air carrier service to targeted markets. Analysis shows that the airport is well equipped to meet these service demands and its relatively high Tourism (CA) index indicates that there is a strong potential for expansion of air carrier service.

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