

# WINTER HAVEN REGIONAL AIRPORT GIF



**Airport:** Winter Haven Regional Airport (GIF)

**City:** Winter Haven, Florida

**County:** Polk

**Sponsor:** City of Winter Haven

**Role:** General Aviation  
(Regional)

**CFASPP Region:** Central  
([cfaspp.com](https://cfaspp.com))

**FDOT District:** 1

**Website:** [Winter Haven](https://www.winterhavenfl.com)

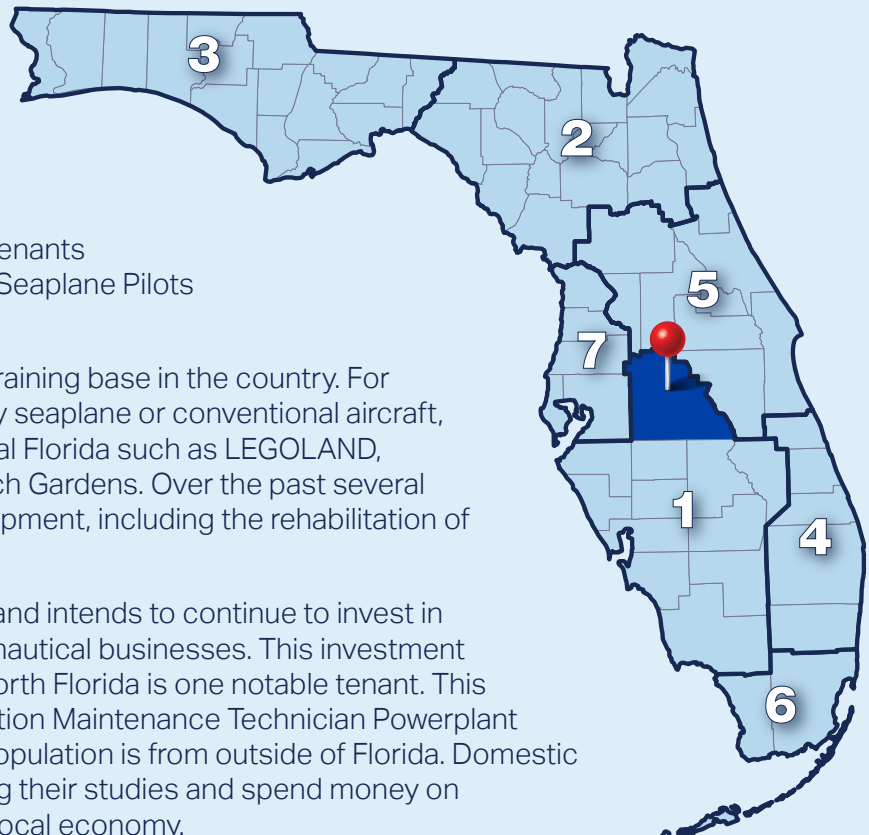


PHOTO SOURCE: MAXAR - 2022.

Winter Haven Regional Airport (GIF) is in the central Florida city of Winter Haven. Known as the Chain of Lakes City, 55 beautiful lakes are in or adjacent to the city limits. It is therefore no surprise that Winter Haven Regional Airport is home to numerous amphibious aircraft and tenants supporting seaplane operations, including the Seaplane Pilots Association.

The airport is also the single largest seaplane training base in the country. For transient pilots and their passengers arriving by seaplane or conventional aircraft, GIF offers a gateway to the attractions of central Florida such as LEGOLAND, Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando, and Busch Gardens. Over the past several years, the airport has invested in airfield development, including the rehabilitation of Runway 11-29 and extension of Taxiway C.

GIF has also adopted an airport business plan and intends to continue to invest in facilities to support aeronautical and non-aeronautical businesses. This investment has already paid dividends. DME Services of North Florida is one notable tenant. This company provides aviation education and Aviation Maintenance Technician Powerplant (AMP) testing. Over 50 percent of its student population is from outside of Florida. Domestic and international students live in the area during their studies and spend money on restaurants, lodging, and other services in the local economy.



## ECONOMIC IMPACT



**\$88.1M**  
ECONOMIC IMPACT (OUTPUT)



**\$46.2M**  
VALUE ADDED



**\$27M**  
PAYROLL



**600**  
JOBS



Source: Florida Aviation Economic Impact Study.

## GENERAL AVIATION ROLES



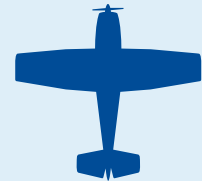
FLIGHT  
TRAINING



CORPORATE



TOURISM



RECREATIONAL /  
SPORT

Source: FASP 2043 Update.

For more information on airport roles, please refer to the  
FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).



## ACTIVITY FORECASTS

### OPERATIONS

**112,173**

2043

**80,523**

2023

### BASED AIRCRAFT

**183**

2043

**145**

2023



Source: FASP 2043 Update.

## AIRPORT CHARACTERISTICS

**1** Convenient  
Gateway to Major  
Tourist Attractions

**2** Largest Seaplane  
Training Facility in  
the Country

**3** Continued Plans to  
Invest in Aviation and  
Non-Aviation Growth

## RUNWAY INFORMATION (2)

Runway 5-23: 5,005' x 100'

Runway 11-29: 4,001' x 60'



### Overview of the FASP 2043 Update:

Per Florida statute, the Florida Aviation System Plan (FASP) is periodically updated to summarize the airport and aviation needs in Florida while remaining consistent with the goals of the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP). The FASP 2043 Update focuses on reviewing the applicability of the various goals, objectives, and performance measures to support two primary goals: 1) provide for more efficiency in decision making within FDOT to support funding and development decisions, and 2) provide airports within the system with recommendations for development that support their individual missions while contributing to the overall strength and health of the Florida airport system.

