

Airport Manatee



Airport: Airport Manatee (48X)

City: Palmetto, Florida

County: Manatee County

Owner: Reeder Farms LLC

Role: General Aviation Airport

Located in the northeast corner of Manatee County outside of Palmetto, Florida, Airport Manatee is a small yet popular privately-owned, public use general aviation airport. The airport and its single turf runway primarily support recreational and sport aviation activity.



Existing Facilities

Airport Manatee is served by a single turf runway in good condition, designated runway 7/25. This runway measures 3,120 feet long by 100 feet wide and is equipped with low intensity edge lights. Other facilities at the airport include a small administration building, 23 T-hangar units, 20 tie down spaces, and 47 hood storage spaces. Self-service 100LL Avgas is also available. The airport's fixed base operator provides amenities such as aircraft and hangar rentals, a courtesy car, and flight instruction. The FBO is also cable of making basic aircraft repairs.

For more information, please visit 48X's website at: <http://www.airportmanatee.org/>



Airport Classification



Twenty-three privately-owned aviation facilities are open to the public throughout Florida including Airport Manatee. These facilities generally comprise fly-in communities with grass strips or contain short paved runways that primarily serve the recreational general aviation public. Although these facilities are owned and operated by private individuals or companies, the facilities are open to the public for aviation use.





Florida by the Numbers

Approximately half of all visitors arrive by air

- Florida's airports are often the first and last impression of our state

20 commercial service airports

- 4 large hubs; more than any other state
- Florida ranked second in the nation (2016) for airline passenger volume
- Serves approximately 10% of national passengers



Community Service



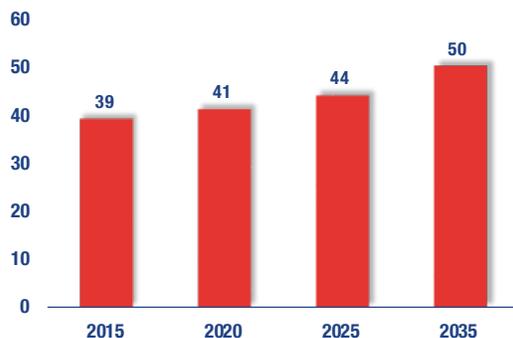
Airport Manatee primarily serves as a base for recreational and sport general aviation activity. The airport's mission, according to management, is to promote general aviation and support the flying community. The airport prides itself on being a community-focused facility, and frequently holds community events such as coffee groups and Experimental Aircraft Association fly ins. The airport advertises itself as a place where anyone with an interest in flying can pursue their passion. There are several instructors based at the airport who offer flying lessons. Additionally, several based aircraft at Airport Manatee belong to local businesses, although business flights are not a common activity at the airport. The airport's low fuel prices compared to other airports in the surrounding area make it an ideal local for general aviation pilots to stop and refuel on trips up or down the Florida peninsula. Airport Manatee also supports a small amount of military activity each year from pilots practicing grass runway operations.



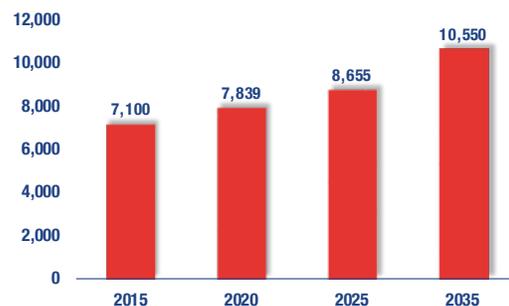
Current and Forecast Demand

According to Florida Aviation System Plan data, in 2014 there were 55 aircraft based at Airport Manatee. During the same time period, there 7,100 total general aviation operations. For the 12-month period ending on December 16, 2016, 70 percent of all operations were local general aviation, 28 percent were transient general aviation, and one percent were military operations.

Based Aircraft



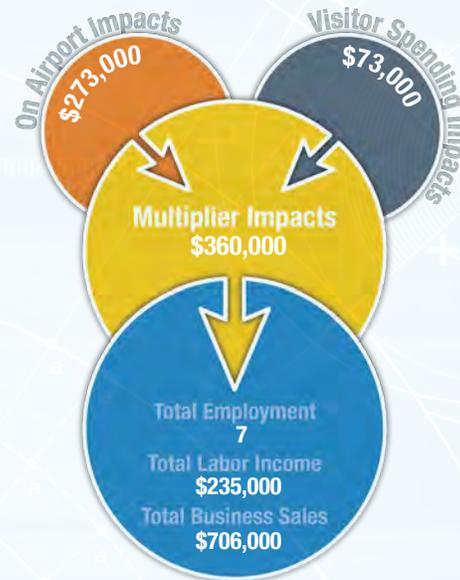
General Aviation Operations



Economic Impact

Airport Manatee is on Florida's Gulf Coast, approximately 35 miles south of Tampa. The airport has one turf runway that measures 3,120 feet. The airport accommodates single-engine general aviation aircraft and serves the general aviation needs of the community.

The airport strives to serve local pilots; the main activity that occurs at the airport is recreational flying. A few businesses also have based aircraft at the airport. The airport also supports careers in aviation by providing opportunities for new and current pilots to stay educated. Flight instructors often utilize the airport for military and flight trainings. The airport tenant, Tampa Bay Flying Club, provides flight training and aircraft maintenance and repair. The airport also engages in the community by hosting two Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Fly-Ins a year. Other activities at the airport include environmental patrol, aerial photography, and law enforcement



Other Airport Characteristics

Despite its small size and basic facilities, Airport Manatee is a very popular facility for local recreational pilots. The airport's low prices and communal atmosphere regularly attract local and transient users.

Current and Future System Service Requirements/Recommendations

The airport reports a large amount of flight training and recreational activity. It also has modest levels of agricultural spraying, making it a Business/Recreational airport. The airport expects it will serve increased levels of flight training and recreational aviation and received relatively high quotients in the analysis in both categories. It did not receive a high quotient in the Corporate or Business/Recreational service categories, mainly because of its short runway and lack of an instrument approach. It received a relatively high quotient in Tourism (CA), making this a potential future service.

General Aviation Airport Role



Flight Training



Recreational/Sport



Business/Recreational

