Busselton Margaret River Airport: Overview

An exciting new commercial flight path between Busselton and Melbourne is due to take off in mid-2021, and it's all thanks to the \$73 million redevelopment of the Busselton Margaret River Airport. The project has allowed the airport to reposition itself as the gateway to the Busselton Margaret River region and Western Australia's South West, paving the way for future tourism opportunities and economic growth.

Location

The Busselton Margaret River Airport's prime location means easy access to Western Australia's South West. Only 6.8km from the centre of Busselton, 30 minutes from Dunsborough and a 45-minute drive to Margaret River, the airport combats the barriers of time, distance and access, which often prevent people from visiting the region and its attractions.

Its proximity to world-renowned wine regions such as Margaret River and Geographe, manmade attractions like the Busselton Jetty and Cape Naturaliste Lighthouse, and natural attractions like Boranup Forest and the Cape to Cape Track, make commercial flights attractive to interstate and international visitors, while import/export opportunities will help to foster economic growth within new and existing markets. For residents, the airport presents an opportunity to minimise travel time to and from destinations, essentially eliminating the four-hour round trip to Perth.



Airport Development Project

Thanks to funding support from the Australian Federal Government, Western Australian State Government and the City of Busselton, the City of Busselton has been able to successfully complete a multi-million-dollar upgrade to the Busselton Margaret River Airport's facilities and aviation infrastructure.

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The Project has cemented the future of the airport to facilitate air services to both interstate and international destinations via the widening and strengthening of the airport's runway (up to 2520m long and 45m wide), which allows narrow and wide-bodied Code 4C and E aircraft such as Boeing 737, Airbus 320 and Airbus 330 to land.



In addition to the runway works, four new apron parking bays and connecting taxiways were constructed, along with two helipads, a new terminal building capable of accommodating expanded operations and services, a new 422 bay car park and a new general aviation precinct with 36 individual hangar sites.

Commercial flights

In mid-2021, flights between Busselton and Melbourne are expected to operate three times a week with Jetstar. The flight path is expected to be an economic driver for the South West over the next three years, with 60,000 east coast visitors expected to contribute more than \$40 million to the local economy.

Future flight paths to destinations including Sydney, Denpasar, Singapore and China are all possible with the current infrastructure. It is also the City's intention to further develop opportunities to facilitate direct international flights of both passenger and freight to South East Asian



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destinations such as Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong and Denpasar.

Charter flights

The Busselton Margaret River Airport currently has 17 scheduled FIFO charter flights that service iron ore mine sites in the state's North West. In addition to the FIFO charter flights, the airport serves ad hoc charters, tourism operators, emergency services and a thriving general aviation community.



Transport

Transport options from the gateway of the Busselton Margaret River region to Busselton, Dunsborough, Yallingup, Margaret River and further afield are many and diverse. The airport offers rental car options, a taxi rank is located in front of the terminal, while a number of limousine and private car hire companies in the region offer transfers to and from the airport. A bus service between the airport and town centre is currently under consideration.

General aviation precinct and hangars

A new general aviation precinct north of the existing terminal has been constructed as part of the Airport Development Project, with up to 36 hangar sites of various sizes existing for long-term lease. The lease areas of the lots range from 150sqm to 800sqm and are serviced with water, power, sewer and telecommunications. There is also a limited amount of existing hangar space available for casual hire.

Freight opportunities

Busselton Margaret River Airport is located in the heart of Western Australia's South West, which is renowned for its production of high quality dairy products, meat, seafood, fresh fruit and vegetables and truffles. Located on major arterial roads, the airport offers seven fully serviced lots available for development. These lots range from 2048sqm to 4959sqm, are located in close proximity to the Code E Apron, and are serviced by an internal road network suitable for B Double Trucks.



Commercial opportunities

With extensive aviation infrastructure upgrades complete and interstate passenger services commencing in mid-2021, now is the time to make your mark in one of Australia's fastest growing regions. Whether you are involved in freight, car hire or other aviation related industries, seize this unique opportunity to capitalise on the growing use of Busselton Margaret River Airport by Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) and charter jet services, emergency services and general aviation. There will also be a number of advertising opportunities within the airport precinct and its surrounds as the airport grows.

Visit <u>busseltonmargaretriverairport.com.au</u> for more.

