

easyJet's big drop in Southend passengers



Southend Airport's parent company the Stobart Group recorded a drop in easyJet passenger numbers

[Paul Nizinskyj](#) / 2 hours ago / [News](#)

THOUSANDS of fewer passengers are flying with easyJet from Southend Airport this year, according to figures announced by the airport's owners.

[Stobart Group](#), the airport's parent company, said there was a drop of 99,000 easyJet passenger numbers this year based on the same period 12 months ago.

The Stobart Group published the figures in its pre-close trading statement on the London Stock Exchange, comparing figures for the five months up to July 31 to the same period last year.

Although the statement showed a 99,000 drop to 410,000 easyJet passengers in the period, it also revealed revenue per passenger had increased – but maintained this was a “short-term” drop in numbers.

It said: “Our target is to achieve over 2.5 million passengers annually by 2018 at London [Southend Airport](#).”

“We reported in the AGM statement in June that we are working with easyJet to determine the optimum capacity for the routes it operates from London Southend Airport.

“Stobart Group guided then that this would lead to a shortterm fall in passenger numbers over the summer. As a result of this, passenger numbers in the five months to July 31, decreased by 99,000 yearon- year to 410,000, but revenue per passenger increased.

“Stobart Group’s growing relationship with easyJet, coupled with discussions with other low-cost airlines, gives us confidence we will be well placed to announce new routes and achieve our target of welcoming 2.5million passengers to London Southend Airport annually by 2018.”

Chief executive Andrew Tinkler added: “We have continued to focus primarily on delivering value in our two high-growth divisions, energy and aviation, and we continue to build the infrastructure and relationships to meet our targets in these markets.”

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In July, easyJet announced it would scrap its Southend to Berlin route in February to focus on busier services, hinting a new destination would be announced to replace it.

A new route to Mahon on the Balearic island of Menorca was recently launched and additional services to Lyon and Lanzarote will begin this winter.

Comments (13)

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southendandy75 says... 3:30pm Wed 2 Sep 15

Wait for the nimbys to crow on.

Score: 3

runwellschild says... 3:37pm Wed 2 Sep 15

Great news, now we can lie in in the morning without being disturbed at 6.45 a.m. by noisy planes and watch out TV without disturbance as the planes fly over head.

Give the road access around the airport one wonders how it was ever allowed to develop.

Score: -14

No Riff Raff says... 3:37pm Wed 2 Sep 15

Surely that's because Easyjet took off one aircraft? Only three now operate I believe. Stobart mentioned this would impact numbers over the summer.

It might also have something to do with the rubbish Taxi service that Southend Council have sanctioned.

Score: 13

DannyK86 says... 3:45pm Wed 2 Sep 15

runwellschild wrote...

Great news, now we can lie in in the morning without being disturbed at 6.45 a.m. by noisy planes and watch out TV without disturbance as the planes fly over head.

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Given the fact the airport has been there for 80+ years, one wonders why you chose to live nearby.

Score: 20

nomoretogo says... 3:46pm Wed 2 Sep 15

No surprise and there are less planes going out this year!

Score: 9

DannyK86 says... 3:48pm Wed 2 Sep 15

The early finishing times of the train service compared to last flights is a problem, especially if flights are delayed. I definitely think there is a market for a coach service linking Southend Airport to London Victoria, perhaps stopping at Basildon so that people along the C2C line can get to the airport without changing to Greater Anglia, and this should run later than the existing trains. Also, having the X30 stop at Southend Airport on the way to Stansted is pointless - nobody uses it to access Southend Airport from Southend as the train is better, so all it does is add time to the trip to Stansted.

Score: 9

DogsMessInLeigh says... 4:00pm Wed 2 Sep 15

runwellschild wrote...

Great news, now we can lie in in the morning without being disturbed at 6.45 a.m. by noisy planes and watch out TV without disturbance as the planes fly over head.

Give the road access around the airport one wonders how it was ever allowed to develop.

I am virtually underneath and barely notice them, if you want to notice them and are waiting for them then they are there, also amazing things how they float down overhead, i use the route around the airport and can't say i have noticed any problems, apart from chucking out time at RBS but improvements have occurred not sure what its like at that section at peak time now though.

Score: 7

rhowes says... 4:28pm Wed 2 Sep 15

I see no long term future for this airfield as a London airport. The South East of England does not need more runway capacity in my view, and we should be supporting Stansted Airport as it tries to maximise it's flights. I must assume that the only company making money at Southend are Easy-jet.

Score: -7

w-jback says... 4:30pm Wed 2 Sep 15

DogsMessInLeigh wrote...

runwellschild wrote...

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Same here, Nestuda way is a bit busy between 5 and 6 but this is due to people returning home and not the airport traffic which is negligible.

Score: 7

A.I.K. says... 4:33pm Wed 2 Sep 15

Not surprised with the costs they charge compared to the proper London stations!!

Score: 1

Gridlock2 says... 4:48pm Wed 2 Sep 15

Perhaps Easyjet should now realise that they need to stop p!ssing off their loyal customers by their regular change in cabin bag policy and cancelling routes halfway through the season without properly notifying those that have booked! I love the convenience and hassle free aspects of SEN airport but rapidly loosing faith with Easyjet.

Score: 1

Timneo says... 5:11pm Wed 2 Sep 15

I do enjoy flying from Southend - that's genuinely enjoy - going to any of the other airports is a big hassle. Just wish they flew to Munich.

Score: 2

maxell says... 5:43pm Wed 2 Sep 15

Got the chance to post this twice

The airport accounts the year before last showed a loss of over 5,000,000(mil) last year it was worse at 6.800,000(mil) they boasted a million passengers last year which means near as **** it they discounted every passenger £6.80 or they lost the same amount depends how it's looked upon. When stagecoach owned Manston airport they took the wise decision to pull out as they were loosing £10.000 per day, southend is loosing more, and it is simply not sustainable, your pension funds should not be invested into loss making enterprises , I suspect that debt is being loaded into what is looking increasingly like a failing airport the figures are all that matters. It seems to be the norm nowadays to pre-warn investors of downturns so the accounts don't come as such a shock. The pre-statement also reports that the airport is in talks with easyjet on how they can optimise profit/flights which means less flights and fuller aircraft. Easyjet are coming under the cosh. Easyjet flights down at Stantead,whilst Ryanair

flights are up, If stobart where not underwriting easyjet at southend I feel they would pull out. I suspect we will hear in other post how its normal to suffer losses and how they they projected this. The accounts should be out 25th October, however last year we had to wait until March of the following year. The airport blamed this on administration and accountancy issues. People now a days are not loyal to one company they go for the best deals hence above comments already stating deflections to Stanstead. My opinion as always I forgot to mention that I believe that even the CAA dont believe the airport, will succeed. The reason they show no concern over safety seeing its risk assessment is partially based on the number of flights.

Score: 0