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# London Airport Guide

London is serviced by 5 major airports, simply because of the huge number of tourists that visit the capital each year. Each of these airports offers good links to the city centre; a fact that makes them popular destinations for visitors and commuters alike.

Heathrow Airport - Heathrow is London's largest airport and is the world's busiest for international passengers. It has five terminals and acts as a regional base to more than 90 airlines, which fly to over 150 destinations worldwide. It is located 22km west of Central London. The cheapest way to get to Central London from Heathrow is by using the London Underground. The journey takes less than an hour - though it will depend on your final destination - and costs around \$6.

Gatwick Airport - Second only to Heathrow, Gatwick can be found 45km to the south of London's centre. Better known for its frequent charter and discount flights, Gatwick is highly popular and as such it is well connected to London. By bus the journey takes an average of 90 minutes however trains regularly run from Gatwick to London Victoria as well.

Stansted Airport - Stansted is the definition of a budget airline hub but, despite the limited number of airlines, it is still London's third busiest airport. It is located 48km northeast of the city center and there are convenient and reliable bus and train connections between the two. Stansted Bus and easyBus all would be your best options - they both send vehicles between the airport and Victoria Station, with the option to jump off at Marble Arch or Baker Street if you prefer.

Luton Airport - Luton Airport is located 56km north of London. It is a small airport (it has just a single runway airport) and it is predominantly used only by budget airlines flying to various destinations around Europe. As the airport is relatively far from central London, and involves going through busy areas, getting there by car or bus requires time and planning. There is a train station near to the airport though, which will get you to the city center in less than an hour.

London City Airport - Although this small inner-city airport only offers a single runway it is highly popular with business travelers destined for the financial district of London. Located close to Canary Wharf the London City Airport is just 11km from the city centre and is well connected via the Docklands Light Railway and a plethora of bus services. It is worth mentioning that planes landing here must be able to perform short take-offs and equally short landings.

Alternatives to the 5 London Airports include the centrally located Birmingham Airport and Manchester Airport to the north. Both of these large international airports have very good transport links to London and the rest of the UK, meaning you can be anywhere within the country with just a few hours traveling.

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