



>> Hello & Welcome...

...to our monthly newsletter for the Fly UK community & our friends.

Thanks for downloading edition nine of Skyways magazine which now acts as our monthly newsletter. The purpose of Skyways is to keep our members and friends in the flight sim community up to date with what's going on at Fly UK!

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer flying, last month at Fly UK we had over 1500 pireps, 608 of which were flown online on IVAO, VATSIM or our FSD server. We're really pleased to see so many members moving to online flying. Keep it up!



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Fly UK Virtual Airways:

www.flyuk.aero

Skyways Editors:

Chris Sutcliffe & Philip Jones

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>> Inside July's Issue

Plenty to keep you busy whilst in the cruise!

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>> Explore Malaga July's Featured Destination of the Month

The Costa del Sol, "Coast of the Sun", is a region in the south of Spain, in the autonomous community of Andalusia, comprising the coastal towns and communities along the Mediterranean coastline of the Malaga province. The Costa del Sol is situated between two lesser known costas: Costa de la Luz and Costa Tropical. Formerly made up of a series of small, quiet fishing settlements, the region has been completely transformed during the latter part of the 20th century into a tourist destination of world renown.

Settlement in the region dates back to the Bronze Age, and it has been colonised and ruled by many cultures such as the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, Visigoths and Moors, before the Reconquista.

Historically its population lived in the fishing villages, and in the "white" villages a little distance inland, in the mountains running down to the coast. The area was discovered and developed to meet the demands of international tourism in the 1950s and has since been a popular destination for foreign tourists not only for its beaches but also for its local culture. The area is particularly famous for its towns like Marbella, which provides the Costa del Sol with its reputation for being a playground for its super-rich and famous visitors.

The Costa del Sol is a popular tourist region that welcomes millions of people annually, who mostly arrive at Malaga airport and head to one of the many resorts located along this stretch of coastline from Gibraltar in the west to Nerja in the east.



Malaga Airport - IATA: AGP ICAO: LEMG

Malaga Airport, also known as Pablo Ruiz Picasso Airport, is the main airport for the Costa del Sol of Spain. It is 8 km southwest of Malaga and 5km north of Torremolinos. The airport has flight connections to over 60 countries worldwide, and 12,813,764 passengers passed through it in 2008. The airport currently operates with two terminals. A third terminal adjacent to the previous two is currently under construction and is scheduled to open in 2009. A second runway is expected to open by 2010.

FS2004/FS2002 Payware Scenery:

Sim Wings - Malaga

http://www.sim-wings.de/screens_malaga.htm

FS2004 Freeware (AFCAD File):

<http://www.flightsim.com/kdl.php?fid=131699>

FSX Freeware (AFCAD File):

<http://www.flightsim.com/kdl.php?fid=130529>



>> In-Flight Entertainment

Something for everyone on board Fly UK this July

Fly UK In-Flight Entertainment can be accessed via the Fly UK In-Flight Services (IFS) kneeboard. Fly UK is one of the only virtual airlines to offer in-flight entertainment.

The featured IFE content on our in-flight services kneeboard has been updated for July. We have also added Fly UK Live Support to the in-flight services kneeboard! From Ocean's Eleven to Top Gear to brand new music videos there is something for everyone this July onboard Fly UK! Load up your in-flight services kneeboard, sit back and relax!

TV Streams

BBC News, Sky News , Scotland Today, Sportal Sports Channel, Moovee View TV, Classic FM TV, e-Music TV, Invincible Music TV.



Flying from the UK

Featured Movie:

- Ocean's Eleven

Featured Programs:

- Top Gear
- My Name is Earl

Featured Music Videos:

- Katy Perry – Waking Up In Vegas
- La Roux - Bulletproof

Featured Flight Sim Videos:

- Simulated Dogfight
- Dreaming of Dubai

Flying to the UK

Featured Movie:

- Yes Man

Featured Programs:

- Mythbusters
- Friends

Featured Music Videos:

- Lilly Allen – Not Fair
- Supergrass - Alright

Featured Flight Sim Videos:

- Qantas Airlines Takeoff
- White Ravens Aerobatic Team

Radio Streams

- Digitally Imported Vocal Trance
- Digitally Imported Euro Dance
- 997 Music - The 80's Channel
- 997 Music - Hitz' Channel
- 997 Music - The Rock Channel
- 997 Music - The Oldies Channel
- BBC Radio1
- Real Radio
- Virgin Radio
- Rock FM Radio
- Hitz Radio (US)
- SkyHigh Radio
- BBC Radio 2
- Kiss 100
- Galaxy Radio



All content has been obtained from legal websites and we fully comply with their policies on use of the content available (mainly 'YouTube' and 'Google')

>> July Online Events

Important dates for your diary

9th July – VATSIM – Heathrow to Warsaw

Calling all VATSIM pilots! Join us for our monthly VATSIM event to Warsaw - the capital and largest city of Poland. It is located on the Vistula River roughly 370 km from both the Baltic Sea coast and the Carpathian Mountains.

18th July – Teamspeak Social Evening

Gather on Teamspeak for a light hearted evening, have a laugh and a chat from 1930z until late. You will be able to chat to members of staff and ask questions. SkyHigh Radio will be on air providing some music for us to tune in to.

21st July – IVAO – Heathrow to Pisa

For our IVAO event this month we're off to Pisa - a city in Tuscany, central Italy, known worldwide for its Leaning Tower!

26th July – IVAO UK VA Event

Details to be released soon – keep checking the website events page!



>> Weekly TA Group Flights

Every Saturday morning on IVAO at 06.00z



4th July – Jersey (EGJJ) to Nice, France (LFML)

11th July – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (WMKK) to Jakarta, Indonesia (WMII)

28th July -Lyon, France (LFLL) to Naples, Italy (LIRN)

25th July - Malaga, Spain (LEMG) to Barcelona, Spain (LEBL)

>> Events Reminder



- Any Fly UK pilot can take part in events, regardless of their rank.
- Fly UK pilots are cleared to fly any Fly UK aircraft regardless of their rank.
- Pireps must not be logged via FSPassengers for event flights otherwise they will be deleted.



> Real World Event - Saturday 1st August from 10.30AM – Sherburn Aero Club

Annual Sherburn Event - Flight Simulator Show & Computer Fair – All Welcome - More info at <http://www.astrasimexpo.co.uk>

SCREENSHOT COMPETITION



JUNE WINNER

(Right) Congratulations to **UKV1781** – **Scott Durant** for winning June's competition with the screenshot 'Irish Magic at EDI'. Great screenshot Scott well done!



> JULY COMPETITION

July's theme is:

Holiday Destinations

The final date for entry submission will be 9pm on 23rd July. Voting will then commence for you to choose your favourite screenshot.

To enter July's competition and for rules and more information, please visit our community forums!

The prizes for the monthly screenshot competition are as follows:



The winning screenshot will also be featured as the promotional image for the following month's competition!

SCREENSHOT HINTS & TIPS



Are you fed up of constantly having to paste your screenshots in paint before you can view them? Well you no longer have to. **SnapShooter 2007** is a fantastic and easy to use program that can capture your screenshots with a single key. Its simple to use interface and user friendliness make it the perfect tool for people who are new to screenshotting or for people who just want a hassle free way to get the shot they want!

Download SnapShooter 2007 –

http://www.flyuk.aero/~flyuk_staff/Uploads/SnapShooter2007_v112584.exe



>> News & Updates

A summary of the latest news from Fly UK!

- Flight Plan Export Feature

Thanks to UKV1273 - Chris Spencer who has recently been helping with a number of new features for the Fly UK website, we have recently added links to flight manifests and event info pages which allow you to export flight plans to various external applications.

This new feature is currently in BETA testing phase. At the moment we have a large amount of flight plans in our database which are out of date. Our operations team are currently working on the new operations programme for Fly UK, when this is released in the next few months, all flight plans will be up to date.

The reason we have decided to implement this feature is so that in the future it will enable you to spend less time setting up your flight, and also ensure that your flight plan is accurate and current.

As mentioned above, many of our flight plans are currently out of date so although we are asking you to test this new feature, only use the exported flight plan for a online flight if you have checked the route it gives is valid and not out of date.

The following applications are supported: IvAp; FSInn; SquawkBox; Microsoft Flight Simulator; FlightSim Commander; vasFMC; PMDG products; Level-D 767-300.

<http://www.flyuk.aero/en/index.php?page=announce&id=14554>

- Peter Slater's FS2004 Aircraft

Fly UK member and aircraft developer UKV1762 – Peter Slater has included Fly UK liveries in the latest release of his freeware Boeing 737/757/767 aircraft packages. Peter also offers Boeing 747/777 aircraft packages but these do not include the Fly UK livery at the moment.

Each Boeing aircraft package includes: A fully automated installation; V Speed Readouts during takeoff; Landing height callouts; Crew Announcements; TCAS with radar; Professional Panel; Professional sound sets (including all engine variants); Virtual Cockpit & Wing Views; VATSIM compatible thanks to ServInfo gauge (easy to upgrade if needed); FS Inn & FS Co-pilot are also supported in all packages; Added more professional looking check lists; DTX3 textures for friendly frame rates; 32 bit textures supported (view 'How do I ...?' link above).

Extra features (installed with the Update to version 3): Reverser Spray Effects (in rain or snow); Takeoff Spray Effects (in rain or snow); Engine Effects (heat haze shimmering and a slight engine smoke effect)

The aircraft can be downloaded from Peter's web site at www.peterslater.co.nr

You will need to install the latest patches in order to install the Fly UK liveries. Full instructions and read me files can be found on Peter's website and in the downloads.

- Over 1000 Training Sessions Completed!

In July the Fly UK Training Academy hit the 1000 training session mark! Session number 1000 was a 'New to Fly UK' course for UKV1309 - John Maracle held by TA manager UKV1530 - Kevin Carter.

We are very proud of the Fly UK Training Academy, it has grown to become one of the most important and active areas of the virtual airline. There are not many virtual airlines around these days that offer the level of service our training department does. From one2one online training sessions to the popular weekly TA morning group flights, the Training Academy really is here to help, and every member of the TA team goes out of their way to do so.

We would like to say a big thank you and well done to all past and present Fly UK Training Academy staff!



> UKV1586 – Carl Chamberlain Steps Down

Operations manager Carl Chamberlain announced this month that he was stepping down from his position on the staff team. We would like to thank Carl for all his hard work during the brief period he spent on the staff team with us and we wish him all the best for the future.

Carl continues to be an active Fly UK pilot.

> Staff Team Vacancies

We are pleased to announce new positions have now become available within the staff team. Becoming a member of the staff team is both an exciting and challenging commitment, however the utmost of dedication is required at all times.

We are currently recruiting a new fleet repainter, operations manager and flying club trainers/managers.

See 'Management Careers' page for full details and how to apply.



>> International Pilot Phrase Book

Hola, Bonjour, Hallo!

Do you ever find yourself listening to a controller and a pilot conversing in a different language? Do you find yourself asking questions like: What are they talking about and what are they saying? Well, the pilot phrase book from Fly UK Virtual Airways may be of some use to you!

In our handy phrase book (latest version 2.0), you will find some of the common words and aviation phrases in various languages. Phrases such as "Left turn heading" and "Thank you" are just two which are included in each language.

Languages Covered:

- Catalan
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- French
- German
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Norwegian
- Polish
- Romanian
- Spanish
- Swedish

The pilot handbook was created by ex Fly UK manager Tim Chambers a number of years ago. We hope you find it useful!

Where Can I Download the Fly UK International Pilot Phrase Book? Go to our website. From the menu select 'Resources' then 'Documents & Videos'. From the drop down box select 'Other Documents'. The phrase book is the top document listed.



Spanish Phrases

Hello	Hola
Goodbye	Adiós
Thank you	Gracias
Good Morning	Buenos días
Good Afternoon	Buenas tardes
Good Evening	Buenas tardes
Good Night	Buenas noches
Aircraft	Avión
Air Traffic Controller	Controlador de trafico aéreo
Clearance Delivery	Autorización de salida
Ground	Tierra
Tower	Torre
Approach	Aproximación
Airspace	Espacio aéreo
Transition Altitude	Altura de transición
Transition Level	Nivel de transición
Cleared	Autorizado
Approved	Aprobado
Push Back	Retroceso
Engine Start-up	Arranque de motores
Arrival/s	Legada/s
Departure/s	Salida/s
Runway	Pista
Flight Plan	Plan de vuelo
Taxi	Rodaje
Taxiway	Calle de rodaje
Cleared for takeoff	Autorizado a despegar
Cleared to land	Autorizado aterrizar
Left turn heading ...	Por la izquierda rumbo
Right turn heading ...	Por la derecha rumbo
Holding Pattern	Circuito de espera
Report runway vacated	Notifique pista libre
Traffic	Trafico
Correct	Correcto
Incorrect	Incorrecto
Line up and wait	Entrar y mantener
Hold position	Mantener posición
Ascend	Ascienda
Descend	Descienda
Contact	Contacto
Established	Establecido
Engine Shut-down	Motores parados

>> Guess the Airlines



In the June edition of Skyways magazine we included a 'Guess the Airlines' feature. This month we only had one correct entry!

Well done to **UKV1597 - Derek Annwell** who emailed us with the correct answers which are as follows:

Koral Blue Airlines, Cyprus Airlines & Ethiopian Airlines.

Each issue we feature a staff profile so you can find out more about the people behind Fly UK.



Pilot ID: UKV1530

Nearest Airport: Malaga

Joined Us: April 2008

Favourite FS Aircraft: B757

Location: Malaga, Spain

Favourite RW Aircraft: B757

Rank: ATP Captain

Staff Position: TA Manager

Total Hours: 500hrs 34mins

Total Flights: 379

>> STAFF PROFILE KEVIN CARTER

I am sure most of you will know me as I have been a Training Academy manager for close on eighteen months, but here is a little history of my life.

I was born in Stockport which is not part of Greater Manchester on 18/09/49.

In my youth I was very good at football and became captain of Stockport boys and Cheshire boys, in fact Manchester United asked me to sign for them but I turned them down (never mind that's another story!). I was also very interested in aircraft and living so close to Manchester airport I used to go to the south side of the viewing area to watch them land and take off.

In 1971 I got a job with Thomson holidays as a rep in Benidorm and I really loved the job.

Two years later I was promoted to training manager which involved me training all the reps on the Costa Blanca and also the Costa Del Sol (including Marbella).

In 1978 I met my wife and decided to return to the UK to start a family. I now have two sons aged 30 and 28.

Before I left Thomson holidays I was privileged to fly back and forth to the UK whenever I wanted, because of this I got to know the flight deck crews very well and was lucky enough to be invited to sit on the jump seat on many occasions.

After arriving back in the UK, we opened our first travel agency and were lucky enough to win many awards especially with British Airways.

I was invited to go on many educationals around the world to Australia, The Far East, The Middle East, Europe, North America and the Caribbean.

I have been using flight simulator for about 20 years now, but it has been most rewarding since I joined Fly UK Virtual Airways. I honestly believe the professional approach from the management and also the Training Academy make Fly UK the best virtual airline available.

Hope to see you in the skies...

UKV1530 - Kevin



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For the latest in flight sim reviews, news, views and more visit <http://flightsimx.co.uk>



How well do you know your virtual airline?

Training Academy QUIZ!

The first TA quiz will test your knowledge on how well you know your virtual airline and how well you know your way around its website. All answers can be found on the Fly UK website. All members who score 100% will be awarded a badge of achievement!

- Q1.** When did Fly UK officially commence operations?
- Q2.** In what year was the first official real world Fly UK meet up?
- Q3.** What rank must you be to fly Boeing 767-300?
- Q4.** From how many bases in the UK does our scheduled fleet operate from?
- Q5.** In June 2009, how many pireps were submitted?
- Q6.** Derek Butterworth, (Head of TA) hobbies are music and theatre, but how old is he?
- Q7.** In which edition of Skyways magazine was there an aircraft profile on the Embraer 170?
- Q8.** How much will a large Fly UK golf/polo shirt set you back?
- Q9.** How many aircraft are there in our scheduled flights fleet?
- Q10.** Which tour consists of 25 legs and a total distance of 12513 nm?
- Q11.** From which airport, on the Scottish VFR tour, could you visit the Lochness monster?
- Q12.** What helicopter model is this?



- Q13.** Flying from the UK, what is the 'in-flight' movie for July?
- Q14.** How many pilots attended the IVAO – Palma de Mallorca online event on 16th June 2009?
- Q15.** Which online event took place on 11th June 2009?
- Q16.** What real world event is on Saturday 7th November 2009?
- Q17.** Fly UK local is split into how many regions?
- Q18.** What is the name of the Fly UK pilot with the most hours?
- Q19.** Who are the principle instructors for the courses to fly the Fly UK 737-800 & your VATSIM online check ride?
- Q20.** What is the following badge awarded for?



- Q21.** When did FLY2 begin operations?
- Q22.** Who is our highest ranked South African pilot?
- Q23.** What discount is available to Fly UK members for fs2crew?

Fly UK Training Academy – Here to Help!

Remember, the Fly UK training academy is always on hand to offer help to anyone on a vast range of subjects! Visit the training academy section of the website for more information. All of our instructors have a very good understanding of Flight Simulator and will be able to help you with any problem you may be encountering.

How to take part in the quiz...

Email your answers to [steve.bishop\[at\]flyuk.aero](mailto:steve.bishop@flyuk.aero)





>> A Great Day Out!

The Shuttleworth Collection - by UKV1142 – Ken Hall

I recently spent a week on holiday to meet up with my old mate from my days in the RAF. We fly boys know how to have a good time so we arranged to get together, with our wives, at the Camping and Caravan Club site at St Neots, Huntingdonshire. This was a particularly good venue with near enough equal travelling distance from my home in York and Graham's home at Hoo, near Rochester, Kent.

I met Graham on my first day in the RAF and we spent all but our last eight weeks of service together through training and posting to the Far East. God-parents to each other's children, etc., it is true that you never have friends like you have in the service. Forty –nine years on and still going strong!

Being only just "up the road" we decided to make a trip to see the Shuttleworth Collection (SC) at Old Warden, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire – just a few miles off the A1.

For the benefit of those that have not been to the SC, this is a collection of over fifty aircraft – all in flying condition. This unique collection is housed within eight floodlit hangars from where the visitor can see the history of the aeroplane from the pioneering Blériot to the Spitfire. In addition to the aircraft there is a collection of motor-cycles, cars and coaches (horse-drawn variety) so just about every form of transport is covered!

(For the benefit of non-aero minded visitors there is also the "Swiss Garden", the "Bird of Prey and Owl Sanctuary" and the "Jubilee Play Centre" for children)

Arriving at the SC just before 10:00 we were asked to vacate the car park and use another spot as there was a film crew setting up their gear to commence a shoot for Channel Four during which they would be trundling a few of the aircraft from their hangars and into the car park! Some action then!?

What was interesting to see was the techie guys taping the tiniest of cameras to various struts and wires on the aircraft that would be flying. All this to obtain views even Heineken could not reach! Altogether I counted seven cameras on one aircraft (that I have forgotten the name of; (..... it was a WW1 Fighter Bomber!). A "chase" plane was also being readied for the event. That was a 1937 trainer – twin (open) cockpit with a C4 camera-man sitting in the front and hefting a video camera on his shoulder.

Near to 11:00 the SC crew started pulling aircraft out of the way to make the flying event a goer. They obviously have had a lot of practise and managed to manoeuvre a number of aircraft around – within a hair's breadth of one another – to take the "star" outside onto the grass runway. At that point, the heavens opened! Sod had struck again!!! It was even more amazing to see the "star" quickly put back into its hangar in order to stay dry!



>> A Great Day Out!

The Shuttleworth Collection - by UKV1142 – Ken Hall

At that point we continued our examination of the other exhibits on view. The SC is a fascinating place to visit with loads of aircraft to see right up close. My only criticism would be that there are (maybe) too many, too close together (never satisfied?). From a photo' viewpoint it is difficult to obtain good "long shots" due to the close proximity of the other exhibits but there is no difficulty at all in obtaining good close-ups for detail.



Whilst browsing through the hangars I had the opportunity to speak to one of the C4 production assistants (well, she was pretty!) who told me that they were filming for a C4 documentary, to be shown a few days prior to Remembrance Day, about WW1 Pilots. No working title was known "but it might be called The British Red Baron", she said.

At about 13:30 the rain had stopped, the sun was out and so the shoot was on. The "chase" plane was first to take off followed by the old girl some time later! She didn't seem keen to start at all. Eventually, after much puffing and pulling (and that was just the ground crew) she managed to give out a great belch (pardon), a huge cloud of blue smoke and then the ground crew had to hang on for grim death to hold her back while she throttled up and warmed the oil. Released at last, she waddled (I'm sorry but that is the best description I can give!) down the uneven grass runway and eventually lifted off at an estimated 70 mph. I can't speak for the pilot but my heart was certainly in my mouth as she slowly and painfully gained height. All the while, the "chase plane" was stooging about (a technical term) waiting for the "Star" to arrive on scene. No doubt the actual video footage will be of air-to-air shots but IF there are any ground scenes shown, that's ME in the red jacket!



Of particular interest to me as a "Simmer" was the record breaking Comet Racer as seen in FS9. It just oozes speed and looks like it is doing 180 mph just parked!



From a "technical" perspective I was greatly intrigued by the shape and construction of the many propellers both on the various aircraft and hanging from the walls. Way back in the very early days of flying "somebody" had worked out what that shape should be – HOW? The actual construction of the props must also have been an extremely complicated job with the many layers of timber being glued together before shaping could commence. Such precision and artistry needs to be remembered and complimented. No Computer Aided Design in those days, no CNN machines to cut the shape. ALL done by hand – amazing.



>> A Great Day Out!

The Shuttleworth Collection - by UKV1142 – Ken Hall



While I enjoyed looking at all of the aircraft on display, two really stand out for me. The Dragon Rapide comes in at number two but the out and out winner of the show (for me) was the Westland Lysander.....Ooooh! Sexy is not the word – or is it? That aircraft exemplifies the whole art of the Plane Maker. Unique design and shape of that high wing, the massive engine space and the wheel fairings all combine to make you want to take off, into the night, to rescue René Artois and Madame Edith (well, maybe not Madam Edith) from the clutches of Herr Flick of the Gestapo.....



Anybody with even the remotest interest in aviation could not help but be impressed with the size and scope of the Shuttleworth Collection. A grand day out in anybody's language.

More details available at www.shuttleworth.org

Ken Hall (UKV1142) - June 2009



Sherburn Flight Sim Show & Computer Fair – Sat 1st August 09!

This year's major flight simulator show at Sherburn Aero Club is being organised by Astra Sim Expo Ltd. There will be much more entertainment this year, with bouncy slides and castles for the youngsters, a display of prestige sports cars, which always look good when shown at an airfield. Plus an aerobatic display by John Dixon in his Extra 300. We will be having a raffle with some great prizes up for grabs.

Visit www.astrasimexpo.co.uk for full info!



>> Adam Hillier – Road to ATPL Update



In the June edition of Skyways we featured an article in which ex Fly UK Vice CEO Adam Hillier told us about his experience so far of the ATPL course he is doing at Bournemouth.

For those of you following Adam's progress, he has posted an update...

Just a quick update...

Some of you may be aware in April I started my ATPL course in Bournemouth, doesn't seem 5 minutes since starting, but the first set of exams are now upon me. On Monday I will be going to the evil Committee Against Aviation (CAA) and I will be sitting the first three exams, Principles of Flight, Performance, and Mass and Balance, basically a day of utter hell. I don't like PoF nor Performance, those are the ones if that any I will struggle with. Tuesday I have, Operational Procedures and Flight Planning, both of those I feel OK about, and Thursday I have Human Performance and Limitations, (a sort of learn the answers subject.)

Originally I would have had Meteorology on Wednesday but I have elected to postpone it till August where hopefully I will be ready for it, as I'm pretty sure if I took it now I would fail it outright. Anyway upon completion of these exams I will be going back to ground school for another 3 months for the second phase which I think, 'should' be a bit easier, as it has a couple of nice easy subjects in it, for example: IFR communications and VFR communications, Radio Navigation and also Aircraft Systems.

Anyway, just a quick update from me to those of you who were interested in keeping up with my progress. I will let you know how the exams went when I know (provided they go OK that is) if you don't get anymore updates then assume they went bad and I threw myself off Beachy Head.

Take care all, best regards, Adam.

>> UKV1130 – George Shepherd

George tells us about his real world experience

There are young bold pilots BUT

There are no old bold pilots.

As a PPL holder for 25 years and at the age of 65 I now take an instructor with me along with any friends on my flights.

I have absolutely no problems with this and IF I am not happy with any aspect of the flight I have no hesitation in saying "YOU HAVE CONTROL".

In the past three years I have handed over control once, when on finals, with a variable crosswind which was proving a problem. The instructor on this occasion was a pilot; with a well known airline and it took him $\frac{3}{4}$ of the runway to set us down.

Flight Simulator when all said and done is just a very sophisticated GAME, but unless you are privy to the likes of the large airlines' units then it will never be THE REAL THING.

To hear the following words from your Instructor, after spending hours of study and flight training are one of the most magical moments in your life.

"I THINK YOU ARE READY, GO DO YOUR FIRST SOLO"

I remember every moment of that flight and Edinburgh Tower even switched runways on me when I was on the down wind leg. I was so confident that I was trying to see where the FIRE engine and THE Ambulance were parked. They are called out JUST IN CASE.

So same 25 years and 250hrs later, yes I do fly the simulator BUT it will never replace the real thing.

I have flown in Denmark, Kenya, USA, Wales, England and of course GODS Country SCOTLAND.

I will post some pictures in later articles but here's one to be going on with...

Can you name this airport?



>> Aircraft Profile – ATR 72

A twin-turboprop short-haul regional airliner



This issue we take a look at the history, facts and future plans for ATR aircraft!

About ATR:

Avions de Transport Regional (ATR) – a French / Italian consortium set up to build a short haul regional prop-liner capable of carrying 40 – 50 people (that is where the '42' in ATR42 comes from). This first type was designated the ATR42.

The development cycle was very short and concluded in a maiden flight on 16th August 1984. The initial commercial flights were started in December of the same year for Air Littoral (France).

The -500 version is the latest version of the type and is outwardly very similar to the initial variants other than for the 6 bladed props.

The ATR72 was announced in 1986 and was a 4.5 metre stretch of the ATR42 with longer wings and updated engines. The ATR72 was designed to fly 60-74 people hence the name.

The ATR72 made its maiden flight on 27th October 1988. Exactly 1 year to the day (27th October 1989) Finnair became the first airline to put the airliner into service.

The forward door on an ATR is for loading Cargo, not passengers – who are loaded in a rear ventral door as per the old BAC1-11

To make sure the plane didn't tip up when passengers loaded via this rear door (this is no joke) a rear body prop is lowered to support the rear of the aircraft. - This body prop is a working function of the doors opening on the Flight1 ATR simulation

To date, in excess of 401 ATR42's, and 408 ATR72's have been built.

The ATR is notable for not having a separate APU (saves weight and expense) – but achieves air and electrical power by being able to power the No2 engine (in low power mode) with a prop brake engaged thus ensuring no danger to ground crew when away from a powered stand.

This mode of working is called 'HOTEL' mode and again is faithfully reproduced in the flight1 ATR.

The ATR72-500 had improvements to improve maximum weights and superior performance as well as provide greater automation to ease pilot workload (improved FMC etc)

Future:

ATR have announced the series ATR72-600 including a full glass cockpits with 5 off 6" x 8" multi-function LCD units.

See the link below to blow your socks off!

http://www.atr.fr/public/atr/html/upload/doc/4884a5a08b5aeglass%20cockpit_light.pdf



FACTFILE

Crew: 4 (2 flight deck crew and 2 cabin crew)

Capacity: 62-74 passengers

Length: 27.166 m (89 ft 2 in)

Wingspan: 27.050 m (88 ft 9 in)

Height: 7.650 m (25 ft 1 in)

Wing area: 61.00 m² (656.6 ft²)

Empty weight: 13,500 kg (29,762 lb)

Loaded weight: 22,670 kg (49,979 lb)

Useful load: 7,850 kg (17,306 lb)

MTOW: 22,800 kg (49,604 lb)

Powerplant: 2x Pratt & Whitney Canada PW127M turboprop, 1,846 kW (2,475 hp) each

Cruise speed: 507 km/h (274 knots, 315 mph)

Range: 1,650 km (890 nm, 1,025 mi)

Service ceiling: 7,620 m (24,900 ft) - (but it takes a bit of getting - much beyond 20,000ft - Mike)

