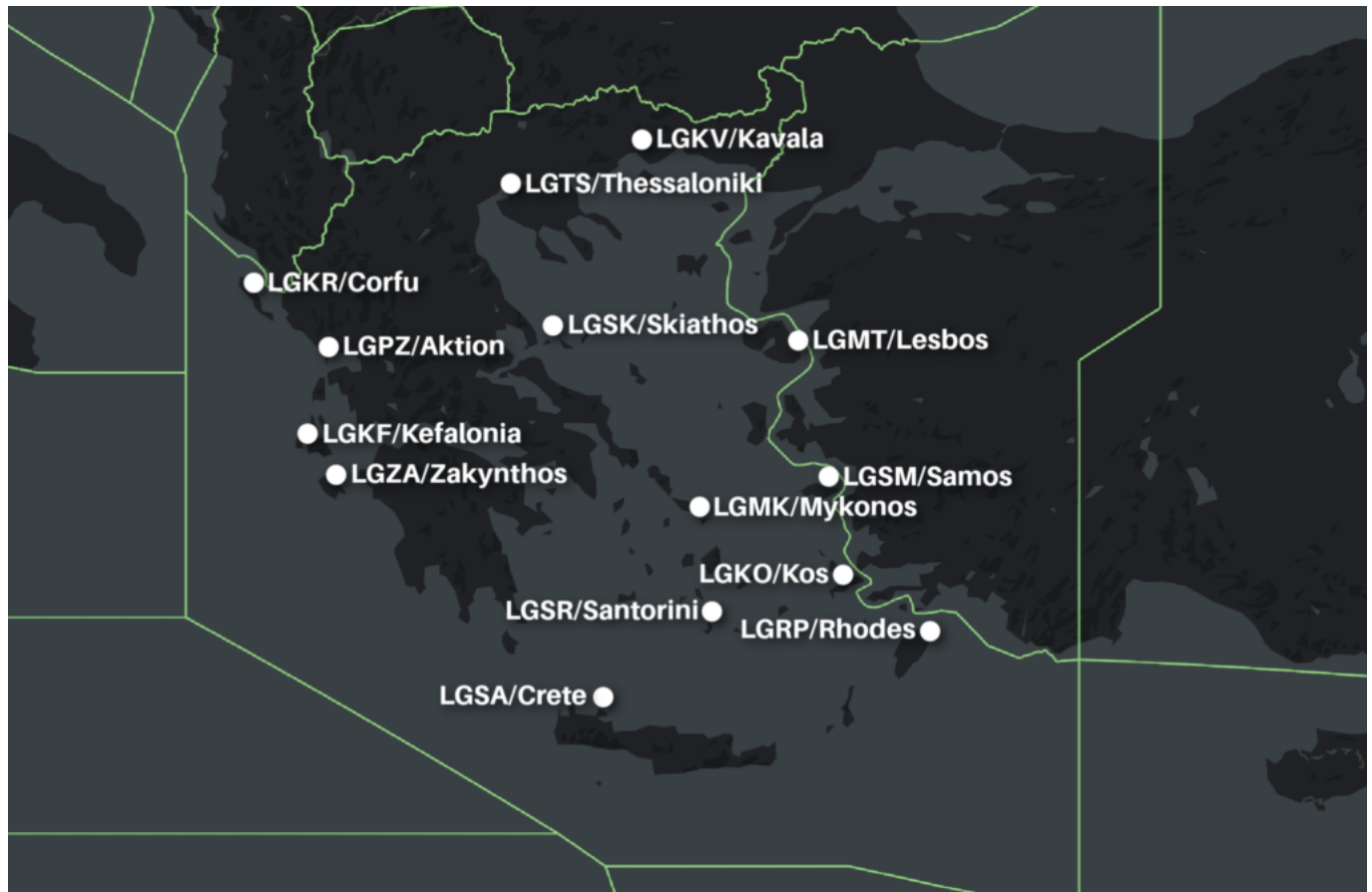# Greek Summer Ops Lowdown

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Key Points

- **All Greek islands will be extremely busy this summer. Athens too.**

- **Very few slots are made available to bizav flights, overnight parking is scarce, even quick turn arounds are extremely difficult in some cases.**

- **Watch out for extra fees at LGMK/Mykonos, LGKR/Corfu and LGKO/Kos.**

- **Consider drop-and-go's, with parking at airports on the Greek mainland, Cyprus, or Turkey.**

There are loads of island airports in Greece, but there's a special collection which are managed by a company called Fraport.

The 14 Greek airports managed by Fraport.

"Special" just because operating to these particular airports has become **increasingly challenging** since their privatisation in 2017. Fraport initially struggled to deal with providing parking to non-scheduled and business aviation, and new slot procedures were introduced to try to better manage the volume of requests being made.

How long can I park my aircraft on the islands?

Not long. There are two places to check how long you can stay on the ground at these airports – and you need to check both.

The first is the PPR Handbook Fraport have published which includes this info in handy chart form, plus a bunch of extra info about how to actually go about applying for PPR. The chart below shows the info for the 2024 summer season – we expect similar for 2025.

Airport	Maximum Ground Time (days)
SKG LGTS/Thessaloniki	7*
CFU LGKR/Corfu	5 for Aircraft / 1 for Helicopter
ZTH LGZA/Zakynthos	5
EFL LGKF/Kefalonia	Limitations as per below for max ground time **
PVK LGPZ/Aktion	Based on Apron availability
KVA LGKV/Kavala	Based on Apron availability
CHQ LGSA/Crete	Based on Apron availability
RHO LGRP/Rhodes	7
KGS LGKO/Kos	Based on Apron availability
JTR LGSR/Santorini	Limitations as per below for max ground time ***
JMK LGMK/Mykonos	Limitations as per below for max ground time ***
MJT LGMT/Lesbos	Based on Apron availability
SMI LGSM/Samos	Based on Apron availability for aircraft / No overnight for helicopter
JSI LGSK/Skiathos	7*

EFL airport: From 31/03/2024 until 26/10/2024 and within airport's operating hours, the maximum ground time for flights allocated to the declared apron positions is 90 minutes. There are limited no-declared positions for longer stay based on Apron Availability.

***JTR and JMK airports**: From 01/06/2024 until 15/09/2024 and from 04:00 until 19:30, the maximum ground time for GA/BA flights is 40 minutes.

For airports that there is no limitation of maximum ground time as per above table and overnight request exceeds the 15 days, a prior communication with ANOC is required, via e-mail to xxxppr@fraport-greece.com, (where "xxx" is the 3-letter IATA airport code).

The second place to check is the Notams, and this applies to ALL Greek airports. With peak summer season coming in July/August, expect to see even more restrictive max-time-on-ground Notams get published.

Watch out for extra fees!

There are some extra costs at three airports in the summer: **LGMK/Mykonos, LGKR/Corfu and LGKO/Kos.**

Thanks to the OPSGROUP member who alerted us to this!

The short story is this: all bizav flights have to use the dedicated GA Terminal at these airports in the summer months, where you will get charged an **extra 2000 Euros per passenger-carrying sector flight** (so if a flight has pax inbound and outbound, 4000 Euros will be charged). VAT is charged on top of this to non-EU operators.

It doesn't matter which handler you use – they all quote the same costs for this.

There's no mention of these charges in Fraport's Airport Charges documents published on their site.

A note on LGAV/Athens

Once a haven for weary bizav operators, at LGAV/Athens airport there always used to be a cosy spot on some remote parking stand for GA/BA aircraft to stay for a few nights after dropping their passengers on one of the islands.

But those days are gone. For the Summer season this year (March 30 – Oct 26) it will become a "Level 2" airport, meaning that **slots will be required.** Unlike other Greek airports, you can only apply for these **7 days in advance** (rather than 14). But the biggest problem is this – **turnarounds will be limited to just 2 hours.** And if you want longer parking, you can only apply for the required PPR one day in advance! Check here for more info on this.

Good options for parking?

In Greece, we've heard reports from OPSGROUP members on these ones: **LGTS/Thessaloniki, LGIO/Ioannina, and LGKV/Kavala.** In Cyprus, there's **LCPH/Paphos.** And then there's always the option of Turkish coastal airports, the likes of **LTBJ/Izmir and LTFE/Bodrum.**

Good options for parking.

Here's a couple more we heard about since we published this article:

LGBL/Volos – A joint use air base 90nm north of Athens. We just relocated our aircraft there on our trip to Athens for around 9 days. Super easy in and out. Stayed at Volos town about 15 miles away. Limited operating days and hours so check notams. They have limited airline service also. Rental cars are available. All in all a great experience for storing our aircraft until the boss was ready to return to the US.

LGIR/Heraklion – *We operated into LGIR a few days ago. Everything very easy and Skyserv did a really great job of taking care of our pax and us. Lots of nice hotels in the area around the city, some nice sights if you have some days off. Departure was also very smooth, catering, fuelling, gpu everything worked exactly as it should. The fees were also very moderate. LGIR is also a good candidate for parking if you can't get it anywhere else.*

And a couple of other airports which used to be okay options, but maybe aren't so great anymore: **LGRX/Araxos and LGSM/Samos.** As reported by Universal handling: *LGRX is very restrictive and not with so much space, I wouldn't consider it as one of the first options, but desperate times call for desperate measures. LGSM was not so easy to approve last summer, they have also their morning peak a couple of days of the week but it is indeed a solution.*

Know of any other good options? Let us know: news@ops.group