Robbed by the CAA - and other horror stories

Declan Selleck 25 September, 2016



Three of the most recent headlines are:

- Rough Runway, Cash Only
- Don't go here unless you want to be robbed by the CAA
- Inbound ATC was frightening

Tempting to joke that this sound like Miami, or Nice – but these are reviews of **FZAA/Kinshasa**, in the DRC – rated at 2.5, one of the lowest Airports on **Aireport**.

One report reads: "Don't go here unless you like to be robbed by the CAA. I was told I was in big trouble for not having an MEL on a private airplane. 500 USD would [apparently] solve everything"

Continuing: "ATC is terrible, they wanted us to hold right over the airport in the middle of the T'storm we wanted to wait for to pass. I ended up telling him we would hold 15 miles out on the 090 radial. He wasn't very happy about being over-ruled, but it worked"

And: "People mill around the airplane looking for fuel drips to collect in their cans. Some guy told me he was a fueling assistant and wanted cash for his kind assistance. The handler is pretty much worthless, he just wants to collect the cash = \$2700 USD for a fuel stop in a Falcon 900."

There are some other horror stories in the database. SVMI/Caracas, Venezuela ("Handler demanded \$9000 in Cash"); VECC/Calcutta ("Immigration was a nightmare"); HEAX/Alexandria ("Handler tried the shakedown")

There are also plenty of good reports – **EGSS/London Stansted** is "As easy as it gets in Europe", **EINN/Shannon, Ireland** is "Absolutely outstanding", and **NFFN/Nadi, Fiji** is given "Quick Turn,

Inexpensive Fuel, and Perfect"

NZAA/Auckland, New Zealand stands out as getting consistently good reviews: "Very knowledgeable and helpful staff", "Air Centre One is superb", "Flawless from Gordy" ... the crew at Air Centre One is clearly keeping their customers very happy. Nice work guys.



For all the ones in between - read for yourself: **Aireport.co/reviews**.

