

# London Luton now available for night flights again

OPSGROUP Team  
15 October, 2019



**The summer ban on GA/BA night flights ended on Oct 1, and the airport is now available H24 again.**

Throughout last year's winter period there was a strict weekly quota on how many ad-hoc flights were allowed to operate at night, but this has been increased significantly this year, so there should be no problem getting night slots now.

The nighttime noise restrictions for **EGLL/Heathrow**, **EGKK/Gatwick**, and **EGSS/Stansted** are still in place, making nighttime GA/BA operations to these airports limited.

**Here's a rundown of the current restrictions:**

- **EGMC/Southend** (40 miles from London) & **EGBB/Birmingham** (115 miles from London) are the **only** airports with **no restrictions** (thus far).
- **EGLL/Heathrow** & **EGGK/Gatwick**: Pretty much a no-go zone for business aviation these days
- **EGLC/London City**: closed from 1030pm to 0630am
- **EGWU/Northolt**: closed from 8pm to 8am on weekdays (although the airport is currently closed to all flights until mid-November for runway and apron refurbishments)
- **EGLF/Farnborough**: closed from 10pm to 7am on weekdays
- **EGKB/Biggin Hill**: closed from 11pm to 6.30am on weekdays, and 10pm to 8am on weekends

## Further Reading:

- Luton Airport's policy on night noise disturbance
  - Owners of Luton Airport want to build a second terminal and increase passenger numbers to 32 million a year by 2039.
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# Just about nowhere to land in London at night this summer

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**Jet noise!** It seems that Londoners are sick of it. Corporate operators watch out; London basin airports of EGGW/Luton, EGSS/Stansted, EGKK/Gatwick, EGLL/Heathrow, EGKB/Biggin Hill, EGWU/Northolt, EGLF/Farnborough and EGTK/Oxford airports are now effectively closed or restricted for overnight flights.

**EGGW/Luton** is the biggest hit with a curfew this summer: from 1 June to 30 September, arrivals/departures will be prohibited between 23-7 local time each night.

Over at **EGSS/Stansted**, where local authorities have already reduced the number of night-time slots for GA/BA to just 10 per week, new noise restrictions have also been introduced which mean that aircraft rated above QC1 are unlikely to receive slot approval at all during the night period:

Aircraft Type	QC rating Arrival	QC rating Departure	Arrive or Depart
EC155(Helicopter)	QC 0.5	QC 0.5	Limited slot availability during the night quota period
Bombardier Global Express	QC 0	QC 0.25	Limited slot availability during the night quota period
Falcon 7X	QC 0	QC 0.25	Limited slot availability during the night quota period
Gulfstream 650	QC 0	QC 0	Limited slot availability during the night quota period
Gulfstream 5/550	QC 0	0.25	Limited slot availability during the night quota period
Airbus 318/319/320/321	QC0.5	QC1	Limited slot availability during the night quota period
BBJ 1/2/3	QC0.5/QC1	QC0.5/QC1/QC2	Limited slot availability to arrive during the night quota period Cannot depart during the night period
B757	QC0.25/QC0.5/QC1	QC0.5/QC1/QC2	Limited slot availability to arrive during the night quota period Cannot depart during the night quota period
B767	QC0.5/QC0.1	QC0.5/QC1/QC2	Limited slot availability to arrive during the night quota period Cannot depart during the night quota period
B787	QC0.25/QC0.5/QC1	QC0.25/QC0.5/QC1	Limited slot availability during the night quota period

### Who's to blame?

Local airlines, mainly the low-cost ones. Late arrivals have used up much of the cumulative noise footprint at both airports.

### So, what's left?

- **EGMC/Southend** (40 miles away) & **EGBB/Birmingham** (115 miles away) are the **only** airports with **no restrictions** (thus far).
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### Who's most affected?

Transatlantic crossings that plan to arrive in London late at night (after a morning departure from the US) or late-night London departures. Plan ahead and speak with your FBO so you don't get stuck in a **noisy** bind.

### Extra Reading:

- Noise complaints hit record high at Luton Airport but same five people make half of them