



London has five major airports (Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Luton, City) but only two of these airports (Heathrow and City) are in Greater London. Although planning is needed to travel into the centre, this is relatively easy because of the large number of public transport links. In all airports there are many shops, restaurants, bureaux de change, help desks, check-in desks and left luggage facilities.

HEATHROW AIRPORT LHR

Heathrow is London and Europe's largest airport and it is one of the busiest and most advanced airports in the world. It is 32 kms to the west of London and has five separate terminals. Heathrow airport has been dominated by the UK's flag-carrier airline British Airways for many years.

The Heathrow Express is the fastest way to travel into central London. Trains leave every 15 minutes and the journey to Paddington takes 15-20 minutes. The Tube connects Heathrow Airport to central London. The Tube is cheaper than the Heathrow Express. A single ticket from Heathrow to Piccadilly Circus costs £5.70.

GATWICK AIRPORT LGW

London Gatwick is the most efficient single runway airport in the world, 45 kms south of London. There are flights to 200 destinations in 90 countries. The airport is split¹ into North Terminal and South Terminal, linked by a free shuttle service, which only takes five minutes. The Gatwick Express runs every 15 minutes and the journey time is 30 minutes non-stop to Victoria Station. There are also bus services. National Express has coaches, which leave every 30 minutes. The journey time is 75-110 minutes depending on the traffic and single fare² prices start from £7.

GLOSSARY

- 1** *to split*
dividere
- 2** *fare*
tariffa
- 3** *hub*
centro
- 4** *short-haul*
a breve distanza
- 5** *touchdown*
atterraggio

1 Leggi il testo e rispondi alle domande.

- 1** Which airports are in Greater London?
- 2** How far is Heathrow from the centre of London?
- 3** Which is the cheapest way to travel from Heathrow to the centre?
- 4** How many runways are there at Gatwick airport?
- 5** Which airlines dominate Stansted airport?
- 6** Why do passengers often sleep in the main hall at Stansted airport?
- 7** Is Luton airport bigger than Stansted?
- 8** What does City airport specialise in?
- 9** How long are check-in times at City airport?
- 10** What is the DLR?

TRAVEL DICTIONARY

2 Abbina i vocaboli (1-6) tratti dal testo alle definizioni (a-f).

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> left luggage | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> runway |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> land | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> low-cost |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> shuttle | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> departure hall |
-
- a** cheap
 - b** where the plane takes off and lands
 - c** when the plane arrives
 - d** the room where you wait for your flight
 - e** where you can pay to leave your suitcases
 - f** transport which goes regularly between two places

STANSTED AIRPORT STN

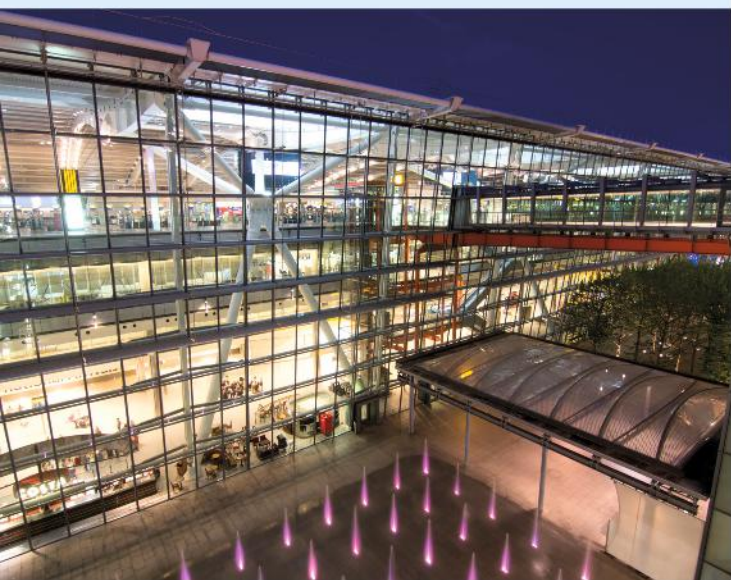
Stansted Airport is London's third largest airport, dominated by two low-cost airlines, Ryanair and Easy Jet, serving mostly European and Mediterranean destinations. The airport is 64 kms to the north-east of London and the Stansted Express is the quickest way into the centre. As a large number of budget flights leave at 6 a.m., passengers can either catch buses which travel through the night, stay in a hotel nearby or camp in the main departures/arrivals hall. As many as 400 passengers sleep there every night in summer.

LUTON AIRPORT LHN

Luton is much smaller in size than Stansted but it is a major hub³ for many low-cost airlines. There are trains to London from Luton airport and the journey is one hour fifteen minutes.

CITY AIRPORT LCY

London City is the closest airport to central London and it specialises in short-haul⁴ business flights to European cities and flights to New York that are only for business passengers. Flights are usually on time, travellers can be out of the airport 15 minutes after touchdown⁵ and check-in times are 30 minutes before the flight. The DLR Docklands Light Railway operates from here.



BLOG IT!

- 3 Ora scrivi tu la tua pagina di blog seguendo le indicazioni date.



TRAVEL LANGUAGE



- 4 44 Completa il dialogo tra un passeggero (P, passenger) e un'impiegata dell'aeroporto (C, clerk) con le parole date. Poi ascolta e controlla.

bag • boarding • flight • seat • gate • pass •
checking in • passport • aisle • hand luggage

- C Good morning. Can I see your ticket and your ¹ _____, please?
- P Yes certainly.
- C Are you ² _____ any bags?
- P Yes, just this one.
- C Can you put your ³ _____ on the scales?
- P Could I have an ⁴ _____ seat?
- C Certainly. And do you have any ⁵ _____?
- P Yes, just one piece.
- C Here is your boarding ⁶ _____.
- P Which ⁷ _____ does the flight leave from?
- C From gate 15A.
- P What time will they start boarding?
- C They'll start ⁸ _____ at 10.30.
Your ⁹ _____ number is 20C.
- P Thanks.
- C Have a good ¹⁰ _____.

- 5 Sei all'aeroporto. Formula frasi per:

- chiedere dov'è il check in per il volo 727.
- dire che hai solo una valigia e un bagaglio a mano.
- dire che vorresti un posto lato corridoio.
- chiedere se il volo è in orario.
- chiedere dove puoi prendere l'Heathrow Express.