

Aeroporto Internacional do Recife/Guararapes – Gilberto Freyre[4] (IATA: REC, ICAO: SBRF) is the airport serving Recife, Brazil.

It is operated by AENA.

Some of its facilities are shared with the Recife Air Force Base of the Brazilian Air Force.

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## History[edit]

Originally called Ibura Airport, the airport had its name changed to Guararapes Airport in 1948. The facility originated at the time of World War II, when a new airport was built to replace the earlier airfield, Parque do Encanta Moça. With the end of the War, the facility became strategically important as a technical and refueling stop on the route from South America to Europe.

On 18 January 1958, a new passenger terminal was inaugurated, replacing the original facility. During this time, runway 14/32 was extended from 1,800 m (5,906 ft) to 2,010 m (6,594 ft), and runway 18/36 was extended from 1,800 m to 2,400 m (7,874 ft).

In 1979, an agreement with Infraero was made in order to further develop the airport complex. The passenger terminal underwent its first major renovation in 1982 and another enlargement in 1990.

In 2004 a brand-new passenger terminal was built, including a new shopping mall, thus generating more traffic and revenue. Furthermore, a new concourse was opened in 2004 and the airport's capacity increased from 1.5 to 9 million passengers/year. Today, the runway is 3,300 meters (10,827 ft) long, the longest in Northeastern Brazil.

On 31 August 2009 Infraero unveiled a BRL 8.75 million (US\$4.6 million; EUR 3.2 million) investment plan to upgrade Guararapes International Airport, focusing on the preparations for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil, Recife being one of the venue cities. The investment was spent in finishing the passenger terminal renovation, installing 8 more jetways.[5] The work was completed on 1 July 2011, and the airport was then considered ready for the FIFA Cup.[6]

Previously operated by Infraero, on March 15, 2019 AENA won a 30-year concession to operate the airport.[7]

The Brazilian Integrated Air Traffic Control and Air Defense Center, section 3 (Cindacta III) is located in the vicinity of the airport.[8]

Airlines and destinations[edit]

Passenger[edit]

## Airlines Destinations

Air Europa Madrid (resumes 2 November 2021)[citation needed]

Azul Brazilian Airlines Aracaju, Belém, Belo Horizonte–Confins, Brasília, Campina Grande, Campinas, Fernando de Noronha, Fortaleza, Goiânia, João Pessoa, Juazeiro do Norte, Maceió, Mossoró, Natal, Petrolina, Rio de Janeiro–Santos Dumont, Salvador da Bahia, São Luís, São Paulo–Congonhas, São Paulo–Guarulhos, Teresina, Vitória

Azul Brazilian Airlines

operated by Azul Conecta Caruaru, Patos, Serra Talhada

Gol Transportes Aéreos Brasília, Fernando de Noronha, Fortaleza, Rio de Janeiro–Galeão, Salvador da Bahia, São Paulo–Congonhas, São Paulo–Guarulhos

ITA Transportes Aéreos Brasília, Maceió, Rio de Janeiro–Galeão, São Paulo–Guarulhos

LATAM Brasil Brasília, Rio de Janeiro–Galeão, São Paulo–Congonhas, São Paulo–Guarulhos

TAP Air Portugal Lisbon[9]

Cargo[edit]

## Airlines Destinations

Lufthansa Cargo Campinas,[10] Curitiba,[10] Frankfurt[10]

Modern Logistics Brasília, Campinas, Manaus

Accidents and incidents[edit]

1 November 1961: a Panair do Brasil Douglas DC-7C registration PP-PDO flying from Sal to Recife, during its final approach struck an 84-m hill 2.7 km from the runway and broke up. The aircraft was doing a night approach too low and outside the regular traffic pattern. Forty-five passengers and crew out of the 88 persons aboard died.[11][12] The aircraft was operating the Voo da amizade (Friendship Flight).

11 November 1991: a Nordeste Embraer EMB110P1 Bandeirante registration PT-SCU, operating flight 115 from Recife to Maceió, during on initial climb had an engine failure followed by fire. The aircraft crashed on a populated area. All 13 aircraft occupants and 2 persons on the ground died.[13][14]

13 July 2011: a Noar Linhas Aéreas Let L-410 Turbolet registration PR-NOB operating flight 4896 from Recife to Natal crashed shortly after take-off from Recife. All 16 occupants were killed.[15][16]

Access[edit]

The airport is located 14 km (9 mi) from downtown Recife.

The subway Airport Station is connected to the terminal by a footbridge. Main bus lines that serve the neighborhoods of Boa Viagem and Cidade Universitária in Recife and Piedade, neighborhood of Jaboatão dos Guararapes stop at the airport.

See also[edit]

List of airports in Brazil

Recife Air Force Base

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