

= Førde Airport , Bringeland =

Førde Airport , Bringeland (IATA : FDE , ICAO : ENBL ; Norwegian : Førde lufthavn , Bringeland) is a regional airport located at Bringelandsåsen in the municipality of Gaular , about 16 kilometers (10 mi) south of the town of Førde in Sogn og Fjordane county , Norway . Owned and operated by the state @-@ owned Avinor , the airport has a single 1 @,@ 019 @-@ meter (3 @,@ 343 ft) runway numbered 07 ? 25 . It is served by Widerøe , which operates Dash 8 @-@ 100 aircraft to the cities of Bergen , Florø and Oslo .

Starting in 1970 , the town of Førde was served by Førde Airport , Øyrane , located in an industrial site in town and with poor operational conditions . Bringeland was opened in 1986 and the old airport was closed . Bringeland originally consisted of a 859 @-@ meter (2 @,@ 818 ft) runway , but that was lengthened in 2010 . Since 1988 , the helicopter operator Airlift has also been based at the airport . The airport was originally municipal , but nationalized in 1996 . Bringeland served 82 @,@ 356 passengers in 2011 .

= = History = =

= = = Øyrane = = =

The first plans for an airport serving the Sunnfjord region was in the town of Florø ; construction started in 1956 , but was halted . A government commission recommended in 1964 that a primary airport be built in Florø serve the entire county . These plans were changed in 1965 , following Håkon Kyllingmark being appointed Ministry of Transport and Communications (Norway) . He instead insisted on a network of short take @-@ off and landing airports for smaller communities . Førde Airport , Øyrane was built with such specifications , but was located in the middle of the industrial area Øyrane , just outside the town center . From 1971 it became part of the regional aviation network in Western Norway .

From before the airport was built it was evident that the location was not well suited , and planning of an alternative location began in 1968 . The main concern was that the airport lacked an instrument landing system and could thus only be used during daylight hours . The first alternative location proposal was for Langelandsåsen , but the site was discarded by the Civil Aviation Administration (CAA) because of poor weather conditions . Late proposals were Espelandsmyrene and then Alværa on the Sognefjord . By 1972 , the CAA had concluded that there probably was not a suitable location for an airport near Førde and recommended that the town instead be served by Florø Airport , located 70 kilometers (43 mi) away .

= = = Construction and operational history = = =

Bringelandsåsen was proposed by the CAA in 1974 . Plans were developed and in 1983 the Ministry of Transport and Communications recommended that Øyrane be closed and replaced with an all @-@ new airport at Bringeland . Construction started in 1985 and the new airport opened on 31 August 1986 , taking over all scheduled traffic from Øyrane . Widerøe started scheduled services to Oslo and Bergen , originally using de Havilland Canada DHC @-@ 6 Twin Otter and DHC @-@ 7 Dash 7 aircraft , of which the latter which was used to Oslo . Airlift was established in 1986 and was based at Øyrane until 1988 , when it also moved to Bringeland . Dash 8 aircraft were phased in from 1993 .

The airport was originally owned as an inter @-@ municipal enterprise by Gaular and Førde . Operating deficits were covered through various subsidies from the state , often with unclear responsibilities and little financial risk for the owners . Most regional airports , including Førde , were nationalized in 1996 and transferred to the CAA , later renamed Avinor . Widerøe lost the public service obligation contract to fly to Florø Airport in 2000 , and therefore moved its technical base for Western Norway to Førde , which included a new hangar .

Førde Airport had a café until 2006 and originally 859 meters (2 818 ft) runway . In 2009 and 2010 , it was expanded with another 160 meters (520 ft) to the west . SCAT I was installed in 2011 . The following year , Widerøe regained the Florø contract , and moved its technical base back there .

= = Facilities = =

Førde Airport , Bringeland is owned and operated by the state owned Avinor . The airport has a 1 019 by 30 meters (3 343 by 98 ft) asphalt runway , aligned 07 ? 25 . Instrument flight rules are only allowed for aircraft equipped with SCAT I. The terminal has a small conference center , and the airport is a seventeen minute drive from Førde . Firda Billag operates an airport coach to Førde , which takes twenty minutes . Paid parking , taxis and car rental is available at the airport . Airlift has its own hangar , helipad and administration buildings .

= = Airlines and destinations = =

Widerøe operates all scheduled services out of Førde , connecting it to Oslo Airport , Gardermoen and Bergen Airport , Flesland with a combined seven daily flights . The flights are operated with Dash 8 100 aircraft and are subsidized as part of a public service obligation contract with the Ministry of Transport and Communications . Førde Airport is the local airport for ten municipalities in Sunnfjord and outer Sogn . The airport had 82 356 passengers , 8 109 aircraft movements and 3 tonnes of cargo in 2014 . Less than a fifth of the patronage travels to Bergen , and Førde even experiences some leakage by people driving to Bergen Airport directly .

The helicopter operator Airlift is based at Bringeland ; it is the largest employer in Gaular , with 150 employees in 2002 . The company flies air ambulance and various charter services . Also at the airport is an aviation club , Fjordane Flyklubb .

= = Future = =

Avinor has started a process to look at the airport structure in Sogn og Fjordane . Early plans have looked at closing down Førde Airport , and possibly also Sandane Airport , Anda , while expanding the runway at Florø Airport to 2 000 meters (6 600 ft) . This would allow for jetliners to operate from Florø to Oslo with significantly lower ticket prices [not likely with less than 80 120 ' 000 citizens within 50 80 km radius] and remove the need for subsidies . Previously , the Ministry of Transport and Communications has proposed closing Sandane Airport and splitting the traffic between Førde and Ørsta Volda Airport , Hovden . The road distance from Sandane to Bringeland is 97 kilometers (60 mi) , from Sandane to Florø Airport 93 km (58 mi) and from Førde to Florø Airport 58 km (36 mi) .